DIOCESAN CLERGY, LAYPEOPLE WEIGH IN ON FAVORITE SAINTS AHEAD OF HOLY DAY

Pages 10-12
West Jefferson Ss. Simon and Jude Church, 9350 High Free Pike, will celebrate its 150th anniversary at a Mass at 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 28, with Bishop Robert Brennan as celebrant.

The Mass will be followed by a groundbreaking ceremony for the parish’s new addition, which will include religious education classrooms, extension of the social hall, and a pavilion. A reception will follow in the social hall.

The parish was founded in 1866 as a mission of London St. Patrick Church. Its original brick church in downtown West Jefferson on U.S. 40 was dedicated in 1869 and served the parish until the current church, just off the Interstate 70 exit for State Route 142, was dedicated in 2006.

Although it is a 20-minute drive from downtown Columbus, the parish, with the rest of Madison County, was part of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati until a realignment of Ohio dioceses occurred in 1944. Priests from the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate served the parish from 1948 to 2005.

“As Ss. Simon and Jude celebrates the 150th anniversary, the parish is excited to move forward with new expansions to the facilities,” the parish said in an announcement. “Our dreams are realized when we build not just buildings but we build community around the body of Christ. We are excited with our new pastor. Fr. Dwayne McNew, who came in July of this year with great ideas and enthusiasm as we build for the future.”

Columbus Bishop Robert Brennan says one reason he is grateful to be in Ohio is the state’s continuing respect for life, especially when compared with recent developments in his home state.

“There is a strong respect life foundation and culture here, but there will always be attacks, and the stronger the culture of life, the stronger the attacks, because you have to come to a place like this (Ohio) to beat it down,” the bishop said at the diocesan Building a Culture of Life conference this past weekend.

“So while we have much to be grateful for, we need always to be vigilant. This gets to our mission.

“The Christian vision of life is not optimism, but hope. There is a huge difference. … Respect for life is ultimately respect for God.”

Bishop Brennan came to Columbus earlier this year from the Diocese of Rockville Centre, New York. When that state’s legislature approved one of the nation’s most liberal abortion laws this past January, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo ordered One World Trade Center and other state landmarks to be lit in pink to celebrate the occasion.

Bishop Brennan said this was a remarkable shift from the attitude of Cuomo’s father, the late Mario Cuomo, who was the state’s governor from 1983 to 1994. He said the first Gov. Cuomo spoke about abortion in terms of a tragedy which he personally opposed but had to endure as an elected representative of the people.

“It was really, really, shocking. So I’m glad that I’m in Ohio,” the bishop said. “Here is the thing about Ohio. We have good things going and strong foundations. A lot of that is due to your hard work and your consistent work, but we also have some challenges and realities that we need to face.”

The conference, sponsored by the diocesan offices of Social Concerns and Marriage and Family Life and Greater Columbus Right to Life (GCRTL), took place on Saturday, Oct. 19 at Sunbury St. John Neumann Church.

Participants also heard from Catherine Glenn Foster, president and chief executive officer of Americans United for Life, which has been involved in every pro-life case before the U.S. Supreme Court, monitors abortion laws in each state and provides model legislation to assist lawmakers.

Of course we care about unborn children, but we also care about their mothers,” she said. “So while we are seeing progress in D.C. and in the courts, it is slow. In the states, however, things are moving much more quickly.”

She said one-third of the state pro-life laws passed since the Supreme Court’s Roe v. Wade decision have been approved in the last few years, and that while a few states have expanded abortion access, the majority are passing pro-life bills, with Ohio among the leaders in that regard.

She described the push for assisted suicide as a well-funded political effort rather than a grassroots issue supported by the people, noting that although Washington, D.C. has approved an assisted suicide law, only two of the city’s 11,000 physicians have registered to provide access to assisted-suicide drugs, and no one in the city has requested to die by assisted suicide.

Jerry Freewalt, diocesan social concerns director, provided an overview on current pro-life legislation in Ohio and shared information on legislative action alerts issued by his office and the Catholic Conference of Ohio. Pamela Harris, director of ethnic ministries for the Diocese of Columbus, spoke on racism, saying, “It hurts the family and diminishes the dignity of the human person. … It is an affront to the idea that we are all made in the image and likeness of God.”

Beth Vanderkooi of GCRTL and attorney Peggy Wolock, offered details of a new program titled “Faithful at the End of Life: Pro-Life Advance Medi—

See RESPECT LIFE, Page 15
Creating a culture of safety in diocesan schools, churches

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

With shooting incidents occurring all too often in recent years at schools and churches, the safety of students and parishioners has become a greater concern for diocesan educators, pastors and parish staff members.

More than 200 school and parish representatives gathered last week for programs at Danville St. Luke and Chillicothe St. Peter churches and the Church of the Resurrection in New Albany on the topic of “creating a culture of safety.”

Besides discussing what to do in the unlikely case of a shooting incident, speakers also talked about how best to respond when schools or parishes face the more common situations of threatening weather, a natural disaster, a fire or the injury or sudden illness of a parishioner or student.

“We think a lot about safety in schools, both because the state requires us to have a number of safety precautions in place and because, sadly, schools often have become targets for shooters,” said Adam Dufault, diocesan school superintendent, in opening remarks.

“The goal in all diocesan schools is that we’re ready if something happens. We have provided detailed maps and diagrams to first responders and have regular drills covering what to do in case of a fire, tornado or other emergency situation. A few months ago, we began thinking about whether parishes were ready in the same way. In some cases, the answer is ‘Yes’; in others, ‘Not so much.’ That’s why we decided to put together this safety summit, to share ideas and best practices on safety.

“It’s tempting to approach this subject out of fear, but we wanted the approach to be one of love for our churches, parishes and communities, with the goal of creating a safe, wonderful place so we can love and serve God.”

Speakers for the day were former Columbus police chief Walter Distelzweig, who now is safety director for Columbus Bishop Hartley High School; security consultant Fred Bowditch; and parish representatives Bruce McKenna of Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Church and Steve Jewell of the Church of the Resurrection.

“We have a good handle on the schools when it comes to security, but churches are different,” Distelzweig said. “You can’t really lock them down in the way you can with schools, and there are so many things to consider with church buildings themselves and with parish offices.

“For instance, at Mass, you’re not just dealing with the safety of the congregation, but the sacred vessels used in Communion and the offertory collection all could be targets for thieves. And parish facilities have so many other functions going on all day long.

“Running and hiding should be enough in most situations, but what if you have to fight?” Bowditch asked.

“If a guy comes in – and there’s a 99 percent chance it is a guy – don’t fight clean; fight dirty. Scratch, yell, claw, throw things, scream, kneel him in the groin if you have to. It’s a last resort, so do enough so you can get out.”

“Remember, every store has a rear exit. In some cases, the answer is ‘Yes’; in others, ‘Not so much.’ That’s why we decided to put together this safety summit, to share ideas and best practices on safety.

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get are potential sources for grant money and recommended that parish
staff contact store managers about the possibility of obtaining grants for
security improvements.

McKenna’s discussion about safety at St. Brigid was highlighted by a hid-
den-camera video from Dublin police showing students and staff members
at the city’s three high schools allowing a plainclothes officer to enter the
buildings through unlocked doors. The officer then roamed the school halls
unchallenged for five minutes in one instance and 10 minutes in another. At
the third school, the officer, saying he became bored, ultimately turned him-
self in to the school resource officer, who was aware of the deception.

“Don’t count on technology. Kids overwhelmingly are nice and want
to be helpful, but in schools, that can be dangerous,” said McKenna, who
recently retired as a Dublin police officer after 26 years in law enforce-
ment. He urged his listeners to “set up a culture where you are sheepdogs
—not wolves, but sheepdogs protecting their flock from the wolves who
would do them harm.”

He talked about St. Brigid’s use of a double buzz-in system for visi-
tors, how the school tries to do most of its business with visitors through
its outside speaker, and how visitors and staff members are required to
wear identification at all times. He also talked about proper methods of
greeting a visitor and of how to pay attention to the person’s response to
determine whether to let him or her in.

In addition, he mentioned a tool known as the OODA loop, which the
military uses to determine how to deal with people in stressful environments.

“You can use OODA to explain ev-
erything in life,” he said. “As soon as you disrupt someone’s OODA loop, the
more likely it is you can stop them if it’s a risky situation,” he said.
“For instance, very rarely will some-
one punch you if you can get them to
talking to you. That’s one way of be-
ing a sheepdog.”

