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Lenten series: The flight into Egypt

By Sister Constance Veit, LSP

The second of Mary’s seven sorrows is the flight into Egypt. St. Matthew’s Gospel (2:13-16) tells the story: “Behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, ‘Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him.’ Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt. He stayed there until the death of Herod, that what the Lord had said through the prophet might be fulfilled. ‘Out of Egypt I called my son.’ When Herod realized that he had been deceived by the magi, he became furious. He ordered the massacre of all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had ascertained from the magi.”

This mystery gives us a lot to think about. In the flight into Egypt, we see that it didn’t take long for Jesus to be “born into the world,” to use the phrasing of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, to “suffer” (Pope Francis, homily, Oct. 14, 2018).”

Something we notice in working with young people is that for some, discernment never seems to end. We call them perpetual discerners. I attended a vocation talk at which the speaker, a theology professor, recognized this tendency and emphasized that vocational discernment is not meant to go on indefinitely. It should come to a definite end with a committed “Yes” that leads to action! I thought that was very good advice.

This is what Mary and Joseph did, isn’t it? Each time they received a message from an angel, they sprang into action. In the flight into Egypt, they traveled light in order to hold Jesus close to their hearts. As we ponder this mystery, let’s ask for young people the grace to listen attentively to God’s voice speaking in their hearts, and the courage to say “Yes” – to take risks and leave everything behind, putting out into the deep and going wherever God leads them, even when he leads them to the Cross.

Let’s also ask for young people the grace of compassion and empathy for those who suffer in any way, especially for those who have been wounded in any way by abortion, for migrants and refugees who find their dignity ignored, for the homeless, and for anyone who is vulnerable before the inhumane attitudes of our throw-away culture.

Sister Constance Veit, LSP, is director of communications for the Little Sisters of the Poor.

St. Patrick’s Day events include Mass, parade, reunion

The Shamrock Club of Columbus will sponsor its annual St. Patrick’s Day events in downtown Columbus on Sunday, March 17, beginning with Mass at 10:30 a.m. in St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St. Club members are asked to be in their seats by 10:20.

Mass will be followed at 12:15 p.m. by a parade starting at COSI Columbus, 333 W. Broad St., going east on Broad and north on High Street to the Columbus Convention Center, 400 N. High St.

The club’s annual Irish family reunion will take place in the convention center’s Battelle Hall at 1:30. Doors open at noon. Entertainment will be by The Hooligans folk band and the Irwin Academy and Regan Rankin Holland Academy Irish dancers. For tickets or more information, call the Shamrock Club at (614) 491-4449.

Columbus St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., will have its annual Mass celebrating the Solemnity of St. Patrick at 6:30 p.m. Friday, March 15, followed by a torch-lit procession to the Litany of Irish Saints, accompanied by pipes and drums (weather permitting).

After the parade, there will be a traditional Irish tea party, with scones, soda breads, shortbreads, tea, punch and beer, and music by The Kells. Irish dancers in the parish have been invited to perform.

London St. Patrick Church, 61 S. Union St., will host a St. Patrick’s Day potluck meal after the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday. A solemn traditional Latin Mass honoring St. Patrick will be celebrated at 7 p.m. Monday, March 18.

CORRECTION

The list of Lenten activities on Page 13 of the March 10 Catholic Times contained incorrect information on the New Albany Church of the Resurrection’s weekly 33 hours of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament during Lent. It will take place each week of Lent from the end of the 9 a.m. Mass on Thursday to 6:30 p.m. on Friday. Information elsewhere in that edition concerning the devotion is correct.

...
Archbishop Charles Chaput, OFM Cap., the archbishop of Philadelphia, will present the 2019 Pio Cardinal Laghi Lecture at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 27 in the Jessing Center at the Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St. His topic will be “Facing the Future With Confidence and Joy.”

Archbishop Chaput, 74, has been a member of the Capuchin Franciscan order since 1965 and a priest since 1970. He became bishop of Rapid City, South Dakota, in 1988, and archbishop of Denver in 1997 and was installed as archbishop of Philadelphia in 2011.

