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Encouraging signs of life

Last summer, during one of the hundreds of daily Masses celebrated each year at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, a small group of men who aren’t regulars at the 12:05 p.m. Mass showed up and unceremoniously settled into spots at the side of the altar.

They were well dressed and reverent. They prayed and participated in the Mass just like all of the others who were there. After Mass, they quietly left the church and walked down East Broad Street, most likely headed for their next appointment, while hundreds of other workers bustled about on the sidewalks.

Lots of folks from various professions and all walks of life come to daily Mass at the cathedral during the lunch hour. But there was something unique about these men. One of them happened to be the state’s future governor, Mike DeWine.

At the time, he was immersed in a busy campaign and yet he found a few minutes in his day to go to Mass. There were no entourages or large security details surrounding him. He entered and exited the cathedral without a fuss. That says a lot about the humbleness of this public servant and father of eight who has devoted his life’s work to helping others at many levels of government.

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Don’t mistake this column as a political endorsement. Church and state are strange bedfellows. Talking about politicians, parties and partisan issues can get people riled up in a hurry.

The reason for writing about DeWine is not only because he’s a man of faith, but he’s passionately pro-life.

If you read The Catholic Times or watched local TV news last week, you may know by now that DeWine; his wife, Fran; and Lt. Gov. Jon Husted made a surprise visit to the Roe Remembrance at the Ohio Statehouse on Jan. 22. That’s the anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court’s Roe v. Wade decision in 1973 that opened the floodgates to legal abortion in this country.

DeWine reaffirmed his commitment to protect the unborn. He said he will support the state’s Heartbeat bill, which fell one vote short in the Ohio Senate in late December of overriding a veto by former Gov. John Kasich. The bill would impose legal penalties on physicians and not the woman who submits to abortion.

The proposed law would ban abortion of any pre-born baby with a detectable heartbeat. If it is passed, Ohio would become one of the most restrictive states for abortion in the nation. As a result, countless innocent and precious lives could be saved.

So encourage your state representatives and church leaders to support the protection of life. It’s not a political issue, but a moral one. If our society can’t defend the defenseless, then no one will be able to solve any of the other problems that afflict our world.

In spite of the horrific Reproductive Health Act passed last week by the New York state legislature that allows women to have abortions up until birth in some cases, there are reasons for hope.

The massive numbers of students at the March for Life from our diocese and all over the nation confirm that...
Speakers set for annual men’s conference

Jesse Romero, Bishop Donald J. Hying and Dr. Timothy Gray will be the featured speakers at the 2019 diocesan Catholic Men’s Conference, which will have the theme “Put on the Whole Armor of God.”

The event will take place Saturday, Feb. 23 at Kasich Hall (formerly Cardinal Hall) at the Ohio Expo Center (state fairgrounds), which offers space and amenities suitable for the 3,500 men expected to attend.

Jesse Romero is a radio show host, evangelist, author and speaker. Photo courtesy Jesse Romero’s On Fire Evangelization

Jesse Romero is a speaker, lay evangelist, teacher, writer and radio host who brings passion and hard-hitting analysis to the challenges facing Catholics today. He asserts that Catholics should read the Bible with the heart of the church and study the Bible using Catholic commentaries and the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

After rediscovering his Catholic roots, he studied and prayed his way back to a fervent and ongoing practice of the faith. Through his experiences with non-Catholics and inactive Catholics, he has become proficient on how to “speak the truth in charity” (Ephesians 4:15) and has brought many into the fullness of truth found only in the Catholic Church.

He holds a bachelor’s degree in liberal arts from Mount St. Mary’s College in Los Angeles and has a master’s degree in Catholic theology from Franciscan University of Steubenville. He and his wife, Anita, have been married for 35 years and are the parents of three children.

Bishop Donald J. Hying was appointed by Pope Francis as the fourth bishop of Gary, Indiana, on Nov. 24, 2014. He is a native of West Allis, Wisconsin, and was ordained to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee in 1989. He served there in several parishes, as well as La Sagrada Familia, the archdiocese’s sister parish in the Dominican Republic.

Additionally, he was dean of formation at St. Francis de Sales Seminary in Wisconsin. He later was appointed as its rector, serving there until Pope Benedict XVI selected him to be auxiliary bishop of Milwaukee in 2011. Fluent in Spanish, Bishop Hying’s missionary experience brings a strong sense of understanding and compassion to the faithful in the Diocese of Gary.

Dr. Timothy Gray, an author, educator and nationally renowned speaker, has filmed several series for EWTN. He is president of the Augustine Institute in Denver, which offers a master of arts program in sacred Scripture and evangelization and catechesis. He is also professor of Scripture at St. John Vianney Theological Seminary in Denver.

Gray holds a doctorate in Biblical studies from Catholic University of America and is a partner with Jeff Cavins in The Great Adventure Bible Timeline Bible study series. He lives in Littleton, Colorado, with his wife, Kris, and their son, Joseph.

The conference day will begin at 6 a.m. with adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Registration and breakfast will start at 7, with talks beginning at 8. The day will conclude with Mass celebrated by Bishop Frederick Campbell, with music provided by the Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church men’s choir, directed by John Pottkotter. The day will end around 3 p.m.

For registration information, visit www.catholicmensministry.com.
St. Therese’s sponsors discussion series, retreats

St. Therese’s Retreat House, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus, is sponsoring a monthly discussion series on the theme of simple living, beginning in February and continuing through June, and a 24-hour Lenten retreat on Tuesday, March 19, the Feast of St. Joseph.

The discussions will be based on the book *The Grace of Enough: Pursuing Less and Living More in a Throwaway Culture* by Haley Stewart and will be led by retreat center staff member Katie Ryzenga. Sessions will be on Tuesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. and will include reflections, discussion, private prayer, Compline and refreshments. Participants are welcome to arrive early for private prayer. The cost of $50 includes the price of the book.

Topics will be: Feb. 12, Throwaway Culture and Its Revolutionary Gospel Antidote; March 12, Returning to Our Roots; April 9, Reconnecting With What Makes Us Human; May 14, Centering Our Disconnected Lives at Home; and June 11, conclusion with guest speaker.

The “Come to the Quiet” retreat in March will focus on the themes of waiting, listening and silence. Music will be provided and short reflections will be offered by Ryzenga. The retreat will run from 10 a.m. March 19 to 10 a.m. the following day. The $90 cost includes overnight lodging and meals.

Space for both events is limited. Register by email at sttherese@columbuscatholic.org or call (614) 866-1611.

National Day of Prayer for the African-American

The first Sunday of February, which this year is Feb. 3, is designated as the National Day of Prayer for the African-American and African Family.

Founded by Father Jim Goode, OFM, in 1989, this day comes at the beginning of Black History Month and is dedicated to prayer for the integrity, healing and strength of African-American and their families.

The day is co-sponsored by several organizations including the African-American affairs subcommittee of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Order of Friars Minor (Franciscans), the National Black Catholic Apostolate for Life, the Knights of Peter Claver and La-
A song by ABBA isn’t something that one might expect to lead to a vocation to a religious life. But for Sister Bea Tibaldi, OP, listening to one of the Swedish pop group’s tunes was a key moment in her discernment.

“One day in my late 20s, as I was watching Mamma Mia! (a movie musical featuring the songs of ABBA), I heard the song Take a Chance on Me. I felt my attention wandering from the movie and sensed being tapped on the heart by God. Thus I chose to take a risk and see where God would lead me,” she said.

This wasn’t the first time Sister Bea (a name she prefers, rather than her full name of Beata) had felt a strong presence of God in her life. “The first time I felt a sense of being called came when I was 15,” she said. “I was at a Mass in Germany at a convent of cloistered nuns. All of a sudden, tears were flowing gently. I was trying to figure out why I was crying.

“This wasn’t a feeling of sadness, for the tears were of immense joy. I realized at that point how much God loves me.

“This also was a time when I first felt God calling me to do more, to tell everyone, especially those in most need, that God loves them and cares for them. Everyone has a right to know that they are loved and that God is there,” said Sister Bea, 40, who grew up in the Hungarian capital of Budapest.

“After the religious experience I had at 15, I wanted to be a cloistered nun. I wasn’t familiar with sisters like the Dominicans, who generally are not cloistered and are active in the world. However, my family’s answer to being a nun was a definite ‘no.’ At first, I didn’t understand their objections because they allowed me to participate in Mass, to sing and play music in the choir and help with children’s ministry.