Jewell said the Church of the Res-
urrection began an ongoing study of
parish safety two years ago. A “tool-
box” listing safety and security pre-
paredness steps and a list of programs
the parish has put into effect or is
working on were distributed to every-
one in attendance.

“We started looking at our safety
plans with a group of five people in the
fall of 2017 and have kept expanding
since then,” he said. “By their design,
churches aren’t safe places. They’re
open. Our church is one of the largest
in the diocese, with seating for 1,500
people and two balconies, and we have
few places to hide. If something terri-
ble happens, we’re not going to save
everyone. Our goals are to minimize
the opportunities for an incident to oc-
cur and to minimize the opportunities
for damage and loss of life.

“We began with simple things, like
having ushers always standing at
the top of the aisles. We don’t have
stained-glass windows, so we’re al-
ways able to look outside and see any-
one approaching. Once Mass starts,
we lock the back doors. Occasionally,
we become alert when we see some-
one – not the same person – walking
around the church for a while, but
those people always have walked
away.”

Jewell said one result of being secu-

rity-conscious has been development
of a medical ministry, with doctors,
nurses and first responders attend-
ing weekend Masses being asked to
sign a sheet to let ushers know they
are available for an emergency. The
ushers use a system of colored ping-
pong paddles for situations of concern
– blue for medical problems, yellow
for weather alerts and red for other
emergencies.

“We have three phone landlines in
the church, and an usher will go to
one of those three to call for assis-
tance when needed,” Jewell said. “In
a weather emergency, the yellow pad-
dle means people need to get away
from the windows. We realize that in
an emergency situation, we’re the real
first responders until the police or fire
men and medics get here.”

He said parish staff members and
New Albany police have conduct-
ed a role-playing exercise involving
how the “Run. Hide. Fight” response
would work in the church building.
“Run – we pull all the fire alarms. Hide – Get down and hide as best you
can, in closets, under pews, wherever.
Fight – do whatever possible to take
down the intruder. Throw hymnals,
throw your coat, throw fire extin-
guishers,” Jewell said.

He also said two fire drills have taken
place after Masses as a way of having
the entire parish learn how to evacuate
in case of an emergency. An announce-
ment of the drill is made at Masses on
the weekend before it occurs.

“We did much better the second
time,” Jewell said. “The most impor-
tant thing in those drills is to make sure
people don’t get in their cars and at-
tempt to leave the property. Doing that
would create a traffic jam and keep first responders
from coming in.”

In addition to the talks, the safety workshop
included a chance for those in attendance to
form small groups to talk about how they would
handle various emergency situations. Activities
concluded with a panel discussion with members
of the committee, representing sever-
al diocesan departments, that put the
program together.

Questions or comments related to
safety at diocesan properties can be
emailed to the committee at safety@columbuscatholic.org.

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**Diocese of Columbus**

**Child Protection Plan**

**It is the goal of the Diocese of Columbus to make the Church a place of safety:**

A place of prayer, ministry and comfort. Everyone who enters our churches, schools, or facilities must be confident in this. Not one child or young person should suffer from abuse while at Church. In order to assure the safety of our youth, the Diocese of Columbus has enacted a complete program of protection. As part of this program, the Diocese of Columbus will provide appropriate, just, and pastoral care for anyone who has suffered the crime of sexual abuse of a minor at the hands of diocesan clergy or church employees or volunteers. The Diocese of Columbus will report any and all allegations of abuse reported to it to the authorities and will cooperate fully with those authorities.

**Help is available:**

The Diocese of Columbus wants to hear from anyone who has suffered. If you wish to report an allegation of abuse or need pastoral and/or clinical care in order to begin or continue the process of healing from sexual abuse as a child at the hands of a member of the clergy or a church employee or volunteer, simply call the diocesan Victims’ Assistance Coordinator. You can find contact information at the bottom of this notice. If you wish to receive a copy of the diocesan complaint form or any of the diocesan policies and procedures, simply call the number below or visit the diocesan web site at www.colsdioc.org.

To contact the diocesan Victim’s Assistance Coordinator, call:

The Rev. Msgr. Stephan J. Moloney
614.224.2251 • helpisavailable@colsdioc.org
Newman Center’s Buckeye Awakening reaches 10-year milestone

This year is the 10th anniversary of the Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center’s Buckeye Awakening student retreat program, and the occasion will be marked with a special Mass and reception at 7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 27. The center, staffed by the Paulist Fathers, is at 64 W. Lane Ave., adjacent to the Ohio State University campus.

More than 1,300 students have attended the retreats, which take place twice a year. The most recent Buckeye Awakening occurred from Friday to Sunday, Oct. 18 to 20.

The program was started in fall 2009 by five Ohio State students and two Newman Center staff members who were inspired by a similar retreat known as Aggie Awakening at Texas A&M University, which they had attended that summer.

The recently concluded retreat was the 21st Buckeye Awakening. The program has become a staple of the Newman Center and serves as a gateway to involvement in its ministries, awakens the faith, and builds community relationships.

Priests, lay ministers and others who have been part of any of the past weekends are encouraged to attend, and several have responded. Retreat alumni and current students will take on special roles during the Mass and give reflections during the reception.

In a letter of congratulations to the center marking the anniversary, Bishop Robert Brennan wrote, “Students have been able to take time away from their studies and activities to be with each other and pray to the Father, fortify themselves as a true community of believers, and then take back the Good News of Jesus to their studies and campus activities.

“I know that each participant has found these retreat weekends to be a source of strength and peace in their busy college lives and has experienced a true awakening of the spirit.”

St. Mary Magdalene plans parish mission

A parish mission featuring former television soap opera star Frank Runyeon will take place at 7 p.m. Tuesday to Thursday, Nov. 5 to 7 at Columbus St. Mary Magdalene Church.

The theme of the mission will be “A Journey to Joy,” with three distinct presentations. Tuesday’s program on the Gospel of Luke will highlight the stories Jesus himself told as he journeyed to Jerusalem, dramatized with theatrical lighting and fun caricatures and pointing listeners to where the real joy in life is to be found.

Wednesday’s presentation will be the “Sermon on the Mount,” with Runyeon as Matthew the evangelist, proclaiming the joy of the Beatitudes to his house church in Antioch, a community filled with characters whose stories echo our own.

Thursday’s topic will be “Hollywood vs. Faith” as Runyeon concludes with a look at “the three other Beatitudes” of the media, encouraging listeners to see the bends in the funhouse mirror, laugh good-naturedly and journey onward to a life of true joy.

Runyeon played Steve Andropoulos on As the World Turns from 1980 to 1987 and Michael Donnelly on Santa Barbara from 1988 to 1991. He has put his acting talents to a different use since the mid-1990s, when he began translating and adapting texts from the New Testament for stage performances.

DCCW sponsoring morning of reflection

The Diocesan Council of Catholic Women will host a pre-Advent morning of reflection from 9 a.m. to noon Monday, Nov. 11 at St. Therese’s Retreat Center, 5277, E Broad St., Columbus.

The subject will be “Is Mary a Disciple Worthy of Imitation?” with Father Thomas Blau, OP, of Columbus St. Patrick Church as the presenter.

The cost is $25, including lunch. Registration is due by Friday, Nov. 1. Mail checks made payable to the Columbus Diocesan Council of Catholic Women to the council at 197 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215. If you have questions, contact DCCW president Katie Boesch at kboesch@columbuscatholic.org or (614) 228-8601.

Watterson to host open house on Nov. 24

Columbus Bishop Watterson High School, 99 E. Cooke Road, will host its annual open house from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 24. Prospective students are welcome to tour the school, meet faculty, staff and coaches and learn about Watterson’s academic, faith, service and co-curricular programs. Deacon Chris Campbell, the school’s principal, will speak at 2 p.m.

Questions may be addressed to school admissions director Mary Kate Campbell at (614) 268-8671, extension 284 or mcampbell@cdeducation.org.

Serrans entertain sisters

Members of the Serra Club of North Columbus entertained and honored the religious sisters of the Diocese of Columbus on Saturday, Sept. 28, the Feast of St. Wenceslaus. The event had a Christmas theme and took place at the Martin de Porres Center, adjacent to the Dominican Sisters of Peace Motherhouse. Serra member Marilyn Dono (center) is shown visiting with Sister Mary Daniel, OP, and Sister Aimea Ryan, OP.

Photo courtesy Serra Club of North Columbus

Father Stluka to celebrate 50th anniversary as priest

Father Jerome Stluka will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood in December. He was ordained at St. Peter’s Basilica in the Vatican on Dec. 19, 1969 by Bishop James Hickey, rector of the Pontifical North American College.