As a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribe, Archbishop Chaput was the second Native American to be ordained a bishop in the United States and the first Native American archbishop.

He is a co-founder of the national Catholic Association of Latino Leaders and helped in the founding of EN-DOW, a leadership initiative of Catholic women. He also was instrumental in creating the Denver-based Augustinian Institute, an independent, lay-run graduate school for forming lay Catholic leaders.

In February 2014, he was appointed to the Pontifical Council for the Laity by Pope Francis. In 2015, he hosted the World Meeting of Families and the visit of the pope to Philadelphia. He participated in the 2015 Synod of Bishops on the Family in Rome and has served the Holy See on several occasions. He also has been a member of several committees of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The Pio Cardinal Laghi Chair was inaugurated at the Josephinum in 1992. At the time, Cardinal Laghi was prefect of the Congregation for Catholic Education. American cardinals and presidents of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops promoted the funding of the chair in recognition of Cardinal Laghi’s dedicated service to the Catholic Church in the United States.

Ready High School to host Discover Night

Columbus Bishop Ready High School, 707 Salisbury Road, will host its annual Discover Ready Night for parents and guardians of students in grades five through eight, or for anyone considering a transfer to the school, on Tuesday, March 19 at 7 p.m.

The program will include an informal question-answer session and opportunities to learn about the school’s curriculum, spiritual life, co-curricular activities, athletics and financial assistance programs. For more information, call the school at (614) 276-5263.

Honor choir to present 11th annual concert

The Diocesan Catholic Schools Honor Choir will present its 11th annual concert, “Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus,” at 6:30 p.m. Monday, April 8 at Sunbury St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37.

Each year, students from all diocesan schools are invited to participate in this one-day event, led since 2008 by artistic director and clinician Sheila Cafmeyer. More than 220 singers from 12 schools will perform, representing diocesan grade schools and Ohio Dominican University (ODU).

In addition to the honor choir performance, individual selections will be performed by the youth choirs of Columbus St. Catharine, Lancaster St. Mary and Wellston Ss. Peter and Paul school and the ODU choir. To order a copy of this year’s performance, go to http://soundwaves.org and search “Diocese of Columbus.”

This event was developed by diocesan music teachers to give their singers an opportunity to perform challenging works in a large ensemble setting. Singers prepare the selections under the guidance of their music teachers and assemble for one afternoon rehearsal and evening performance.

“It is such a joy for me to have the opportunity, year after year, to work with the young singers of our diocese,” Cafmeyer said. “Our music teachers do the hard work of teaching the music to their select singers while juggling musicals, Masses, lesson plans and classes. Under the clear guidance of the Holy Spirit, each performance promises to bless all participants and our audience.”

Sacred music of all styles will be performed during the concert to demonstrate unity and Catholic heritage through music. A free-will offering will be collected for the Holy Family Soup Kitchen.

Host families wanted for international students

Looking for an intercultural experience for your family? Have a room to spare? The International Partnership of Education Research and Communication (IPERC) might have an opportunity for you.

IPERC is a nonprofit group that works with diocesan middle and high schools to assist students from other nations who want to study in America. Through IPERC, more than 50 international students are attending local Catholic schools such as Columbus Bishop Watterson, St. Francis DeSales and Bishop Ready high schools. IPERC is looking for caring host families to welcome incoming students and help them become active members of their school communities.

Host families must provide students...
What shall I give up?  

STEWARDSHIP, LIVING OUR FAITH  
Andrea Pannell

What shall I give up for Lent? Each year, I hear a number of people say, “I want this year’s Lenten sacrifice to mean something.” As we seek to grow in faith, we look to the season of Lent as a “kickoff” of sorts toward a journey into deepening faith. We begin to look at our Lenten sacrifice as more than a mere test of will and seek greater awareness of its invitation into something more hopeful and meaningful.

