March for Life
Members of several Columbus parishes traveled to Washington for the March for Life, Page 2

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March for Life in Washington inspiring, memorable

By Robert J. Tatz

Late Thursday, Jan. 17, 30 members of the Columbus Diocese gathered at Powell St. Joan of Arc to board a bus bound for the March for Life in Washington, D.C.

Mary Jeffries, a St. Joan parishioner, coordinated the trip. She was joined by members of St. Joan, Columbus St. Patrick, St. Cecilia and St. Margaret of Cortona and five other parishes. Everyone was issued a long red scarf with “March for Life” woven in – a practical way to find your fellow travelers amid the huge crowd at the march.

Because the Roe vs. Wade decision legalizing abortion nationwide was handed down on Jan. 22, 1973, the March for Life that marks that decision has always contended with winter weather. The threat of severe weather this time was of concern, especially for our return trip on Friday night. As we left at 9:30 p.m. Thursday, it was wet, but it would not interfere with our travel to D.C.

Shortly after we left, Father Joe Klee led a rosary, kicking off our prayer pilgrimage. After that, some people chatted quietly while most of us tried to sleep. This is the disadvantage of the “red-eye” bus that makes the trip a sacrifice in terms of comfort. We got our first taste of the crowds we would see in D.C. at a Pennsylvania rest stop that was full of high school students from Michigan.

We arrived at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Washington at 5 a.m. Because Masses were celebrated there the previous day and all-night adoration was held, the basilica was already filled with those who came for the march.

Adoration and Lauds were held in the Crypt Church on the lower level. The most striking thing I recall came during a short homily by a Dominican brother. He said that right here in this chapel, where we worshiped the Lord in the Eucharist, was Ground Zero for the March for Life. Our prayers for life started there and were fruitful because of that fact.

At 7:30 a.m., we attended the closing Mass in the main church. Father Klee was one of many priests celebrating with Bishop Barry C. Knestout of Richmond, Virginia. The church was packed, with people sitting in the aisles.

The basilica has many beautiful chapels, so we visited a few and prayed. Some had Masses scheduled for groups, and I noticed one chapel where Father Charles Shonk said Mass for the St. Patrick youth group. There were people from throughout the country at the march, yet it was normal to see someone that you knew there.

After breakfast at the overwhelmed cafeteria, we were ready for a group photo on the steps of the basilica taken by Larry Pishitelli. Next we walked to the subway to go to the National Mall. Everyone got on together and off at the correct stop, and we arrived at the National Mall about 11:30 a.m. Just a few blocks east of the Washington Monument, a rally was held from noon to 1 p.m. There were about a dozen speakers including Abby Johnson and Dr. Alveda King. Vice President Mike Pence and his wife, Karen, also spoke at the rally. President Donald Trump made a video address to the crowd.

Probably the most engaging speaker was Katrina Jackson, a Democratic state representative from Louisiana. She led the crowd in repeated chants of “we fight”... “for life.” The crowd was shoulder to shoulder around the stage and down to Madison Drive. There was no grass, only mud everywhere along with pools of water. People were polite and smiling, periodically allowing small streams of pilgrims to thread through the crowds.

Finally, it was getting close to 1 p.m. when the march was scheduled to start. We reassembled with most of our group as we “surged” toward the start of the march. We were on Madison Drive trying to get onto 12th Street, which leads to Constitution Avenue. Everyone had the same objective, so it took more than 45 minutes to get into the parade.

We joined the parade at the same time as two dozen seminarians from the Pontifical College Josephinum – Amazing to bump into them. They had arrived on a bus Thursday. Members of our group remained with them throughout the march and joined them in the rosary. We prayed all 20 mysteries, along with a hymn after each mystery. They were kind enough to share the booklets they had prepared with the hymns. This kept us focused throughout the march and was a great blessing. Meeting the seminarians was not really surprising because everywhere you looked, you saw a Catholic presence. That was why it was

Thirty pilgrims from Powell St. Joan of Arc, Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona, Columbus St. Cecilia and Columbus St. Patrick churches traveled to Washington to participate in the March for Life on Friday, Jan. 18. They were accompanied by Father Joseph Klee.

Photo courtesy Larry Pishitelli

See MARCH FOR LIFE, Page 5
Governor pays surprise visit to Statehouse pro-life event

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

Gov. Mike DeWine expressed his enthusiastic support of pro-life activities in Ohio when he made an unexpected visit to the annual Roe Remembrance event in the Ohio Statehouse atrium on Tuesday, Jan. 22.

The newly elected governor had not been on the list of speakers for the program, but many of those in attendance were hoping he might show up because of his longstanding support for pro-life efforts. His appearance at one of the atrium’s entrances about 45 minutes into the hourlong program immediately caught the crowd’s attention, and Aaron Baer of Citizens for Community Values, who was speaking at the time, quickly ended his remarks to give the governor the floor.

“As my friend (former Illinois Rep.) Henry Hyde used to say, ‘Thank you for loving those who cannot love you back,’” DeWine said.

He noted in his inauguration speech eight days earlier, he had talked about the essential functions of government. “Certainly one of those essential functions is to take care of those who cannot take care of themselves, to protect those who are vulnerable, protect those who are the weakest members of our society. That includes children who are not yet born, young children, young babies, people with disabilities,” he said.

Referring to his new administration, the governor said, “We want to be consistent in working every single day to protect them, so thank you for what you do. It is very, very important what you’re doing. You may not gain anything out of this at all by doing it, but it certainly is the right thing to do, so I’m very grateful for you doing that. Help us as we move forward. This is about laws, and, frankly, it’s also about hearts and minds.

“I can go back in this movement when we didn’t have all the scientific data, we didn’t have all the pictures of developing babies. Today we have them, and the more you know, the facts are really on our side,” he said.

DeWine has spent a lifetime in politics, starting as Greene County prosecutor and serving as various times as state senator, lieutenant governor and attorney general of Ohio, and U.S. congressman and senator. He began his remarks by recalling that for eight years in the House and 12 in the Senate in Washington, he and his wife, Fran, had walked in the March for Life in the nation’s capital. “We opened up our office, Fran made peanut butter sandwiches and brownies, and it was one of the highlights of our year because it was thrilling to see how many people had come in busloads from Ohio,” the governor said.

He was accompanied to the atrium by his wife and Lt. Gov. Jon Husted, who introduced him by saying, “There have never been a governor and first lady more pro-family and more pro-life than Mike and Fran.”

Husted also was at the Roe Remembrance in 2017, when he was Ohio’s secretary of state. As he did then, he thanked his mother for giving birth to him and offering him for adoption, and his adoptive parents for accepting and raising him. “Thanks to them, I got to live my version of the American dream and advocate for pro-child and pro-life policies,” he said.

Before the governor spoke, Baer noted the significant progress made by Ohio pro-life activists in recent years, both legislatively and in terms of reducing the number of abortion clinics in the state. “When we are on our knees, we are most dangerous,” he said.

He told his audience to go back home and “remember the state motto, ‘With God, all things are possible’ and that in our lifetime, we can end abortion.”

This is the 46th year for the Roe Remembrance, sponsored by Greater Columbus Right to Life. The event usually takes place on Jan. 22, the day in 1973 when the U.S. Supreme Court’s Roe v. Wade decision legalized abortion nationwide.

The invocation was delivered by the Rev. David Earley of First Baptist Church of Grove City and the benediction by Father Michael Mary Dosch, OP, who now is in Cincinnati as novice master for the Dominicans of St. Joseph Province and formerly was pastor of Columbus St. Patrick Church.

This was a return visit to the event for Father Dosch and a group of Dominican nuns. Domesticated.
During the annual Martin Luther King Jr. celebration at Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John Church on Monday, Jan. 21, Father Chester P. Smith, SVD (left), referenced Joseph in the Book of Genesis and God telling him to believe and go boldly forward despite his adversity. "So as God spoke to Joseph and as we consider the words of Dr. King, let us as Christians put aside our doubts and divisions and lift up our eyes to Jesus who is the author and finisher of our faith. Let us go forward with the same boldness and unwavering belief that both Joseph and Dr. King had, knowing that God will carry us through to victory," he said. Members of the Parram family (right) look at a nativity painting by fellow Holy Rosary-St. John parishioner Ruth M. Keels. Pictured (from left) are Patrick, Cecilia, Sarah and Dominic Parram.

The homily also included praise for the efforts of area pregnancy centers, with the bishop noting that last year, about 10 percent of pregnant women in Franklin County were served by one of the centers.
Faith in Action  

By Mark Huddy

Happy anniversary!

Some anniversaries are calls to action. My parents were married on the day after Christmas and my sister was married on Dec. 29. So at this time of year, I can’t help but think about anniversaries. The Church, too, celebrates anniversaries. Epiphany, which we just celebrated on Jan. 6, memorializes the adoration of the Christ Child by the Magi and His first manifestation to the Gentiles.

This year is the 25th anniversary of the pastoral letter Confronting a Culture of Violence: A Catholic Framework for Action issued by the bishops of the United States in 1994. It was a call to reflect on the growing culture of violence and its roots and causes, as well as on the tremendous power of faith in Jesus Christ, the richness of the prayer and sacramental life of the Church, and the truth of its teachings on human life and dignity, on right and wrong and on justice and peace.

One of its most striking passages reads, “We are tragically turning to violence in the search for quick and easy answers to complex human problems. A society which destroys its children, abandons its old, and relies on vengeance fails fundamental moral tests. Violence is not the solution; it is the most clear sign of our failures. We are losing our respect for human life. How do we teach the young to curb their violence when we embrace it as the solution to social problems?”

The pastoral letter incorporated a challenging framework for action to confront the violence that erupting in our midst then and now. Some of the dimensions of that framework include: (1) the call to pray for peace in our hearts and our world; (2) the ability to listen, to hear the pain, anger and frustration that come with and from violence; (3) the duty to examine our own attitudes and actions for how they contribute to or diminish violence in our society; (4) the call to help people confront the violence in their hearts and lives; (5) an advocacy strategy, including confronting the violence of abortion and curbing the easy availability of deadly weapons; (6) support for efforts to attack root causes of crime and violence including poverty, substance abuse, lack of opportunity, racism and family disintegration; (7) building bridges and promoting solidarity across racial and economic lines; (8) overcoming the tragedy of family violence and confronting all forms of violence against women; (9) strengthening families by putting the needs of children and families first in our national priorities; and (10) continuing to work for global disarmament, including curbs on arms sales and a ban on the export of land mines.