Father Stluka will be honored at a reception on Sunday, Dec. 15 at Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona Church, 1600 N. Hague Ave., beginning with Mass at 2 p.m. and followed by a reception in Kulp Hall from 3 to 5.

He was pastor of Columbus Holy Spirit Church and Columbus Holy Cross Church, associate pastor of Columbus St. Augustine Church, Columbus St. Aloysius Church and Lancaster St. Mary Church, a weekend associate at Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes Church and in residence at Columbus St. Christopher Church.

He also served as assistant director and director of the diocesan family life office and as chaplain at Ohio State University Medical Center and Grant Hospital in Columbus, and was a member of the diocesan personnel board.

He retired in July 2014 and is a resident of the Villas of St. Therese assisted living section.
Canonical marriage but not civil?; Poverty and priests

**Q** WI am a widow going out now with a widower. We love each other and he wants me to marry him. Can we get married in the church, keep our own names and not be married by the law of the state?

The reason is this: If we get married under state law, I would lose my deceased husband’s social security and pension, and that would put a financial burden on me. Please advise. (southeastern Indiana)

**A** Unfortunately, I don’t see a way for you to do this. In the United States, marriage by a member of the clergy is recognized by the state as a valid civil marriage.

Prior to the marriage, a civil marriage license must be presented to the officiant, who then signs it following the ceremony and returns it to the municipal jurisdiction where the couple obtained it.

If a priest in the United States were to marry a couple in a church ceremony without reporting it as a civil marriage, that would be considered fraudulent.

(I could see in a nation, for example, where inter-racial marriages were prohibited that a priest could on principle marry a couple religiously without reporting it civilly -- but in America, I don’t think it’s possible.)

**Q** We had a discussion the other day about some of the difficulties facing priests, and this question came up: Do all priests take a vow of poverty? (Suffolk, Virginia)

**A** Priests who are members of religious orders -- Franciscans, Dominicans, Jesuits, etc. -- take a vow of poverty and own nothing; the houses they live in, the cars they drive, even the clothing they wear belong not to themselves but to the religious order.

Diocesan (sometimes called “secular”) priests do not take this vow. Diocesan priests are ordained for a specific geographic region and usually work in parishes. Diocesan priests are given a salary (usually including room and board) and are expected to pay their own expenses -- car, clothing, charitable gifts, etc.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops notes on its website that “it is also expected that diocesan priests will lead a life of simplicity consonant with the people they serve.”

Perhaps some numbers serve best to illustrate: I am a diocesan priest, now retired after 50 years of active ministry. My retirement income from the diocese is currently $1,900 per month, and my monthly Social Security amounts to about $1,200.

From this, I am expected to pay rental for an apartment, food expenses, taxes, automobile expenses and travel, as well as any donations to charity. (Often retired priests, if they are healthy, supplement their income by helping out with services at local parishes, for which they receive a modest stipend.)

The church’s Code of Canon Law states clearly that “clerics are to foster simplicity of life and are to refrain from all things that have a semblance of vanity” (Canon 282.1).

I mentioned some years ago in this column that one of my heroes was Bishop Kenneth E. Untener of Saginaw, Michigan, who passed away in 2004. He kept all of his possessions in his small car and moved continually around his diocese, staying for a month at a time in each one of his diocese’s parishes. To me, Bishop Untener was a great example of someone who modeled his life on Jesus Christ, who “had nowhere to rest his head.”

Savor the ‘eve’ moments in our lives

**EVERYDAY CATHOLIC**

Rick Jeric

That moment when mom and dad knew we were coming into the world is filled with so much emotion and love. My mom still tells me about her emotions and apprehensions when I was born. I had an older sister who was born about two years earlier, and she only lived about four weeks due to a heart defect. My mom said she checked on me multiple times throughout each night for months to be sure I was still breathing. The eve of our First Communion is special. Having a decent idea and understanding of what it will mean to actually receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ for the first time is a holy eve moment. Christmas Eve, especially growing up and maturing, is an ongoing eve moment. The birth of our God and Savior in the Incarnation is something impossible to comprehend, but we anticipate recalling the moment in the celebration of Christmas. I do not care how often we hear about the commercialization of Christmas, or how often we need to be reminded to keep Christ in Christmas, there has always been that unique, blessed spark in our hearts as we celebrate Mass on Christmas Eve, as we celebrate our families, and as we momentarily take our gaze from gifts and glitter and focus on the nativity. Mardi Gras is another annual eve moment, as we face Ash Wednesday and the prayer, fasting, and almsgiving of Lent. This moment may not be as joyful, but it is such important preparation as we take our annual journey into the desert for 40 days. And the reward is the mercy and forgiveness of God, so we can enjoy the other eve moments in our lives. The eve of our wedding, our vows, ordination, graduation, new job, birth of a child, and so many more are the eve moments that help us get to heaven.

As we approach All Hallow’s Eve this year, let us anticipate the lives of the saints we will celebrate the next day. Enjoy the celebration with the kids, but remind them of why the treats are so much better than the tricks as we go through life, filled with so many eve moments.

**WWW.COLUMBUSCATHOLIC.ORG**
The power of one-to-one relationships

HOLY AND HEALTHY
Lori Crock

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.

One of my favorite saint quotes is from St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta, “Don’t wait for leaders; do it alone, person to person.” Her entire ministry was working one-to-one with the dying and the sick, strengthened by her one-to-one time with God in daily Mass and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Her ministry, and that of the Sisters of Charity around the world, is about the power of being 100 percent present to that one soul in need.

I’m blessed to take communion to a hospital, and there have been times when only one person has received — for various reasons. At first, I was discouraged when people declined the Eucharist, but over time, God has shown me that I simply must be his hands and feet and to trust the results to him. He is teaching me to pray more fervently for the sick, to be a joyful and authentic witness to him, and to savor each one-to-one encounter. Even if no one receives, I trust that God will bring about a greater good than I could never imagine.

I was sharing my one-to-one thoughts with a friend recently and she said that in our world of “how many Likes on Facebook” it can be terribly easy to overlook the power of one. Never fear, there might be only one Like, but thanks to the algorithm of Facebook, thousands of people may have seen the post and who knows how it may have impacted that one person!

I remember a priest telling me that he didn’t get caught up in whether people liked or disliked his homily message. He said that he wrote his homilies in prayer, and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and that perhaps the message was meant for just one person; in writing his homilies, he simply desired to be an obedient servant.

So let us try to do what God is calling us to do, trust the results to him, and remember that touching one soul always matters. From 1 Thessalonians 5:11, “Therefore, encourage one another and build one another up, as indeed you do.”

Rearranging the furniture

By Tim Welsh
Bethesda Healing Ministry

Every now and then, my senses remind me of something.

There are smells that will always bring back memories. There are sounds that will always remind me of something and there are sights that bring back a time in my past.

Whenever I hear any Creedence Clearwater Revival song, for instance, it takes me back to cruising around in my buddy’s 1972 Ford Pinto, listening to eight-tracks.

“Moondance” by Van Morrison reminds me of a girl named Nancy who was a platonic friend of mine at the University of Dayton. I will forever remember my wife, Jo, when I hear “Brick House” (by the Commodores), her favorite dance tune.

There are smells that I remember and smells that I miss.

Whenever I smell French fries, I think of the Fairfield County Fair.

Talcum powder reminds me of babies and the smell of newly cut grass reminds me of first learning how to play golf, early in the morning on the course before anyone else was there except the staff mowing the fairways and the greens.

I miss the smell of burning leaves. There was a time when we raked leaves and piled them up at the curb to burn. That smell meant fall was here and winter wasn’t far away.

I could always tell when my dad was home by the sweet aroma of his pipe flirting with my nostrils.

There was something special about the scent of my mother when she hugged me.

And while these triggers invoked good memories, for those who have been traumatized in some way, triggers can remind them of that trauma, the pain and sorrow.

Several years ago, my wife had to go to her OB/GYN for a procedure in which the doctor inserted an instrument into her and snipped off a small piece of tissue to send to the lab to be biopsied. Even though we’d been married for decades, I had never been to one of her OB/GYN appointments, so I offered to go with her. (I should say, at this point, there is probably not another event in the life of a man when he feels more uncomfortable than being in the room while his wife is examined by an OB/GYN doc. Just sayin.’)

The doctor inserted the instrument, snipped the piece of tissue and, immediately, Jo looked at me with a look that I had never seen before and that I have not seen since. It was a fearful, helpless, sorrowful look and I knew something was wrong.