As I listen to friends, family, co-workers, and others I meet, sharing what they have committed to during Lent, the vast majority speak of promises to give up sweets or soda, bad language, watching TV, and social media. The very sad part of this is that for some, our relationship with the Church and with God, beyond Lent, has become defined by what we give up and sacrifice. Lent becomes merely another demand from the Church to deny ourselves the things we love and enjoy. People can find themselves defining their relationship with God and Church only in terms of the things, people and activities they have given up or avoided for the Church and God. They can then give very little, if any, thought to how life and relationships grow and expand with greater kinship to both Church and God. While Lent is a season of sacrifice and penance, we can miss its joyful invitation to greater discipleship.

Our surrender to the transformative love of God allows the tender heart of Jesus to lead us through this desert time. Jesus entered humbly into the desert, wrestling with demons and emerging ready to be who His Father desired Him to be, the Savior, and so should we. We are not called to be saviors, but our desert time encourages us to seek God’s will for our lives. We question ourselves and reflect on what we should give up, but not for the sake of sacrifice alone. We seek to ready ourselves for what comes after the dry, and time of desert life.

We let go of what will keep us from emerging from the desert ready to be who God, our Father, created us to be and to ready ourselves to be a credible witness to the glory and salvation we find only in Jesus Christ. The Church gives us the penitential season of Lent to guide us through a time of sacrifice, discipline and deep reflection in anticipation of the restoration and joy we then emerge radiating on Easter. As mature Christian stewards, we begin to ask “How can I live my call to pray, fast and give alms in such a way that leads me to emerge from this desert time as a joy-filled witness to the risen Lord?”

Andrea Pannell is episcopal moderator for the diocesan Office of Development and Planning.

Bishops’ special edition in next issue

To commemorate the historic occasion of Bishop Robert J. Brennan’s installation as the 12th bishop of the Diocese of Columbus, The Catholic Times will publish an expanded March 24 issue to welcome him and to say thank you to Bishop Frederick Campbell for his 14 years of service here.

Because the newspaper will be considerably larger than regular issues, a delay in arrival to subscribers’ mailboxes is anticipated next week. The paper should arrive in homes beginning Friday, March 22 rather than Thursday, March 21.

Bishop Brennan’s installation is set for 2 p.m. Friday, March 29, at St. Joseph Cathedral.

If you have questions, would like to order extra copies of this special issue for $1 each or inquire about advertising, please email Editor Doug Bean at dbean@columbuscatholic.org.

You also may mail your requests to The Catholic Times, 197 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215.

Faith in Action

Get back on the right path during Lent

The season of Lent is about getting back on the right path. On the journey of life, our demands, pressures and distractions can lead us astray. We lose our bearings on what matters most – our relationships with God, family and neighbors. When we go astray and fracture relationships, we may not even realize the damage inflicted on ourselves and our surroundings.

Lent is a time to reorient our lives by using the proven disciplines of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. These guides help point us in the right direction, aiding in a conversion of heart. Prayer builds a relationship with God. Fasting reduces distractions cluttering our soul. Almsgiving expresses love to our neighbors in need. Keeping these guides in mind, here is a list of suggested ways to help you get back on the right path during Lent.

Perform an examination of conscience – There are many types of examinations of conscience to aid in the preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. One you might not be familiar with is the Examination of Conscience in Light of Catholic Social Teaching found on the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishop’s website, www.usccb.org.

Take the Lenten journey for families – The diocesan Office for Social Concerns and the Marriage and Family Life Office have teamed up to suggest three ways for the domestic Church to grow in prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. A Family Mission Rosary can help families discover their own missions and deepen their relationships with God, Mary and each other. The Lenten journey focuses on fasting from distractions in your home by dedicating one day of the week to a family “day of rest.” Finally, you can share your Lenten journey with members of our human family here and around the world through Catholic Relief Services’ Rice Bowl. More details can be found at www.crsricebowl.org.

Give witness at 40 Days for Life – This peaceful prayer vigil is held at abortion centers throughout America during Lent. Participants are asked to volunteer for one-hour shifts and sign a statement of peace. It calls for prayer and fasting, constant vigil, and community outreach. For details, visit www.gcrtl.org/40-days-for-life.html.