What could happen in our world if we could embrace the gift that God gives us in the life of every person? What would change if we attempted to resolve every human conflict with laser-like attention to the dignity of every person involved and with a commitment to reject all forms of violence and coercion? Perhaps a look at the Lord of all creation incarnate as a child in a manger could help us.

In 1994, the bishops asked us to pause in the days between two anniversaries (Jan. 15, the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., an apostle of nonviolence; and Jan. 22, the tragic anniversary of the Roe v. Wade U.S. Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion) to pray, reflect and act to confront the violence in our midst. Our commitment to this task can make 2019 a happy anniversary.

Mark Huddy is episcopal moderator for the Office of Social Concerns and Catholic Social Services in the Diocese of Columbus.

Haste doesn’t always make waste

HOLY AND HEALTHY  

Lori Crock

It’s funny how the Holy Spirit sends you a thought, inspiration or word that you must pray about to figure out a response.

For me recently, the word was “haste.” During Christmas, I reflected on haste as it related to the Three Kings and the Shepherds as they made haste to meet the newborn Jesus. Haste can be positive or negative, and we see both in Sacred Scripture.

At the Visitation, we see Mary move with beautiful haste to visit her cousin Elizabeth to care for her and share her joy of the impending birth of Our Lord and Savior.

In Proverbs 19:2, we see another side of haste: “Desire with knowledge is not good; and whoever acts hastily, blunders.”

We might think of haste in this way – as being rushed, or that we’ve been negligent or wasting time on something less important that sets us behind so we’re forced to respond recklessly, leading to mistakes.

This could be true. But if we approach haste prayerfully and in the context of our spiritual lives, haste might be what we need to respond to God’s call or share our love of Jesus with others. May we be like the Samaritan woman who left her water jug behind in her haste to share the news of the Messiah with the people in her town.

Are we inspired to make haste to attend daily Mass, to meet Jesus in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, to read Scripture, to pray daily, to commit to a Holy Hour, to start something new for God or to invite others to experience Jesus?

Could haste be the key to getting unstuck from a prayer rut or out of a spiral of sin or selfishness or feeling reticent because we don’t clearly see the path Jesus is laying out for us? Let us rise up with holy haste to pray, discern and take action – even if we start small.

May our haste begin with getting to know Jesus better so we can share him with others in whatever way God is calling us. Let us move forward in our life’s mission with courageous haste that bubbles over from a life of prayer and discernment. We’ll make mistakes, but if we stay close to Jesus and his will for us, he can make our well-intentioned haste work for good.

St. Ursula Ledochowska (foundress of the Ursulines of the Agonizing Heart of Jesus) urges us onward. “You must never ask Jesus to wait,” she said.

Lori Crock is a parishioner at Plain City St. Joseph Church. Lori leads SoulCore Rosary prayer and exercise at parishes, teaches physical strength classes and writes about faith and fitness at holyandhealthycatholic.com.
**Holy days of obligation; Disposing of relics**

**QUESTION & ANSWER**

**Father Kenneth Doyle**

*Catholic News Service*

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**Q** Here in Columbus, the solemnity of Mary (Jan. 1) is a holy day of obligation. I have sisters, though, who live in Charlotte, North Carolina, and in Los Angeles, and Jan. 1 is not a holy day of obligation in either place. Why would it not be the same everywhere? It seems this is such a serious matter (a mortal sin if missed) that it should not be left up to local bishops to decide. Certainly, I would think, it ought to be the same in all parts of the U.S., if not everywhere in the world. (Columbus)

**A** Jan. 1 is a holy day of obligation across the continental United States. In 1991, the U.S. Conference of Bishops decreed that there would be six such days in this country, including the solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God.

To my knowledge, the only place where this differs is in Hawaii; with an *indulgence* (permission) from the Vatican, the Diocese of Honolulu determined in 1992 that there would be only two days of obligation there: Dec. 8 (the Immaculate Conception) and Dec. 25. That was done to bring Hawaii into conformity with the other islands in the South Pacific.

With the solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God (Jan. 1), the solemnity of the Assumption (Aug. 15) or the solemnity of All Saints (Nov. 1), the obligation of Mass attendance is lifted when the date occurs on a Saturday or a Monday.

(I suspect that what prompts your question is that you happened to be speaking to your sisters in one of those years).

There is wisdom, I would think, in leaving the determination of holy days to the bishops of a particular nation, since they would likely be more in touch with the history and spirituality of their own people. In Ireland, for example, Mass attendance is required on St. Patrick’s Day, as it is in Mexico on the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

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

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**THE EVERYDAY CATHOLIC**

**By Rick Jeric**

**We need a doctor**

“Is there a doctor in the house?” We have all heard these words before, usually in the midst of a medical emergency. Especially when a situation or occurrence gets to the point of being life or death, we immediately turn to someone we hope can provide the remedy that saves a life. No one wants to be in that kind of situation. No one wants to be around that type of emergency, unless he or she is the doctor. No one chooses to be in that situation. But in most cases, it occurs thanks to many poor choices in life before the emergency. Accidents do happen, but poor choices are the worst to deal with. Of course, we have the right to make those poor choices. We have the right to choose. After all, it is my body. No one can tell me what to do when it comes to my body. It is me, myself, and I. Not you. If I want to smoke or do drugs, the doctors and government are there to tell me “No,” and even have laws to save me from self-destruction. If I want to overeat and drink, to contract diabetes or something worse, the good doctors are there, along with government labels and nutrition information. If I do not want to wear a helmet or a seat belt, I could be in big trouble. Then there are inoculations and vaccines, and so many other things medically that prolong our lives. All good?

This past Wednesday, Jan. 22, was the annual day of prayer for the legal protection of unborn children. Is there a doctor in the house? The medical emergency is now 46 years old and still running. This is clearly a life-or-death situation. And we still do not give a damn. We have become numb to the fact that abortion on demand is the law of the land. We have raised too many generations who now know nothing else. It is the norm. Shame on us. Shame on our politicians, whom we elect and who appoint and approve our judges. Yes, it is on us. Thank God that He has eternal love and patience for us. Real love, conception, a heartbeat, pain, movement, and even the ability to live outside the womb all mean absolutely nothing. In one environment, you are nothing but a worthless blob of lifeless tissue. In another, you are magically a living human being. We have the right to choose. After all, it is my body. Who does God think He is – if He does exist, of course. I guess this is one of those cases where the lousy government and our rationalizing politicians do not have any interest in protecting us from ourselves and our poor choices. And there is simply no reason to protect the most innocent, vulnerable and helpless lives among us. The selfish and oblivious among us have a right to choose death over life, period. End of story.

Or is it? The fact that we need to have one day of prayer each year for the legal protection of babies is preposterous and disgusting. Is there a doctor in the house? The reality is a resounding “Yes!” Jesus Christ is not going away, and He remains our Savior. He is the eternal doctor in the eternal house. On the front lines, we have great doctors in our good parents, clergy, teachers, good pro-life doctors, and regular people like us who preach the truth, which is Jesus Christ. We continue to pray, love and change hearts and minds by our example. That is the best medicine.

We also have great saints who are great examples, such as St. Thomas Aquinas, who is a doctor of the church, and whose feast day we celebrate on Monday, Jan. 28. When it comes to protecting the lives of the most vulnerable, we have great doctors available. Let us also be one of them ourselves. It is a choice.
The Gospel of Matthew ends with the 11 disciples reuniting with the resurrected Jesus on a mountain in Galilee. His final words to them are remembered as the Great Commission: “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” (Matthew 28: 19-20). These words are the source of the Church’s teaching ministry, which we see lived out today in our Catholic schools.

Across the nation during the last week of January, dioceses will celebrate national Catholic Schools Week. This is a chance to reflect on our shared mission of providing excellent Catholic education and an opportunity to celebrate the communities within our Catholic schools. During this week, our schools will highlight the many ways in which they learn, serve, lead and succeed.

Here in the Diocese of Columbus, our 53 schools provide rigorous education in the fullness of the Catholic faith to more than 15,000 students. Our schools serve families in 15 of the diocese’s 23 counties, meaning that a great Catholic education is not far away.

Catholic schools in the Diocese of Columbus have much to be proud of:

• Our Catholic schools continue to test well above their peers in Ohio and in the United States. Daphne Iry, associate director for curriculum at the diocesan Office of Catholic Schools, shares this data in this edition of The Catholic Times.
• Our schools continue to develop new ways to engage and inspire our students, such as the STEM program at Chillicothe Bishop Flaget School, the first Ohio Department of Education-designated STEM school in Ross County and in the Diocese of Columbus.
• Our schools teach the Catholic faith to the future of our Church. Many schools sent large groups of students to the annual March for Life in Washington, including more than half of the student body at Lancaster Fisher Catholic High School.
• Our schools continue to innovate to create new models for success in the future. Bishop Rosecrans High School and Bishop Fenwick Elementary School are sharing resources and working together as the Catholic Schools of Zanesville, serving students from preschool through 12th grade.
• Our schools commit to serving students with special needs, such as our thriving SPICE (Special People in Catholic Education) programs at Columbus St. Catharine School and Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare School.
• Our schools continue to grow. Recently, Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School unveiled a new robotics and mentoring center and announced a campaign to expand existing facilities. Plans also are in place for...
By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

Joy Padgett’s first job after college was teaching fifth- and sixth-graders in Coshocton County’s River View Local School District. She was as an educator for two decades and then left the classroom for a distinguished career in public service that included terms in the Ohio House and Senate and five years as director of the Governor’s Office of Appalachia.

Now she has come full circle and again is standing in front of a fifth- and sixth-grade classroom in Coshocton County, this time as a teacher at Coshocton Sacred Heart School.

“I feel my whole life has been guided by God and know this is where I belong,” said Padgett, 71. “I don’t think there are coincidences, so it’s no accident that I’m doing this. I love teaching students at the fifth- and sixth-grade level because they are smart, curious and willing to be taught. At the same time, I’m learning from them.”

Before resuming her teaching career this past fall, Padgett had been working since 2015 as an outreach and customer support staff member for the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. “I enjoyed that work,” she said. “It involved driving 2,500 to 3,500 miles per month all over the state, but that was OK. Then one Sunday last year, I opened the Sacred Heart church bulletin, and it said they were looking for someone to teach fifth and sixth grade for the 2018-19 school year. At that point, you might say I had an epiphany – a moment of revelation.