As we left the doctor’s office, she grabbed my hand in a way that was more of a tortured plea than a loving gesture and said, “That reminded me of my abortion.”

Negative triggers in our lives are connected to our thoughts and emotions and can act as a magnet, pulling us down a path that can be destructive. All triggers have false beliefs connected to them.

While these triggers are harmless by themselves, we grant them power by connecting them with the false beliefs in our minds and allow them to damage our lives and the lives around us.

And so it is with the post-abortive woman.

All of the physical aspects of the abortion experience, all the smells, the sounds, the sights, can all come rushing back into her mind with a few chords of a song or the trace of a smell.

If she can recognize the nature and source of the triggers that affect her, she can assign their definition and corral their impact.

If she can understand that she is in control of the false beliefs that she has allowed to connect to events, she will be capable of unmasking their disguise and seeing them for what they are: just sights, sounds, smells.

This takes time.

In most cases, the post-abortive woman has absorbed her feelings and internalized her false beliefs so completely that they have become simply furniture of the mind … objects that need no real attention. But when it’s dark, she can stub her toe on them.

Residing deep in her psyche, the feelings begin to be taken for granted, just like that old couch or the end table she has had for years.

The healing process entails a rearranging of that furniture, and it takes time and dedication to see the change through.

It may take several attempts and lots of help to get the furniture arranged in a way that she won’t stub her toe in the dark anymore.

Tim Welsh is the executive director of Bethesda Healing Ministry, a community of healing for those struggling with a past abortion. Tim can be reached at twelsh@bethesdahealing.org.
Healers on earth celebrated at White Mass on feast of St. Luke

By Doug Bean
Catholic Times Editor

Those who work in healing professions gathered on Friday, Oct. 18, the feast of St. Luke, for a White Mass at Columbus Our Lady of Victory Church celebrated by Bishop Robert Brennan.

Doctors, nurses, pharmacists, technicians, administrators, researchers, support personnel and students were among approximately 100 in attendance at the 6 p.m. Mass, which was followed by a reception and a presentation from Father Steven Beseau, rector of the Pontifical College Josephinum.

Father Beseau spoke about witnessing to truth in a world that doesn’t believe in absolute truth, proposing that the reason for so much anxiety among young adults is the relativism in today’s world.

Concelebrating the Mass with Bishop Brennan were Father Beseau; Msgrs. Anthony Missimi and William Dunn, both retired priests of the Diocese of Columbus; and Fathers Bob Penhallurick and Ed Shikina of Hilliard St. Brendan Church.

The event, sponsored by the Catholic Medical Association: John Paul II Guild of Columbus, took place on the feast day of the patron saint of physicians.

Bishop Brennan reflected in his homily during the Mass on the Lord’s directive in St. Luke’s Gospel to go out and cure the sick because the kingdom of God is at hand.

“He said to bring glad tidings to the poor, liberty to captives, recovery of sight to the blind, release to prisoners, to announce a year of favor to the Lord,” Bishop Brennan said. “And rolling up the scroll, he said tonight the scripture is fulfilled. The kingdom of God is indeed at hand. God is doing amazing things in the very presence of Jesus.

“He does it by lifting burdens, healing, liberating. These first words that Jesus proclaimed in that synagogue struck Luke in such a way that they, in a sense, became defining words.”

Bishop Brennan pointed out that Jesus gave very few direct orders, that his directives are usually more encompassing. But in this particular missionary exultation, he said to not only cure the sick but also say to them the reign of God is at hand.

“Jesus put these two together. Curing the sick, caring for the sick is directly in correlation to the unfolding of the kingdom of God,” the bishop said.

Christ is often called the divine physician who not only heals but also lifts burdens and cares for the poor and vulnerable.

“He’s not saying someday the kingdom of God will unfold, or just you hold on and see,” Bishop Brennan said in reference to the gospel. “The kingdom of God is unfolding in our midst. It is not only something that is yet to come. We look forward to the fullness of God’s kingdom in heaven. We know that there’s something more than the experience of this life here on earth.”

That healing power, Bishop Brennan emphasized, is not restricted to the period when the Lord was present on earth.

“The fact of the matter is that Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, continues to minister right here in our midst,” he said. “And so, even the ordinary care of the sick and the healing of the sick, curing of illness is itself an unfolding of God’s supernatural reign.

“The research you do, the art and the science of the practice of medicine, the curing of the sick, these are ways that God is operating in the here and now.’’

Bishop Brennan went on to say that caring for those in need is considered a work of mercy, of doing God’s work.

“Healing of the sick and curing of illness, these are signs, natural signs, you might say, that Jesus, through medicine and science, gives us a certain insight into the human person,” he said, “and in that insight, setting right what went wrong. Isn’t that the work of salvation in the world? Original sin upset the natural order of things.”

Near the end of the homily, Bishop Brennan thanked the medical professionals for their witness to his gospel and for doing so with concern for the dignity of the human person, noting that “Jesus told us to do it.”

“What a great privilege we have to be able to see human dignity, not as objects of experimentation or destruction, but we know the manufacturer made us in his own image,” Bishop Brennan said. “What a great privilege to be called, to be part of that ongoing mission of setting right, of healing.

“Oh this feast of St. Luke, we turn to the divine physician, and we ask him to help us see the deeper meaning of that work.”

A quote from Pope St. John Paul II regarding the sacredness of all human life was displayed next to the altar during the White Mass at Columbus Our Lady of Victory Church.

CT photos by Ken Snow

Bishop Robert Brennan (center) celebrated the White Mass, sponsored by the Catholic Medical Association, on Friday, Oct. 18, the feast of St. Luke, and was assisted by priests and deacons from the diocese.

Bishop Robert Brennan told the medical professionals in his homily to turn to St. Luke, the divine physician, to see the deeper meaning of their work.
‘All are called to be missionaries,’ speaker says at Cathedral

There might be no one more qualified to speak about the new evangelization in the Catholic Church than Ralph Martin.

Martin gave a keynote presentation, “The Universal Call to Mission,” on Saturday evening, Oct. 19 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral to launch the From the Cathedral Pulpit public speaker series.

Each of the three talks scheduled for the fall will focus on evangelization in modern times. Father Adam Streitenberger, who was named coordinator for evangelization in the Diocese of Columbus by Bishop Robert Brennan, is organizing the series.

Father Streitenberger is studying for a licentiate of sacred theology, focusing on the new evangelization, at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit, where Martin is a professor of theology and the director of graduate programs in the new evangelization.

Martin might be better known for his work outside the seminary as a frequent guest and host on Catholic radio and television and for his prolific writing on evangelization in the Catholic Church than as a professor in Detroit, where Martin is a professor of theology and the director of graduate programs in the new evangelization.

His books include “The Fulfillment of All Desire: A Guidebook for the Journey to God Based on the Wisdom of the Saints.” In addition, Martin was appointed consultor to the Pontifical Council for Promoting New Evangelization in 2011 by Pope Benedict XVI and a year later was named an “expert” for the World Synod of Bishops on the New Evangelization.

And so Martin spoke with conviction and firmness of purpose to those who gathered at the cathedral to listen to his insights on evangelization in the Church at this point in its history.

Martin addressed the importance of evangelization and described the fundamental purpose of the Second Vatican Council that convened in the 1960s as a renewal of the Church for the sake of evangelization.

The waning practice of faith during the past 50 years coincides with a decline in evangelization, and Martin cited as an example a missionary order that once was engaged in evangelization but switched its charism in caring for the environment, voting rights of women and social justice after experiencing a lack of vocations.

“Those are all important,” Martin said, “but you don’t have to be a Catholic to do those things. So there’s no wonder there aren’t any people wanting to join this order. They can work for the United Nations and do the same thing.”

Recent popes, starting with Paul VI, realized the need to clarify the mission of the Church as one of spreading the Gospel and leading souls closer to God. Pope Paul VI, Pope St. John Paul II and the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith published documents during a 30-year period on the topic, hoping to “reinvigorate the Church’s commitment to missions,” Martin noted.

The directives were designed to clear up confusion that evangelization is not something that Catholics should engage in.

“Two false conceptions that people have is that it’s an imposition on people’s freedom to share the Gospel with them,” Martin clarified.

Rather, talking about Jesus Christ isn’t an imposition on people’s freedom. It gives them an opportunity, while respecting their freedom, to learn about Christ.

The second confusion is that Christ should not be proclaimed to those who do not know him, nor should joining the Church be promoted.

John Paul II said, “Evangelization has Christian conversion as its aim.” It is “complete and sincere adherence to Christ and his Gospel through faith.”