Join us for the Good Friday Walking Stations of the Cross – Hundreds of youth and adults will follow the three-hour Way of the Cross to locations throughout downtown Columbus. Pray, recognize Jesus’ suffering and crucifixion, and reflect on current issues of social concern. The walk begins at 8 a.m. on Good Friday, April 19, at St. Joseph Cathedral.

Respect the dignity of human life – Celebrate the lives of persons with disabilities during Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month in March and Autism Awareness Month in April. Reflect on the message of Open Wide our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love, a pastoral letter against racism. Accompany some of our returning citizens, the formerly incarcerated, with hope through our ARCH ministry.

Care for God’s creation – Clean up the clutter of litter. Spend a moment outside and give thanks and praise to God, our creator. Discov-
Answering God’s Call: Deacon Larry Koebel: Serving inmates ‘everything a ministry should be’

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

“I learned early that the biggest instrument in prison ministry is the ear,” Deacon Koebel said. “A good prison minister spends 90 percent of his time listening. One of the most important things this ministry does is to give men a chance to cry in an environment where they don’t dare cry otherwise, because they would be perceived as showing weakness.”

Deacon Koebel had been in diaconal service for 10 years at Columbus St. Elizabeth Church when he saw an ad in The Catholic Times in 1990 that said the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction was looking for a priest or deacon to serve as chaplain for the Orient prison.

Those two words, ‘or deacon,’ were like a blinking neon sign, he said. “It was the first time I’d ever seen wording like that in an ad. I saw this as a maturing of the diaconate, something that showed deacons were making a positive impact. I talked about it to the late Deacon Joe Farry, who at the time was director of the diocesan Office of the Diaconate. He told me, ‘You know as much as I do,’ and encouraged me to find out what this was about.

“I went to the prison and talked to two chaplains there who were pretty hostile to the Catholic Church. I thought that was that, but a couple of weeks later, I received a letter saying the state had hired me. I had no idea what to do next.

I was greener than last week’s bread, but since I had no preconceived notion of what to do, that might have been a good thing.

“I made it a practice not to stay in the office, but to go out into the units, into the yard, into ‘the hole’ (the prison’s disciplinary area). I went everywhere, even where the prison officials wished I wouldn’t. And that encouraged the men to open up to me,” Deacon Koebel said.

“The prison also is the only place I’ve ever worn a Roman collar. I didn’t do it before, because we were told that as deacons, ‘You are not a mini-priest.’ But Father Dave Schilder, who at the time was chaplain at the Correctional Reception Center, the other prison in Orient, told me I needed to wear the collar so the guards and other workers would know who I was. That collar got me into some of those places you couldn’t go with a shirt and tie,” he said.

Deacon Koebel wrote some of those stories in a book, Right Side of the Grass Wrong Side of the Fence. The title refers to an inmate’s response when the deacon asked him, “How ya doin’?” The “fence” is the double chain-link fence topped with razor wire that surrounds the prison. The inmate was saying he was alive but locked inside prison.

Diocesan parishes list changes in Eucharistic Adoration schedule

The following parishes have changed their schedule for Eucharistic Adoration from the times listed in the March 10 Catholic Times:

Worthington St. Michael Church no longer has Perpetual Adoration. Its new schedule is: Sunday: Through the night until 8:15 a.m., resuming at 2 p.m. and continuing to 6 a.m. Monday; 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday; 7 a.m. to 6:45 p.m. Tuesday; 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday; 9 a.m. Thursday to 8:15 a.m. Sunday, except during Masses at 6:30 and 8:15 a.m. Friday and 8:15 a.m. and 4 p.m. Saturday. Adoration takes place in the church’s Donation Chapel.

Adoration hours at Columbus St. Mary, Mother of God Church in the city’s German Village neighborhood are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday in the Burkley Building next to the church. It is anticipated that Masses will resume on Palm Sunday in the church, which is being renovated because of a lightning strike in August 2016. Until then, weekend Masses are at 4 p.m. Saturday at Columbus St. Leo Church and 9 and 11 a.m. Sunday in the St. Mary School gymnasium.