“I went back 50 years and remembered how much fun it was to teach fifth and sixth grades and wondered if I could do it again. My biggest concern was that my teaching certificate had expired. But the thought wouldn’t go away. The notice appeared in the bulletin a second time, and then a third time.

“On that third week, Mary Kobel, the school principal, and I were walking in different directions after Sunday Mass, and we happened to meet each other right in front of the altar. I told her what I was thinking, and she said, ‘Why don’t you give teaching a try for a year? We can give you a temporary certificate,’” Padgett said.

“I said I’d consider it. I wondered whether I wanted to give up my EPA job. My husband advised me to do what I thought best, and he would support whatever decision I made. After about a week of thought and prayer, I said, ‘OK, God. Send me something to show the way.’ He didn’t do anything dramatic, but as I continued praying, I felt he was nudging me into teaching,” she said.

“It also helped that I live across the street from the church, so my commute would be reduced from a couple thousand miles to 2 1/2 minutes. I was baptized here, have always gone to church here and have been a strong financial supporter of the school, even though I didn’t have children attending, because of my belief in the importance of Catholic education to the community. So I decided I’d go ahead and come back to the classroom.”

Kobel said, “I had spoken with Joy in the past and knew she felt a strong calling toward returning to teaching. Her transition back to teaching was no problem. It’s very fortunate we were able to hire someone with such a wealth of experience, who always has lived here and felt such a strong connection to the community no matter what position she held.”

Padgett has 14 students in one classroom, which combines fifth and sixth grades. From her perspective as a teacher, students at those grade levels have not changed in 50 years, rules that have remained constant. “From the first day, I tell my students ‘be kind’ and ‘be respectful.’ Everything else flows from that,” she said.

She encourages students to research any topic that interests them and stresses the need for proper citation of that research. Each student is currently examining the life of someone the student identified as a “trailblazer” and is working on a presentation telling what life was like for that person as a fifth- or sixth-grader.

Students from her class took part in a parish food drive at Christmastime and collected buckeyes to be made into necklaces, which were sold at the parish festival. They also collect aluminum cans and turn them in to a recycling center, using the proceeds to purchase reward items that are handed out when the class reaches reading or math goals.

Padgett is a Kent State University graduate. Following her initial year teaching grades five and six in the River View district, she taught language arts at River View High School in Warsaw for 19 years.

During that time, she became president of the River View Education Association and came to realize the discrepancies in how school districts are funded across the state. The Ohio Republican Party recruited her to run for office because of her work as an advocate for small rural school districts such as River View.

She lost her first bid for an Ohio House seat but won in her second attempt. She served in the House, representing Coshocton and Holmes counties and part of Muskingum County, from 1993 to the middle of 1999, when Gov. Bob Taft appointed her to be in charge of his Appalachia office.

In that role, she created the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio, which promotes philanthropy in the state’s 29 Appalachian counties.

She was appointed to a vacant Ohio Senate seat in 2004 and was elected to a full four-year term in 2008, retiring from politics at the end of the term. She then served as director of government relations for Central Ohio Technical College for three years and deputy director of the Appalachia office for two years before joining the EPA.

She and her husband also operated an office supply business in Coshocton for three decades.

“I have a lot of access to state politicians, and it’s been helpful in the classroom,” she said. “State Sen. Jay Hottinger recently visited the class, and we will be going to the Statehouse later this year. Larry Householder, the new House speaker, is a friend and our state representative, and I’ve worked with newly elected Gov. (Mike) DeWine and Lt. Gov. (Jon) Husted.”

“I try to avoid discussion of politics in the classroom, but the kids know I have served. This is rural America, and the kids are proud they had a teacher who was part of the government. It shows them that a little kid from Coshocton County who was just like they are can go anywhere and nothing can stop them.

“That’s a positive thing, but the kids are more excited that I once owned a DeLorean than that I served as a senator,” Padgett said.
New St. John Paul II Catholic preschool stresses faith, fun

By Tim Puet  
Catholic Times Reporter

More than two years ago, three Little Servant Sisters of the Immaculate Conception arrived in Columbus to set up a preschool. The work took a little longer than anticipated, but all the permits needed to meet state education requirements and city building codes have been issued and the school is open.

The last state inspection of the renovated Victorian-era residence that houses what the sisters have named the St. John Paul II Early Childhood Education Center took place on Dec. 18. The sisters received word on Jan. 2 from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services that the school had passed its final inspection, and it was opened five days later at 957 E. Broad St.

They had hoped to start classes in October but ran into obstacles related to building code requirements that are not uncommon with modernizing a 19th-century structure. Because of the delayed opening, the sisters advised parents who hoped to have children attend the school in the fall to send them elsewhere.

As a result, there were only three children on hand when classes started. Sister Bozena Tyborowska, LSIC, one of the two sisters teaching at the school, said the interest shown by parents of prospective students indicates that many more students will be on hand when the next school year opens in the fall. The building can hold 52 students.

When The Catholic Times visited the school three days after it opened, the children who are the school’s pioneers – 3-year-old Beatrice Bennett; Maria Kochensparger, age 4; and 5-year-old Kenny Kuiken Jr. – were zipping around a large play area in Little Tikes cars, then being pulled in a wagon by the school’s other teacher, Sister Anna Lesniak, LSIC. Kenny kept trying to get into one of the cars, and Sister kept telling him he was too big, but he was determined and eventually squeezed into the vehicle for a bit before realizing Sister was right.

Then it was story time, with the children sitting down to hear Sister talk about angels and show them a storybook from which they learned the “Angel of God” prayer (“Angel of God, my guardian dear/To whom God’s love commits me here/Ever to watch and to guard, to rule and to guide”). This is the first prayer taught to many Catholic children and has a history that goes back nearly a thousand years, probably to a Benedictine monk named Reginald of Canterbury.

Angels were a significant theme of the day. After learning the prayer, the students went to an area featuring posters with the Catholic alphabet, matching each of the 26 letters with a word of significance to the Church. There, they learned “A” is for “angel,” with Sister Anna telling them more about angels and explaining that each of them has a guardian angel.

At this point, it was getting close to noon. Starting at 9 a.m., the students had been mixing play with structured time including prayer, math, reading, language, music and art activities. They also gathered at an area designated as a weather station for a weather report and took a snack/lunch break.

Maria left at noon. At that point, Beatrice and Kenny began an hour of rest time, to be followed with a snack. Activities similar to those in the morning continued until dismissal at 3 p.m.

Because there are so few students at the school, all are on the same schedule. With the anticipated arrival of more children in the fall, the sisters plan to offer the options of full-day or half-day classes, either five days a week or on a schedule of two or three alternating days.

Class times will be 9 a.m. to noon for half-day and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for full-day classes, with options of beginning the day as early as 7:30 a.m. and ending it as late as 5:30 p.m., depending on parents’ schedules. Day care will be provided in June and July, and the school will be closed in August.

The school is for children ages 3 to 4 ½. Its four classrooms are designated as the St. Thomas and St. Charles rooms, the atrium, and the playroom or “big room.” Once more students are enrolled, one of the classrooms will be for 3-year-olds and one for 4-year-olds. There will be two teachers for each age group.

The atrium is for the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, which presents Catholic teaching in a “hands-on” way...
There always has been a strong physical connection between the three school buildings that serve Zanesville’s two Catholic parishes, because two of them are next door to each other and the third is just a half-mile away.

Now the schools have joined forces in one administrative unit, with the goal of building an environment where all students from preschool to 12th grade share a sense of community and pride in the distinct benefits of Catholic education.

The unified name of Catholic Schools of Zanesville links Bishop Fenwick School, which serves students in preschool through eighth grade, and Bishop Rosecrans High School, for ninth- through 12th-graders. The Fenwick elementary school is in the former St. Nicholas School, adjacent to the Rosecrans building. Both are just up the hill from downtown off U.S. Rt. 40. The Fenwick preschool is downtown in the former St. Thomas Aquinas School.

The three schools have a combined 425 students – 243 at Fenwick, 124 at Rosecrans and 58 at the preschool.

The administrative change is the latest in a series of consolidations that started in 1950 when the high schools of St. Nicholas and St. Thomas Aquinas churches were combined, with the new school that was formed being named for Bishop Sylvester Rosecrans, the first bishop of the Diocese of Columbus. The two parish elementary schools joined in 2006 under the Fenwick name, honoring Bishop Edward Fenwick, who celebrated the first Mass in Ohio at nearby Somerset in 1808 and later became the first bishop of Cincinnati.

Kelly Sagan, who had been principal at Fenwick since 2010 and previously was at Somerset Holy Trinity School for 14 years, has been selected as executive director of Catholic Schools of Zanesville, with Chelsea Tolliver as high school director, Susan Swackhammer as elementary director, and Sagan and Swackhammer sharing direction of the preschool.

“All of the students at Fenwick Elementary School in Zanesville form a cross in the aisles and pews of Zanesville St. Nicholas Church. The school is named for Bishop Edward Fenwick, who celebrated the first Mass in Ohio in 1808. Photos courtesy Zanesville Catholic Schools.
Columbus Bishop Watterson High School is celebrating its 65th anniversary of educating young men and women. More than 14,000 students have spent their high school days in classrooms that have stood since the school’s doors opened in 1954 on East Cooke Road in the city’s Clintonville neighborhood.

But the classrooms don’t look as they did in the 1950s, thanks to two alumni from the Class of 1993 who spearheaded a multiyear remodeling project.

Mike Kenney and Nick King, owners of Preferred Living, a Columbus apartment company, began their generous project in 2013 when they sent a crew to the school to create a business classroom, complete with conference tables and chairs and a stock ticker.

In 2014, they refurbished two more classrooms, and in 2015, they recruited others to help finance the remodeling of six more.

One of those spaces became a medical center classroom, spearheaded by the efforts of Kenney and Dr. Mary Ann Abrams, parents of two Watterson graduates. The classroom includes medical equipment donated by Mount Carmel Health System.

The work continued with Kenney and King’s contractors replacing the school building’s north windows and main entrance doors in 2015 and following that up in 2016 by replacing the east windows. They also remodeled six more classrooms that year and an additional 14 in 2017.