“It dawned on me only when I was an adult that when I felt I was being called to religious life for the first time, it was only five years after the end of communism in Hungary. Communism left its marks there and on other Soviet-dominated nations in Europe, restricting how churches, priests and vowed religious could practice their faith,” she said.

Sister Bea had to put the idea of serving God on hold for a while, but she said it was always there. “I had a boyfriend in Hungary for seven years – a wonderful guy – but there always was a sense of something still missing. When I came to the United States in 2001, it gave me the opportunity to think more about my life,” she said.

Sister Bea said she is “the youngest of three children by 10 minutes,” with an older brother and a twin brother. She earned degrees in elementary education, catechesis and computer programming in Hungary before coming to the United States in August 2001 to study English. She was part of an exchange program in which, while learning English, she worked for a family in West Chester, Ohio, as an au pair, helping care for the family’s children.

While doing so, she discovered several differences between the Hungarian and American educational systems. “I just got curious and wanted to see which system was more effective, so I applied to the University of Dayton’s master’s degree program in education,” she said. After graduating from UD, she began to teach at a Catholic school in Dayton, where she remained for five years until entering religious life in July 2011.

“Once I had the space to be on my own more, I came to realize I needed to feel more satisfied spiritually,” she said. “I got involved with small faith groups, centering prayer, a catechesis group, young adult groups and other evangelizing activities, first at St. John the Evangelist Church in West Chester and later at Our Lady of Mercy in Dayton.

“By August 2007, I felt I could no longer wait. I was restless, and I wanted to know which way God was calling me to share the Good News – as a mother or as a vowed religious. In December 2007, the recession hit the Dayton area hard, with plant closings by General Motors and others, causing the loss of thousands of jobs and the loss of homes. This was the time when I felt a renewed sense of being called by God,” she said. “As I was seeing the effects of all this, I felt more and more that alone, I didn’t have a voice, but in a group, I could have a voice. At the same time, my desire to have a deeper relationship with God was growing, and my sense of social justice was becoming stronger.

“My spiritual director helped me greatly in discerning whether my call to community was one which meant having a family of my own or one which involved being a sister,” she said.

As her desire to join a community of sisters became stronger, she completed an online search that included questions designed to show which religious congregations had sisters particularly active in social justice work.

“I began with 32 congregations and reduced that to four, including the Dominican Sisters of Peace,” she said. “My spiritual director knew a Dominican – Sister Matthias Sterner, OP,” former director of the Center for Dominican Studies at Ohio Dominican University. “We met a few times, and she asked me in 2008 if I wanted to meet with the congregation’s vocation director. This began the process which led to entering the congregation in 2011.” Sister Bea became a novice in 2013, took her first vows in 2015 and renewed them earlier this year.

Today, Sister Bea is vocation outreach minister for the Dominican Sisters of Peace. She has been a member of the congregation for seven years and anticipates taking her perpetual profession of vows on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 28.

Since becoming a Dominican, Sister Bea has served at Columbus All Saints Academy (2011-13), where she was a kindergarten and then a second-grade teacher and prepared students to receive Communion. She taught religion to students in grades one to six in suburban Cleveland (2014-16) and was a pastoral associate in Connecticut (2016-18), where her ministry included RCIA, preparing candidates for Confirmation, taking Communion to homebound parishioners, planning and directing retreats, providing bereavement support, and helping the prayer/liturgy and social justice committees.

She has been part of the congregation’s vocation outreach ministry in Columbus since August and tells her vocation story to young women throughout the nation.

“I would like to share that we are going to have our next ‘Come and See’ retreat in Akron from Friday, March 15 to Saturday, March 17 and can provide transportation from Columbus,” Sister Bea said. “During the weekend, women between the ages of 18 and 45 will have a chance to explore, experience, pray and look more deeply into the life of a sister.”

She also is involved with a support group for women who are in the discernment process but have not yet entered the congregation. They meet monthly at the Motherhouse in Columbus.

Several women join the group online because they live in another state. “Women appreciate this because they feel they are walking the journey together, even if they live at a distance,” Sister Bea said. “We pray together, we have conversations on various topics related to discernment and vowed religious life, and the women get to know the sisters.”

The Dominican Sisters of Peace recently opened a house of welcome on Columbus’ east side, where women can spend extended time as they explore what God is calling them to do.

Asked how she knew she was following God’s call, Sister Bea said, “The longer I have been a Dominican Sister of Peace, the more sure I have become that this is my vocation. I’m more peaceful inside, no longer restless, and I feel more alive.

“I’m grateful to all the sisters who have been part of my formation. They have all helped to keep me focused on my prayer life and seeing what a sister’s life really is, and I feel I can honestly discuss anything with them,” she said.

She said the sisters with whom she
Rite of betrothal; praying for Pope Benedict

**Q** I have heard that the “rite of betrothal” is becoming popular in certain young Catholic circles. What does this rite entail? Was it more common prior to the Second Vatican Council? Would you recommend that an engaged couple seek out this rite? (Washington)

**A** The rite of betrothal was a little-known but long-standing service of prayer in which a couple had their engagement formally blessed by a priest. The 1906 edition of The Catholic Encyclopedia notes that the ritual was more common in other countries than in the United States. An English version is still available, as an addition to Father Philip Weller’s translation of the 1962 Roman Ritual (although the rite did not form part of that ritual itself.)

There is no prohibition against using that rite today, although it has largely been replaced in the contemporary church by the Blessing of an Engaged Couple from the church’s Book of Blessings, published in 1989. That newer rite celebrates in prayer a newly engaged couple and asks the Lord to guide them as they prepare for marriage; it can be celebrated by a priest, deacon or lay minister (sometimes by a parent of the future bride or groom).

It includes scriptural readings – frequently from the 13th chapter of Paul’s First Letter to the Corinthians (“Love is patient, love is kind …”). The engagement rings may be blessed during the ceremony, and the celebrant prays: “Lord God, the source of all love, the wise plan of your providence has brought these young people together. As they prepare themselves for the sacrament of marriage and pray for your grace, grant that, strengthened by your blessing, they may grow in respect for one another and cherish each other with a sincere love.” I would recommend that a couple use this newer blessing.

**Q** During the Eucharistic prayer, our diocese prays by name both for our current bishop and also for our retired bishop. Yet I have never heard our pope emeritus (Pope Benedict) mentioned during the Eucharistic prayer. Is there a reason why he cannot be mentioned along with Pope Francis? (Schenectady, New York)

**A** It’s a good question, and I agree with the sentiment you express. Strictly speaking, neither a retired pope nor a retired bishop is to be mentioned at that part of the Eucharistic prayer – the reason being that they no longer exercise pastoral authority.

That question was answered in the March 2013 newsletter from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee on Divine Worship; that article explained that in the case of a retired pope or bishop, “while they retain their episcopal dignity and their standing within the order of bishops, they no longer symbolize, express or are responsible for the communion of the local or universal church.”

(There is one exception to this rule. The same article does permit mention of a retired pope or bishop in the prayer of the faithful or in the “memoration of the living,” which is part of one of the four main versions of the Eucharistic prayer.)

To be honest, though, this all sounds rather technical to me, so here is what I have been doing. Four years ago, when our own bishop retired, the diocese announced that he could be mentioned by name along with his successor in the Eucharistic prayer. It struck me that, by the same logic, we should be permitted to mention Pope Benedict, who had retired the year before.

So for the past four years – in whichever of the Eucharistic prayers I am using – I have been praying publicly for our current pope and bishop and also for “Benedict, our pope emeritus, and Howard, our bishop emeritus.” No one has complained, and somehow I think that God doesn’t mind either.

Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at askfatherdoyle@gmail.com and 30 Columbia Circle Drive, Albany NY 12203.
The welcome outreach of perinatal hospice

During the course of pregnancy, receiving an adverse prenatal diagnosis can be a tremendously jolting experience for parents. In severe cases, physicians may tell them that their unborn child has a condition that is “incompatible with life.”

While some children with this diagnosis may still receive helpful treatments and manage to live or even thrive for years, no realistic treatment options exist in other cases. These children may live only a matter of minutes or hours following their birth, particularly when they are born with severely damaged or missing vital organs. Sometimes it can be preferable to refer to the situation as one in which the unborn child is “affected by a lethal condition.”