Christ wants his followers, Martin said, to change their beliefs, change their behavior and change their priorities to get closer to Him.

“This isn’t like an optional call,” Martin said.

He described a typical scenario at parishes, where there is concern about losing members.

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All Saints’ Day, celebrated every year on Nov. 1, could be described as “everyone’s feast day.” It honors all of God’s people, known and unknown, who have gone on to eternal life and reminds those of us on earth that we, too, are part of the communion of saints.

The saints most people are familiar with are the ones who have been canonized by the church, meaning they have been officially recognized as holy people whose lives are worthy of imitation. There is no definitive number of how many recognized saints there are. U.S. Catholic magazine estimated the total in 2013 at more than 10,000, going back to the Catholic Church’s earliest days when there was no formal canonization process.

Those saints represent just a handful of the millions and perhaps billions of noncanonized saints whose ranks go back to the beginning of humanity, all of whom share in the eternal glory of God and are interceding before God on our behalf.

Many Catholics have a special devotion to a particular saint because they have found that person’s life especially worthy of imitation. Catholic Exchange, an online portal that includes stories about Catholicism from a variety of sources, asked its readers in 2012 to write about the saints who were most influential to them and listed the 10 saints selected most frequently. Those 10 were, in order, St. Paul, St. Teresa of Calcutta, St. Augustine, St. Patrick, St. Joseph, St. Jerome, St. Peter, St. John the Baptist, St. Athanasius and, tied for 10th, St. Catherine of Siena and St. Francis of Assisi. The Virgin Mary was not included because her status in salvation history transcends that of any other human being.

At the announcement in January that he had been selected as the 12th bishop of Columbus, Bishop Robert Brennan said he always has been devoted to his namesake, St. Robert Bellarmine, a 16th-century Jesuit whom he described as “a man of great wisdom in troubled times who had the ability to make people look deeper into questions, rather than just have knee-jerk reactions.”

The bishop said other favorite saints of his are St. Agnes, after whom the cathedral of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, New York, his home diocese, was named, and St. Oscar Romero, the bishop and martyr from El Salvador who was assassinated in 1980 and canonized in October 2018.

Regina Hrytzik, business administrator of Canal Winchester St. John XXIII Church, said she has two favorite saints – St. Joseph and St. Anthony of Padua. “I have been raised to pray to St. Joseph and ask for a peaceful death for anyone who is dying,” she said. “I have always admired him for his grace in caring for Mary and Jesus and really never asking for anything in return.

“St. Anthony is a favorite because each year, the parish in Pittsburgh where I grew up would have a parade honoring him on June 13, his feast day,” Hrytzik said. “He has always helped me find what I have lost. They do not do the parade in Pittsburgh (now) like yesteryear, but I feel St. Anthony, my brother, has been with me all these years.”

“My favorite saint is St. Benedict, the father of Western monasticism and one of the patrons of Europe,” said Father Craig Eilerman, pastor of Lancaster St. Mary Church. “I was educated at two Benedictine monasteries. I have a deep appreciation of Benedictine spirituality, especially the praying of the Psalms in the Divine Office and the reading of Scripture in the practice of Lectio Divina. The attributes of hospitality, community and quiet, which are hallmarks of Benedictine monasteries, I also find attractive.”

Staff members at Delaware St. Mary Church had a variety of responses when asked to list their favorite saints. Lisa Piper, administrative assistant, spoke of her son’s choice of St. Genesius for a confirmation name. “St. Genesius appealed to him because it showed that God has an awesome sense of humor and will use whatever means necessary to reach his chosen people,” she said. “St. Genesius was a Roman comedian who mocked Christianity in plays in the late third and early fourth centuries, yet had an experience on stage which converted him. He ended up being beheaded by the Emperor Dioecletian.”

“His story seems to encourage those who feel unworthy by telling them that God is not put off or offended
SAINTS, continued from Page 10

by our current attitude,” which often makes light of religion, Piper said. “God will pursue us. Once converted, the most unlikely of characters can be the most powerful witnesses of faith.”

Parish music director John Blasko said he has great admiration for St. Damien of Molokai and his work among the lepers of Hawaii in the 19th century. “He worked both physically and spiritually to convert desperate souls to Christ,” Blasko said. “He was honored by the Church said the favorite saint of her mother, I have called on her frequent.”

Cathy Brackenridge. “She showed an example of a contemporary person who was to do God’s will.”

Deb Driscoll, parish manager of Ada Our Lady of Lourdes Church, said she has been praying for years asking Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos to serve as an advocate and intercessor to God, first on her mother’s behalf and now on her own, in helping them deal with illness. Bless Francis was a Bavarian Redemptorist priest who came to the United States and worked for nine years at a parish in Pittsburgh, first as associate pastor with St. John Neumann and later as pastor. He then was a missionary who preached in many states before going to New Orleans to minister to yellow fever patients. He died there of the disease in 1867 at age 48.

Driscoll said her former pastor, Father David J. Young, introduced her to Blessed Francis as an advocate 10 years ago. At that time, she began asking for him to intercede with God on behalf of her mother, who was preparing for a stem cell transplant to deal with blood cancer. The transplant was successful. After a decade, she remains cancer-free, and Driscoll believes Blessed Francis’ intercession is responsible.

Now Driscoll herself is requesting his assistance as she deals with the possibility of kidney failure, dialysis and a transplant. “I am hoping to get to know him as well as I know and love my other favorite saints. Thomas Aquinas and Teresa of Avila,” she said.

Driscoll said those saints helped her through the grief resulting from the death of her 16-year-old daughter in an auto accident in 1996 and assisted her in returning to the Catholic Church after 20 years away. She said other “saints” who helped bring her back to Catholicism were her mother and her grandmother, Father Dan Millisor, a former pastor; and the people of her parish, through their constant witness.

The Catholic Church from its earliest days has honored those whose faith has provided models for other believers. During its first 300 years, Christians were severely persecuted, tortured and often made to suffer agonizing deaths because of their beliefs. These martyrs were the first to be given special honors by their fellow Christians. As the number of martyrs grew into the thousands, it became impractical to celebrate the death of each one. A Feast of All Martyrs was first celebrated sometime in the fourth century, usually on the first Sunday after Pentecost. That Sunday continues to be All Saints’ Day for Eastern Catholic churches.

Pope Boniface IV changed the date for the feast to May 13 in the year 610. On that day, he dedicated a church at the site of the ancient Roman Pantheon, which had been built as a temple to all gods. The church was dedicated to all martyrs, and many martyrs’ bones are buried there.

About 125 years later, Pope Gregory III dedicated a new chapel in the former basilica of St. Peter to all saints, not just to the martyrs, on Nov. 1, and fixed the anniversary of the dedication as the date of the feast.

All Saints’ Day is usually a holy day of obligation in the United States, as it is this year. An exception is made when the day falls on a Monday or a
‘A teen of our times’ on the path to possible sainthood

Though he was just 15 years old when he died, Carlo Acutis had become known throughout Italy as what popularly would be described as a “computer nerd.” Because of the way he combined exceptional technical skill with an exceptional faith, he someday might become better known as a saint.

Before his death from leukemia in 2006, Acutis researched more than 130 Eucharistic miracles that have occurred over the centuries throughout the world and have been verified by the Catholic Church. To spread knowledge of those miracles, he created a website that houses a virtual museum describing the events. In addition, his panel presentations about the miracles have been seen worldwide, including at several parishes in the Diocese of Columbus.

The process that could lead to Acutis’ canonization began in 2013 when he was declared a “Servant of God.” He was given the title “Venerable” by Pope Francis on July 5, 2018, meaning he is two steps away from becoming a saint. The next step is beatification, which would occur if it is confirmed that God has granted a miracle through prayer asking for Acutis’ intercession. Confirmation of another miracle occurring after beatification would enable him to be declared a saint.

“Carlo was a teen of our times, like many others,” said his mother, Antonia Acutis. “He tried hard in school, with his friends, and he loved computers. At the same time, he was a great friend of Jesus Christ. He was a daily communicant, and he trusted in the Virgin Mary.”

“As a little boy, especially after his first Communion, he never missed his daily appointment with the holy Mass and the rosary, followed by a moment of Eucharistic adoration. Carlo’s generosity made him interested in everyone: the foreigners, the handicapped, children, beggars. To be close to Carlo was to be close to a fountain of fresh water. Everyone was amazed by his ability to understand the computer secrets that normally are accessible only to those who have completed university.”