“We are so blessed to have the support of Mike, Nick and everyone who has contributed to the remodeling,” said Deacon Chris Campbell, the school’s principal, who is a 1977 Watterson graduate.

“They have demonstrated a commitment that we continue to be grateful for, including supporting the growth of our business curriculum and sharing their expertise with our business classes. As an alumnus myself, I continue to be amazed at their generosity.”

Another project will begin this spring with the renovation of the athletic fields behind the school building. Bob Hoying, a former Ohio State University quarterback and current Watterson parent and assistant football coach, chaired a $3 million fund-raising campaign that had a leadership team composed of 24 families.

The project will realign the area behind the school and create multi-use artificial turf athletic fields, benefiting the band, baseball, cheerleading, field hockey, football, lacrosse, soccer and track programs. Physical education classes also will use the new fields.

“We are very excited about the upcoming field project because it will bring more of our practices and games home than in the last few years,” Deacon Campbell said. “We know that students and families are passionate about extracurriculars, so this project will help us to build on that Eagle spirit here at home.”

Columbus Bishop Watterson High School was renovated through the efforts of Watterson graduates Mike Kenney and Nick King. Photos courtesy Bishop Watterson High School

This business classroom at Columbus Bishop Watterson High School was renovated through the efforts of Watterson graduates Mike Kenney and Nick King.

Photos courtesy Bishop Watterson High School

One of several classrooms remodeled during the past five years at Columbus Bishop Watterson High School.

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Serving others always has been the cornerstone at Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School.

In recognizing this foundational element, DeSales principal Dan Garrick created a new position at the school this year, enlisting theology teacher Jack Welsh as director of service. In this role, his goal is to connect students with opportunities to serve and to highlight the excellent work the students do.

“It is not about hours, but rather about the people we meet, the ways we lend a hand and the many experiential lessons in discipleship that we receive,” Welsh said. During the past month, Welsh has led a team to do that.

Students, teachers and staff members have worked to bring the Empty Bowls activity to DeSales. Empty Bowls is an international project to fight hunger, personalized by artists and organizations on a community level.

The school, located at 4212 Karl Road, will host an Empty Bowls event in the cafeteria from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 1. For a $7 donation, visitors can enjoy soups made by faculty and staff members and receive a handmade ceramic bowl crafted by DeSales students. Proceeds benefit the Mid-Ohio Foodbank.

“One of the great rewards of my first year as director of service has been seeing the enthusiastic commitment our community has to helping those in need,” Welsh said. “It seems that with almost every service initiative we try, the community meets it with an overwhelming and positive response.

“Empty Bowls has been just the same. Even though it is an event that will need a lot of volunteers, I had no trouble filling available slots. I am really looking forward to the event. It is shaping up to be a great evening, and I think we will accomplish a lot of good.”

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Hartley students show gratitude for others’ sacrifices

Columbus Bishop Hartley High School’s celebration of Catholic Schools Week will focus on the sacrifices made by many individuals for the privilege of being part of Catholic education.

The week begins Monday with Parent Appreciation Day. In early January, students wrote letters of appreciation to their parents or others who have provided them with a Catholic education. Those letters are mailed so that they arrive at the beginning of Catholic Schools Week. Teachers remind students not only of the significant financial sacrifice made on their behalf, but also of the supportive role that parents, grandparents and others play in the journey.

Tuesday will be Faculty and Staff Appreciation Day. Students will be encouraged to reach out with a gesture of thanks to those who have helped them. Members of the school’s house parent organization will organize and host a breakfast for teachers during the week. Members of the organization also have some extra surprises planned for the teachers throughout the week.

The school community will gather on Wednesday and Thursday for a winter sports and activity assembly and the presentation of the 2019 Mary Geist Volunteer Service Award. The activity and sports assembly recognizes all students involved in the current season’s sports and extracurricular activities.

The Geist award will be presented to Mike Fisher of Kenwel Printers, who goes above and beyond his job to assist with many printing projects throughout the school year. The award also will be presented posthumously to Father James Ogurchock, who served the school in many capacities over the years and established an endowed scholarship for future Hartley students.

On Friday, the school will honor students, the true focus of Catholic education. In addition to a spirit dress day, there will be prize drawings in the cafeteria during lunch periods.

Columbus Bishop Hartley High School students (clockwise from left) Jade Mayo, Jaiden Link, Collin Allen and Faith Matfield use plastic grocery bags to make ground cover mats for the homeless during the school’s annual day of prayer and service.

Photo courtesy Bishop Hartley High School

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Diocesan schools again outperform their peers on tests

By Daphne Irby
Diocesan Office of Catholic Schools

That is the theme for this year’s Catholic Schools Week, and it is truly what the Catholic schools of the Diocese of Columbus promote in our students. Our schools offer an education that is rooted in the teachings of the Catholic faith, with a focus on academic excellence and service. And, in 2018, our results continued to highlight our success.

Learn: The students learn skills and content based upon our standards-based courses of study, including religion. These courses of study include what our students are expected to know in each grade level and may be found on our website, www.education.columbuscatholic.org.

Serve: All of our schools incorporate service into their curriculum. Many of our schools go even further, intertwining service learning throughout the curriculum. Through service, students carry out their responsibilities to build a world of justice, peace and love. Service learning actively involves students in a wide range of experiences focused on benefiting others and the community, while integrating the standards in our courses of study. In an article written for The Times-Reporter of Dover-New Philadelphia, teacher Roseann Bonamico at Tuscarawas Central Catholic Junior/Senior High School summed up the service dimension in our Catholic schools. “In simple terms, part of living one’s faith is to respond to the call to serve others.”

Lead: Leadership is another key component that is prevalent throughout our schools. Our teachers and administrators focus on developing these leadership skills throughout the students’ experience in kindergarten through 12th grade, both in the classroom and through extracurricular activities. As an example, for the past three years, student members of the robotics team at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School have helped create STEM programs in several elementary schools through summer camps and mentoring.

Succeed: Our success speaks for itself. Diocesan high school students continued to outperform their counterparts in the state and the nation. All students in the state of Ohio, including our diocesan students, were required to take the ACT this year as part of the state mandate for graduation. We outperformed in every subject area, as shown in Table 1. Our students’ average composite score was 23.7, compared with averages of 20.3 across the state and 20.8 across the nation.

More important, the diocese has readied more students for college as measured by the percentage of our students meeting ACT college readiness benchmarks (Figure 1). Our focus on a college- and career-ready curriculum and quality teaching has given our students a firm foundation for continuing on their path to success.

Eighty-eight percent of diocesan high school graduates are attending a four-year Ohio public university or university regional campus, compared with 74 percent statewide. Twelve percent of our students go on to an Ohio community college, compared with 26 percent statewide.

Graduates of diocesan high schools are less likely to have to take remedial math or English courses. Only 24 percent of first-time Ohio public college or university students from our diocese require remediation for math or English, compared with 30 percent at the state level. Remediation rates are critical indicators for how prepared our students are for college. Students who have to take remediation courses in college are not granted college credit for those classes toward graduation, meaning this also has a financial impact on families.

Of course, the foundation is built in the elementary grades. Catholic elementary schools are committed to creating and maintaining an academically rigorous curriculum. As an example, teachers’ implementation of standards-based learning and intervention supports has intensified the focus on growth and support of our students. The results in our elementary schools reflect quality teaching, as shown in Table 1.
demonstrated by the academic excellence of our students.

In the Diocese of Columbus, the TerraNova3 assessment is given to students in grades three through eight in all elementary schools. This test is one of the most respected and widely used achievement tests, measuring mastery in core subjects and providing detailed diagnostic and performance-level data. The tests are used nationally by public, private and parochial schools. Diocesan students are compared with students across the nation, and our students consistently perform better by 15 to 30 percentage points, depending on subject matter.

Of particular note is the increase in scores as students move up in grade level. The longer a student remains in our schools, the better he or she performs. In public schools, there is usually a dip in performance as the students move into middle school (sixth, seventh and eighth grade). We do not see that dip in our schools.

And in math, about a third of our eighth-graders qualify to take high-school math (algebra I or geometry) in eighth grade with great success. Of those students, 99 percent scored proficient or above on the state end-of-course exam and received high-school credit for that course.

Of course, the goal of Catholic schooling is to form students into disciples and builders of God’s Kingdom here on earth and to develop productive citizens of a global society. Our diocesan students also consistently perform the same or better as other Catholic schools in the United States on the ACRE test. This test assesses knowledge of the Catholic faith and the six tasks for education listed in the National Directory for Catechesis. Below are the 2018 scores, compare to the national averages from Catholic schools nationwide.

“Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.” This theme represents what our Catholic schools instill in our students. We are proud of the consistent results, but more important, we recognize that the whole child – mind, body and spirit – is the focus. We are proud of the teachers, administrators and staff members who dedicate themselves to helping and supporting the students in their quest to become saints in God’s Kingdom.
Cristo Rey grad embraced school’s work-study emphasis

In 2013, Miriam Garcia spent the first week of August preparing for a day she will never forget. Along with her fellow freshmen at Cristo Rey Columbus High School, Miriam learned the basics of professionalism, dressing for success, and work ethic.

The week of training was busy, and Miriam felt both overwhelmed and excited to put her new skills to use. A few weeks later, the big day arrived, and she was ready to tackle her first day at the Diocese of Columbus offices.

She was placed there for two years through Cristo Rey’s professional work-study program. Miriam completed data entry, attended meetings and quickly developed workplace relationships with her co-workers, all while balancing a full course load of college-preparatory classes at school and two after-school jobs.

By the time she was a senior, Miriam and her classmates had earned more than 1,000 hours of professional work experience, thanks to the work-study program. The program is a national model in which businesses invest in Cristo Rey’s student workers to make their college-preparatory education possible.

Work-study students perform a variety of activities, ranging from fixing computers and contributing during brainstorming sessions, to secretarial and administrative duties. Cristo Rey’s students are learning to work and working to learn.

As Miriam continued to showcase her abilities at the diocese offices, she was trusted with more complex projects.

“I learned so much about the background of the church, and how money is raised. I worked on big campaigns like the Bishop’s Annual Appeal and the Bishops’ Golf Classic,” she said.

While earning a significant portion of the cost of their education from their employer, students work for diverse industries and organizations of all sizes, including insurance companies, law firms, banks, hospitals and government offices.