Prior to the development of perinatal screening technologies and genetic testing, doctors who delivered still-born or terminally ill babies would often shut them away from their mothers to die, leaving the parents and family without a sense of closure or resolution. These losses were basically viewed and treated as “non-events” and the emotions and grief experienced by the family received little attention or notice. In recent years, there fortunately has been a growing awareness of the grief associated with all forms of perinatal loss, whether from miscarriage, stillbirth, newborn death, or direct abortion.

The prenatal diagnosis of a lethal anomaly creates a challenging and unusual situation for many families when they are informed of their baby’s terminal condition weeks or even months before their child’s death. What was once a surprise miscarriage or a surprise loss after birth becomes an anticipated and foreseen event.

In the wake of the diagnosis, medical professionals will sometimes recommend and pressure parents to abort their unborn child. This unsatisfactory choice often relegates them to never reaching meaningful closure with respect to the difficult pregnancy they have traversed. It also tempts them to act contrary to every protective parental instinct they have, and to deny the reality of their newest family member, as if he or she can simply disappear through the termination.

Many hospitals and obste-tricts programs, however, are now offering an improved alternative known as “peri-

The courageous honesty of Peter Steinfels

Peter Steinfels’ long career in journalism included years of service as editor of Commonweal (from which perch he took me to the woodshed more than once), followed by a decade as senior religion correspondent for The New York Times. Steinfels has now done the Catholic Church in the United States – and American society as a whole – a tremendous service by telling some disturbing truths about the August 2018 Pennsylvania grand jury report on clerical sexual abuse in six Keystone State dioceses.

His lengthy article, “The Pennsylvania Grand Jury Report: Not What It Seems,” was first published on Commonweal’s website this past Jan. 9 (https://www.commonwealmagazine.org/print/40415); it is required reading for those determined to grapple with the linked problems of sexual abuse and episcopal failure in the Church.

Like anyone with a grain of moral sensibility or human feeling, Steinfels, long a leader of U.S. Catholicism’s liberal wing, was revolted by the graphic stories of sexual predation contained in the grand jury report, which Pennsylvania attorney general Josh Shapiro presented with great fanfare last Aug. 14. Yet unlike other journalists who bought Mr. Shapiro’s lurid presentation hook, line, and sinker, Steinfels actually read the entire report – and then took the trouble to sift through its hundreds of pages to see if the data supported the charge that “Priests were raping little boys and girls, and the men of God who were responsible for them not only did nothing; they hid it all.”

After what must have been weeks of painstaking research, Dr. Steinfels reached a harsh but, to my mind, persuasive conclusion: Attorney General Shapiro’s office had produced an “inaccurate, unfair, and fundamentally misleading report” whose “shortcomings should not be masked by its vehemence style, its befuddling structure, or its sheer bulk.”

Steinfels rightly does not spare the Church. The Pennsylvania report “documents decades of stomach-churning violations of the physical, psychological, and spiritual integrity of children and young people. It documents that many of these atrocities could have been prevented by promptly removing the credibly suspected perpetrators from all priestly roles and ministry. It documents that some, although far from all, of those failures were due to an overriding concern for protecting the reputation of the Church.”

But then he calls Attorney General Shapiro to account: “What does the report not document? It does not document the sensational charges contained in its introduction (i.e., the only part most reporters and editorialists read) — namely, that over seven decades, Catholic authorities, in virtual lockstep, supposedly brushed aside all victims and did absolutely nothing in the face of terrible crimes against boys and girls – except to conceal them. This ugly, indiscriminate, and inflammatory charge, unsubstantiated by the report’s own evidence, to say nothing of the evidence the report ignores, is “simply not the case.”

There is deeper reform needed in the Church, and there are more churchmen to be held accountable for gross irresponsibility. But in the course of confronting this evil within our Church, U.S. Catholicism has learned some things that could benefit those willing to get to grips with the revolting reality of sexual abuse.

If, however, other state attorneys general follow the path pioneered by

See HOSPICE, Page 8

See WEIGEL, Page 9
Once upon a time, there was a budding artist in my house. She would lose herself for hours at a time, working on her “projects.” She’d get paper and markers and transform whatever was in front of her into a masterpiece. “Look, Mommy!” she’d shout, and of course I would look up from whatever I was doing. Without fail, I was impressed by what she did. I knew she isn’t a Van Gogh, but I admired her persistence, her enthusiasm, her flair. Maybe artists are born, but I know there’s a lot of hard work there, too. When my four-year-old buckled down and worked on a story composed of words only she could read, I had a glimpse of how I hope God sees my prayer: full of determination. As my daughter illustrated with pictures only she could interpret, I hoped I duplicate her enthusiasm and effort when I consider my spiritual journey.

So often when I’m praying, I find myself distracted. I’ll stop right in the middle of a sentence, rise halfway out of my chair, and be on my way to do something that needs done right now before I realize that I am supposed to be – was, in fact, in the middle of – praying. I am better than I was, but there’s still a lot of room for improvement. If I sit in a room with no apparent distractions, my mind uses the distractions of things I need to remember. If I vary from my scheduled prayer time, maybe because there’s a more pressing need like vomit in the carpet, I fall back on the excuses of more pressing need like vomit in the prayer time, maybe because there’s a member. If I vary from my scheduled prayer time, rise halfway out of my chair, and be on my way to do whatever it is I was doing. When my four-year-old buckled down and worked on a story composed of words only she could read, I had a glimpse of how I hope God sees my prayer: full of determination. As my daughter illustrated with pictures only she could interpret, I hoped I duplicate her enthusiasm and effort when I consider my spiritual journey.

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In my younger years, I too was a budding artist. About ten years ago, my grandma shared a “Sarah-mark” card I had given my aunt when I was about ten. She found it saved, in my aunt’s lap desk. It was faded, but there was no mistaking my style: a bad “Roses are red, violets are blue” poem, a rainbow or two, and, of course, my “Sarah-mark” signature on the back. You won’t find any of those “Sarah-mark” cards for sale on eBay or Etsy. You won’t find them fetching big dollars from an antique store. But you might find them stashed away, here and there, in the lap desks and drawers of family members who still smile when they see them. Now, though, they’re accompanied by some fresh art as my own children join the ranks and send homemade cards to whomever comes to mind.

What’s missing from these creations is perfection. To anyone outside the family, these cards and scraps of paper are fodder for the recycling bin. But that imperfection, that striving for beauty, is just what endears them to us. We cherish them, and they yellow as they’re saved precisely because of the true gift they represent. Grace doesn’t require perfection; it is a free gift from God, there for us to take and use. I have found, though, that I need help to use this grace, especially in the area of humility. Asking for help — from the Mother of Grace or from my best friend — requires letting go of the idea that I can do it all by myself. In accepting the grace to ask, I open myself to so many more graces, so much more of the free gift God has sent us to participate in His very life.

What makes God real for me is knowing He had a mom. Someone saw Jesus stumble, held Him as He cried, cleaned Him up throughout the day. She was a real woman, not just a porcelain maiden. She had dirt under her fingernails, grease on her apron, chores piled around her. But what kind of mother was she? How can I relate to her across the centuries, living as I do in such a different culture, with such a different understanding of the world? How do I get past the flawless portraits of her, the idealized images, the pristine hands I see? To identify with Mary, I need to get past the holy cards and statues around me, to the reality of her life.

In Mary, Virgin Mother of Grace, I see a higher order of womanhood, a goal for my own life. As a mother, I see how this maternal side of me extends beyond my own children and those in my direct family; I see the encouragement to embrace my brothers and sisters of all races, of all backgrounds, of all walks of life. Mary teaches me about service. As a daughter, I see how the command to obey stretches even as far as self-giving and self-forgetfulness. Mary teaches me about humility. As a laborer, whether in my home or out in the world, I see total and trusting acceptance of God’s will, complete cooperation with God’s grace. In those moments throughout the day when things go awry, in those times when I can’t seem to accomplish anything, in those days when all I feel is frustration, Mary teaches me about trust.

But beyond all of that, Mary teaches me about grace. She points out the beauty in the imperfections and encourages me to keep trying, keep asking, keep aspiring for heaven.