In addition, the list of Lenten activities on Page 13 of the March 10 Catholic Times contained incorrect information on the New Albany Church of the Resurrection’s weekly 33 hours of Adoration during Lent. It will take place each week in Lent from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursday to 6:30 p.m. on Friday. Information elsewhere in that edition concerning the devotion is correct.
Annulment necessary?; ‘Amen’ is right

**QUESTION & ANSWER**

*Father Kenneth Doyle*  
*Catholic News Service*

**Q** I was married by a minister/attorney 40 years ago. My husband was Jewish, and the marriage ended in a divorce after nine months. I now want to marry a man who is a widower. We are both active Catholics, and we want to be married in the church. Will I need to apply for an annulment? If so, how long will it take? (Santa Barbara, California)

**A** This is an easy one – both for me to answer and for you to carry out. I am assuming here that 40 years ago, you never received the Catholic Church’s permission to marry in an other-than-Catholic ceremony. If that is true, you do not now need a full-scale annulment process (which normally can take upward of a year).

Instead, you simply need an administrative proceeding – called, technically, a “declaration of nullity for absence of canonical form.” This would involve your meeting with a priest and filling out some short paperwork regarding your earlier wedding – where it took place, who officiated, etc.

The priest would then submit this petition to your diocese, requesting a formal declaration that the earlier ceremony did not constitute a valid Catholic wedding – which would then leave you free to marry in a Catholic ceremony. This would almost surely be a relatively quick process.

One California diocese, for example, says on its website that “a typical administrative declaration of nullity in the Diocese of Oakland would take about three weeks to obtain, once the necessary papers have been sent to the tribunal office.”

**Q** I know that there is some leeway as to whether to receive the Eucharist in the mouth or in the hand – and also as to whether to receive kneeling or standing. But what about the “Amen” response just before taking Communion?

The response to “the body of Christ” is “amen.” In the liturgical guidelines, there is no suggestion of – or permission for – an alternative response. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal, the official “rulebook” of the church on liturgy, says: “The priest raises the host slightly and shows it to each, saying, ‘the body of Christ.’ The communicant replies ‘amen’ and receives the sacrament” (No. 161).

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops document Norms for the Distribution and Reception of Holy Communion explains that “the act of Communion, therefore, is also an act of faith. For when the minister says, ‘the body of Christ’ or ‘the blood of Christ,’ the communicant’s ‘amen’ is a profession in the presence of the saving Christ, body and blood, soul and divinity, who now gives life to the believer” (No. 14).

**Q** I’m sure that part of the reason for this universal conformity is to assure the dignity and respect that should surround the Eucharist. What if the church allowed for creative variations, simply permitting recipients to say whatever they wanted?

Your own examples – “yes,” “I believe” and “thank you” – are tame, but suppose someone chose to say “I am very grateful” or even, “This makes my day.” Might it then be difficult for those nearby to give their full attention to the sacred sacrament?

Now to your final question – whether the priest should refuse to give Communion to someone who uses a different response. I don’t think so; that doesn’t mean the person doesn’t believe in the Eucharist or is unworthy to receive.

If the recipient, however, made no response at all, the priest might wonder whether the person had ever received before. I can imagine a priest, in that situation, quietly asking if the person were a Catholic – although my own tendency would be simply to give the benefit of the doubt.

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

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**LOCAL NEWS, continued from Page 3**

with a safe, stable environment, their own bedroom with a desk, transportation to and from school and school-related activities (the bus is acceptable), and all meals, other than school lunches. To help offset these costs, host families are provided with a monthly stipend, as well as local support.

To learn more about this opportunity, contact Rachel Foulin, IPERC program director and coordinator for the Columbus area, at (614) 499-2958.

**Architecture will be theme of St. Joan of Arc mission**

The parish mission at Powell St. Joan of Arc, 10700 Liberty Road, will feature noted liturgical architect William Heyer presenting three talks on understanding sacred architecture. The mission will take place Monday to Wednesday, April 8 to 10, at 7 p.m., concluding with Adoration and prayer.

All sessions will end at 8:30 p.m.