He started cataloging Eucharistic miracles when he was 11 and wrote at the time, “The more Eucharist we receive, the more we will become like Jesus, so that on this earth we will have a foretaste of heaven.”

He once said his life plan was “to be close to Jesus,” and he achieved that goal. He remains an inspiration, especially to teenagers who aren’t sure whether they can be holy while living a young person’s typically active life. “All people are born as originals, but especially to teenagers who aren’t sure whether they can be holy while living a young person’s typically active life, it’s必要 to be guided by Christ and to look at him constantly.”

Thanks to assistance from the Knights of Columbus, the Cardinal Newman Society, the Real Presence Eucharistic Education and Adoration Association’ and Cardinal Raymond Burke, Acutis’ Eucharistic miracles exhibit has been viewed in hundreds of parishes and educational institutions on five continents.

Tim McAndrew, who also is known in Ohio for his promotion of the Di-
Two hundred young adults from throughout central Ohio gathered for the first Catholic Young Adult Conference on Oct. 12 at Sunbury St. John Neumann Church, participating in a day of prayer and friendship, with priests, nuns and volunteers contributing to the sense of community.

The idea for the youth conference originated from a prayerful moment at the 2018 Catholic Women’s Conference in Columbus. During that event, Maria Tarbell, a parishioner at St. John Neumann and the adviser to the Otterbein University Catholic Student Ministry, was inspired to do something for young adults. To work on the project, she gathered a group, including parish staff member Kate Kriegel, who said that the resulting event was “50,000 times better” than the planning committee anticipated.

The planning team did a Scripture search for the theme and decided on 1 John 3:1-2, which led to the conference title, “Beloved, Bestowed, Become.” Kriegel said this theme was developed throughout the conference.

In the first keynote address, national speaker and youth minister Mary Bielski focused on receiving love from God. She reminded the group of the grand gestures of God’s love in their lives through her own story. When she was struggling with shame after a shoplifting incident as a teenager, her father painted “I love you” on the wall. She said this was a powerful reminder that God does not need us to prove we are lovable to embrace us as His sons and daughters.

Father Nathan Cromly, founder of Eagle Eye Ministries, focused his talk on how God’s love transforms people and sends them on a mission. “Light always scatters darkness; love is always victorious. The world is owed that proclamation by Christians: ‘God loves you.’ Identify what your excuse is that keeps your light from shining. When you let Jesus set you free, you free everyone around you.”

Conference breakout sessions included discovering your mission, dating, marriage, prayer and men’s and women’s sessions. Participant Joy Choe said she was surprised how thought provoking the sessions were, offering practical, relevant tools.

A conference highlight was the surprise appearance of Bishop Robert Brennan, who attended several talks and celebrated the closing Mass.

Father Cromly delivered the homily, closing with a story about Pope St. John Paul II and his response when asked why he initiated World Youth Day, which was attended by a crowd of young people 80 times larger than anticipated: “I wanted to welcome the martyrs of the third millennium.”

Father Nathan’s concluding words were those of Jesus as He left the Last Supper for His Passion: “Rise, let us be on our way.”

Reflecting on the impact of the conference, Tarbell noted that most of the young adults stayed for Adoration and Mass, which is a testament to how their hearts were moved. She said it was also gratifying to see so many tables at lunch buzzing with conversation. “We believe seeds of community have started,” she said. “We will be creating the next conference off the wonderful roots of the first one.”
30th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Lord, help us to see as you see

Sirach 35:12–14, 16–18
Ps. 34:2–3, 17–18, 19, 23
2 Timothy 4:6–8, 16–18
Luke 18:9–14

If Jesus comes to seek the lost, will He be able to find you?

Jesus can only find you if you know you are lost. As long as you think you know where you are, there is no reason for Him to be looking for you. Can you admit, like Zacchaeus, that you need to get a closer look at what He is all about?

The story of Zacchaeus is a favorite of many. Children and adults who are short especially love it because it brings those who are able to approach Jesus down to their size. I tell people who are considered “short” in their own eyes or the eyes of others: “Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are short! There is no shame in that. After all, your feet still reach the ground, don’t they?! That’s all that matters.”

I often say to children who are getting taller than one or both of their parents: “No matter how tall you are, you still have to look up to your parents!”

Short or tall, or in between, we all need to look to Jesus as a Savior. We are called to acknowledge that we need Him; otherwise, He is of no use to us. God’s mercy is available to us, but only if we ask for it, and only if we are willing to allow it to flow through us to others.

There is sin in the world. We are human beings who live in a state of separation from what God intends for us. Parents often see their children make choices contrary to their hopes for them, often contrary to the persons they know them to be. God sees the same reality in us all. He loves us. He wants what He alone can give.

Zacchaeus had it all. He had a job. He could live the high life. Yet He recognized that there was something missing. Setting aside all decorum and responding to the grace of the Holy Spirit, he stretched. When he couldn’t stretch far enough, he didn’t bully his way to the front row. He climbed a tree.

How do you let the Lord know that you are available to Him? Are you willing to invite Him into your home and into your heart? What obstacles stand in the way?

For most of us, the problem is not that we reject the Lord. Rather, it is our tendency to want to limit the ways He can approach us. He does have His own methods that are beyond our understanding. Nevertheless, He enjoys entering into dialogue with us. He makes room for us as we are. Can we not do the same for one another?

The primary difference that the Gospel makes is not so much in what we do, but rather in how we see things. The Gospel gives us insight into how God sees.

What meets our eye is not the truth – we can all be deceived by our senses. People we trust can tell us untruths and take us in with their lies. God sees the truth. This is what the Gospel offers us.

Our goal in life should be to see as God sees. St. Paul learned this. He writes to St. Timothy at the end of his life with full awareness that his journey has had a purpose. His life is being poured out. He admits that people whom he trusted failed him and yet God is opening him to a new life beyond this life. A crown of righteousness awaits him.

O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God!

As children of God, we are entrusted to one another. We are our brother’s keeper and our sister’s keeper. Just how we take care of one another depends on where we are in our journey through life. Life has only two directions – inward toward the self in the way of selfishness, or outward from the self toward God and others.

This can be a bit confusing, because the outward journey from the self (toward God and others) does involve an inward look as well, a discovery of the true self.

When I am only interested in myself, I lose myself and become a slave to my appetites and sins. When I am open to God and others, I find my true self and discover a joy that is beyond my understanding that comes from the depths of my being.

In the celebration of the Solemnity of All Saints, we look to those who have walked the journey of life and attained the glory that God has planned for us.

We are all called to be saints. If we have our hearts fixed on this goal, it puts all the earthly sacrifices we must make into perspective.

How are we entrusted to one another?

First, we must accept one another as members of the same family. We belong to one another. There is no escape. We are destined to share eternity with all who open their hearts to God’s grace.

Second, we are invited to grow in depth together, to seek God in prayer and to deepen our understanding of the faith. This gives a purpose to our life on this earth, allowing us to prepare for life with the trinity and with all the saints.

Third, we are responsible to extend the invitation by our witness of a living relationship with God that can draw others in. We are called to be good, not only good, but to be the best version of ourselves.

God shines through His saints. How is He shining through you?

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God!

Yet so we are!
RESPECT LIFE, continued from Page 2

Catherine Glenn Foster, president and CEO of Americans United for Life, discusses the national perspective of framing pro-life public policy.

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614-392-2820

George Weigel

“The great desire, therefore, of the Catholic Church in raising aloft at this Council the torch of truth is to show herself to the world as the loving mother of all mankind: gentle, patient, and full of tenderness and sympathy for her separated children. To the human race oppressed by so many difficulties and errors the Church's loving presence offers a source of refreshing air. The Church has always opposed these errors, a bulwark against them. But when even the most hideous of these errors, the errors of the medieval age, had this to say: "Silver and gold I have none; but what I have, that I give thee. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, arise and walk. (Acts 3:6)."

Insofar as it's remembered today, Pope John's epic opening address to the Council is cited for the brush-back pitch it threw at the "prophets of gloom" who see nothing but ruin in modernity. That was certainly said — and meant. But there was far, far more to Gaudet Mater Ecclesia (Mother Church rejoices) than ecclesiastical smackdown. As I explain in a pivotal section of my new book, The Irony of Modern Catholic History (Basic Books), Gaudet Mater Ecclesia was actually the first trumpet call summoning the Church to what Pope St. John XXII would call the "New Evangelization" — the recovery of the Church's core identity as a communion of disciples in mission, dedicated to converting the world. And as those excerpts from Gaudet Mater Ecclesia in the Divine Office make clear, John XXIII knew that that evangelical mission would only meet the needs of the day if it were anchored in the ancient, abiding truths bequeathed to the Church by divine revelation: truths manifested in the life and teaching of the Lord Jesus himself, and developed through the Church's doctrinal reflection as guided by the Holy Spirit.

