COLUMBUS HOLY FAMILY CHURCH SERVES PARISHIONERS AND THOSE IN NEED
Editor’s reflections by Doug Bean

Turn to liturgy for answers

We must keep in mind that corporal and spiritual works of mercy go together. Acts of charity and kindness for Catholics should flow from devotion to prayer and the sacraments.

Father Stash Dailey, pastor at Columbus Holy Family Church, is so right on in his proclamation that the parish he shepherds is rooted first and foremost in the liturgy. Holy Family (featured on Pages 10-13 in this week’s Catholic Times) helps so many struggling individuals and families in need through its soup kitchen and outreach efforts. And yet all that’s done there is rooted in a profound sense of faith that goes deeper than random acts of kindness.

With Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament that includes a rosary available once a week to the dedicated soup kitchen volunteers and visitors, the hearts of Jesus and Mary are truly made present in a profound way to provide spiritual sustenance as well as bodily nourishment.

It’s also inspiring to see the Little Servant Sisters of the Immaculate Conception serving the needs of the parish. These nuns in their beautiful religious habits display great zeal for the Church through teaching, nursing, assisting those in need, and, most importantly, praying for countless souls.

Prayer, the sisters and others show us, is the ultimate antidote to the problems in the world.

Too simplistic? Hardly.

Answers to the current crisis in the Church with the sexual abuse scandals must be solved with prayer as the foundation. Prayer will give the hierarchy the divine wisdom to eradicate this scourge once and for all.

What the Church needs at every level is holiness and reverence — from the Vatican to bishops to priests to laity. Everyone must examine their consciences and go to confession frequently. If followers of Christ adhere to that simple plan, we will understand what Our Lord wants us to do going forward.

Last week’s meeting with Pope Francis and Cardinal Daniel DiNardo, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, is a step in a positive direction to address the scandals, which also have rocked the Church in Ireland and South America.

A meeting is planned in February in Rome with heads of bishops’ conferences from around the world to discuss how to confront this troubling situation. It seems to many Catholics that there should be more urgency to meet, but the Church is so vast and it moves carefully.

In the meantime, as Catholics in the pews also wait for a response from the Vatican on Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò’s statements regarding U.S. Archbishop Theodore McCarrick’s alleged actions, Washington Cardinal Donald Wuerl’s status and more, continue to offer Mass intentions and prayers for the victims. And pray for so many good and faithful priests who have to deal with the fallout.

If religious and the laity strive for holiness and humility, the Church will be strengthened.

It’s easy to get discouraged during troubled times, but keep in mind Jesus’ promise to the first Pope in Matthew 16:18 “that thou art Peter; and upon this rock I will build my church.”

Have you found yourself asking “What can I do?” in the wake of the clergy sexual abuse and sexual misconduct scandals in the United States and throughout the world?

You’re not alone.

“There is an inherent desire on the part of the clergy, religious and the faithful to do ‘something’ in response to the scandals that have occurred in certain corners of the Church,” said Fr. Michael Lumpe, rector of Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral. “The best thing that each of us can do right now is to pray fervently through the intercession of the Mother of our Savior and Mother of the Church, remembering that it is foot of the Blessed Virgin Mary that crushes the head of the serpent.”

For the past five years, the Cathedral has held a First Saturday of October pilgrimage to the National Shrine and Basilica of Our Lady of Consolation in nearby Carey, Ohio. This year’s pilgrimage that takes place on Saturday, Oct. 6, has a special added purpose.

“Saturdays are generally dedicated to Our Lady, and the Marian month of October is dedicated to the Rosary,” said Fr. Lumpe. “Given the scandals in the Church this year’s pilgrimage needs to be one of reparation, with a special rosary and Mass of Reparation, along with the other devotions provided the Franciscan Friars at the Shrine. As such we are opening up this pilgrimage to Our Lady’s Shrine to all clergy, religious and faithful so that all may participate in this collective act of reparation.

Fr. Lumpe noted this pilgrimage enables us to turn to God our Father asking for His pardon, mercy and forgiveness for the sins that have taken place in the Church, to pray for strength and perseverance to help sustain us during these troubled times, to pray for healing of victims of clergy sex abuse and sexual misconduct, to pray for healing of the wounds of sin and division, and to help combat evil in our culture which has crept into certain corners of the Church throughout the world.

As explained in the Catholic Encyclopedia: “By voluntary submission to His Passion and Death on the Cross, Jesus Christ atoned for our disobedience and sin. He thus made reparation to the offended majesty of God for the outrages which the Creator so constantly suffers at the hands of His creatures. We are restored to grace through the merits of Christ’s Death, and that grace enables us to add our prayers, labors, and trials to those of Our Lord ‘and fill up those things that are wanting of the sufferings of Christ’ (Colossians 1:24). We can thus make some sort of reparation to the justice of God for our own offenses against Him, and by virtue of the Communion of the Saints, the oneness and solidarity of the mystical Body of Christ, we can also make satisfaction and reparation for the sins of others.”

All persons of faith are invited to this special pilgrimage of reparation and prayer, with the rosary beginning around 10:30 a.m., followed by Mass at 11 a.m.

Fr. Lumpe also noted that the Oct. 6 reparation pilgrimage to Carey is

See PILGRIMAGE, Page 4
My dear brothers and sisters in the risen Lord Jesus,

Called out of nothingness into existence by our gracious God, all of us have embarked on a journey through human life and history, from birth to earthly death. For some, this journey is a long one, for others not so much, but each journey has its own particular meaning and purpose, even though it may not be widely noted or its significance known. After all, each of us is absolutely unique, never before known to the world, nor to be replicated in the future. Given the length of days which marked the life of Father Laurinaitis, he was an extraordinary example of an individual whose life seemed to mirror the world around him. One might even be forgiven for thinking that his biography could be mistaken for a history of the 20th century.

Accompanying us on that human journey, there is another reality and another presence. Through the insertion of the incarnate Lord Jesus into our history, we have come to understand that in and through our lives, God is working out His plan for creation and for every human person. With such an understanding, we call our journey here on earth a pilgrimage, one filled with dying and rising in imitation of our Lord and one which God wishes will end in the fulfillment of the prophecy of Isaiah: “On the mountain to which God calls us, our eyes shall be opened and the power of death shall be destroyed forever.”

We are gathered here to commemorate those final moments of Father Laurinaitis’ pilgrimage to the mountain where God will wipe away all tears, where Father Paul will “behold our God to whom we looked to save us.”

The evangelist Luke’s account of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus is especially apt for the funeral of Father Laurinaitis. The journey of the two disciples begins in sadness and confusion until, Luke tells us, “Jesus himself drew near and walked with them,” as the Lord does with all of us, although we often share with the disciples the momentary failure to recognize the Lord’s presence. Only with the breaking of the bread are the eyes of disciples opened to the perduring presence of the risen Lord Jesus.

Father Paul was born in a difficult time for his native country and for the whole world. Lithuania enjoyed a brief moment of independence until, squeezed by war between Nazi Germany and Soviet Russia, it lost its independent existence as armies swept back and forth through the land. Father began the discernment of his priestly vocation in the midst of this turmoil, and was forced to begin a perilous journey through the wasteland of the war in order to continue that discernment. Moving from place to place, often in hiding, he finally was ordained and began to celebrate the Holy Eucharist so that other hearts may burn with understanding at the preaching of the Word and know the lasting presence of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament along their own pilgrimage. I wonder whether Father Laurinaitis was sustained through all of these difficulties by the words of St. Paul, his patron: “For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Not even death. For this reason, Isaiah urges us “to rejoice and be glad that (the Lord) has saved us”.

Father Paul’s journeying brought him to this diocese and into the hearts of many parishioners over the past years. His pilgrimage continued into his maturity and into the growing infirmity which he had to endure. Even in his last difficulties, I never saw him without that benign smile which marked his face, as if he were about to tell a wry bit of humor to illustrate a point, or perhaps to tell us that he had seen the worst and best of things and Jesus Christ is still with us.

To be sure, Father Paul could have his moments. While having lunch with him not too long ago, to celebrate the anniversary of his priestly ordination, our conversation turned to his early life in Lithuania. I asked him if, among the many languages he learned, did he learn Polish. After all, there had been a long history of association between Poland and Lithuania. “Oh. no,” he sharply replied, “the Poles stole our capital in 1922,” and then listed other offenses against his homeland, some going back centuries. Then he suddenly stopped and said quietly that he now remembered that my mother was of Polish descent. I assured him that in 1922, my mother was eight years old and living in Cleveland, Ohio, and could not possibly bear responsibility for the loss of Lithuania’s capital city.