Five years after her first day at the diocese, Miriam received a call from her former supervisor. A part-time job had opened up, and Miriam’s proven work ethic as a high school student made her a top candidate for the role. Miriam said, “It was a call out of the blue. When they offered me the job, it felt like I was going back to a family.”

She now works as development assistant at the diocese, while finishing up her last semester at Columbus State Community College before transferring to Ohio State University’s college of engineering.

It didn’t take long for Miriam’s talent to shine through again, and the part-time role quickly turned into a full-time position.

“Over time, they saw I was doing well and that I loved my job. They asked me if I would like to join full-time, and I was thrilled to accept,” she said.

Cristo Rey is a Catholic school open to students of all faiths. Cristo Rey encourages students to grow holistically and approach their communities and careers as servant leaders. The school’s campus ministry program provides an annual opportunity for students to retreat and reflect and to embrace the ideals that drive them.

Most recently, juniors attended an annual retreat at which they stayed overnight and participated in group activities exploring the retreat’s theme of authenticity.

Since Cristo Rey opened in 2013, every graduating class has achieved 100 percent college acceptance. Many Cristo Rey alumni are the first in their families to attend college. The school’s college counseling team supports alumni by visiting them on campus and communicating with them regularly.

Cristo Rey’s college counselors believe that intensive alumni support increases college persistence and graduation rates. Miriam is quick to agree.

“I’ve had a lot of help from Cristo Rey’s alumni counselors. It’s comforting to know that they’re still available to me, even after graduation,” she said.

Cristo Rey graduates often report that their college courses are “much easier” than they anticipated, thanks to Cristo Rey’s thorough college-preparatory curriculum.

In addition to classes such as physics and pre-calculus, the school offers honors and Advanced Placement courses to students.

As a busy college student with a full-time job, Miriam is grateful for the time-management skills she learned from balancing work and academics during her years at Cristo Rey.

“My teachers emphasized time management skills, and it’s something I still use today for scheduling my classes and making sure I still have time for myself,” she said.

Miriam finds time to volunteer with Cristo Rey and stays in touch with current students.

“Cristo Rey opened up so many doors for me, and I’m so appreciative. I try to give back by volunteering as a tutor and promoting the school to seventh- and eighth-graders who attend my church,” she said.

Cristo Rey Columbus students live in 33 ZIP codes and come from more than 80 middle schools. The admissions process is intensive and ensures that students are the right fit for the school’s rigorous coursework and work-study program.

Families of eighth-grade students are encouraged to apply online and have their student take the entrance exam. Applicants who submit completed applications and show promise to be a successful student are invited to interview with the school’s director of admissions.

At the heart of Cristo Rey Columbus is a team of teachers, counselors, administrators and staff members who help students discover hope for a college education and a promising future. The team prepares students such as Miriam to excel in college, in career and in character.

Miriam embodies the school’s mission effortlessly. She seized opportunities during her time at Cristo Rey and, in return, continues to bring prosperity to herself, her family and her community.

For more information about Cristo Rey Columbus, visit http://www.cristoreycolumbus.org.
This has been a very busy academic year at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School, with several major milestones including the start of a major fundraising campaign and the opening of a new building.

Thursday, Nov. 1 was a historic day for the St. Charles community as it celebrated All Saints Day at a Mass with a special emphasis on the school’s patron, St. Charles Borromeo. Following the liturgy, school principal Jim Lower officially launched a campaign to raise $20 million in five years, with the theme “The Vision for The Future.” A short video was shared that highlighted this initiative and the three critical areas it addresses: building the school’s endowment fund, enhancing its facilities (including construction of a new building to house labs, classrooms and a gymnasium) and preparing for future growth. To learn more about this “Vision” and how you can help with its success, visit www.thevisionforthefuture.com.

After the announcement starting the campaign, there was a special light lunch to celebrate completion of St. Charles’ most recently completed capital project, the new Robotics and Mentoring Center just past the Robert D. Walter West Campus athletic facility on the south side of Long Street. Guests were encouraged to explore the facility, which includes an auxiliary gymnasium, the Joey Castrodale Golf Center, the Savko Family Center for Robotics and Construction Engineering, and the Michael P. and Linda A. Stickney Mentoring Center.

In early September, St. Charles welcomed Wes Moore as the featured presenter for its annual “An Evening with ...” speaker series. Moore is an American author, social entrepreneur, television producer, political analyst and decorated Army officer. During his presentations to students at an all-school assembly in the morning and to more than 560 guests in the evening, he showed that he understands and embraces the importance of helping young people overcome adversity and finding their paths to purpose.

On Nov. 28, the school hosted Gerard Baker, editor at large of The Wall Street Journal, as its featured presenter for the annual Borromean Lecture. He delivered his remarks on “Truth and Trust” at an all-school luncheon with more than 150 guests. The lecture series, in its 18th year, was established to addresses “the desperate need for civility, morality and high ethical standards for tomorrow’s leaders in our church, the corporate world, nonprofits and service organizations, and beloved institutions.”

During the All Saints Day liturgy,
Ten Columbus Bishop Ready High School students on two separate teams participated in Quiz Bowl competition at Olentangy Berlin High School and walked away with two championship trophies.

The team of Michaela Mayo, SANDON Skuce, Stephanie Silié, Claire Nagy and Victor Lockwood won the newcomer division, while the varsity squad of John Pyles, Dominic Tokar, Connor Nagy, Josh Canare and Julianne Pece went unbeaten in seven matches to win the competitive division. Team members Jarek Kolinski and Olivia Chambers were unable to attend.

Ben Hilsheimer, chair of the social studies department and academic dean at Ready, has been moderator of the Ready In the Know teams for 16 years. The teams have consistently won trophies over the years, but this is the first time that the school, represented by the varsity team, will be participating in the Quiz Bowl small-school state championships in March.

Columbus Bishop Ready High School’s “In the Know” participants (from left): first row, Ben Hilsheimer, Josh Canare, Dominic Tokar, SANDON Skuce, Claire Nagy, Stephanie Silié and Julianne Pece; second row, Michaela Mayo, John Pyles, Jarek Kolinski, Connor Nagy and Victor Lockwood. Missing from photo is Olivia Chambers. Photo courtesy Bishop Ready High School

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New second floor adds classrooms to St. Paul School

After nearly a year, construction is complete on a second floor for Westerville St. Paul School, expanding the building by 26,000 square feet to benefit the 1,600 students served by the school.

This includes about 800 students in grades kindergarten through eight and another 800 in the weekly Parish School of Religion for public-school and home-schooled students.

This new space will provide the parochial school and the PSR with 13 classrooms for grades six to eight. Each room is equipped with the latest technology, including a classroom audio system and an interactive panel display.

In addition, a special maker space on the second floor, known as the Idea Lab, has been dedicated to the enrichment of STEAM-based learning.

The addition to the school also features dedicated spaces for foreign language, enrichment and art; two science labs; a broadcasting media room; and meeting areas for students, faculty and parish ministry groups.

An elevator installed in the Miller Hall breezeway will connect the PSR and youth ministry offices with the rest of the school building.

Within the restored breezeway is a Marian grotto that was hollowed out of the original school building and is enclosed in a space allowing anyone to take a moment for quiet prayer and reflection with the Blessed Mother.

A former multipurpose room was converted into a dedicated band room, and a teacher’s lounge was re-established.

The exterior of the building received a facelift through tuckpointing, painting, weatherproofing and removal of dated mechanical equipment.

Other improvements include new main entrances with accessibility for the disabled in car and bus loops; expanded school and auxiliary offices; renovation and expansion of the school clinic to include an accessible bathroom; addition of speakers to assist in communication with areas in the lower levels of the building; and addition of a sound amplification system in the learning commons.

The school’s Reaching for Tomorrow fundraising campaign continues for the purpose of incorporating stained glass from the old church within the second-floor windows of the school, tying together the parish’s past and present.

For information on the campaign, contact parish development director Dana Forsythe at dforsythe@stpaulk-8.org or (614) 882-2109.
Catholic Foundation announces scholarship opportunities for 2019

The Catholic Foundation’s online scholarship application period opens on Friday, Feb. 1. To streamline the process, the foundation has made it easier to apply, with a complete listing of available scholarships, qualifications and applications on its website, www.catholic-foundation.org. The scholarship deadline is Friday, March 8 and recipients will be notified in May.

Scholarship recipients are selected based on criteria established by donors who created funds to support gifted and deserving students by assisting them with the costs of their education. Donors often establish scholarship funds to honor or memorialize friends, teachers, family members or other loved ones.

Since 2007, the Foundation has awarded more than $680,000 in scholarships, empowering more than 120 young people to continue their academic and vocational studies. With the continued generosity of donors who share this dedication to education, the foundation will continue to support students as they answer God’s call.

For detailed information and the full list of scholarships, visit https://grants.catholic-foundation.org/scholarships. To learn more about setting up a scholarship fund, contact Scott Hartman at shartman@catholic-foundation.org or (614) 443-8893.

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Zanesville, continued from Page 4

We anticipate this will make it easier for the schools to prosper and grow, to build stronger relationships with the community and to make it easier for students to make a seamless transition from elementary to high school.

“Eight years ago, we began building the concept of creating a regional system because parents recognized its advantages. There were some adjustments, but most parents readily accepted the change.”

With the new administrative structure came formation of a 25-member strategic planning committee. Its members talked in 2018 to students, faculty, alumni, benefactors and parents and formed a three-year plan focusing on academics, student experience, and marketing and development.

The plan’s academic goals include creating a maker’s space to enrich STREAM (science, technology, religion, engineering, arts and mathematics) courses; adding learning resources for exceptional leaders; and introducing Advanced Placement classes and computer science and technology courses at the high school.

Student-experience goals involve construction of an awning or connector between the Fenwick Elementary and Rosecrans buildings; designing a shirt for students in all grades; establishing a Catholic virtues award; reopening an a la carte lunch area at Rosecrans; encouraging social interaction among high school and elementary students; and starting a house system, involving the formation of small groups consisting of students from multiple grade levels, at Fenwick.

Marketing goals are designed to result in increases in the amount donated to the schools, the number of alumni remaining actively involved with the schools and the number of school-community partnerships. Strategies to achieve those goals include a common fundraising calendar and re-establishment of a Rosecrans academic hall of fame.

Other changes that have taken place at the schools in the past few months include creation of a leadership council to advise Sagan, consolidation of the Fenwick and Rosecrans financial offices and creation of a finance director’s position.