Mary takes my clumsy creations, the spiritual equivalent of a four-year-old’s Valentines, and she places them in God’s hands. He can’t resist her delight with my gift, however imperfect it is. Just as I save my children’s artwork, just as my aunt saved my card from long ago, so Mary saves my spiritual offerings.

Sarah Reinhard is a Catholic wife, mom, and coffee addict from central Ohio. She’s online at SnoringScholar.com.
Pennsylvania’s Josh Shapiro and reinforce the false impression that a culture of child rape and institutional cover-up is festering in the Catholic Church right now, no one is going to look to American Catholicism for models of how to address the plague.

That is not only bad for the Church; it’s bad for all of American society. So let the Church, while cooperating fully with state investigative agencies, create and support a panel of distinguished, retired judges (preferably non-Catholics) to review the reports that issue from those investigations and then publish an analysis of each report’s probity, fairness, and reliability, absent any editing of the panel’s conclusions by Church authorities.

George Weigel is the Distinguished Senior Fellow and William E. Simon Chair in Catholic Studies of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington.

St. Cyprian Court awarded national grant

St. Cyprian Court 298 of the Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary has received a National Black Catholic Congress Daniel Rudd grant. This grant will support the court’s Claver Cares program, which provides a monthly meal to women in the Community Housing Network.

For the past eight years, the court has prepared and served the monthly meals as part of its community service programs. In addition to meals, the court provides a monthly activity or a presentation related to self-care. Each December, the women receive gift bags filled with personal care and other items.

‘Sundae on a Sunday’ at Sorrowful Mother Shrine

The Sorrowful Mother Shrine, 4106 State Route 269, Bellevue, will host a “Sundae on a Sunday” event on Sunday, Feb. 10, starting after the 11 a.m. Mass and continuing until 2 p.m. in the Shrine’s cafeteria. All are welcome to come to the shrine for a free yummy treat.
Collegians foster faith through student groups

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

Catholic students who want to maintain an active faith life while attending a non-Catholic institution have ample opportunities to do so at seven small, private colleges located in the Diocese of Columbus.

Capital, Denison, Muskingum, Ohio Northern, Ohio Wesleyan and Otterbein universities and Kenyon College all have student-run organizations dedicated to ministering to the needs of Catholic students at their respective institutions. Most of the organizations have weekly meetings and occasional other activities throughout the year on campus and provide transportation to Sunday Masses at the nearest Catholic church.

One of the most active of these groups is the Newman Club at Ohio Northern University in Ada. The club is named for Blessed John Henry Newman, the patron of Catholic campus ministry in the United States. Newman, a 19th-century English theologian and poet, soon might be canonized because the second miracle necessary for him to be declared a saint was approved by the Vatican in November.

The ONU Newman Club has about 20 active members who serve as lecturers, extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist, musicians, ushers and catechists at Ada Our Lady of Lourdes Church, said its president, Gretchen Horning.

Father William Ferguson became pastor of the church last year and began coming to campus to celebrate Mass before the club’s monthly meetings. During finals week in December, he brought the Eucharist to campus for five hours of adoration.

“This accessible sharing with each other of the Lord’s sacrifice pulled some Catholic students out of the shadows,” Horning said. “Having Mass together on campus during the week was a great way to take a step back from the busyness of school work and other commitments and a reminder of the reason we are here.”

ONU Catholic students and Our Lady of Lourdes families are brought together regularly during the school year through a program called A Pair of Bears in honor of the university’s athletic teams, known as the Polar Bears.

As part of this activity, students and families share a meal once a week, students teach music lessons to the families’ children, the groups attend athletic events together, and they meet for other events. Sometimes, the students have served as baptismal godparents or Confirmation sponsors.

Horning plans to stay in touch with her “adopted family” after graduation and said several other participants in the program have done the same.

Fourteen ONU Newman Club members, accompanied by Father Ferguson, were at Sts. Peter and Paul Retreat Center in Newark from Jan. 18 to 20 for one of the center’s periodic Kairos retreats for young adults. Father Ferguson describes them as “true counterculturals who took a weekend away from the noise of the secular world to go deeper in their committed relationship with Jesus in our Catholic faith.”

Horning said the number of students at club meetings is less than it was in past years. At first, this disturbed her, but she said she has come to realize that “it doesn’t matter how many of us there are. We are called to be light for this campus and our world. College is a formative time of self-discovery and lasting friendships. I’m amazed at the way the Newman Club has helped me and so many others grow into the people God wants us to be,” she said.

Ada is located in Hardin County, about 70 miles from Columbus on the northwestern edge of the diocese. Closer to the capital city, Capital University in Bexley and Otterbein University in Westerville have active Catholic student groups.

Capital’s Catholic Student Organization (CSO) meets Wednesdays from 8:30 to 10 p.m. in the Korns Religious Life Center, a Lutheran chapel on campus that has classrooms in the basement and a lounge room where CSO meetings take place. CSO president Emma Cary said the organization has nine active members, including some who are not Catholic but are interested in learning more about the faith.

Meetings start with recital of the rosary, which includes personal prayer, meditations on the mysteries, and group prayer. This is followed by a study of the coming week’s Sunday Scripture readings and general discussion. The group sponsors occasional social events, including game nights and a recent Catholic comedians night.

The organization also provides transportation for Sunday Masses to Columbus St. Catharine Church, a short distance from the Capital campus.

Cary said the group is trying to ar-
MINISTRY, continued from Page 10

but we all have found a community through the CSO,” she said.

Otterbein University’s Catholic Student Ministry meets on Thursdays on campus for prayer, study and fellowship. Its members travel in carpools every Sunday to the 10 a.m. Mass at Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church, about a mile away, said Judy Guion-Utsler, campus chaplain.

Father Charles Klinger, pastor at St. Paul, was on campus in November for an All Saints Day Mass and for confessions at the beginning of Advent. Guion-Utsler said it’s hoped he will come in the spring for Lenten activities. She also said some Otterbein students recently went to the March for Life in Washington and to a retreat at the Catholic Answers conference in San Diego, a retreat at St. Meinrad Archabbey in Indiana, the SEEK conference for college students in Indianapolis and the March for Life in Washington.

Newman Club adviser Mary Jeffries, who is with OWU’s campus ministry office, said a core group of 10 to 12 students, including one who is becoming Catholic and one Methodist, attends Newman Club meetings. “It’s difficult on college campuses to maintain the faith, so those students who are actively involved tend to become close to, and very supportive of, each other,” she said.

“I’ve just found myself thinking more about my faith the longer I’ve been in college, so it made sense to become more involved with the Newman Club,” said club president John Homan. “The club members are really nice people. They’ve encouraged me to learn more about what it is to be Catholic, and it’s encouraging to know there are others like me who feel the way I do about being closer to the church.”

Denison University’s Newman Club meets on Monday nights to share food and faith, said Paul Radkowski, music director at Granville St. Edward the Confessor Church. He said he and Marissa Everhart, parish youth minister, usually hope to attract 12 to 20 students at the club’s Scripture and prayer services, which were moved from Thursdays this year because Monday was a better time for the students.

Radkowski and Everhart also are at Denison’s Slayter Hall student union each Thursday afternoon for the chaplain to provide a priest this year, and with Msgr. Enke needed for both Masses at his parish, the Mass at Denison had to be canceled because of the limit on the number of Masses a priest can celebrate on most days.

Radkowski said that because more Denison students are coming to Mass at St. Edward’s, they’re becoming more involved in parish life by helping with the high school youth group, serving as cantors and singing in the choir.

“It’s a great challenge to give the students courage, confidence and strength to defend the faith on campus,” Radkowski said. “There’s a lot of pushback, a lot of negative reactions to Catholicism on any secular campus these days. We do the best we can to facilitate faith relations, but we’re not usually the ones who get challenged at parties or other activities by people hostile to the faith. All we can do is prepare students to witness and give them the tools they need to face the challenges.”

Members of Kenyon College’s Newman Club have a readily available place to gather because club members have lived for a number of years in one of several houses owned by the college and rented to a student organization. “A couple of members with seniority live in the house, and it’s easy for others to drop by for meals and conversation,” said club president Renee Wolf.

The club meets weekly on Thursdays for Bible study or some other religious life activities on campus.

Life in Washington and plan to attend the diocesan Catholic women’s and men’s conferences at the state fairgrounds later this month.