We have now brought Father’s body to the place where he often celebrated Mass, in this parish which he loved. To be sure, Father Paul could have his moments. While having lunch with him not too long ago, to celebrate the anniversary of his priestly ordination, our conversation turned to his early life in Lithuania. I asked him if, among the many languages he learned, did he learn Polish. After all, there had been a long history of association between Poland and Lithuania. “Oh. no,” he sharply replied, “the Poles stole our capital in 1922,” and then listed other offenses against his homeland, some going back centuries. Then he suddenly stopped and said quietly that he now remembered that my mother was of Polish descent. I assured him that in 1922, my mother was eight years old and living in Cleveland, Ohio, and could not possibly bear responsibility for the loss of Lithuania’s capital city.

We have now brought Father’s body to the place where he often celebrated Mass, in this parish which he loved. We remember him for his long presence among us and for the life which he shared with us. We accompany him on the final steps of his pilgrimage.

See FUNERAL, Page 6
**Faith in Action**

**What is your family mission?**

By Jerry Freewalt

We’ve all read mission statements. The place you work for or volunteer at may have its mission statement displayed on a wall. Perhaps your parish has a mission statement published in the parish bulletin. You might even have a personal mission statement listed in your day planner.

I’ve participated in numerous board meetings and committees in my career crafting mission statements. It can be quite a process when you assemble a group of unique individuals to develop a brief message articulating the main reason for being. The process requires critical thinking and reflection about core values and direction. Input from everyone present is necessary for effective buy-in and ownership. At the end of the process, a bond is formed with a clear sense of purpose. Everyone can point to the mission statement as a guide when considering plans and actions.

Have you ever thought about your family mission? This may not come to mind in the busyness of family life. But why not? I’m not suggesting you assemble your preschoolers or grandchildren into a corporate board room to develop one, but what about at the kitchen table?

The Catholic Church places such an importance on the family that it is often referred to as “the domestic church.” The family is an integral part of the Body of Christ and the smallest cell of relationships in society. As Church, we know so many of our social concerns issues can be addressed by addressing the family.

Families are tugged and pulled in so many directions these days. Countless outside messages and influences from our culture, good or bad, influence each member of the family, especially when they have smartphones. A family may be connected to the outside world via technology, but is the family truly connected to each other by a shared sense of purpose?

This where a family mission statement can be of help. Consider these elements as you develop your family mission: LEARN, LIVE, PRAY.

Learn by actively listing to each other. Discover personal interests, core values, gifts, and challenges. This time of active listening is so important in the life of a family and helps to strengthen the bond of relationships. Talk about how your values align with Catholic teaching and embody virtue. Discuss your family’s relationship with God, our church, our community, and our world.

Live out your faith in action as a family. When I come to think about it, some of my favorite memories involve volunteer service as a family: working with veterans for my son’s Eagle Scout project, painting houses for Catholic Social Services, making sandwiches for the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and the list goes on. These acts of service solidified our family bond as we used our gifts and talents in an expression of charity, loving God and our neighbor.

Pray as you develop your family mission. Prayer is the springboard of Christian action. Prayer offers the family a time to talk and actively listen to discern God’s will for us.

Consider using the new FAMILY MISSION ROSARY KIT. Developed by the diocesan Marriage & Family Life Office and the Office for Social Concerns, the Family Mission Rosary Kit includes simple resources to help your family develop a mission statement, suggestions for service activities, and even a rosary coloring page for young and old alike.

Families can access the kit online at [www.columbuscatholic.org/family-ministry-enrichment](http://www.columbuscatholic.org/family-ministry-enrichment) or by calling 614-241-2560.

Your family mission statement doesn’t have to be fancy. Perhaps a family mission statement can simply articulate your vocation as missionary disciples who love God, each other, and neighbor. Whatever it is, don’t forget to prominently display it on the kitchen refrigerator.

Jerry Freewalt is director of the diocesan Office for Social Concerns.

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**Diocesan agencies sponsor Culture of Life conference**

The diocesan Office for Social Concerns and Marriage & Family Life Office are sponsoring a conference on "Building a Culture of Life: Respect Life, Bioethics, and Leadership" from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20 at Sunbury St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37. Other sponsors are Greater Columbus Right to Life and the FEMM International women’s health care organization.

The program will begin with Mass at 8 a.m. for those interested in attending. Speakers in the morning will include Gabrielle Jastrebski of FEMM International on openness to life; Mount Carmel St. Ann’s Hospital obstetrician-gynecologist Dr. Alicia Thompson on the current state of reproductive technology; and parents Mark Butler and Larry and Jackie Keough on their experiences of advocating for children with disabilities.

After lunch, Jerry Freewalt, diocesan social concerns director, will give a legislative update; attorney Peggy Wolock and Dr. Marian Schuda will look at end-of-life discussions and medical directives; and there will be a panel of representatives from various pro-life organizations on “Answering the Hard Questions.”

Registration is $25, including lunch. Scholarships are available for those who may wish to attend but are limited by financial circumstances. Register at [https://bcfc2018.eventbrite.com](https://bcfc2018.eventbrite.com) or call (614) 241-2540. The registration deadline is Monday, Oct. 16.

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**Shepherd’s Corner hosts field day**

Shepherd’s Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick, a ministry of the Dominican Sisters of Peace, will host its third annual field day from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 22.

The sisters invite everyone to explore the center’s gardens, walk the trail and labyrinth, take a hayride, see local artists, and get close to a fire truck. Produce grown at Shepherd’s Corner and craft items will be available for sale. Those attending may bring a picnic lunch, but are reminded that dogs are not allowed at Shepherd’s Corner.

The center has several programs scheduled this fall and is open for visitors from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. most Wednesdays to Fridays through November. For more information, go to [https://shepherdscorner.org](https://shepherdscorner.org).

**PILGRIMAGE, continued from Page 2**

only the beginning of Marian prayers for this particular weekend.

“October 7 is the traditional date to celebrate the memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary,” said Fr. Lumpe. “This year, October 7 falls on a Sunday, the Lord’s Day, but a number of parishes throughout our Diocese and indeed our nation are also participating in the October 7 national Rosary Coast to Coast. Check out their web page [www.rosarycoasttocoast.com](http://www.rosarycoasttocoast.com) for information and the nearest parish participating in one fashion or another for this national day to pray the rosary as a means of reparation.”

Fr. Lumpe requests that persons interested in participating in the Oct. 6 reparation pilgrimage to Our Lady of Consolation Shrine and Basilica contact the Cathedral by Monday, October 1, by calling (614) 224-1295 or e-mail [cathedral@stjosephcathedral.org](mailto:cathedral@stjosephcathedral.org).

“We simply need a head count of those planning to attend this special pilgrimage so that the Franciscan Friars at the Shrine can adequately plan for the rosary, Mass and shrine devotion,” said Fr. Lumpe. “Carey is generally just a 90-minute trip from Columbus up Route 23, so it’s an easy drive. As we prepare for this pilgrimage, let us remember one of the most prayed prayers of reparation given by Our Lady to the children of Fatima: ‘O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those in the most need of Thy mercy.’”
Priests are like airplanes: 
one falls and it’s all over the news, 
but no one remembers those who are still flying. 
Pray for our priests.

Prayer for Priests

By St. Thérèse of Lisieux

_O Jesus, eternal Priest, 
keep your priests within the shelter of Your Sacred Heart, 
where none may touch them. 
Keep unstained their anointed hands, which daily touch Your Sacred Body. 
Keep unsullied their lips, daily purpled with Your Precious Blood. 
Keep pure and unearthly their hearts, sealed with the sublime mark of the priesthood. 
Let Your holy love surround them and shield them from the world’s contagion. 
Bless their labors with abundant fruit and may the souls to whom they minister be their joy and consolation here and in heaven. 
their beautiful and everlasting crown. Amen._

Cum Christo women’s weekend set for October 18-21

The next Cum Christo spiritual weekend scheduled in Columbus will be for women and will take place from 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 18 to Sunday afternoon, Oct. 21 at Columbus St. James the Less Church, 1652 Oakland Park Ave.

The weekend consists of a series of talks given by laypersons and Catholic and Protestant clergy on topics such as grace, church, piety, study, and Christian community in action. Each talk is followed by prayer, reflection and discussion. There is a Catholic Mass and a Protestant service each weekend. Men’s and women’s weekends in Columbus each are offered two times a year.

Cum Christo emerged from the Catholic Cursillo Movement, which started in 1964. In 1970, it welcomed men and women from Protestant denominations.

Cum Christo is one of many means of renewal within the Church. Its goal bring all to Christ by providing the opportunity and the means for participants to support one another.