To be sure, John XXIII understood that evangelization was not an exercise in logic-chopping; most modern men and women were unlikely to be converted by the proclamation of syllogistic proofs. So the Church needed a contemporary way of expressing ancient truths. But as Pope John insisted in Gaudet Mater Ecclesia, those truths must be expressed "with the same meaning and the same judgment" (in some translations, "... with the same meaning and import"). That was a direct quote from St. Vincent of Lerins, a fifth-century monk who wrote an important treatise on what we know as the "development of doctrine." And it stands in sharp contrast to, and critique of, the bogus image of John XXIII as a pope unconcerned with doctrinal solidity and continuity.

It took the Church more than 20 years to grasp the full meaning of Gaudet Mater Ecclesia, as I also explain in The Irony of Modern Catholic History. Today, however, the living parts of the Catholic Church are those committed to a truth-centered evangelization that manifests itself in compassionate witness as well as compelling proposal. The dying parts of the Church are those still misreading John XXIII.
“A typical conversation would go something like this: ‘We’ve got to do something to stop the bleeding,’” Martin said. “‘We’ve got to get people coming back to Mass. We’ve got to get more people active in the parish.’ And that’s true. All of those things are really important things.

“But I hope it isn’t too shocking to say that it’s possible for someone to be coming to Church and not to be converted. It’s even possible to be active in the Church and not be converted, according to this definition from St. John Paul II.”

“One of the reasons we’re seeing more focus on the personal aspect of faith is because the Catholic Church is collapsing all over the world. The way we used to pass on the faith was more like osmosis. It just was kind of transmitted by a way of life.”

Secularization has weakened Christians’ minds to the point that financial prosperity and living in a virtual reality take precedence over trying to attain heaven by leading a holy life.

“One of the things St. Teresa of Avila says is (is) if we would just keep our eyes on Jesus, we would find ourselves at our destination. Jesus is the way and also the destination.”

John Paul II emphasized that the new evangelization is not only directed to people in far off countries but sometimes at baptized Catholics who aren’t living as disciples of Christ.

“Lay Catholics don’t have to wait until their pastor or bishop asks them to do something because Jesus has already asked him,” Martin said. “There are so many simple, natural ways of sharing the faith.”

“Inviting people to Church and sharing spiritual books provide a means to engage individuals who have not been catechized or even know God.”

Martin encouraged everyone to be evangelizers. Think about how to tell your story and “be ready to give a reason for the hope you have.”
HAPPENINGS

CLASSIFIED

WHITEHALL VFW 8794 BINGO
4100 E. Main St.
Regular Small Town Bingo will be played every Sunday and Tuesday 6-10 p.m. Doors open at 4 p.m. Food, refreshments, Instant Bingo tickets available. Proceeds help support local Veterans Relief Fund and VFWOC

OCTOBER
25, FRIDAY
‘Unplanned’ at Plain City St. Joseph
6 p.m., St. Joseph Church, 670 W. Main St., Plain City. Screening of Unplanned, a film about how a Planned Parenthood clinic director became a pro-life activist. 614-873-8850

Holy Hour at St. Matthew
7 p.m., St. Matthew Church, 807 Havens Corners Road, Gahanna. Monthly Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and prayers for reparation, purification and sanctification of the universal Church. 614-471-0212

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

Ohio Dominican Veterans Appreciation Day
10:30 a.m., Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. ODU’s annual Veterans Appreciation Day tailgate party, followed by football game against Walsh at noon. Free admission for all veterans and a guest. 614-253-3502

Back in His Arms Again Memorial Mass
1 p.m., Resurrection Cemetery Chapel Mausoleum, 9751 N. High St., Lewis Center. Memorial Mass sponsored by Back in His Arms Again ministry for families who are experiencing the loss of a child. 614-906-3115

26-27, SATURDAY-SUNDAY
DeSales Presents ‘The Red Velvet Cake War’
7 p.m. Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday, St. Francis DeSales High School, 4212 Karl Road, Columbus. School’s performing arts department presents the comedy The Red Velvet Cake War. Tickets $10. 614-267-7808

27, SUNDAY
Talk on the Modern Papacy at St. Agatha
9:30 a.m., St. Agatha Church, 1860 Northam Road, Columbus. Last of four talks by Father Edmund Hussey on the modern papacy. Topic: “Vatican II and the Modern Papacy.” 614-488-6149

St. Christopher Adult Religious Education
10 to 11:20 a.m., Library, Trinity Catholic School, 1440 Grandview Ave., Columbus. First of five talks on “The Biblical Prophets: Do They Have Anything to Tell Us Today?” with Scripture scholar Angela Burdge.

Praise Mass at Church of Our Lady
11 a.m., Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Praise Mass with upbeat contemporary music. 614-861-1242

Buckeye Awakening 10th Anniversary
1 p.m., St. Thomas More Newman Center, 64 W. Lane Ave., Columbus. Mass celebrating 10th anniversary of center’s Buckeye Awakening student retreat program, followed by reception. Former retreat participants are encouraged to attend. 614-291-4671

‘Unplanned’ at Plain City St. Joseph
2 p.m., St. Joseph Church, 670 W. Main St., Plain City. Screening of Unplanned, a film about how a Planned Parenthood clinic director became a pro-life activist. 614-873-8850

Community Supper at St. Aloysius
2 to 4 p.m., Family center, St. Aloysius Church, 2165 W. Broad St., Columbus. Free community supper, open to all. 614-875-5669

St. Catherine of Bologna Secular Franciscans
2 to 4:30 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Church, 386 Bottles Ave., Columbus. Prayer followed by ongoing formation, general meeting and fellowship. Visitors welcome. 614-895-0722

Maronite Liturgy and Discussion at St. Andrew
4 p.m., St. Andrew Church, 1899 McCoy Road, Columbus. Liturgy in the Maronite rite of the Catholic Church, celebrated by Father Alex Harb, who will give a short introduction before the liturgy and a longer talk afterward. 614-451-4290

St. Charles Reception for Latino Families
4 p.m., St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St., Columbus. Reception for Spanish-speaking families with sons in seventh and eighth grades. 614-288-5824

Prayer Group Meeting at Christ the King
5 to 7 p.m., Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus (enter at daily Mass entrance). Weekly parish prayer group meets for prayer, worship, ministry, and teaching. 614-886-8266

Catechism at the Cathedral
6:45 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Eighth of weekly series of sessions with Father Adam Streitenberger through December on the Catechism of the Catholic Church. 614-224-1295

28, MONDAY
Jason Evert Talk at Ohio State
6 to 8 p.m., Room 131 auditorium, Hitchcock Hall, Ohio State University, 2070 Neil Ave., Columbus. “College Dating 101” talk, with Catholic author and speaker Jason Evert speaking on how young adults can navigate the single life and remain strong in faith. Sponsored by St. Paul’s Outreach, St. Gabriel Catholic Radio, The Catholic Foundation and the Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center. Tickets free at go.osu.edu/JasonEvertOSU

Rosary at St. Pius X
6:30 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Recital of Rosary for the life of parish and all who are ill. 614-866-2859

Bethesda Post-Abortion Healing Ministry
6:30 p.m., support group meeting, 2744 Dover Road, Columbus (Christ the King convent, first building west of church). 614-718-0227, 614-309-2651, 614-309-0157

Our Lady of Peace Men’s Bible Study
7 p.m., Our Lady of Peace Church, 20 E. Dominion Blvd., Columbus. Bible study of Sunday’s readings. 614-304-8100

November
1, FRIDAY
St. Cecilia Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
St. Cecilia Church, 434 Norton Road, Columbus. Begins after 8:15 a.m. Mass; continues to 5 p.m. Saturday.

Eucharistic Adoration at Columbus St. Peter
9 a.m. to 8 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6890 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. First Friday Eucharistic Adoration in day chapel.

Monthly Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
Holy Cross Church, 205 S. 5th St., Columbus. Begins after 9 a.m.

Mass; continues through 6 p.m. Holy Hour.

Catholic Men’s Luncheon Club
12:45 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Catholic Men’s Luncheon Club meeting, with Kevin Lowry, chief financial officer of RevLocal digital marketing agency, speaking on faith in the workplace.