Delaware St. Mary Church is just north of Ohio Wesleyan University, so the OWU Newman Club alternates its Tuesday meetings between the campus and the church, which the club describes as “Newman North.” Deacon Todd Tucky said the gatherings at the church take place after the 5:30 p.m. Tuesday Mass and include a meal and conversation, said club president John Homan. “The club members are really nice people. They’ve encouraged me to come closer to, and very supportive of,” she said.

Member of Capital University’s Catholic Student Organization meet at the Kerns Religious Life Center on campus, where they gather on Wednesday nights to pray the rosary, study the coming Sunday’s Scripture readings and have general discussion. The group also sponsors occasional social events.

A Mass last year at Muskingum University in New Concord, celebrated by Father Don Franks (sixth from right). Sisters pictured are from the Franciscan Sisters of Manitowoc, Wisconsin, who serve in Zanesville. Because of low attendance at campus Masses, Muskingum students now attend Mass in nearby communities. Photo courtesy Zoey Stenson

Photo courtesy Emma Cary
MINISTRY, continued from Page 11

activity and gets together every Sunday to drive in to Mount Vernon for the 10 a.m. Mass at St. Vincent de Paul Church. Mount Vernon is about a 10-minute drive from the Kenyon campus in Gambier.

Father Mark Hammond, pastor at St. Vincent de Paul, said a priest from the parish used to go to Kenyon to celebrate a Sunday evening Mass, but that ended a few years ago when the parish became part of a consortium with Danville St. Luke Church and the now-closed Church of the Nativity in Utica.

Greg Henkel, pastoral assistant at St. Vincent de Paul, said the Newman Club has connected the Kenyon campus and the community by conducting funnel cake and cannoli fundraisers.

Wolf said the organization is hoping to do some service projects in the spring and to take part in a pilgrimage to a nearby faith-related site.

Being president of the Newman Club wasn’t something Wolf would have expected on arriving at Kenyon did.”

At Muskingum University in New Concord, Father Don Franks, pastor of Dresden St. Ann and Mattingly Settlement St. Mary churches, had been coming to campus for Sunday Masses for several years. But the number of students attending declined, falling to about a half-dozen by the end of the past academic year, so it was decided not to have Masses on campus this year.

“Though our numbers were small, it was a great experience being able to attend Mass right here on campus and being able to interact with Father Franks and participate in the various parts of Mass,” said Muskingum student Brandon Beyke.

“I have found that a significant portion of students say that they are Catholic when asked, but, unfortunately, were not attending Father Franks’ Masses, which led to our current situation. … Trying to remain active in my faith and go against this perceived norm of not attending Mass regularly has been one of the challenges I’ve faced while in school.”

Muskingum is a college of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and has a common hour for community worship every Thursday morning in the college chapel. Julia Sprague of the campus

there are not more active Catholics on campus, said Zoey Stenson, a student involved with the coalition.

“I’ve been involved in the Catholic Church my whole life. Coming to Muskingum has challenged that but also given me new opportunities,” she said, citing visits to the OSU Newman Center and the Buckeye Awakening as examples.

She said that at Muskingum, a campus of about 1,500 students, she was able to find other Catholics who were trying to maintain their faith, and that has been helpful.

“Coming together each week and lifting up our problems to the Lord is very reassuring,” she said. “It is a place for me to be open and free about my faith. It has given me the confidence to be more open to spreading the word of our God.”
My Dear Friends in Christ,

I am pleased to present to you the financial reports of the Diocese of Columbus for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018.

As Bishop, I have a responsibility to provide all Catholics in the Diocese of Columbus with an annual view of our financial position and activity. I am pleased to inform you that our independent accounting firm has completed their procedures on our reports and have issued unmodified opinions thereon.

2018 was a year of volatility in the financial marketplace. The stock market and overall investment environment went through many ups and downs during the year. But due to close management of our asset allocation, we were still able to show positive returns.

The overall positive direction of the investment market resulted in a decrease in our pension liability and clergy post-retirement benefit liability.

We continue to manage closely the prudent expenditure of funds at a Diocesan level, including the issuance of grants to parishes and other Diocesan entities in need.

Our High Schools recorded positive results due to stronger tuition income, along with strong fundraising results, including contributions to Capital Campaigns. For Parishes, overall it was a positive year with excess funds generated for repayment of debt and major capital expenditures.

We, the Church, continue to be blessed by the continued generous stewardship of the faithful, giving their time, talent and treasure, for the benefit of others. Your support of the Bishop’s Annual Appeal has been most generous, allowing on-going funding for many critical Diocesan programs.

As we look to the future, we must continue to work as one Church, continuing the good works of the Church by assisting those in need. This can only occur with the assistance of those in the community, like yourselves, who possess the talents required to meet the challenges that will present themselves.

I continue to be grateful for the generosity of all those who support the work of the Church, and I greatly appreciate the many volunteers and committee members, both at the parish and diocesan levels, who assist in this work. With every best wish, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Frederick F. Campbell, D.D., Ph.D.
Bishop of Columbus

The financial statements entitled Catholic Diocese of Columbus – Diocesan Organization, represent the combined financial position and activity for the Chancery, the Catholic Cemeteries, the Diocesan Offices and funds managed at a diocesan level (i.e. Parish Aid, Self Insurance and Varia Trust Funds). The information presented was extracted from audited financial statements. These statements do not include the financial position or activity of our parishes or schools, or agencies that are governed by their own boards, as each reports their financial information separately to their communities.

The financial statements for the Diocesan Organization are audited by the independent CPA firm of Schnei- der Downs & Co., Inc. The audit was conducted according to auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. For the fiscal years ended June 30, 2018 and June 30, 2017, the auditors provided an unmodified opinion.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018, Net Assets increased from the previous fiscal year. Our financial position and results were positively impacted by two factors.

First, by “Pension-related changes other than net periodic pension cost” and “Post-employment benefit costs”. In accordance with current accounting principles, we are required to measure these liabilities using current economic factors although these liabilities will be funded and paid well into the future (over the next 40 years or more). The overall positive movement in the investment market that occurred during the fiscal year, impacted both the return on the investments which fund the liabilities as well as the discount rate used to value the liabilities. The impact of these changes has been recognized as an increase in net assets in the Statement of Activity. It should be noted that although for financial reporting purposes we reflect an overall liability for pension benefits, our actuaries have confirmed that our pension fund is sound.

The second positive impact on Net Assets was due to the increase in market value of both our endowments and our investments, again primarily due to the overall upward movement of the investment market. This occurred even though the Federal Reserve continued to raise interest rates during the fiscal year.
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS
DIOCESAN ORGANIZATION

COMBINED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>AS OF 6/30/2018</th>
<th>AS OF 6/30/2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash &amp; cash equivalents</td>
<td>$13,986,908</td>
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<td>Accounts receivable, net</td>
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<td>Notes receivable for sale of land</td>
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<td>Pledges receivable, net</td>
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<td>Inventory</td>
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<td>Prepaid expenses</td>
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<td>Investments</td>
<td>102,558,310</td>
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<td>Loans and advances receivable, net</td>
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<td>Land under sale contract</td>
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<td>Property and equipment, net</td>
<td>15,152,607</td>
<td>15,814,113</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beneficial interest in perpetual trusts</td>
<td>40,214,824</td>
<td>39,626,989</td>
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Total Assets $216,733,001 $214,216,717

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<tr>
<th>LIABILITIES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
<td>$1,461,375</td>
<td>$2,103,435</td>
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<td>Agency funds</td>
<td>332,848</td>
<td>287,782</td>
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<td>Deposits payable</td>
<td>78,365,803</td>
<td>76,642,660</td>
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<td>Accrued expenses</td>
<td>1,377,164</td>
<td>1,350,538</td>
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<td>Deferred revenue</td>
<td>138,590</td>
<td>472,131</td>
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<td>Retired priests accrued costs</td>
<td>12,538,654</td>
<td>13,096,175</td>
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<td>Liability for pension benefits</td>
<td>56,296,777</td>
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<tr>
<td>Self-insurance reserve</td>
<td>2,433,000</td>
<td>3,272,000</td>
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Total Liabilities 152,944,211 163,349,843

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<tr>
<th>NET ASSETS</th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</td>
<td>$216,733,001</td>
<td>$214,216,717</td>
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</table>