A prospective candidate must be 21 or older, be a baptized Christian, and be affiliated with the Roman Catholic Church or an established Christian church.

“The Cum Christo Movement is a unique opportunity to stir up one’s appreciation and practical expression of faith in Jesus Christ,” said Columbus Bishop Emeritus James Griffin.

“Cum Christo offers the added strength of continuing relationship with men and women of our community who are equally intent on making the Gospel come alive in their midst.

“I encourage you to make the Cum Christo experience a part of your faith-life. It will be a source of inner peace for you and will provide unbelievable spiritual growth.”

To contact Columbus Cum Christo for more information, visit https://cumchristo.org/contact or call Jim Keating at (614) 905-0501.

Walking the Sorrowful Mysteries

By Teresa Milner

Each morning I walk and pray the rosary. Within the Sorrowful Mysteries, I found a reflection of my cancer journey.

_The Agony in the Garden: _I received my diagnosis June 1, 2017, six weeks after my mom died during a “routine” surgery. When the doctor told me I had cancer, needed to have my left breast removed, and scheduled it for the three-month anniversary of my mom’s death, I freaked out.

I researched my type of cancer, which was stage 0, to see if I could find an alternative to surgery. I learned a lot, cancelled my surgery, and began to not fear my cancer. I came to believe that our bodies are capable of healing themselves, given the right tools. I changed my diet and lifestyle, began taking various supplements, and soon looked and felt better than I had since my college days.

In June 2018, I found out that my cancer had become invasive; it was now Stage 1. The doctor said the only sure way to get rid of this was to amputate my breast. It was at this point that my agony in the garden began. I had until August 3rd, the date of my surgery, to wrap my mind around the fact that I would soon only have one breast.

I dreaded surgery and its subsequent disfigurement. I prayed for the Lord to take that cup from me. I cried and cried for my impending loss. I felt the loss viscerally. I was in agony as I gradually brought myself to the understanding, decision, and acceptance of the fact that I would undergo a mastectomy and live with only one breast.

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_I prayed the Second Sorrowful mystery I pictured the surgery: the pain, the cut, the swelling, the bruising, the drugs with which they’d addle my brain, the atrophy from laying around during recovery – this would be my scourging. Jesus’ scourging was not just one small body part; he endured lash after lash, blow after blow, until his skin hung in ribbons. My “scourging” would include being sedated, safe, warm, and I would be given ample pain medication so that I wouldn’t have to face even a moment of being uncomfortable, much less endure the pain of all of the sins of all of humanity of all of earth’s existence! _

By God’s grace, I came through that surgery with hardly a blip in my energy or my physical comfort. I was praying the rosary as I was wheeled into the room, and I continued that same rosary as I awoke in recovery. My mind was clear, my body quickly recovered its strength, and never at any point after the surgery did I need a pain pill.

My fervent prayer now is to comfort Jesus during his scourging as I was comforted during mine. He took it for the good of all mankind – I went through mine because it was the only choice to definitively eradicate my disease. He made my “scourging” easier for me through the gift of excellent physical health and rapid healing. I want to make his scourging easier for him by weeping with him, holding his hand as he suffers, and letting him know over and over again how much I love him.

_The Crowning with Thorns:_

There is no mystery in humiliation. Jesus’ accusers wanted to make him feel cowed. They wanted to lash his mind and spirit the way they’d lashed his body. They wove that crown of thorns to humiliate him. As far as they were concerned, he was less than nothing. But they couldn’t take from him the knowledge that he was doing his father’s will.

For me, my crowning with thorns was going to be the worst part of all. I’d have to admit that I did not initially choose the right path and tell those who believed me crazy to think that diet, exercise, and...
Jesus after resurrection; ‘Brother-sister’ for civil marriage

QUESTION & ANSWER
Father Kenneth Doyle
Catholic News Service

Did the resurrected Jesus have a human body? (Carrollton, Georgia)

It is a fundamental truth of Christianity that Jesus rose from the dead in his physical body. (This differs from the doctrine of Jehovah’s Witnesses, who hold that the post-resurrection Christ was spiritual, not physical.) Christians believe that the Jesus who appeared to more than 500 witnesses after Easter (1 Cor 15:6) was not a ghost but was actually walking, talking, even eating.

When Jesus showed himself to the disciples in the Upper Room on Easter Sunday night, they were at first terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. But he said to them, “Why are you troubled? ... Look at my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me and see, because a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you can see I have” (Lk 24:38-39).

Seeing them still amazed, Jesus asked them, “Have you anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of baked fish, which he then ate in front of them (Lk 24:41-42). A week later, still bearing the wounds of the crucifixion, Jesus appeared to Thomas and said, “Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side” (Jn 20:27).

At the same time, though, it needs to be said that Christ’s post-resurrection body was somewhat different than his physical body on earth, since it was now glorified -- incorruptible and free of suffering, a promise of what our own bodies will be like in heaven.

He could enter closed rooms, for example, even though the door was locked (Jn 20:19), and he was able to disappear, as he did when he vanished from the sight of the disciples on the road to Emmaus (Lk 24:31); and, of course, he was able to ascend into heaven (Acts 1:9).

My sister married in the Catholic Church while very young. After a couple of years, that marriage fell apart and eventually she received an annulment from the Catholic tribunal. After a few years, she met a divorced man who had been married previously in the Catholic Church and she married him in a civil ceremony.

Over 30 years have now passed, and they stopped having conjugal relations some years ago. Because of multiple social, financial and health issues, they still live under the same roof -- although in separate rooms.

My sister wants to come back to the church and receive the sacraments. The family has met with two priests and received two different opinions. The first priest indicated that she cannot receive the sacraments unless she divorces.

The second one said that, since there is no expectation of further sexual relations (they would continue to maintain a brother-sister relationship), she can receive the sacrament of reconciliation and then holy Communion. Please let me know the church’s position. (Baton Rouge, Louisiana)

A I would agree with the second priest. In fact, Pope (now St.) John Paul II provided for such a circumstance in his 1981 apostolic exhortation “Familiaris Consortio,” saying that “reconciliation in the sacrament of penance, which would open the way to the Eucharist” can be granted “when, for serious reasons, such as for example the children’s upbringing, a man and a woman cannot satisfy the obligation to separate, they (quoting from a homily he had given a year earlier) ‘take on themselves the duty to live in complete continence.’”

(Note: I would deem as “serious reasons” what you describe as “multiple social, financial and health issues.”)

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

St. Peter to host program on teen suicide

A presentation on suicide among teenagers will take place from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7 in the Blue Room of Columbus St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road.

The presenter will be Paul F. Granello, a licensed professional clinical counselor and associate professor of counselor education at The Ohio State University. He also is a founding partner of the Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation.

High-school-age teenagers are encouraged to attend with an adult. The program will be sponsored by the parish’s adult enrichment and youth ministry committees.

UD alumni group honors Ruth Beckman

Ruth Beckman, the longtime director of the Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs (JOIN) in Columbus, was one of seven University of Dayton graduates honored by the university’s alumni association at its annual awards banquet on Saturday, Sept. 8.

Beckman earned an associate degree in executive secretarial studies from UD. She led JOIN from 1981 to 2015.

Ten Columbus parishes established JOIN in 1967 to help inner-city residents with basic needs, including food, clothing, rent and utility-bill assistance, prescriptions, bus passes and gas. During her time as director, the organization’s impact grew dramatically, from serving about three clients a day to 75 a day. With such increased numbers, she often dealt with budget shortfalls and kept the organization going by pursuing grants and donations.

Her citation by the alumni association said, “Ruth was a tireless fighter for the poor and destitute, supporting their spiritual needs as well as their corporal needs and going above and beyond her job description, working 50 hours a week despite only being compensated for 30. Her impact on Columbus’ inner city is beyond measure.”

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with our prayers and commend him to our loving and merciful God. We pray that the good Lord will forgive whatever failings marked Father Paul’s life in this world and bring him into his presence, where we shall be like God, for we shall see him as his is.

We recall that today, the Church throughout the world celebrates the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. This feast focuses our attention on the Cross of Jesus, which is the sign of the Lord’s victory over sin and death and the source of great hope.

As we gaze upon the cross, we see the blood and water flowing from the wounded side of Jesus, and we pray that the lifegiving flood of love and mercy will fall upon the dust of our lives and bring forth the new life of everlasting peace. Christ has promised that when he is lifted up, he will draw all peoples to himself.

We also call to mind our own pilgrimage in this world and the fact of our own dying and rising. In remembering the difficult journey of Father Laurinaitis through war and displacement to ordination, done in faith in the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ, let us pray that the good Lord continues to show us his face in our own critical and difficult times.