Labyrinth Walk at Shepherd’s Corner
7 to 8:30 p.m., Shepherd’s Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick. Labyrinth walk with theme “A Time for Relection and Hope.” Registration deadline Oct. 30. Suggested donation $5.

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

1-3, FRIDAY-SUNDAY
Retreat for Men at St. Therese’s

2, SATURDAY
Fatima Devotions at Columbus St. Patrick
7 a.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Mass, followed by devotions to Our Lady of Fatima, preceded by confessions at 6:30. 614-240-5910

First Saturday Devotion at St. Joan of Arc
8:30 a.m., St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, Powell. Mass, followed by rosary in reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, concluding with Fatima prayers.

Mary’s Little Children Prayer Group
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. 8:30 a.m., confessions, 9 a.m., Mass, followed by Fatima prayers and Rosary (Shepherds of Christ format); 10 a.m., meeting. 614-861-4888

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

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

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. 614-512-3731

Filipino Mass at St. Elizabeth
7:30 p.m., St. Elizabeth Church, 6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. Mass in the Tagalog language for members of the Filipino Catholic community.

3, SUNDAY
St. Christopher Adult Religious Education
10 to 11:20 a.m., Library, Trinity Catholic School, 1440 Grandview Ave., Columbus. Second of five talks on “The Biblical Prophets: Do They Have Anything to Tell Us Today?” with Scripture scholar Angela Burdge.

Friends, Family Day at St. Augustine & Gabriel
10 a.m., St Augustine & Gabriel Church, 1550 E. Hudson St., Columbus. Friends and Family Day Mass, followed by potluck lunch for parishioners, neighbors and former members of St. Augustine and St. Gabriel churches and graduates of their schools. 614-268-3123
Central Catholic League champion Columbus Bishop Watterson placed four players on the 2019 All-CCL first team in voting by the league’s coaches.

Isabella Ginocchi, Gabriella Rotolo, Rachel Weaver and Megan Eberts landed spots on the first team from Watterson, which went undefeated in CCL play.

St. Francis DeSales, Bishop Hartley and Bishop Ready had three players each on the first team.

Watterson began the Ohio High School Athletic Association Division III district play with a 3-0 victory over Lancaster Fisher Catholic before suffering a season-ending loss to Grandview Heights.

Four Watterson players named All-CCL in soccer

DeSales three on All-CCL volleyball first team

Three players from Columbus St. Francis DeSales and two each from Bishop Watterson and Bishop Hartley were named to the 2019 All-Central Catholic League girls volleyball first team last week by the coaches.

DeSales’ Bella D’Amico, Emma Brown and Maryanne Boyle were joined on the first team by Hartley’s Colleen Sweeney and Ella Brandewie and Watterson’s Olyvia Kennedy and Sydney Taylor, who missed nine matches while playing for the gold medal-winning U.S. youth national team at the world championships.

Taylor and Kennedy lead the Eagles in digs per set and kills per set, respectively, this season.

DeSales (21-2), which finished with a 5-1 record in CCL play, began Ohio High School Athletic Association postseason tournament play last week ranked sixth in the state in Division I and as a No. 2 district seed.

Watterson (19-5), a regional semifinalist in 2018, was ranked 18th and also seeded second in the district. The Stallions won two district games last week.

Hartley, which advanced to the state championship game in Division II in 2018, finished the 2019 regular season ranked 20th in Division I and was a No. 8 seed in the same district as DeSales. The Hawks also won two district matches last week.

The All-CCL second team included three players from Watterson, two from DeSales, and one each from Hartley and Bishop Ready.
King George visits Holy Spirit School

King George III of England visited Columbus Holy Spirit School, in the person of physical education teacher Tyson Williams. Fourth-graders were studying the American Revolution and got to feel how the colonists would have felt about being unfairly taxed, as “King George” took students’ M&M’s away for different reasons, leaving some students with none and others with many.

Photo courtesy Holy Spirit School

St. Cecilia science with cookies

Columbus St. Cecilia School students recently used cookies to help them learn about the phases of the moon. Pictured are (from left) Austin Vacheresse, Hailey Litterall, Aubrey Kocheran and Mike Daniels.

Photo courtesy St. Cecilia School

St. Michael students experience 40 Days for Life

A group of eighth-graders from Worthington St. Michael School had the privilege of witnessing to the dignity of human life at the Columbus 40 Days for Life midway prayer rally on Tuesday, Oct. 15 at Founder’s Clinic. The students heard from speakers Matt Britton, chairman of the board for 40 Days for Life; Catholic author Bud McFarlane, and Beth Vanderkooi, executive director of Greater Columbus Right to Life. One student reflected on the experience and said, “I was not expecting the event that happened today. I’m glad I was there so I could really see the battle that is going on in our world.”

Photo courtesy St. Michael School

Firefighter returns to St. Matthias

Columbus Fire Department Capt. Rick Biancone, a former Columbus St. Matthias School student, taught his 33rd annual fire safety class at his alma mater. Biancone has made such visits to schools throughout the city’s Northland neighborhood since 1987.

Photo courtesy St. Matthias School

Your Catholic Cemeteries Invite You to Prayer Services for Your Deceased as a Complement to the Feasts of All Saints Day and All Souls Day...

CEMETERY SUNDAY

November 3, 2019

ST. JOSEPH CEMETERY
2:00 p.m. Prayer Service
OUR MOTHER OF SORROWS CHAPEL
6440 S. High St, U.S. Rt. 23 S.
Lockbourne, Ohio 43137
614-491-2751

Fr. Dan Dury
Pastor
St. Catharine

MT. CALVARY CEMETERY
2:00 p.m. Prayer Service
PRIEST CIRCLE
Mt. Calvary at W. Mound St.
Columbus, Ohio 43223
614-491-2751

Fr. Stash Dailey
Pastor
Holy Family

HOLY CROSS CEMETERY
2:00 p.m. Prayer Service
CHAPEL MAUSOLEUM
11319 National Rd. S.W., U.S. Rt. E.
Pantala, Ohio 43062
740-927-4442

Fr. James Klima
Pastor
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

RESURRECTION CEMETERY
2:00 p.m. Prayer Service
CHAPEL MAUSOLEUM
9531 N. High St, U.S. Rt. 23 N.
Lewis Center, Ohio 43035
614-888-1805

Fr. Charles Cotton
Retired

Special Sunday Office Hours
St. Joseph Cemetery ~ Noon to 4 p.m.  Resurrection Cemetery ~ Noon to 4 p.m.  Holy Cross Cemetery ~ Noon to 4 p.m.

Attend ODU Preview Day

Saturday, Nov. 9 | 9 a.m. – Noon
Get a taste of Panther Life as you tour campus, explore our high-demand majors, learn about our Catholic Dominican tradition, and so much more!

Sign up now! ohiodominican.edu/Preview

Central Ohio’s Catholic University • Founded by the Dominican Sisters of Peace.

1216 Sunbury Rd. | Columbus, OH 43219 | 614.251.4500

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Central Ohio’s Catholic University • Founded by the Dominican Sisters of Peace.

1216 Sunbury Rd. | Columbus, OH 43219 | 614.251.4500
8th Annual
Sacred Heart Congress

November 16, 2019
St. Michael Church
5750 North High St. | Worthington, OH

Registration:
$10 for INDIVIDUALS | $20 for FAMILIES
(Scholarships Available)

“It is altogether impossible to enumerate the heavenly gifts which devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus has poured out on the souls of the faithful, purifying them, offering them heavenly strength, rousing them to the attainment of all virtues.”
- Pope Pius XII

Featuring Fabulous Presenters and Holy Mass with Bishop Brennan

Bishop Robert Brennan
Emcee Emily Jaminet
Speaker Fr. Stash Dailey
Speaker Bill Messerly

Saturday, November 16, 2019 | 7:30AM - 12:15PM
Coffee & Light Refreshments Served | Confessions Heard and Adoration Throughout the Day

7:00AM - 8:00AM Registration
7:30AM Rosary - Sisters Mary Mother of the Eucharist
8:00AM Welcome - Emily Jaminet
8:15AM - 9:20AM Holy Mass - Bishop Robert Brennan
9:30AM - 10:15AM Break/Refreshments & Organizations
10:15AM - 10:50AM Fr. Stash Dailey
11:15AM - 11:50PM Bill Messerly
12:00PM - 1:00PM Organizations

Registration Requested and Appreciated
Register at: www.SacredHeartColumbus.org

Listen to the Sacred Heart Hour First Friday on AM 820
Hosted by Father Stash Daily and Jo Ann and Chuck Wilson
The Sacred Heart Enthronement Network | www.enthronements.com