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS
DIOCESAN ORGANIZATION

COMBINED STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR ENDED 6/30/2018</th>
<th>YEAR ENDED 6/30/2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>REVENUES:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bishop's annual appeal, net</td>
<td>$6,042,351</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment income, net</td>
<td>2,368,498</td>
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<tr>
<td>Realized/unrealized (loss) gain on investments</td>
<td>787,066</td>
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<tr>
<td>Change in fmv of beneficial interests in perpetual trusts</td>
<td>2,523,536</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating revenue</td>
<td>5,795,677</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diocesan assessment</td>
<td>4,325,076</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gain on sale of property and equipment</td>
<td>(431,874)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>128,705</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions &amp; other additions</td>
<td>791,655</td>
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Total Revenues, Gifts, & Grants 22,330,690 29,782,791

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSES:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td>14,963,292</td>
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<td>Net periodic pension cost</td>
<td>487,094</td>
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<td>Diocesan support</td>
<td>3,270,609</td>
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<td>Interest</td>
<td>1,003,218</td>
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Total Expenses 19,724,213 21,867,602

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<tr>
<th>Changes In Net Assets</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Change in net assets prior to pension-related changes other than net periodic pension cost</td>
<td>2,606,477</td>
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<td>Pension-related changes other than net periodic pension cost</td>
<td>10,315,439</td>
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Changes In Net Assets 12,921,916 32,332,850

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<tr>
<th>NET ASSETS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beginning of year</td>
<td>50,866,874</td>
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<tr>
<td>End of year</td>
<td>$63,788,790</td>
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DIOCESAN HIGH SCHOOLS FINANCIAL REVIEW FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2018 & 2017

The financial statements entitled Catholic Diocese of Columbus – High Schools, represent the combined financial position and activity for the Diocesan High Schools.

The financial statements for the High Schools are reviewed by the independent CPA firm of Schneider Downs & Co., Inc. The review was conducted according to Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018, enrollment increased slightly over the prior year (approximately 1.36%). Overall tuition income increased by 5% over the prior year, but in many of our schools, our ability to offset an increase in tuition with the rising costs of operating the schools, continues to be impacted by the economic challenges being faced by our families.

Total Net Assets increased $6.5 million. The majority of which was related to an increase in cash, an increase in pledges in support of Capital Campaigns, and an increase in the value of our endowments. Overall net income increased $6.6 million. The most significant impacts were from contributions made toward Capital Campaigns. The increase in tuition income was sufficient to offset a 4.3% increase in salary and benefit costs.

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS
HIGH SCHOOLS

COMBINED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>AS OF 6/30/2018</th>
<th>AS OF 6/30/2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash &amp; cash equivalents</td>
<td>$26,420,004</td>
<td>$24,691,756</td>
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<tr>
<td>Restricted Cash</td>
<td>589,649</td>
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<td>Accounts receivable, net</td>
<td>1,344,969</td>
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<td>Note receivable</td>
<td>5,939,520</td>
<td>5,939,520</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pledges receivable, net</td>
<td>2,314,737</td>
<td>592,928</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses</td>
<td>21,541</td>
<td>6,299</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buildings, leasehold improvements &amp; equipment, net</td>
<td>53,856,964</td>
<td>54,847,185</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beneficial interest in perpetual trust</td>
<td>32,039,796</td>
<td>28,523,267</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$122,527,180</strong></td>
<td><strong>$116,423,300</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| LIABILITIES | | |
| Accounts payable | $1,186,093 | $1,340,453 |
| Accrued liabilities - operations | 2,843,942 | 2,739,834 |
| Deferred revenue | 234,634 | 348,498 |
| Prepaid tuition & fees | 5,563,461 | 5,379,846 |
| Notes payable - related party | 13,646,512 | 14,069,986 |
| Notes payable - other | 9,592,354 | 9,581,988 |
| **Total Liabilities** | **33,066,996** | **33,460,585** |

| NET ASSETS | | |
| Net assets - controlling interest | 84,290,531 | 77,451,729 |
| Net assets - noncontrolling interest | 5,169,653 | 5,939,520 |
| **Total Net Assets** | **$89,460,184** | **$83,391,249** |
| **Total Liabilities & Net Assets** | **$122,527,180** | **$116,423,300** |

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS
HIGH SCHOOLS

COMBINED STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR ENDED 6/30/2018</th>
<th>YEAR ENDED 6/30/2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUES AND SUPPORT:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuition</td>
<td>$35,706,909</td>
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<tr>
<td>Extracurricular activities and cafeteria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions &amp; grants</td>
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<tr>
<td>State of Ohio administration cost reimbursement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net realized and unrealized gains</td>
<td>1,936,623</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parish support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other school income</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising, net</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gift and grants - Diocese</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment income, net</td>
<td>428,367</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest income</td>
<td>267,712</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenues and Support</strong></td>
<td><strong>59,272,372</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **EXPENSES:** | | |
| Salaries | 24,216,598 | 23,290,831 |
| Extracurricular activities and cafeteria | 9,085,949 | 8,776,595 |
| Benefits | 8,189,767 | 7,771,189 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 3,927,088 | 3,896,248 |
| Utilities | 1,480,644 | 1,422,867 |
| Maintenance | 1,355,794 | 1,133,117 |
| Other | 1,715,415 | 1,413,846 |
| Departmental costs | 697,993 | 771,803 |
| Office supplies | 887,692 | 830,804 |
| Interest | 541,091 | 550,887 |
| Insurance | 251,012 | 263,142 |
| Bad debt expense | 213,175 | 242,853 |
| Central administration fees | 115,782 | 111,124 |
| **Total Expenses** | **52,678,000** | **50,475,306** |
| **Net Revenues in Excess of Expenses** | **$6,594,372** | **$5,328,293** |
DIOCESAN PARISHES FINANCIAL REVIEW
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2018 & 2017

The financial statement entitled Catholic Diocese of Columbus – Parishes, represents the consolidation of the receipts and disbursements for the parishes and associated elementary schools of the Catholic Diocese of Columbus. This statement was compiled from the unaudited financial reports submitted by those organizations.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018, Total Parish Receipts increased 4.2%. Offertory rose 2.7% compared to the prior year. Fund Drive receipts increased significantly. School Income was essentially flat to the prior year, while school costs rose 2.3%

Total Parish Disbursements increased 3.7% year to year mainly due to increases in school costs (2.3%), depreciation (20%), and Parish salary and operating costs (4.1%).

Overall, Excess Receipts over Disbursements increased by 8.6%. It should be noted that much of this Excess is used to retire debt and for major capital expenditures, which is shared at the end of the data.

For those interested in the financial results for a particular parish, please contact that parish directly.

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS
PARISHES

COMBINED STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RECEIPTS:</th>
<th>YEAR ENDED 6/30/2018</th>
<th>YEAR ENDED 6/30/2017</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Offertory</td>
<td>$ 57,858,933</td>
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<td>Religious Education Income</td>
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<td>1,935,994</td>
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<td>School Income</td>
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<td>Religious Education Salary &amp; Benefits</td>
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<td>Other School Costs</td>
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<td>Total Disbursements</td>
<td>115,801,288</td>
<td>111,678,867</td>
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Excess Receipts over Disbursements | $ 15,501,723 | $ 14,279,821 |

New Loan Funds | $ 4,011,818 | $ 2,946,844 |
Payments on Loans | $ 5,182,867 | $ 3,698,941 |
Major Capital Expenditures | $ 20,816,492 | $ 13,614,725 |
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle C)

God is calling us to action

Jeremiah 1:4–5, 17–19
Psalm 71:1–2, 3–4, 5–6, 15, 17
1 Corinthians 12:31—13:13

God’s call is addressed both to his people as a whole and to unique individuals who are to be a sign for the people and an instrument for the proclamation of the Word. At times, the prophet is called for a specific moment, to address a crisis in the life of the people of God. At other times, there is a sense of something more. Jeremiah expresses his awareness of his own call to be a prophet as a lifelong vocation, from the very womb. This affirmation comes to him at a time when he faces rejection by the people to whom he has been sent: “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you.”

God has a plan for each of us as individuals – each unique person, and as families. That plan also includes our involvement with one another as church, the people of God. Our call is addressed to us from before we were born. Each human being is unique and unrepeatable and has a part in the plan of God for all humanity.