We call to mind the last words which Jesus spoke to the Apostles as he ascended into heaven: “Remember that I am with you always until the end of the ages.”

Eternal rest grant unto Father Paul, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine on him. May he rest in peace. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.
By Keith F. Luscher

In February, I penned an article that asked: “Can divorced Catholics become lost sheep?” I was reminded of this a few weeks ago, when I received an email from Mitch, a Catholic going through a divorce after a marriage of 15 years. He found my contact information on the ministry website DivorcedCatholicColumbus.org and reached out for support in “re-engaging” with the Church.

Within a few days, we were able to connect on the phone. I asked him what he meant when he expressed a desire to “re-engage” with the Church. I wanted to know how he became “disengaged” in the first place. Mitch shared his story and stated, “When it was clear that despite my best efforts to save my marriage, we were heading for divorce, I just didn’t feel like I belonged anymore. After all, I knew I certainly couldn’t receive the Eucharist.”

I quickly, yet gently, corrected Mitch in his understanding of Church teaching. I told him that being civilly divorced does not mean he is excluded from the Church. Rather, I encouraged him to continue to participate in parish life.

At the same time, Christ does not recognize divorce (Matthew 5:32/19:9, Mark 10:11-12, Luke 16:18), and neither does the Church. Therefore, as far as the Church is concerned, he is still sacramentally married to his wife until death or unless the marriage was declared invalid by a diocesan Tribunal.

If his marriage was not annulled, and he entered into another relationship outside of his marriage, then he would not be “in communion” with the Church and therefore asked to not present himself to sacramental communion, similar to any individual who is not in communion with the Church. Yet even then, everyone is still loved by God and welcome at Mass. So where did Mitch and countless other Catholics like him get such an incorrect impression on Church teaching regarding issues related to marriage and divorce? Put more simply: Why do many Catholics believe that a civil divorce automatically excludes them from life in the Church?

Clearly, poor catechesis is one cause. Mitch made an incorrect assumption based on poor education or advice in the past, or no guidance at all.

There is a second cause for this misunderstanding: It comes from a failure by Catholics to provide unconditional love, support and acceptance of those who for whatever reason end up in this situation.

Divorced Catholics often report feeling disconnected from fellow parishioners. They don’t feel welcome any more. And this drives the sheep away from the flock.

Therefore, here are a few suggestions to keep “at-risk” Catholics in the Church (where they will continue to receive spiritual enrichment and food when they need it most):

1. Encourage yourself on Church teaching. The apostolate Non Solum Columbus tries to make this easy by offering a simple report, Thirteen Myths of Marriage, Divorce & Annulments in The Catholic Church, available at DivorcedCatholicColumbus.org.

2. Reach out to someone going through a separation or divorce. This can be difficult. Often it’s not knowing what to do or say that leads to inaction and the unintended sense of abandonment felt by others. But if you don’t know what to say, then lead with that! The sincere effort and the opening of one’s heart to another and making yourself vulnerable to join them in their pain (“Jesus, in my suffering, I join You in Yours”) is perhaps the greatest gift you can share. Allow God’s Divine Mercy to channel through you.

3. Encourage engagement in the faith. The experience of marital breakdown is a time when one needs faith. Encourage them to get involved in parish life. Every parish has varying levels of opportunity for service (volunteering), enrichment (like Alpha and Catholicism 101), and the sacraments. Mass, Adoration, the Eucharist and Reconciliation feed, heal and bring us closer to Christ. You might also suggest they explore Surviving Divorce: Hope and Healing for the Catholic Family, a program offered by many local parishes. The schedule is available at DivorcedCatholicColumbus.org.

4. Love and listen. Divorce in our culture has become so common that the gut-wrenching anguish it causes those involved has become trivialized and even ignored. Do not minimize the pain a person is experiencing, but be present and listen. It may be difficult to know what to say, but demonstrating love and compassion goes a long way. You may not fully understand what a person is feeling, but Christ knows. Let Him shine through you.

If you know a parishioner at risk of leaving the flock because of marital separation or divorce, pray for and reach out to the person, even if it’s uncomfortable. Works of mercy aren’t supposed to be easy. “Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me” (Matthew 25:40).

Keith F. Luscher is a revert to the Church after a 25-year absence. He is now happily engaged and an active member of Columbus St. Catharine Church, and a co-founder of Non Solum Columbus. He may be reached at keith.luscher@gmail.com or at (614) 205-0830.

A concert to benefit a new parish in Haiti will take place at 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 18 at Columbus St. Francis of Assisi Church, 386 Buttles Ave. It will feature Giovanni and Friends, with contemporary Christian musician John Lalacona and a musical group presenting original songs of meditation and praise of Jesus Christ. Admission is free, but a collection will be taken on behalf of the new Our Lady of the Assumption Church, located not far from Jacmel on the south shore of Haiti. The church’s pastor, Father Guy Belange, is a longtime friend of Father Fritzner Valcin, who is pastor of St. Francis of Assisi and a native of Haiti. Father Belange wrote Father Valcin that his bishop had assigned him to get the church and rectory built so the people it serves can “celebrate God with dignity.”

There is a modest foundation for the church and rectory. However, funds are scarce because most of the Catholics in the area are farmers and have little money to spare. In addition, Haiti has been hit hard by earthquakes, hurricanes and infrastructure issues over the years.

After the concert, there will be a wine and cheese reception featuring the musicians and Father Valcin.
St. Anthony students ‘save Fred’

Columbus St. Anthony School fifth-graders worked on a STEM activity that challenged them to “save Fred,” a gummy worm whose boat had capsized. Fred was stuck atop a plastic cup and his life preserver was under the cup. The students had to save him by using four paperclips and no hands. This activity encouraged students to work together and improve problem-solving skills and critical thinking.

St. Bernadette celebrates Mary’s birthday

Lancaster St. Bernadette School students enjoyed a belated celebration of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Monday, Sept. 10. The feast day was on Saturday, Sept. 8. Father Ty Tomson, pastor of St. Bernadette Church, reminded the children that Mary celebrates a birthday every year on that day. The students sang “Happy Birthday” to Mary and enjoyed special blue-frosted cupcakes compliments of Father Tomson and a volunteer baker. Students pictured are (from left) Dominic Messerly, Charlie Bricker, Colten Sisco, Annastasia Harmon, Ella Sanford and Sam Tencza.

St. Andrew forms family groups

Columbus St. Andrew School promotes community building through its family group program. Family groups are a mixture of students in all grade levels. Each group consists of 13 to 15 students and is facilitated by its eighth-grade member. Family groups meet once per month, with an activity or discussion as part of the meeting. This year, the focus is on the Beatitudes. Members of one of the groups are (from left) Eliana Geraci, Henne Montooth, Wyatt Robinson and Hannah Martin.

St. Anthony students build towers

Columbus St. Anthony School first-graders read the book “The Man Who Walked Between the Towers” by Mordicai Gerstein. The book tells about French aerialist Philippe Petit’s tightrope walk between the two World Trade center towers in 1974. The students worked in teams to build their own twin towers out of clear cups. Shown with one of the towers are (from left) Carlos Luna, Lila Hatem, Desno Daly, John Hoffman, Bakhita Combeby, Dylan Hernandez, Kojo Oduro, Leonardo Salazar and Landon Jacobus.
We’re all in marketing

Before I moved into the field of fitness, I had a small marketing communications company that allowed me to help small businesses and entrepreneurs develop their messaging and branding.

I discovered that one of the biggest frustrations for business owners was marketing. They were experts at their field, whether they provided a product or a service, but marketing often overwhelmed them. They felt unsure about how to talk about their business to others in a compelling manner.

That’s where I came in. I enjoyed writing and helping them zero in on what made them different. I helped them write and share their compelling story in the marketplace.

Often I would say, “we are all in marketing”— everyone, every minute, as everything we say and do impacts how people see and evaluate our brand, our mission, our product or service.

Marketing, at its essence, is the sharing of information, experiences, and stories, in a way that attracts people—whether it’s supporting the mission of a non-profit, or buying a product or service.

I found myself recently saying to a friend that marketing applies to Jesus as well. What I meant was that those of us who love Jesus, and desire to grow in our relationship with him, inevitably want to share our love and our faith with others. This could be called marketing, but as Catholics, we more commonly refer to this as evangelization. We are all called to evangelize—each in our own way—loving God and neighbor, and by example, bringing people to the good news of Jesus Christ.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church, #1913, states, “Thus, every person through these gifts given to him, is at once the witness and the living instrument of the mission of the Church itself, ‘according to the measure of Christ’s bestowal.’”