The plan also includes strengthening ties with nearby parochial schools which, in addition to Fenwick, are “feeder schools” for Rosecrans. These include New Lexington St. Rose and Somerset Holy Trinity in the Columbus diocese and Cambridge St. Benedict in the Diocese of Steubenville.

“It’s a strong network, with all of us working together to support the common goals of Catholic education, combining strong academics with the essential values of Catholic teaching. It’s a great story and we want to tell it better,” Sagan said.

“As we have put these administrative changes into effect, what I’ve been most proud of is my staff and my community, how they have welcomed the change and the dedication they have given. The students are happy and they are learning. I’m humbled to be their administrator,” she said.

“It’s an awesome responsibility to have a child walk in here at 3 years old and walk out at 18, ready for a successful transition to the next stage of life. All the improvements we’re working on are with that in mind, in the hope that our students will be able to confidently move forward into the 21st century with pride in what it means to be a Bishop Rosecrans graduate.”
Knitting and technology don’t have a whole lot in common. That is unless you visit Ohio Dominican University’s library and stop by the computer helpdesk. Largely staffed by students who have an interest in technology, the desk is usually the go-to place for ODU students, faculty and staff to receive help with computer- and network-related issues. But alongside computer monitors, phones and a variety of information technology tools, are spools of yarn. Each of these spools is being used by a student worker to knit hats and scarves of all sizes, designs and colors. These items eventually will be given to someone who doesn’t have a home.

The students began knitting these hats and scarves toward the end of the fall semester, when the university campus traditionally begins to grow quiet in the days leading up to Christmas break. The group was inspired to take up the hobby after ODU assistant IT director Noelle Lines mentioned to them that her family was planning to knit these items to include in care packages for Columbus’ homeless population.

“Community is one of the pillars of the Dominican tradition,” said Lines, a 2003 and 2011 graduate of ODU. “I have always identified with the mission of the university and the Dominican motto, ‘to contemplate truth and to share with others the fruits of this contemplation.’ I share the fruits of my knowledge with anyone who would like to learn, especially students, because I learn so much from them and I want to give them all I can to prepare them for life when they leave ODU.”

Lines, who has knitted for years, provided the looms and yarn. Between service calls for computer and network help, she taught each student how to knit. Each hat takes about 20 minutes to make. So far, the group has created about 40 hats between classes, during breaks and on their own free time.

“When you have down time while on break, there’s no reason not to do something good for others,” said Grant Sichel, a computer science major who graduated from Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School. “We’re just doing our part to help those who are less fortunate get through these tough winters.”

The group plans to continue knitting through most of 2019, with the hopes of donating as many as 500 hats and scarves by next Thanksgiving.

“Giving back to people in need is always something I’ve thought was important,” said Skyler Vance, who is double-majoring in biology and chemistry. “Having the opportunity to work with a great group of people to make a difference makes it that much more special.”

“I felt it was important to participate in this project because it is so easy to get distracted by the things we have that we tend to forget about the people who don’t have anything,” said Alexis Mason, who is double-majoring in business administration and public relations and marketing communications. “I am fortunate to have access to a great education and the things I need to live a healthy life, and giving back to those in need is a way of reminding myself that I have a larger purpose in life.”

In addition to Vance, Sichel and Mason, other students participating in the project include Jon Caruso and Lorelei Theve.
Catholic Schools Week is also the time when registration for the coming school year begins. All of our schools will be hosting open houses and welcoming families who are interested in learning more about what they have to offer. Catholic education is an amazing investment in the future of our children and our Church. I encourage you to take a look!

Adam J. Dufault is episcopal moderator for education and superintendent of Catholic schools for the Diocese of Columbus.

Catholic Schools Week celebrated Jan. 27-Feb. 2

WASHINGTON - National Catholic Schools Week will be celebrated across the nation from Sunday, Jan. 27 to Saturday, Feb. 2 with the theme: “Catholic Schools: Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.”

“Young people today need Catholic education more than ever,” said Bishop Michael C. Barber of Oakland, California, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Catholic Education. He also stressed that “being rooted in faith does not endanger the academic quality of Catholic schools, but in fact is their very motivation for excellence in all things.”

In a statement released for the observance, he said, “Following Christ’s example of loving and serving all people, Catholic schools proudly provide a well-rounded education to disadvantaged families, new arrivals to America and to all who seek a seat in our schools.

Since the inception of Catholic schools in our country, we have always sought to welcome families of all backgrounds while maintaining our principles and teaching in a spirit of charity.”

Nearly 1.8 million students are currently educated in 6,352 Catholic schools in the United States.

Since 1974, Catholic Schools Week has been the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States, sponsored by the National Catholic Educational Association and the USCCB’s Secretariat of Catholic Education. Schools typically observe the annual weeklong celebration with Masses, open houses and other activities for students, families, parishioners and community members.

For the second year, the NCEA will lead an online campaign called the “Many Gifts, One Nation: A Day of Giving to Catholic Schools” on Tuesday and Wednesday, Jan. 29 and Jan. 30 with FACTS Management Co., which helps with tuition management at schools. The 24-hour period, which begins at noon Jan. 29, is one way to support development programs in Catholic schools throughout the nation.

Last year, more than $850,000 was donated to 539 participating Catholic schools, six dioceses and the NCEA. Information about the campaign is available at www.nceao.org/csw/manygifts.

During the week, Catholic schools plan to share their Catholic Schools Week celebrations on social media, using #CSW19. The NCEA and the USCCB education secretariat also will highlight Catholic education’s strengths, successes and stories on their Twitter profiles: @NCEATalk and @USCCBCatholicEd.
Jonathan Koeninger, a sixth-grade student, was the winner of Columbus St. Andrew School’s annual geography bee. Colleen Wagy, an eighth-grader, was runner-up. They are pictured with teacher Matt Brown. To be eligible, students in grades four to eight were administered a qualifying test. Koeninger will have an opportunity to participate in the state geography bee.

Photo courtesy St. Andrew School

The Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Preschool has introduced a program called Wolfhound Adventures, named after the school’s mascot, the Irish wolfhound. It is open to children ages three to five, regardless of whether they are enrolled at the preschool. Classes last one hour and focus on a different enrichment activity each week. Pictured are students making gingerbread houses. Other topics have included cooking, gymnastics, yoga, martial arts, chick hatching, playing instruments, art projects, singing, ballet, dinosaur exploration, and science experiments. To learn more, visit www.stbrigidofkildare.com/preschool.

Photo/St. Brigid of Kildare School

Columbus St. Anthony School fifth-grade students have started a typing club. They use an online typing program that allows them to compete with each other as they become better typists. The students type for 20 minutes each day. Shown typing in the foreground of the picture are Adriana Kamara (left) and Nina McElroy.

Photo courtesy St. Anthony School

St. Andrew geography bee winners

St. Anthony student typists

St. Brigid Wolfhound Adventures

St. Andrew spelling bee winners

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 herein, 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 that I can obtain my goals. You gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me, and in all instances in my life, you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine. The person must say this prayer three consecutive days, after three days, the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor has been granted. NAP

Laura Kreber has been hired as diversity specialist at Columbus St. Cecilia School, with the help of a $20,000 grant from The Catholic Foundation. School principal Lori Smith said Kreber has made a significant impact on the welcoming, acceptance and retention of the school’s Latino families.

Photo courtesy St. Cecilia School

St. Cecilia diversity specialist
Cutler ‘pumped’ to be back as Ready football coach

By Doug Bean
Catholic Times Editor

After five seasons at Upper Arlington High School, Joel Cutler is returning to Columbus Bishop Ready High School as head football coach.

Cutler was offered the job last week and accepted it after the school administration interviewed several candidates for the position. He replaces Brian Cross, a longtime coach in central Ohio who took the Ready job when Cutler left to become head coach at Upper Arlington after leading the Silver Knights to back-to-back playoff appearances in 2012 and 2013. Cross resigned in December with a 30-22 record and two playoff appearances in five years at Ready.

Cutler will continue to teach physical education at Greensview Elementary School in Upper Arlington. He has worked at Greensview for 17 years and has taught in the UA district for 20 years.

“I’m pumped, really excited about the opportunity,” Cutler said. “It’s going to be a blast. A lot of people are reaching out to me and my family. We’re feeling the love. It’s very cool.”

Ready athletic director Steve McQuade is looking forward to having Cutler back at the school.

“We’re definitely excited,” McQuade said. “Just his faith-based style of coaching is humongous for us. He helped build our program before in the faith aspect with Bible studies and getting the kids to buy in. He’ll also do a great job reaching out to the feeder schools.”

Cutler is not just an X’s and O’s coach. Integrating faith is as important to him as winning football games.

“Coaching is like my ministry. It’s a greater sense of purpose for Joel Cutler,” he said. “I want to make the young men better citizens, better fathers, better students and better people on planet earth.”

In Cutler’s first stint at Ready, the program enjoyed a highly successful two-year run. After replacing longtime coach Larry Wolf, Cutler guided the Silver Knights to a 7-3 record and a Division IV regional playoff berth in 2012. The next year, Ready advanced to a Division VI state semifinal and finished with a 12-2 record.

After that season, Cutler went back to Upper Arlington, where he had served as an assistant from 1999 to 2011, as the head coach. He guided the Golden Bears to a 29-21 record and one playoff appearance in five seasons before being placed on administrative leave by the district last fall with two games remaining because of questions regarding health and wellness issues surrounding players.

In late November, Cutler told the UA district that he had decided not to reapply for the job. But Cutler said he never entertained any thoughts of getting out of coaching. He kept his hand in the game, helping his brother, Kyle, the head coach at London High School, during the 2018 playoffs.

“Myself and my family, we still live in this community,” he said. “I’ll remain active in other facets in this community. I’m very grateful for the opportunity to return to Bishop Ready knowing we had success the first time, and faith development is something I welcome in my coaching career. I believe it’s a powerful component.”

Cutler met with Ready’s returning players last week to discuss off-season workouts and program goals. He plans to bring some of his former assistant coaches with him.

“Faith, family, focus and finish. That’s something we’ll be hanging our shields on,” said Cutler, a Plain City Jonathan Alder High School graduate and former University of Dayton player. “They seemed pretty eager and I had some good conversations with them. They were very respectful and very attentive.”