In the Gospel, Jesus tells his hearers, members of his own family, that scripture is written for “today”; that is, it is “fulfilled in your hearing.” This also applies to us. At times, just as the people of Nazareth, we can be stirred up by what Jesus says to us and want to reject it out of hand. This happens in regard to many of the teachings of the Church – the teachings that come from Jesus himself – that are out of sync with the current culture. We are challenged by the Spirit to receive the full truth, even when it is hard for us to hear.

St. Paul’s hymn in praise of love – chosen by many couples for their wedding – is a reminder to all of us that the heart of our relationships must be the very love of God. The measure of all we do is love. Do we love one another as God loves us?

God loves us. He has a plan for us as individuals, as families and as communities who are united in our faith. He knows us from before we were born. We live in a world that has a competing vision to this way of seeing things. We find ourselves swept along by concerns that are passing, and we ignore those that last forever. The church in our time is facing a profound crisis. Scandals past and present are revealed almost daily. At the same time, the church – the people of God – is being awakened from a lethargy that has had a great hold on us. We are called to listen to the word of God and to hear the message of truth and to apply our efforts to accomplish God’s will. We are called as the people of God to answer for what has been done and to open to the newness of a living response that is true to God’s word proclaimed to us today.

Jesus spoke plainly to the people of Nazareth. He speaks plainly to us now as well: We must wake up to what is going on right in front of us. Each of us can make a difference. But we have to make a choice. Is God first in our lives? If we can say “yes” to that, then we have all we need. If the evidence of our life indicates that God is important but not first, we still have time. We are all on a journey.

St. Paul invites us to strive eagerly for the greatest spiritual gifts: faith, hope and love. But we must accept and conform our lives to a new way of thinking. Can we open our hearts more truly to Jesus and to the word he speaks to us?

Father Timothy M. Hayes is pastor of Columbus St. Timothy Church.

THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS

MONDAY
Hebrews 11:32–40
Psalm 31:20–24
Mark 5:1–20

TUESDAY
Hebrews 12:1–4
Psalm 22:26b–28:30–32
Mark 5:21–43

WEDNESDAY
Hebrews 12:4–7, 11–15
Psalm 103:1–2, 13–14, 17–18a
Mark 6:1–6

THURSDAY
Hebrews 12:18–19, 21–24
Psalm 48:2–4, 9–11
Mark 6:7–13

FRIDAY
Hebrews 13:1–8
Psalm 27:1–3, 5b–9c
Mark 6:14–29

SATURDAY
Hebrews 13:15–17, 20–21
Psalm 22:1–6
Mark 6:30–34

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE: FEB. 3, 2019

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 33, 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).

Mass from Massillon St. Mary Church at 10:30 a.m. on WILB radio (AM 1060, FM 94.5 and 89.5), Canton, heard in Tuscarawas, Holmes, and Coshocton counties.

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 H-Live (Channel 113 in Ada, Logan, Millersburg, Murray City and Washington C.H.: Channel 125 in Marion, Newark, Newcomenstown 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.

Living ‘I Do’ – Weekly Marriage Tips

Is there a virtue that you are struggling with right now? Maybe patience, or being on time, or gratitude. Ask your home accountability partner – your spouse – to help you form a resolution and help you stick to it. This takes vulnerability and humility, but your spouse will appreciate your openness and effort as you take responsibility for growing in virtue.

Diocese of Columbus Marriage and Family Life Office

PRAYER TO THE VIRGIN
(Never known to fail)

Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of heaven, blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in necessity. Oh, star of the sea, help me and show me here, you are my Heaven and Earth. I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to secure me in this necessity. There are none who can withstand your powers. Oh, show me herein you are my Mother. Oh, Mary conceived without sin, pray for us, who have recourse to thee. (Repeat three times) Oh, Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hand. (Repeat three times) Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads.

Mary conceived without sin, pray for us, who have recourse to thee. (Repeat three times) Oh, Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hand. (Repeat three times) Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads.

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world, now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us; St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us; St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. Say this prayer 9 times a day, for 9 days, and your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank you Jesus and St. Jude. FM
PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

AZBELL, Gerald L. “Jerry,” 82, Jan. 25
St. Bernadette Church, Lancaster

BEVINGER, Art J., 69, Jan. 23
St. Mary Church, Lancaster

CAPPARUCCINI, John A., 63, Jan. 23
St. John the Baptist Church, Columbus

CONTINI, Shirley (Tristano), 80, Jan. 28
St. Joseph Church, Dover

CURRAN, Michael P., 85, Jan. 21
St. Paul Church, Westerville

DURBIN, Genevieve L., 98, Jan. 23
Immaculate Conception Church, Columbus

DURY, Joan C. (Daniel), 68, Jan. 21
St. Agatha Church, Columbus

EARLY, Lynn (Downer), 78, Jan. 22
Our Lady of Victory Church, Columbus

FREYBERG, Yolande “Sue” (Smith), 71, formerly of Columbus, Jan. 25
St. Louis Church, Galipolis

GREEN, Jo Anne (Westenberger), 85, Jan. 22
Holy Family Church, Columbus

HOHEISEL, Norma M. (Danaher), 86, Jan. 20
St. Michael Church, Worthington

KASTELIC, Martin J., 80, Jan. 26
Christ the King Church, Columbus

KEATING, Terrence P., 73, Jan. 23
St. Paul Church, Westerville

LABUS, Ralph, 76, Jan. 20
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

MANIACI, Natale A. “Tony,” 86, Jan. 16
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

MAZE, Ann (Judy), 89, Jan. 22
St. Mary Church, Lancaster

MAZON, Josephine A. (Mataca), 95, Jan. 24
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

MURDOCH, Larry D., 67, Jan. 19
St. Sylvester Church, Zaleski

O’BRIEN, Adele “Del” (Callahan), 92, Jan. 21
St. Anthony Church, Columbus

PAQUETTE, Dr. Leo A., 84, Jan. 21
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

PENROD, Clyde, 98, Jan. 24
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

RAAB, Jean (McNamara), 97, Jan. 19
Mother Angeline McCrory Chapel, Columbus

REIDA, Arthur J., 93, Jan. 22
St. Joan of Arc Church, Powell

REINHARDT, Jesse A., 71, Jan. 23
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

SHEETS, Norma J., 78, Jan. 21
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

SNIDER, Helen K. (Dodson), 61, Jan. 18
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

STALICA, Mary Jane, 36, Jan. 17
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

UNTIED, Charlotte U. (Schmeltzer), 96, Jan. 16
St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville

WALDREN, Ruth A. (Garrett), 89, Jan. 23
St. Anthony Church, Columbus

WELDON, William F., 96, Jan. 20
St. Agatha Church, Columbus

WILSON, Esther L. (Pezzutti), 94, Jan. 23
Holy Spirit Church, Columbus

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

Sister Marion Gillis, OSF

Funeral Mass for Sister Marion Gillis, OSF, 88, who died on Tuesday, Jan. 15, was celebrated on Monday, Jan. 21 in the chapel of Holy Family Convent, Manitowoc, Wisconsin. Burial was in the convent cemetery.

She was born on Sept. 30, 1930 in Green Bay, Wisconsin to Albert and Lillian (De Both) Gillis. She was a graduate of Good Samaritan School of Nursing in Zanesville and earned a bachelor of science degree in nursing from St. Louis University and a master of science degree in nursing from the University of Texas.

She joined the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity in 1952 and professed her vows in 1954. She ministered as a nurse or nursing instructor at Good Samaritan Medical Center in Zanesville, in the Diocese of Cleveland, and in Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. She was also a teacher in Wisconsin and Indiana. She had been a resident of St. Rita Health Center in Manitowoc since 2015.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Father Ralph Gillis, Cletus and Norbert; and sister, Mildred Steffel. She is survived by nieces and nephews.

Sister Loretta Sullivan, OP

Funeral Mass for Sister Loretta Sullivan, OP, 88, who died on Thursday, Jan. 17 at the Mohun Health Care Center in Columbus, was celebrated on Saturday, Jan. 26 at the Motherhouse of the Dominican Sisters of Peace. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was born in 1931 in New Haven, Connecticut to the late Cornelius and Loretta (Korn) Sullivan, and in 1954 became a member of the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs (now the Dominican Sisters of Peace).