When I think of Sts. Peter and Paul, two extraordinary disciples, we could say they were masterful at marketing. I think about their travels, their speaking, teaching, writing, caring, healing and performing miracles to bring people of all cultures and backgrounds to the truth of Jesus Christ. It feels odd to call that marketing, but in a way it is because they were communicating Christ’s love with a desire to attract others to him.

“Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.” Mt 28: 19-2

In the wise words of St. Augustine, “Truth is not private property.” May we also answer the call to be marketers of Christ’s mission by courageously sharing our faith and love for Jesus, each in our unique way, relying on the gifts and talents God has bestowed on us.

Harvest Bouquet Craft Show
Saturday, October 6 • 9am-3pm
Over 100 Crafters • Raffle Baskets • Handmade Items
Great Food and “Buckeyes”
FREE ADMISSION!
St. Joan of Arc Church - 10700 Liberty Rd., Powell

Scouts retire flag at memorial

Boy Scouts from Columbus Our Lady of Peace and St. Timothy schools came together on Monday, Sept. 10 to retire the American flag (and hang a new one) at the Columbus Police and Firefighters Memorial.

Photo courtesy Our Lady of Peace School
HOLY FAMILY CHURCH:
‘EVERYTHING IS ROOTED IN THE LITURGY’

By Tim Puet, Catholic Times Reporter

Anyone who has not recently been to the area surrounding Holy Family Church on Columbus’ west side would be amazed at what has taken place in the neighborhood.

The former Franklin County Veterans Memorial Auditorium, just across the Scioto River from downtown, has been torn down. It has been replaced by the National Veterans Memorial and Museum, which will open late next month as the nation’s only museum dedicated to telling the stories of veterans of all eras and all branches of the military and their families.

A little farther west on Broad Street, many of the neighborhood’s commercial buildings have been or are being razed, to be replaced by a new development that has been given the overall name of Gravity and will include apartments, shops, restaurants, residences, and possibly a hotel.

It’s the biggest change the neighborhood has seen in decades, but in the midst of all that’s new, Holy Family, at 584 W. Broad St., retains its commitment to the unchanging truths of the Catholic Church.

“The world has not changed Holy Family,” said parishioner Fred Van Order. “Parishioners are grateful that they have been able to come here and be grounded in the faith under the leadership of Fathers Lutz and Dailey.”

Father Kevin Lutz, now pastor of Columbus St. Mary, Mother of God Church, was the parish’s pastor from 1998 to 2013, when Father Stanley “Stash” Dailey became parish administrator. He was named pastor at the end of July of this year. Both priests have been assisted by Deacon Earl McCurry.

“A lot of parishes have programs that are separated from the liturgy,” said parishioner Brian Krull. “Here, everything is rooted in the liturgy. Degree by degree, if you attend Mass here regularly, it changes you. The parish is a real treasure because it is so unique.”

For much of Father Lutz’s pastorate, Holy Family was the only parish in the Diocese of Columbus offering the Tridentine, or Extraordinary Form, Mass – the Mass as celebrated in the Catholic Church from 1570 to 1962 – on a regular basis. This has continued under Father Dailey, with Father Cyrus Haddad, parochial vicar of Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, as celebrant for Extraordinary Form Masses in Latin at 9 a.m. Thursdays and Fridays and 8:30 a.m. Sundays. The parish’s other Masses, in English using the current liturgical form, are at 12:15 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays, 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Saturdays, and 11 a.m. and 5 and 8 p.m. Sundays.

The 8 p.m. Mass is the latest Sunday Mass at any neighborhood parish in the diocese (the Newman Center at The Ohio State University has one at 9 p.m.). and there’s a reason for that. “Our Mass schedule is different from that of most parishes because of where we are,” Father Dailey said.

“The 8 p.m. Mass draws a large crowd because many of those attending are workers from area hospitals” that are located a brief drive away from the church. The pastoral needs of the thousands of hospital workers in the Columbus metropolitan area were the driving force behind offering the 8 p.m. Sunday Mass. Over time, it has been appealing to many others as well.

“We have the noontime Mass on weekdays because there are thousands of people working nearby,” either downtown or in the parish’s Franklinton neighborhood, Father Dailey said. “The Saturday morning Mass draws many people because it’s one of the few early Saturday Masses in the diocese and because, unlike other parish Saturday morning Masses, it’s always dedicated to the Blessed Mother. On the first Saturday of the month, it also includes the devotions requested by Our Lady of Fatima for that day.”

The parish’s devotional life is another of its strengths. It includes devotions to St. Anthony of Padua and veneration of a relic of the saint after the 12:15 p.m.
HOLY FAMILY SOUP KITCHEN HAS SERVED COMMUNITY FOR MORE THAN 40 YEARS

By Tim Puot, Catholic Times Reporter

From 10:30 a.m. to noon on any weekday (except holidays), there can’t be many places in Columbus busier than the Holy Family Soup Kitchen.

A constant stream of people flows through the cramped space in the basement of the former Holy Family School in the Franklinton neighborhood on the city’s west side.

In that 90-minute period, the center’s staff and volunteers see around 300 people, and frequently more. Those people come to eat a nourishing lunch in the cafeteria, obtain food from the building’s pantry so they can feed their families, receive woods bags containing food for the homeless, pick up mail, receive medical assistance, or ask for help with the necessities of life.

Dana Krull, the kitchen’s operations manager, estimates that the kitchen and pantry serve a ton – 2,000 pounds – of food on a typical day, either in meals for those who eat lunch in the kitchen or in boxes distributed to the 25 or so families a day who come to the pantry to obtain a week’s worth of food.

The facility has been serving area residents for more than 40 years. In the last few years, this outreach has been extended through the woods bags, which, depending on what’s available, include two water bottles, a bottle of pop or juice, two sandwiches, some snacks, and a dinner or salad. About 75 woods bags are distributed daily to the homeless people whose camps are located in the neighborhood.

“There’s about 1,000 or 1,500 calories worth of food in each bag,” Krull said. “That’s enough to get people through to the next day, when they can come back here for a nutritious hot lunch” which generally includes a meat, vegetables, soup, bread, dessert and a beverage.

Families can come to the pantry twice a month. Enough other pantries exist in the city to provide sufficient food for the families’ needs at other times during the month. The pantry serves families in the 43119, 43123, 43204, 43215, 43222, 43223 and 43228 ZIP codes, which include downtown and the near west side and Hilltop neighborhoods. A family can come back here for a nutritious meal twice a month, or whenever they can. Krull said. “We thank the volunteers here who are living out the Gospel,” Krull said. “Then he offered me the opportunity to work here, beginning this past winter and said God was bringing me to his mind,” Krull said. “I don’t like to be disrespected, so I give everybody respect. These people need the food pantry and soup kitchen. I’m glad to be here to help them obtain a week’s worth of food.”

“Father Stash (Dailey, pastor of Holy Family Church) reached out to me this winter and said God was bringing me to his mind,” Krull said. “He became director after the death last year of Sharon Wing, who had held the position since 2012.

The center’s director, Dominican Brother Paul Kennedy, OP, who lives at Columbus St. Patrick Church, was not at the center on the day the Catholic Times visited. He became director after the death last year of Sharon Wing, who had held the position since 2012.

The soup kitchen was founded in the late 1970s by Msgr. Francis Schweitzer, who was Holy Family’s pastor from 1970 to 1997 and continued to say Mass at the parish until his

The Holy Family Soup Kitchen in the former Holy Family School provides lunch for 300 or more people every weekday and has served the community for more than 40 years.

More than 100 volunteers help serve meals at the Holy Family Soup Kitchen, with about 25 or 30 at the site on Columbus’ west side on any given day. CT photos by Ken Snow

The attitude of most of them is summed up by Antoine Williams, a volunteer who shows up nearly every day at 8:15 a.m. to get the kitchen ready and stays as long as he is needed. “I don’t like to be disrespected, so I give everybody respect. These people need the food pantry and soup kitchen. I’m glad to be here to help them obtain a week’s worth of food.”

“Father Stash (Dailey, pastor of Holy Family Church) reached out to me this winter and said God was bringing me to his mind,” Krull said. “Then he offered me the opportunity to work here, beginning this past April. Doing this has fulfilled what I’m looking for and allowed me to meet many beautiful souls.”

The center’s director, Dominican Brother Paul Kennedy, OP, who lives at Columbus St. Patrick Church, was not at the center on the day the Catholic Times visited. He became director after the death last year of Sharon Wing, who had held the position since 2012.