Heyer will speak on Monday about the architecture of churches from the ancient classical period through the Renaissance, on Tuesday about churches from the Renaissance to the 20th century, and on Wednesday about contemporary churches.

The talks will explore the origins and growth of Catholic architecture through the ages and the language and expression of Christian architecture. The timeless nature of sacred architecture finds its roots in our desire to be part of something greater than ourselves. Christian architecture reveals that “something greater” to the world and shows a desire to express true reverence to the creator. Heyer will examine how this was accomplished in ancient times and even in our own diocese and at St. Joan of Arc.

Heyer has been the architect for several churches in the Diocese of Columbus and elsewhere, including St. Turibius Chapel of the Pontifical College Josephinum.

For more information, call (614) 761-0905.

**Abuse survivor to tell his story at Newman Center**

Michael Mack, a survivor of clergy sexual abuse, will tell the story of the journey of healing that led him back to the Catholic Church in a play coming to the Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center, 64 W. Lane Ave.

The one-man, 90-minute program, Conversations With My Molester: A Journey of Faith, will be presented on Saturday, April 6 at 7 p.m.

Mack’s boyhood dream of becoming a Catholic priest ended when his pastor first invited him to the rectory. This play is his spiritual autobiography – a true story of trespass, grace and healing. It has been praised by secular and religious sources.

Father Ed Nowak, CSP, director of the Newman Center, said Mack was invited to the center as a result of listening sessions it conducted in connection with the abuse crisis within the Catholic Church. Mack has presented the play at the Paulist Center in Boston, which, like the Newman Center, is operated by the Paulist Fathers.

“It is our hope that Michael’s journey back to the church can help others heal from the grievous wounds of sexual abuse,” Father Nowak said. “With the most recent release of the names of the credibly accused priests in the Columbus diocese, this event can be one that helps the diocese begin to heal as well.”

Following the play, there will be a discussion with Mack and members of the clergy. This event is free and open to the public. It will include mature themes and content. For more information, visit BuckeyeCatholic.
Choose words that affirm human dignity

By Mark Butler

For more than 30 years, March has been recognized as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month. Organizations, families and persons with developmental disabilities use this month to educate the community about their condition, to advocate for inclusion and access to services, and to share stories about the struggles and successes of persons with developmental disabilities.

The term “developmental disabilities” refers to a group of conditions that cause impairment or delay in learning, communication, behavior or mobility. These disabilities are present at birth or are diagnosed in early childhood, usually lasting for the person’s entire life. Developmental disabilities include Down syndrome, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, autism spectrum disorder, and more. Nearly one in six children in the United States have been diagnosed with one or more developmental disabilities.

One way you can get involved in the work of advocacy during Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month is to join the campaign to stop using the “R-word.” The R-word is the word “retard(ed).” It has been used in the past to diagnose or describe people with Down syndrome or other intellectual disabilities. In more recent years, it has become a derogatory term used when insulting or questioning the intelligence of others.

One thing we can all do is to change our language. By using “person-first” language, we acknowledge the person’s entire life. Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month is a good opportunity to reflect upon the words we choose. It is also an invitation to explore ways to advocate for and celebrate the dignity of people with disabilities.

Mark Butler is education resource coordinator for the Dominican Sisters of Peace. He has spent 20 years working in religion education and youth ministry on the parish and diocesan levels. A parent of two young adults with disabilities, he advocates for the rights of parents and young people with disabilities on the local and state levels.
My mother passed away when I was 35 years old.

She was a highly educated mother of 11 who had a sense for the chic, but was never afraid to make a fool of herself. She was serious when she needed to be and playful when she wanted to be. She was Einstein, Freud, and Bugs Bunny all rolled into a package that was both practical and elegant. There was a style about her that was a bit rugged, but ultimately delicate.

And she died too soon.

I still laugh at a photo of her trying to do some Irish dancing in our living room in front of the whole family. Never having taken a lesson in Irish dancing, she did the best she could, but the picture is of one of those moments that I both cherish and dislike at the same time. It embarrasses me and makes me proud.