She earned degrees from the Yale University divinity school; St. Mary’s College in Notre Dame, Indiana; and St. Mary of the Springs College (now Ohio Dominican University) and a certificate in clinical pastoral education from Bridgeport (Connecticut) Hospital.

She served as a teacher, religious education director, pastoral care associate, chaplain and in other positions in Pennsylvania, Connecticut and the Diocese of Steubenville.

Survivors include a brother, Neil; a niece and a nephew.

Sister Clara Bauman, OP

Funeral Mass for Sister Clara Bauman, OP, 88, who died on Tuesday, Jan. 15, was celebrated on Wednesday, Jan. 30 at the Motherhouse of the Dominican Sisters of Peace. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was born on Aug. 16, 1930 in Columbus to John and Victoria (Trapp) Bauman.

She was a graduate of St. Mary of the Springs Academy and received a bachelor of science degree in elementary education in 1960 from St. Mary of the Springs College (now Ohio Dominican University), a master of education degree in 1970 from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, and a master of arts degree in religious studies in 1985 from Incarnate Word College in San Antonio, Texas.

She entered the congregation of the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs (now the Dominican Sisters of Peace) in 1949 and professed her vows on July 9, 1951, taking the name of Sister Iraneus.

In the Diocese of Columbus, she taught at Columbus St. Francis of Assisi (1963-64), Columbus Holy Spirit (1964-65), Columbus Our Lady of Peace (1969-71), Somerset Holy Trinity (1972-73) and Coshocton Sacred Heart (1973-77) schools and was pastoral minister at Columbus St. James the Less Church (2001-12).

She also taught at schools in the Diocese of Steubenville, Pennsylvania, and New Mexico and was religious education director of a parish in Illinois. She entered the Mohun Health Care Center in 2012.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brother, Irvin; and sister, Dorothy. Survivors include a sister, Bernadine; and several nieces and nephews.
**Happenings**

**Classified**

**Painter/Carpenter**
Semi-retired
Quality work
Reasonable rates
Insured
Call 614-601-3950

**February**

<table>
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| 1. FRIDAY | **St. Cecilia Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**
St. Cecilia Church, 434 Norton Road, Columbus. Begins after 8:15 a.m. Mass; continues to 5 p.m. Saturdays.

**Eucharistic Adoration at Columbus St. Peter**
9 a.m. to 8 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6990 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. First Friday Eucharistic adoration in day chapel.

**First Friday Masses at Holy Family**
9 a.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. First Saturday Mass for world peace and in reparation for blasphemies against the Virgin Mary. 614-221-4323, extension 329

**SUNDAY**

**Talk on the Future of the Church at St. Agatha**
9:30 a.m., St. Agatha Church, 1660 Northam Road, Columbus. First of four talks by Father Edmund Hussey on the future of the Catholic Church. Topic: “The Leadership Role of Bishops.” 614-488-6149

**St. Christopher Adult Religious Education**
10 to 11:20 a.m., Cafeteria, Trinity Catholic School, 1440 Grandview Ave., Columbus. Old Testament study with Scripture scholar Angela Burdge.

**Seeds of Hope Bereavement Ministry**
2 to 4 p.m., Our Lady of Peace, 20 E. Dominion Blvd., Columbus. First meeting of six-week support group sponsored by Seasons of Hope bereavement ministry for those who have lost a loved one, sponsored by North High Deanery. Contact rose.daiga@gmail.com.

**Prayer for the Nation at St. Matthew**
3 p.m., St. Matthew Church, 807 Havens Corners Road, Gahanna. Monthly Holy Hour of prayer for the nation, including the Divine Mercy Chaplet and the rosary. 614-471-0212

**‘Stabat Mater’ at Cathedral**
3 p.m. We Say ‘Stabat Mater,’ 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Columbus International Children’s Choir performance of Peregesi’s Stabat Mater, with soloists Cynthia Mahaney and Carolyn Redman and the Columbus Symphony Chamber Orchestra. Admission $15, seniors and students $10. 614-309-2546

**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.

**Recitation of Rosary at St. Pius X**
6:30 a.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Recital of Rosary for the sick of the parish and all who are ill. 614-886-2859

**Mindfulness Workshop at Shepherd’s Corner**
5 to 7 p.m., Christ the King Church, 277 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus (enter at daily Mass entrance). Weekly parish prayer group meets. 614-895-2866

**SUNDAY**

**Talk on the Future of the Church at St. Agatha**
9:30 a.m., St. Agatha Church, 1660 Northam Road, Columbus. Second of four talks by Father Edmund Hussey on the future of the Catholic Church. Topic: “The Revelation of God Become Man.” 614-488-6149

**St. Christopher Adult Religious Education**

**Jubilee Museum World Marriage Day Program**
1 to 4 p.m., The Jubilee Museum, 57 S. Grubb St., Columbus. Annual World Marriage Day program sponsored by diocesan Office of Marriage and Family Life, with presentations by Dr. John and Jennifer Fortman, former director Shawn Kenney on “The Art of Marriage” featuring artwork displayed at the museum. 614-241-2560

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

**Seasons of Hope Bereavement Ministry**
2 to 4 p.m., Our Lady of Peace Church, 20 E. Dominion Blvd., Columbus. Second meeting of six-week support group sponsored by Seasons of Hope bereavement ministry for those who have lost a loved one, sponsored by North High Deanery. Contact rose.daiga@gmail.com.

**Cathedral Music Series**
3 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Concert featuring British organist David Baskeyfield. 614-241-2566

**Scout Day with the Bishop**
3 p.m. Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, New Albany. Annual Scout Day with the Bishop program sponsored by diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting, with Bishop Frederick Campbell honoring diocesan Scouts who have received religious awards.

**Catholic Conversations Series**
6 to 8 p.m., Sports on Tap, 4030 Main St., Hilliard. Monthly Catholic Conversations series for anyone 21 and older, sponsored by Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona Church. Speaker: Dr. Perry Cahall, academic dean of theology at the Pontifical College Josephinum. Topic: “What Does It Mean to Be Catholic? The Mystery of Our Faith?” Contact Julie Naproano at julie.naproano1@gmail.com.

**Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter**
7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6990 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish. 706-761-4054

11, MONDAY

**Rosary at St. Pius X**
6:30 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Recital of Rosary for the sick of the parish and all who are ill. 614-886-2859

**Bethesda Post-Abortion Healing Ministry**
8:30 p.m., support group meeting, 2744 Dover Road, Columbus (Christ the King convent, first building west of church). 614-718-0227, 614-309-2651, 614-309-0157

**Our Lady of Peace’s Bible Study**
7 p.m., Our Lady of Peace Church, 20 E. Dominion Blvd., Columbus. Bible study of Sunday’s readings.

12, TUESDAY

**Calix Society Meeting**
6 p.m., Panera restaurant, 4519 N. High St., Columbus. Monthly meeting of the Calix Society, an association of Catholic alcoholics. Preceded by 5:30 p.m. Mass at Our Lady of Peace Church, across street from meeting place. 614-488-6149

**St. Christopher Adult Religious Education**
7 p.m., Holy Name Church, 154 E. Patterson Ave., Columbus. Presentation of the diocesan Catholic Man of the Year. 614-488-6149

**St. Catherine of Siena Meeting at Columbus St. Peter**
6:30 p.m., support group meeting, 2744 Dover Road, Columbus (Christ the King convent, first building west of church). 614-718-0227, 614-309-2651, 614-309-0157

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7 p.m., Our Lady of Peace Church, 20 E. Dominion Blvd., Columbus. Bible study of Sunday’s readings.

**Talk on the Future of the Church at St. Agatha**
9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., St. Agatha Church, 1850 Northam Road, Columbus. Second of four talks by Father Edmund Hussey on the future of the Catholic Church. Topic: “Women in the Future Church.” 614-488-6149

**St. Christopher Adult Religious Education**

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**SUNDAY**

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

**Mindfulness Workshop at Shepherd’s Corner**
9 a.m. to 12 p.m., American Legion Post 171, 393 E. College Ave., Westerville. Annual Central Ohio Marriage Encounter World Marriage Day dinner-dance. $74 per couple. Bring your own alcoholic beverage. 614-781-9048

**SUNDAY**

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**St. Christopher Adult Religious Education**