The soup kitchen was founded in the late 1970s by Msgr. Francis Schweitzer, who was Holy Family’s pastor from 1970 to 1997 and continued to say Mass at the parish until his
Tuesday Mass; devotions to and veneration of a relic of Pope St. John Paul II after the Thursday 12:15 Mass; an act of consecration of the human race to the Sacred Heart of Jesus after the 12:15 and 7 p.m. Masses on the first Friday of the month; the blessing of St. Gerard Majella, patron of expectant mothers, after the 11 a.m. Mass on the third Sunday of the month for all women who are pregnant or wish to become pregnant; an overnight vigil with a statue of Our Mother of Sorrows late on Good Friday and early on Holy Saturday; and a day of recollection during Advent.

Eucharistic Adoration takes place from 10 a.m. to 9:45 p.m. every Tuesday; 10 a.m. Thursday to 11:30 a.m. Friday each week; and 8 p.m. Friday to 9 p.m. Saturday on the first Friday of the month, honoring the Sacred Heart.

A rosary procession from Holy Family to Columbus St. Patrick Church has taken place in May for the last two years. This year, more than 200 people took part. The parish also has a May crowning and first Communion on the first Sunday in May and sponsors a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation in Carey each year on Aug. 14, the vigil of the Solemnity of the Assumption. In addition, a statue of Our Lady of Fatima visits homes of interested parishioners on a rotating basis throughout the year. A Mass in Polish is offered at 2 p.m. on the third Sunday of each month.

Holy Family also has retained the practices of celebrating Masses ad orientem (facing east) and having people kneel in front of the altar for reception of the Eucharist.

Because of its location, it always has been a parish that has been attended by people from throughout the Columbus area. Father Dailey said it currently has a membership of about 700 families, most of whom do not live in Franklin- ton, but many of whom have roots in the area.

“All this construction probably won’t have that much of an impact on the church building itself,” he said. “It probably will have more of an effect on the parish soup kitchen and pantry and the parking situation. If the people who come here to live are Catholic or are interested in the Catholic faith, we welcome them to come to Mass, but we expect most of those at our Masses will continue to be people who live in the suburbs or work nearby.

Another thing that’s unique about our location is that those in the suburbs think of us as a downtown church, but because we’re across the river from downtown and are part of the West Columbus Deanery rather than the Center-South Deanery, we don’t see the Lord’s day, and it’s the best chance for us to be able to participate in the Eucharist.”

Holy Family was founded in 1877 as the first Catholic church on the west side. The current church building has served the parish throughout its 141-year history. The parish has survived devastating floods in 1913 and 1959, fires in the mid-1950s and the early years of this century, the loss of its grade and high schools, and highway construction that cut through its property.

Three pastors have served the parish in the past 48 years — Father Dailey, Father Lutz, and the late Msgr. Francis Schweitzer, pastor from 1970 to 1997. Msgr. Schweitzer told the Catholic Times 10 years ago that the parish almost was closed in the 1970s, but was saved by the legendary blizzard of late January 1978.

“The Saturday night of the blizzard, every other bingo in Franklin County was closed, but we stayed open,” he said. “We made $10,000 that night. That got us off our feet and allowed us to catch up on our bills. For us, the blizzard was a miracle.”

Many of those who came to the parish that night returned because they liked the atmosphere, and the threat of closing ended.

The former Holy Family School is now the home of two institutions founded by the former pastors — the Holy Family Soup Kitchen, which Msgr. Schweitzer started in the late 1970s and is the subject of a separate story in this week’s Catholic Times, and the Jubilee Museum, founded by Father Lutz in 1998, which houses the nation’s largest collection of diversified Catholic artwork. Many people call it “the Holy Family Museum,” but its organization is now independent of that of the parish.

The original parish school closed in 1973, but children once again are being educated at Holy Family. The parish center adjacent to the church building houses about 45 students who come there every Friday during the school year after being homeschooled during the week. The students are ages 4 through 17 and are being educated with the help of a program titled Catholic Schoolhouse, which is based on British author Dorothy Sayers’ three stages of primary and secondary education – grammar (for ages 4 to 9 or 10), dialectic (9 or 10 to 13), and rhetoric (14 to 17).

“It’s based on the natural way people learn,” Krull said. “Grammar students work to develop the roots that will enhance knowledge and understanding. Dialectic and rhetoric stage students have opportunities for discussion, logic development, and speaking, with additional focus on the fine arts and history. Catholic Schoolhouse is more than a day out of the house. It can help bring structure and cohesiveness to the home-school experience.”

Besides attracting many college-age students to its Masses, Holy Family also has become a frequent site for visits by Franciscan University of Steubenville students. Many Franciscan students belong to faith-related household groups that conduct retreats once a semester for household members, and some of these retreats take place at Holy Family, often giving students a chance to help at the soup kitchen or other parish activities.

Father Dailey said Franciscan students started coming to Holy Family after visiting the parish with NET Ministries Missionaries, a nationwide group dedicated to spreading the Gospel among young people.

“They love the parish, and some have settled here after college as a result,” he said. “They say it’s reverent without being stuck-up and beautiful without being cold. They like that no one leaves Mass early. They come here, and we send people there. We currently have five students at Franciscan.”

The church’s Confraternity of Christian Doctrine classes are led by Sister Anna Lesniak, LSIC, the parish’s religious education director. She and Sisters Bozena Tyborowska, LSIC, and Maria Lukaszuk, LSIC, are members of the Little Servant Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, a Polish-based order of sisters.

The order has been in Columbus since 2015, with Father Dailey making arrangements for the sisters to come at the invitation of Bishop Frederick Campbell. They live in a convent at 957 E. Broad St., part of which is being converted to house a preschool that the sisters hope to open in October, once
SOUP KITCHEN, continued from Page 11

death in 2013. He said he started the kitchen because of the presence of several Vietnam War veterans in the area near the church and the lack of recognition he felt they were receiving for their service.

For most of its history, the name of Frances Carr was synonymous with the kitchen and pantry. Carr began working there in 1982 as a volunteer and served as director for most of the next 30 years, guiding it through many periods when she wasn’t sure where she would get food for the next day’s meals.

Today, about half of that food is purchased from the Mid-Ohio Foodbank and another 25 percent from Gordon Food Service. The rest is donated by various partners. Significant partner organizations include Pizza Hut, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Trader Joe’s, Mount Carmel Health, the Columbus Blue Jackets, the Columbus Clippers, and the Catholic Foundation. The St. Martha Giving Circle, a group of women who raise funds for the Foundation and decide where the money will go, recently awarded the kitchen one of its maximum $10,000 grants.

The generosity of donors has allowed the kitchen to increase the amount of food it is able to place in boxes from the pantry and in woods bags. Krull said the type of food being supplied is changing, with more fresh items and more produce and dairy products being sent and larger families receiving proportionately more food.

The kitchen also provides other items, such as children’s books and school supplies, when they are available. Krull said that at Christmastime, it facilitates gift donations for parishioners outside the downtown area who want to give to low-income families.

Clothing and household items are sometimes donated. “When that occurs, we make the items available to anyone who wants them,” Krull said. “We pray that the people who pick these things up are using them for their intended purposes. We know there are some risks involved, but we do it on faith.

“We also recognize that some of our guests may be ‘milking the system,’ but those kinds of free riders represent a very small minority.”

The kitchen provides more than just food. Krull said at least 400 people use it as a mailing address. “People on the street have no money to pay for a post office box, so they come here,” he said.

“We’re told that at other places where this kind of service is offered, people steal mail and bank cards. Here, we keep those kinds of things in a safe, away from other mail. It’s a lot more work for us, but it’s part of our mission and we know what a difference it makes.”

Health care is available at the site four days a week. The Mount Carmel Medical Coach visits every Thursday morning, offering a staff of professionals who provide basic medical care and referrals to more advanced care. Holy Family Church’s parish nurse, Sister Maria Lukaszuk, LSIC, is at the kitchen on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

“While she has been instrumental in bringing physical healing to local residents through home visits, she also provides spiritual restoration by helping them attend Holy Mass, some for the first time in many years. If you ever want to see the power of Catholic Christian love, just watch Sister Maria at work,” Krull said.

The kitchen also helps meet people’s spiritual needs by offering Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesdays, with the rosary being recited at 10:30. “Amid the oftentimes chaotic work of serving our hundreds of guests, it is a moment of incredible stillness to stop by the chapel and spend some time with the Lord. Time seems to stop” at those moments, Krull said.

Krull also notes that the neighborhood around the soup kitchen is beginning to change, with older homes being remodeled, new buildings with offices, shops, and apartments rising, and the area’s low-income residents gradually being replaced by the more affluent.