Some things have changed since Cutler left Ready. The biggest change is that the Silver Knights now play in the central Ohio-based Mid-State League as an affiliate member.

“I have a lot of respect for those (Mid-State) coaches. I know they’re pretty good,” Cutler said. “We’re going to have to be prepared and be attentive to detail. (The league) is a little bit new to us. We had a lot of travel before. This schedule keeps us closer to home.”

‘Family units’ connect students at St. Mary School in German Village

Blessed Mother Teresa once said, “The problem with our world is that we draw the circle of family too small.” At St. Mary School in Columbus’ German Village neighborhood, students have found a way to widen their circles and enlarge their hearts through a unique, faith-filled afternoon once a month in their “family units.”

On the first Friday of each month, the children are able to learn about the Catholic faith, deepen their relationships with one another and share the love of Christ for all.

Each family unit consists of one child per grade level (kindergarten through eighth grade). These groups are led by eighth-grade students. Those students are truly the “teach-
Worthington St. Michael School is pro-life. And there have been several recent events that the eighth-grade class has experienced that exemplify this reality.

Eighth-graders have represented the school at three pro-life events this school year: 40 Days for Life, the March for Life in Washington, and the pro-life rally at the Ohio Statehouse. Elie and C.J., both eighth-graders at St. Michael, would like to share their experiences on behalf of their school:

“The 40 Days for Life was a good experience because we got to see a peaceful form of protesting. It was enlightening because I had never been to a Planned Parenthood clinic before to pray a rosary. It was also interesting to see that, across the street, was a place called Friendlier Women’s Care Center. Praying in front of all the cars that passed by, I felt like I was part of something bigger. People who passed by knew that we were praying for the unborn and the end of abortion. I was glad to be able to hopefully make a difference. I am extremely glad for the opportunity to be a part of saving the unborn. I am also grateful for the chance to support mothers in helping them try to make the right decisions.

“The March for Life in Washington, D.C., is about giving a voice to the voiceless. It is about protecting those who can’t protect themselves. You could tell from the energy in the crowd that they were all completely willing to spend their day marching in the cold for these innocent lives. We march as a peaceful protest showing that we think these babies’ lives are important and because, although some people disagree, a baby is still a human even if it is only just conceived. If every life matters to God, then it should matter to us as well.

“The pro-life rally at the Statehouse gave us a great opportunity to represent the school at an important event. The field trip began with a Mass offered by our bishop, Frederick Campbell, at St. Joseph Cathedral. The new governor, Mike DeWine, attended, along with many other pro-lifers. We saw our Dominican friars from Cincinnati and listened to testimonies from several speakers. It was a great chance to be good citizens and stand up for life in a local situation. This rally was important for us as it gave us a chance, once again, to give a voice to the voiceless.

“At St. Michael School, we are pro-life. This means that we stand for life at home, at school, outside of our homes and schools, and even across the country. We stand with the millions of other pro-lifers who understand the dignity of the human person. We want our country to know that life matters. ‘Unique from Day One.’ This was the theme for this year’s March for Life. It means that however tiny a baby might be, that baby is unique because he or she was made by God. This is what St. Michael School believes and what helps us make decisions day in and day out.”
BAEHRR, Barbara A. (Casey), 73, Jan. 9
St. John Neumann Church, Sunbury

BRUNET, Helen (Walsh), 89, Jan. 15
St. Philip Church, Columbus

CALL, Joan (Yuenger), 89, Jan. 13
Holy Trinity Church, Jackson

CAMPBELL, Charles B., Jr., 52, formerly of Columbus, Jan. 14
St. Theresa Church, Uniontown, Pa.

HELLER, Mary E. (Bowen), 79, formerly of Columbus, Jan. 14
Immaculate Conception Church, Douglassville, Pa.

COONTZ, John, 93, Jan. 16
St. John XXIII Church, Canal Winchester

DeFRANK, Norma P. (Volpe), 96, Jan. 16
St. Paul Church, Westerville

FRABOTT, Donna M. (Shifflet), 65, Jan. 15
St. Paul Church, Columbus

HASWELL, Mary (Perkopa), 96, Jan. 18
St. Christopher Church, Columbus

HELLER, Mary E. (Bowen), 79, formerly of Columbus, Jan. 14
Immaculate Conception Church, Douglassville, Pa.

JACKSON, Bernard, 90, Jan. 19
St. James the Less Church, Columbus

JENKINS, John B., 78, Jan. 20
St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

KLINE, Forrest R. “Brut,” 86, Jan. 17
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

KOCHE, Robert J., 88, Jan. 19
St. Patrick Church, Columbus

LAIPPY, Jim, 72, Jan. 15
St. Christopher Church, Columbus

LUMPE, Robert L., 87, formerly of Columbus, Jan. 2
Holy Eucharist Church, Cherry Hill, N.J.

MESSMER, Jo A. (Szabo), 92, Jan. 15
St. Philip Church, Columbus

SCANLON, Jeanne (Kane), 88, Jan. 14
St. Paul Church, Westerville

SMITH, Marjorie, 96, Jan. 13
St. Mary Church, Waverly

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St. Paul Church, Westerville

TORMA, Clementina (Chini), 103, Jan. 17
Mother Angeline McCrory Manor Chapel, Columbus

TURBER, Jacqueline, 88, Jan. 15
St. Bernadette Church, Lancaster

WILLING, Ruth F. (Delhotal), 97, Jan. 17
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

YATES, William R., 76, Jan. 16
St. Joseph Church, Circleville

Day of workshops set for church musicians

The Columbus Chapter of the American Guild of Organists will present February Fanfare, a day of workshops focusing on organ, voice and conducting skills for church musicians, on Saturday, Feb. 16.

Presenters will include faculty members from the Sacred Music Institute of America, a Columbus-based organization devoted to professional certification and training of parish musicians.

The event will begin at 9 a.m. with a sung Morning Prayer featuring organ, brass and choir. For the remainder of the day, registrants can choose from these workshops:

- Vocal Techniques for the Church Choir
- Hymn-Playing Master Class
- The Aging Voice in the Church Choir
- Organ Improvisation
- Choral Techniques for the Church Choir
- Basic Organ Maintenance
- Accessible Repertoire for the Organ
- AGO Exams: Success

The featured plenary session will be Affirming the Incarnation through Congregational Song. Four faculty members from the Sacred Music Institute of America will offer mini-organ, voice and cantoring lessons.

Those interested in pursuing certification as an organist, choir director, director of music or cantor, as well as those interested in organ, voice or cantoring lessons can speak with Jason Keefer, director of the Sacred Music Institute of America.

The event concludes with a convocation and an opportunity to visit the Cliff Hill Music and Stanton’s Sheet Music displays.

February Fanfare will be at St. Mark Episcopal Church, 2151 Dorset Road, Columbus. The cost, which includes lunch, is $20 for guild members and $45 for nonmembers.

For registration information, visit agocolumbus.org or email Mari Kay Dono at dono.marikay@gmail.com.

PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

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YATES, William R., 76, Jan. 16
St. Joseph Church, Circleville

A memorial service for Ayfer Yenicag, 74, of Dublin, who died Tuesday, Jan. 15, was conducted Tuesday, Jan. 22 at the Schoedinger Northwest Chapel in Columbus.

She was born in Ankara, Turkey, to the late Hilmi and Saziment Sualp.

After graduating from Ohio Dominican College, she taught biology and science at Columbus St. Timothy School.

She later moved to Istanbul, Turkey, to teach at Robert College, where she was the high school principal and had a total of 20 years of service. She ended her career as the founding principal of Hisar School in Istanbul, a kindergarten through 12th-grade school.

Survivors include her husband, Uret; son, Evren (Julie); and a grandson.

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Church offers bereavement ministry

Anyone suffering the loss of a loved one is invited to take part in the Seasons of Hope bereavement ministry offered at Columbus Our Lady of Peace Church, 20 E. Dominion Blvd.

The program, sponsored by the North High Deanery, is a Catholic, Christ-centered support group that includes Scripture, prayer, reflection and sharing.

It is offered four times per year for six consecutive weeks. The winter session at Our Lady of Peace will meet each Sunday from Feb. 3 through March 10.

Registration will be from 1:30 to 1:55 p.m., followed by a group sharing session from 2 to 4 p.m. Questions may be directed to Rose Daiga at rose.daiga@gmail.com.
February

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. Saturday.

Eucharistic Adoration at Columbus St. Peter — 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. First Friday Eucharistic adoration begins at 9 a.m. First Friday Masses at Holy Family, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. First Friday Masses in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Catholic Men’s Luncheon Club — 12:15 p.m., St. Peter Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Catholic Men’s Luncheon Club meeting, with Bishop Frederick Campbell presiding the diocesan Catholic Men of the Year award to Frank Hartge III of Gahanna St. Matthew Church. Contact rose.daiga@gmail.com.

First Friday Masses at Holy Family — 9 a.m., 12:15 and 7 p.m., Holy Family Church, Columbus. First Friday Masses in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Attend Mass; continues through 6 p.m. Holy Hour.

First Friday Holy Hour at Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church — 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., first Friday Mass; continues through 6 p.m. Holy Hour.

Eucharistic Holy Hour at St. John the Baptist — 7 p.m., St. John the Baptist Church, 720 Hamlet St., Columbus. Monthly day of prayer for Columbus chapter of Lay Missionaries of Charity. Contact 614-294-7702.

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

3. SUNDAY

Talk on the Future of the Church at St. Agatha — 9:30 a.m., St. Agatha Church, 1860 North High St., Columbus. Father Edmund Hussey of the Sign of the Fish presents “The Future of the Church.”

Seasons of Hope for Bereavement Ministry — 2 p.m., Our Lady of Victory Church, 1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with various prayers, ending with Benediction around 11:30 a.m. All-Night Exposition at Our Lady of Victory.

4. MONDAY

First Saturday Mass at Holy Family — 9 a.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. First Saturday Mass for world peace and for the intention of deepened holiness and an increase in the virtue of fortitude for the Holy Family, bishops, and priests, concluding with Benediction, solemn period and refreshments.