“When the homeless of Franklinton have been evicted, who will pray with them to show they are loved? Who will place daily bread – holy Scripture and a bag of food – in their hands?” he wonders. “At Holy Family Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry, we don’t distinguish between who is deserving and who isn’t, because we too are spiritually hungry sinners whom Jesus feeds in spite of our unworthiness – and indeed, because of it.”

For more information about the soup kitchen, call (614) 461-9444, send an email to holyfamilyoutreach@gmail.com, or go to its website, www.hfisk.org.
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B

Imitate Jesus in times of pain and confusion

By Jem Sullivan
Catholic News Service

Wisdom 2:12, 17-20
Psalm 54:3-6, 8
James 3:16 – 4:3
Gospel: Mark 9:30-37

Every saint faces times of trial and persecution, from within or from outside the church. Countless saints ended their lives with a crown of martyrdom, often at the hands of cruel, vicious persecutors.

And some saints who founded religious orders were eventually rejected by their own communities, enduring envy, false accusations and isolation among the very people they gathered together and served.

Take St. Benedict, who assembled communities of monks dedicated to ceaseless prayer, solitude and manual work. Benedictine monasteries eventually became the foundation of Western civilization, preserving Christian learning and witness to selfless devotion to God.

As St. Benedict sought to lead one of the monasteries he founded, some wayward monks conspired to kill him by offering him a poisoned drink. The saint raised his hand to bless the cup that shattered in front of them all.

St. John of the Cross experienced a similar rejection and humiliation by members of his own religious community as he sought to found and direct Discalced Carmelite communities.

In one period of his life, his attempts to purify and reform the observances of the friars was met with imprisonment, regular public beatings and other harsh punishments. During this difficult time, the saintly friar wrote some of the most profound spiritual writings and poetry that now inspires generations of the faithful.

Jesus predicts his betrayal, passion and death at the beginning of today’s Gospel reading. And St. Mark tells us that the disciples did not understand Jesus’ words. In fact, they completely missed the point!

Because as they travel on to Capernaum, they begin to argue over who was the greatest among them. Instead of focusing on the meaning of Jesus’ words for their lives, they were absorbed with their own selfish interests and desires for power.

Jesus gives the Twelve Apostles his vision of servant discipleship and yet they remain occupied with arguing over power, prestige and earthly fame.

It is then that Jesus explains to his disciples, and us, the true meaning of Christian discipleship. “If anyone wishes to be first,” says Jesus, “he shall be the last of all and the servant of all.”

And then like a good teacher, Jesus illustrates the meaning of his words by placing a child in their midst, telling them, “Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but the One who sent me.”

In the midst of these painful times in the church, God’s word invites us to recommit ourselves to being humble disciples of Jesus and to follow in his way of suffering, servant love that alone brings healing and peace. The word of God consoles and strengthens us with the courage to beg of God in prayer, “speak to me, Lord.”

Reflection Question:

How am I called to live as a servant disciple of Jesus today?

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Sullivan is secretary for Catholic education of the Archdiocese of Washington.

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Mass for Inner Healing

(Help for Stress)

Do you have stress due to everyday life experiences, health issues or relationship issues?

If so, come to the Mass for inner healing.

Where: St. Elizabeth Parish 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus, Ohio 43229

When: Wednesday, Oct. 10, 7 pm

President: Fr. Bill Faiella, CSC, Psy. D., Director of St. Andre Inner Healing Ministry in Phoenix

A collection for the Congregation of Holy Cross will be taken to support the St. Andre Birthing Center in Nairobi. The center provides care for destitute women and their children.

A reception will follow the Mass in the parish hall.
Just when the Long Lent of 2002 was coming to a boil in March of that year, Cardinal Dario Castrillon Hoyos, prefect of the Vatican’s Congregation for the Clergy, took things from “boil” to “nuclear meltdown” during a press conference presenting John Paul II’s Holy Thursday letter to the priests of the world. Peppered with questions about the clergy sexual abuse crisis in the U.S., Castrillon peremptorily dismissed reporters’ queries, saying that the Pope had other things to worry about, like Middle East peace.

Sound familiar?

There have certainly been ham-handed (and worse) responses to the current crisis from some American bishops, including prominent figures who seem, incredibly, to be taking their cues from the Castrillon playbook. But this is not 2002. And while it isn’t often stressed in mainstream media reporting on the crisis, those with eyes to see, ears to hear, and no click-bait to concoct understand that there is a new resolve among a critical mass of U.S. bishops: a resolve to air out the McCarrick scandal; a resolve to see that bishops are held accountable for failures of pastoral and disciplinary leadership with wayward clergy; and a resolve to be seen to have “gotten it.”

Why? Because those bishops are disgusted with what has come to light in the past two months. And because they know that, unless the bishops get it right this time, and are perceived to be getting it right, their credibility is shot for the next generation and the New Evangelization will be severely damaged.

An example of this resolve may be found in a letter Archbishop Leonard Blair of Hartford addressed to his archdiocesan brothers in the episcopate and the priesthood, and to his seminarians, which also sets the current crisis in its proper historical context:

“The anger and disillusionment of our Catholic people is only matched by my own, and no doubt yours as well. After all the massive effort that has been made since 2002 to rid the Church of this evil and to try to bring healing to victim survivors, how is it possible that we find ourselves confronting the same perception of the Church, and of us as priests and bishops, as if nothing has changed?”

“The Pennsylvania grand jury report, as devastating as it is, ostensibly covers a 70-year period, and is largely about a past that we have striven mightily to remedy. However, the allegations against [McCarrick] have to do with seeming indifference to repulsive conduct not only before, but also after, the great reforms and commitments that followed 2002. Whether before or after, it must be asked how he could possibly remain in ministry, and once the answer is known, steps must be taken to ensure that it will not happen again with any bishop.

“… what is most essential is our spiritual vigilance over ourselves and one another when it comes to any conduct that is a betrayal of the priesthood entrusted to us for the care of Christ’s flock. To live a ‘double’ or secret life sexually in serious sin with or against another, is to betray not only the priesthood but the people who have trust that we, on becoming clerics at diaconal ordination, ‘believe what we read, teach what we believe, and practice what we teach’…”

“My brothers, these words are meant for myself as well as for you. Indeed, they are even more dire a warning for me as a bishop. Like you, I feel shame and spiritual dejection, as well as anger, at what has happened to victims and to all the faithful as a result of sexual abuse and depredation and the failure of some bishops to definitively remove clerical predators.”

In pondering the reform of the episcopate for the future, the distinction between maintenance and mission should be at the center of the discussion. Bishops who imagined their role primarily as one of keep-the-lid-on institutional maintenance — whether in relation to their clergy, their brother-bishops, or both — are one of the primary causes of the McCarrick and Pennsylvania scandals. Bishops who think of their role as teaching and sanctifying a communion of missionary disciples are far more likely to build a presbyterate that is not a caste — and far more likely to call out brother-bishops who are failing in their responsibilities.

Institutional-maintenance Catholicism is finished. Purified, mission-driven Catholicism is the Church with a vital future.
Latino day coming up Sunday at Our Lady of Consolation shrine

The annual Latino celebration at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation will take place on Sunday, Sept. 23 in Carey, Ohio.

The noon Mass will be offered in Spanish, with Spanish-speaking musicians from Willard, Ohio, and dancers from Norwalk, Ohio, participating.

Confessions in English and Spanish will begin at 10 a.m. After Mass, devotions and a rosary procession by thousands of pilgrims each year.

Testimonies of numerous healings and miracles attributed to Our Lady of Consolation since the statue arrived from Luxembourg in 1875 can be found in the lower basilica. A nearby 30-acre park for meditation includes outdoor Stations of the Cross and statues of Christ and the saints.

For more information, call the Shrine at 419-396-7107 or visit www.olcshrine.com. For information in Spanish, ask for Father Vince.

Jesus never complained. He just carried on, allowing others to help him when they had the chance, like Simon of Cyrene, and continuing to shower his love on anyone in his path, like the women of Jerusalem. My prayer as I walk the rosary is that, as I carry the cross of my cancer into the future, I may go without complaint, allow others to help me, and love everyone who’s path I cross.

The Crucifixion and Death of Jesus: This mystery is one that brings great joy. Although the sorrowful mysteries are supposed to help us focus on what Jesus and Mary endured, it is always difficult for me to think of Jesus’ death without thinking of his resurrection. Meditating on this leaves me with the thought that, after the end, is the BEGINNING! Even if I carry my cross to a hideous death from cancer creeping into and ravaging my body, the end of this body means the beginning of eternal life with our Lord! How can this be sorrowful? So my prayer becomes, “Lord, help me to reach others, especially those I love, so we may all appreciate life and not fear death but see it as a beautiful transition into your eternal kingdom.”

Whatever time on earth remains, I want live with the love of Christ in my heart, the comfort of the Spirit on my lips, and the hand of the father guiding my path to live as he created us humans to live: our bodies and our minds strong and healthy and one in spirit with him and his creation. I am grateful to God for my cancer.

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Teresa Milner is a parishioner at Delaware St. Mary Church.
Young Columbus artist creates Catholic icons with contemporary twist

By Doug Bean, Catholic Times Editor

Being a witness to faith takes on many forms. Time and place often dictate how a person lives out his or her spirituality and, hopefully, uses a God-given ability to inspire others.

A Columbus Bishop Hartley High School graduate is trying to do just that in a subtle way.

Gracie Morbitzer has combined her artistic talent with faith cultivated through Catholic education to create modern saints icons with the intention of making these holy men and women more identifiable in today’s culture.

If the saints from various points in the Catholic Church’s history were alive now, Morbitzer offers her vision for how they might look wearing 21st century clothing and sporting today’s hairstyles.

Using pieces of wood picked up at garage sales and thrift stores, she has painted 65 contemporary depictions of saints so far and turned them into prints available on her website at www.themodernsaints.com and her Etsy store.

The popularity of her icons has taken her by surprise. What started as an art fair project for the 20-year-old student at Columbus College of Art and Design has turned into a small business. He receives an average of two to three orders every two weeks from teachers for their classrooms, missions, a foster care home in Michigan, individuals and various organizations.

“The response was pretty amazing,” she said. “I’ve gotten so many positive comments.”

Most gratifying is when someone says, “Wow, this really does look like me,” because it’s validation of her intention to make a saint more relatable and religion more real.

One of the benefits of her art is that it helps evangelize in a non-threatening way her fellow art students who come from different religious backgrounds or are non-believers. Put another way, her icons serve as a conversation starter.

She started by painting Jesus and Mary and then her confirmation saint, Genevieve.

“That made me think about the way people at my school would view art,” she said. “They respond to things that look like them and relate to their stories. So I brought all of them to my art fair (during her freshman year).”

She set up her display next to a student artist who had blue hair. Coincidentally, the St. Joan of Arc icon was drawn with blue hair, “the exact same color as hers, and she was like, oh, you painted me.

“It makes people think that they could be these people.”

Saints are declared persons of heroic virtue by the Church because of their exemplary lives, but most of them faced similar temptations as ordinary men and women.

“Because they had such different backgrounds, I think everyone can relate to one saint out there that was in a similar situation,” she said. “That’s what I wanted people to know most at my school. It’s just amazing that everyone comes from such different backgrounds and we can’t always understand each other for that reason.”

Morbitzer does extensive research into a saint’s cultural and spiritual heritage and ethnicity before she begins painting, which is a self-taught skill. She is an interior design major who hopes to design sets or exhibits for museums after she graduates.

“A lot of the poses I choose are actually from ancient icons,” she explained. “I try just gauge what kind of a person they were as a saint and to think of a person that I know that looks like that today and what they’re into and their personal style and how they think about things.”

Her works may appear somewhat shocking to anyone expecting saint exhibits, she was gratified to hear the comments from other students.

“They were saying, oh, this looks like my one friend,” she said. “They were looking at the description and seeing this is just like a real person. I feel like they were able to connect with that.

“No matter what people I’ve run into, no matter their religious views, they think they’re really interesting. That’s like a first way to get through to them and get their interest and have them engage in various conversations.”

Her college experience mirrors what many students find at secular schools. While CCAD offers a Christian outreach group, it can be difficult to live out one’s faith and share it.

Morbitzer hopes to continue to add to her collection in order to inspire others “to have someone to look up to even if they don’t pray, to have someone to look up to as a role model.”
Seniors lead Fisher Catholic turnaround from 0-10 in 2017 to 3-0 start

By Doug Bean, Catholic Times Editor

Lancaster Fisher Catholic’s 14 seniors entered their final year of high school football determined to go out as winners after enduring a disappointing 2017 season that ended with an 0-10 record because of forfeits for using an ineligible player.

As the 2018 season reaches the halfway point this weekend, the Irish are well on their way to achieving their goal.

Fisher Catholic boosted its record to 3-0 last week with a convincing 50-0 victory over Ridgedale. Not since 2004 has the Irish won their first three games.

“It’s been quite a few years since the football team has started so well here,” senior defensive back and wide receiver Drew Faulkner said. “It’s definitely exciting for our school. It’s awesome for us to be doing so well and having the community supporting us.”

On Friday night, Fisher Catholic goes for its fourth consecutive victory in a Mid-State League Cardinal Division game against Berne Union, which won the matchup between the two teams 21-10 a year ago.

Coach Doug Miller, in his second year at the school, attributes the quick one-year turnaround to the veteran leadership of the seniors, good team chemistry and a strong work ethic.

“In 27 years of coaching, I haven’t worked any harder with a young group of football players to prepare them for success,” Miller said.

Conversely, “I’ve never had a group work this hard in order to prepare themselves to win and execute.”

Sometimes, the chemistry among the players and coaches needs to be just right to bear fruit on the field, and that appears to be the case with this team.

“It’s one of those things where they really like each other,” Miller said. “They really fit well together, the kids and the coaches. They play to our standards that allows them to be successful.”

Faulkner said as opposed to last year when there might have been finger-pointing when there was a breakdown, there’s cohesiveness this year.

“We just bond and play well together,” he said.

The sweet taste of success came right away in a 28-7 victory over Crooksville, which was Fisher Catholic’s first opening-day win in nine years. That was followed by a 35-7 victory over Crestline.

With two wins under their belt, the Irish figured they’d get some respect, but few people outside the school gave them props. At that point, a post from the school’s Twitter account cautioned the team: “Hey Irish football players. Don’t worry about publicity and coverage in the papers and online. Keep winning and people will take notice. Use it as motivation to get better and play so hard that people are well on their way to achieving their goal.

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St. Charles Preparatory School welcomed Wes Moore as the featured presenter for its annual “An Evening with …” speaker series on Sept. 6 in the school’s Robert C. Walter Student Commons.

Moore is an American author, social entrepreneur, television producer, political analyst, and decorated U.S. Army officer. He is the author of “The Other Wes Moore” and “The Work,” both of which are New York Times bestsellers. He was also the host for Beyond Belief on the Oprah Winfrey Network, as well as the executive producer and a writer for “Coming Back with Wes Moore” on PBS.

During presentations to the St. Charles student body at an all-school assembly in the morning, and later to more than 640 guests at the main event, Moore emphasized the importance of helping young people overcome adversity and finding their paths to purpose.

At age 13, Moore, seemingly destined to having his life violently cut short or spent in the criminal justice system, was sent by his mother to military school. “I was hurting people who loved me so that I could impress people that could care less about me,” he recalled. At the time, he didn’t understand the sacrifice that she and many others made on his behalf to give him that chance at a better life.

In the evening presentation, the former member of the storied 82nd Airborne Division told the group, “I didn’t realize how many ‘jump masters’ I had in my life. How many people who were willing to fight and advocate for me in many ways before I was even ready to fight and advocate for myself. How many people I had in my path, including his mother and grandparents, eventually leading to a remarkable string of role models and mentors and teachers and coaches and principals and guidance counselors and parents of friends,” he said.

“People who every single day were willing to wait for my shoulders to become broad enough that I could actually hold my dreams up on my own. But until then, they were willing to hold them up for me. I didn’t realize how many people around me, some of whom never met me before, but woke up every morning with the hope of me and were willing to give on that hope.”

Moore told the audience: “You are fighting and advocating for students who oftentimes you do not even meet. But you know because you are here tonight and you know because you give, that you are providing a pathway for students who without this opportunity would have no pathway available to them. You are providing the lane and space and an opportunity to those who need and deserve a champion.”

More than $680,000 was raised for the St. Charles Endowment Fund, all of which will be dedicated solely for financial aid for qualified students and families. Previously, presentations by American business icon Peter Lynch, basketball ambassador and philanthropist Dick Vitale and Air Force veteran and Folds of Honor creator Dan Rooney have helped the school raise more than $1.9 million.

St. Charles Principal Jim Lower announced at the start of the evening’s gathering that St. Charles and the school’s “My Brother’s Keeper” program have established a special partnership with St. Mary School in German Village and United School’s Network’s Columbus Collegiate Academy, two places that have also embraced the importance of mentoring in enriching their student’s experience.