First Saturday Adoration and Rosary — 8 a.m. to noon, St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. First Saturday Adoration, beginning with Morning Prayer, concluding with Mass.
**Third Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year C**

**Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life**

Nehemiah 8:2–4a, 5–6, 8–10
Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 15
1 Corinthians 12:12–30
Luke 1:1–4; 4:14–21

What is the purpose of the homily at Mass? The Gospel for this Sunday’s Mass gives a clear understanding: it is to make present the saving Mystery of God’s Word and to invite a living response from the hearers. Nazareth is Jesus’ hometown. St. Luke’s Gospel brings forward a moment of “return” to His town as a way of presenting the whole program of Jesus’ life and ministry. Jesus proclaims a passage from Isaiah and tells those assembled in the synagogue at Nazareth that the Scripture is fulfilled in their hearing.

Pilgrims who travel to Israel today may pay a visit to the Shrine of the Book at the Jerusalem Museum. On display there is a copy of the Qumran scroll of the prophet Isaiah. When one sees this, it becomes very clear that when Jesus took up the scroll and opened it to a particular passage of Isaiah, He knew what He had in mind to read aloud. The Qumran scroll is about 24 feet long, with more than 50 columns of Hebrew text! The first reading today from the book of Nehemiah takes us to the Jewish New Year, the first day of the seventh month (Tishrei) in the mid-fifth century BC, when a gathering takes place outside in Jerusalem after the Exile. For all the world, the account of this liturgical assembly of the post-Exilic people of the old covenant sounds like the Liturgy of the Word we still celebrate today. Ezra reads from the Book of the Law (the Pentateuch) and interprets its meaning for them. At the end of the gathering, they are charged to go forth to share a meal. They cry out their “Amen” and receive a blessing, and they receive the Word that has been proclaimed to them.

The word used to express “assembly” is the Hebrew word qahal, which becomes in Greek ekklesia, the same word rendered as “church.” The response from the hearers. Is to make present the saving Mystery of the Lord is healing today. Healing and prayer are very much a part of the Mass. The Spirit of the Lord invites us to respond. Take up and read. Listen and learn. There will be tears when you discover the truth. “But do not be saddened this day. Rejoicing in the Lord must be your strength!”

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

**THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS**

**MONDAY**
Hebrews 9:15,24-28
Psalm 98:1-6
Mark 3:22-30

**TUESDAY**
Hebrews 10:1-10
Psalm 40:2,4,7-8,10-11
Mark 3:31-35

**WEDNESDAY**
Hebrews 10:11-18
Psalm 110:1-4
Mark 4:1-20

**THURSDAY**
Hebrews 10:19-25
Psalm 24:1-4b,5-6
Mark 4:21-25

**FRIDAY**
Hebrews 10:32-39
Psalm 37:3-6,23-24,39-40
Mark 4:26-34

**SATURDAY**
Malachi 3:1-4
Psalm 24:7-10
Hebrews 2:14-18
Luke 2:22-40

**DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE: JAN. 27, 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 WWHT-TV (the CW), Channel 53, Columbus. and at 10:30 a.m. on WHIZ-TV, Channel 18, Zanesville. Check local cable system for 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 WLKB 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 iLifetv (Channel 13 in Ada, Logan, Milford, Murray City and Washington C.H.; Channel 125 in Marion, Newark, Newcomerstown and New Philadelphia; and Channel 207 in Zanesville);

8 a.m., St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com.

We pray Week III, Seasonal Proper of the Liturgy of the Hours.

**Catholic Renewal sponsors meeting**

Bryan O’Donnell of Encounter Ministries will be the speaker at a citywide adoration and prayer meeting sponsored by Columbus Catholic Renewal from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Jan. 26 at Columbus Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road.

Mass will begin at 9 a.m., celebrated by Father Dean Mathewson, with a potluck breakfast to follow.

After breakfast, O’Donnell will share his testimony and speak on how the Lord is healing today. Healing and prayer teams will be available during Eucharistic Adoration, along with the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Worship music will be provided by the Living Stones. Child care is available upon request.

For more information, visit cercolumbus.org or call (614) 980-3021.
The morality of tyrannicide is not much discussed in today’s kinder, gentler Catholic Church. Yet that difficult subject once engaged some of Catholicism’s finest minds, including Thomas Aquinas and Francisco Suarez, and it was passionately debated during the Second World War by German officers – many of them devout Christians – who were pondering the assassination of Adolf Hitler. (Their efforts were known and tacitly approved by Pius XII, but that’s another story.)

What about today? Were I back in the classroom, I’d ask my students to construct a morally defensible argument for killing a tyrant. If the student followed Aquinas’ reasoning, the case for tyrannicide would involve a leader who was doing grave evil, who could not be removed from power except by being killed, and whose assassination would not make matters worse. Were those conditions met, Aquinas argued in his Commentary on Peter Lombard, a citizen might even be “praised and rewarded” for doing so.

With the 30th anniversary of the Revolution of 1989 coming this fall, and “cold war” memories reawakened when men and women hear a summons to moral heroism – to living in the truth, which is the greatest of liberators. That is why the current stance of the Holy See toward Latin American tyrannies is so disconcerting. For rather than calling the people of hard-pressed countries like Cuba, Venezuela, and Nicaragua to effective, nonviolent resistance against tyrants on the model of Poland and Czechoslovakia in the 1980s, the Vatican is constantly bleating about “dialogue” with murderous thugs who’ve demonstrated for decades that they’re only interested in maintaining their power, masking their gross personal ambition and greed with a fog cloud of giberish about “the revolution.”

Now, however, 20 former Latin American heads of state and government have said, politely but firmly, that enough is enough. In a Jan. 6 letter to their fellow Latin American, Pope Francis, the signatories, including Nobel Peace Prize winner Oscar Arias of Costa Rica, acknowledged the “good faith” and “pastoral spirit” of Francis’s Christmas blessing Urbi et Orbi (to the city and the world). But they also reminded the pope that Venezuelans “are victims of oppression by a militarized narco-dictatorship which has no qualms about systematically violating the rights to life, liberty, and personal integrity,” a corrupt regime that has also “subjected (Venezuelans) to widespread famine and lack of medicine.” As for Nicaragua, President Daniel Ortega and his colleagues noted that the Ortega regime has recently killed 300 Nicaraguans and wounded 2,500 others in a “wave of repression” against nonviolent protesters.

In these contexts, the former leaders concluded, the papal “call for harmony...can be understood by the victimized nations (as an instruction) that they should come to agreement with their victimizers.” Which is why the majority in Nicaragua and Venezuela received the Pope’s Christmas message “in a very negative way.”

In 2013, the Church’s moral influence in world affairs was at its modern apogee. John Paul II was widely recognized as a pivotal figure in the nonviolent collapse of European communism and a significant player in the democratization of Latin America and East Asia. Drawing on John Paul’s social doctrine and his own penetrating insights into political modernity, Benedict XVI had made powerful statements about the moral foundations of the 21st-century free society in lectures at the Collège des Bernardins in Paris, London’s Westminster Hall, and the Bundestag in Berlin.

What has the world seen since then? It has seen a papal initiative in Syria that, however well-intended, provided cover for the Obama administration to back off its “red line” about Bashar al-Assad’s use of chemical weapons against his own people. It has seen a Vatican that refuses to use the words “invasion,” “war” and “occupation” to describe Vladimir Putin’s Anschluss in Crimea and his war in eastern Ukraine, which has killed more than 10,000 and displaced more than a million Ukrainians, many of them Ukrainian Greek Catholics. It has seen a Vatican deal with China that is widely regarded as a kowtow to ruthless, aggressive authoritarians.

Where is the moral challenge to tyranny? Where is the summons to heroic resistance? Great moral capital is being squandered in a world that desperately needs a moral compass.

George Weigel is the Distinguished Senior Fellow and William E. Simon Chair in Catholic Studies of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington. His column is distributed by the Denver Catholic, the newspaper of the Archdiocese of Denver.
Children’s choir to perform ‘Stabat Mater’

The Columbus International Children’s Choir will present a performance of Stabat Mater by Giovanni Pergolesi at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 3 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., and at 5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 10 at First Community Church, 1320 Cambridge Blvd., Columbus.

The choir will be accompanied by featured soloists Cynthia Mahaney, soprano; and Carolyn Redman, mezzo-soprano; and the Columbus Symphony Chamber Orchestra.

Tickets are $15 for adults and $10 for senior citizens and students and will be available at the door or in advance at cmaacademy.org/events.htm.

Symphony Chamber Orchestra. The Columbus International Children’s Choir offers premier singing experience for central Ohio children. It was formed in 1998 by its artistic director, Tatiana Kats, and includes more than 200 singers ages four to 19, who perform classical and contemporary music in a variety of styles and languages.

The choir was the overall winner of the 2014 World Choir Games in Latvia and was awarded the gold medal in the champions division of the 2018 World Choir Games in South Africa. This competition takes place every two years. It has performed in the White House, Carnegie Hall, St. Peter’s Basilica and other well-known venues in the United States and worldwide.

Stabat Mater is a hymn on Mary’s suffering at Jesus’ crucifixion. It originally was written in the 13th century. Pergolesi wrote a concert-length version around 1730 on a commission by the fraternity of San Luigi di Palazzo of Naples to replace a version by Alessandro Scarlatti that was performed traditionally on Good Friday. Bach is known to have adapted and performed the work. Pergolesi wrote it while suffering tuberculosis, from which he died in 1736 at age 26. Despite the disease, he maintained an optimistic outlook, shown in the works he composed until his death.

For more information, call Tatiana Kats at (614) 309-2546 or visit www.cmaacademy.org.

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link to a video posted by Students for Life: https://tinyurl.com/ProLife-March2019. You will be amazed by the time-lapse video, and you will get an idea of the size of the march.

Once the march ended, it was time to get our group assembled. We reunited at Union Station, where we had dinner. So what about the terrible weather that was predicted? By the end of the march it was about 45 degrees, and the sun was out. We boarded the bus about 6:30 p.m. and had some traffic delays. But even with rain on the way back, we arrived at St. Joan about 3 a.m. We said some closing prayers in gratitude for a successful trip. There was snow late Saturday, so we were glad for that delay.

Here’s an invitation for you to attend the March for Life next year. There is always the hope that hearts will change, and the march won’t be necessary. That will require continued prayer and sacrifice, at the local and national levels. As Katrina Jackson repeated, “We fight ... for life.” It would be great to send more buses from the Columbus Diocese to Washington, D.C., in 2020. Look in the December Catholic Times for announcements from St. Joan and St. Patrick.

Robert J. Tutz is a parishioner at Columbus St. Patrick Church.
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