And I still cry at a photo of a family reunion we had, shortly before her death, that shows her surrounded by her extended family, her body obsessed by the proximity of death but her spirit consumed with honor and pride. Even a few short weeks before death, you can see the charm in her eyes.

Mom was an English major in college. I think of her every time I end a sentence in a preposition, or dangle a participle, or use “lay” instead of “lie” (“Chickens lay eggs, you lie down,” she used to say). She was a gentle corrective agent when it came to how we spoke, but we all owe our ability to speak correctly to her.

The first time I heard the word “palliative” was a few weeks before she left us. It was at the hospital, and a doctor friend used the term with me to describe what was happening with her. I had asked him about her prognosis, and he told me that her care was simply palliative. I remember nodding seriously to match the seriousness I sensed in his voice, then looking up what the word meant as soon as I got home. There are some words that I wish I didn’t know what they mean. Palliative is one of them.

Mom was always the great consoler and the great translator for me.

All through my life, she would translate what an authority figure really meant or would console me after some traumatic event. If I skinned my knee, she’d be there consoling me. If I got in trouble at school, she’d explain what the teachers meant by their obviously mistaken notion of the need for discipline. If I got into a fight with one of my brothers or sisters, she’d try to explain the value of harmony in the family. If I made my dad mad at me, she would translate his words for me.

And every time we had these little impromptu meetings, she would always do the same thing at the end of them.

She’d take me by the hand and say “Don’t worry.” Then she would say, “I love you.” And then she would make me say a Hail Mary with her.

These times were really special to me. I felt closer to her at these moments than at any other time in my life. I’ll never forget the feeling that this woman, with 10 other children to tend to, loved me in that moment. Just me. For those few precious moments, she was just mine and I was all hers.

That was the real beauty of mom. You never got cheated with her. She always made you feel like you were the only other person in the room. She loved each one of her children fully and myopically.

She died in the home. We all watched her deteriorate as she came closer and closer to her last breath. We could seemingly count the days. She went from being completely lucid and sitting up in bed to being curled up in the fetal position, unable to communicate with anything more than a grunt here or there.

As she lay dying in the bed that she shared with my father for decades, we all got the chance to say goodbye to her privately. I’m not quite sure how that got arranged, but I always have imagined that one of my type-A sisters arranged a schedule on a spreadsheet or something. All I know is that I somehow knew when it was “my turn.”

And when my turn came to say goodbye, I knew exactly what I was going to say to mom.

After all the times that she consoled me, I was going to give that back to her. For every skinned knee, every incident at school, every tiff with a sibling, it was going to be my turn to console her. Better than any Mother’s Day card or Christmas present, I was going to return to her what she always had given me.

As I made my way up the steps to her room, emotions wild, my plan was very simple. I would take her by the hand, tell her not to worry, tell her that I loved her, and say a Hail Mary with her. Just as she always had done for me. I was going to give all that back to her.

As I entered her room, there was a quiet and a peace that was almost visible. She looked at me with a sorrowful welcome that almost startled me. I realized immediately that her sorrow was not for her fate, but for mine. She was sorry for my sorrow. She was hurt because I was hurting.

There is a love that is laid on the hearts of mothers for their sons and daughters that cannot be explained. It’s an underserved love that is ordained, but not earned. Think about it. For the first nine months of our relationship with our mothers, we make their lives pretty miserable. We make them sick in the morning. We make their ankles swell. Their clothes don’t fit any more. And forget about being comfortable. In short, we do absolutely nothing to deserve the love we’re given by our mothers.

But the very moment we come into this world, we are loved unconditionally by them. And all we did was show up. Just show up. It’s a love that’s clearly divinely ordered.

So my chance to give back came. For me, the significance of this moment was beyond description.

I sat down on the edge of the bed, ready to pour out for her all that she had poured out to me over the years.

And I cried like a baby. Not just a few tears, but a sobbing, shoulder-quaking, snot-dripping, uncontrollable blubbering that would make any teething six-month-old proud. I couldn’t get a word out. Knowing that this was the last time mom and I would talk made it even worse.

Then in the midst of my meltdown, an amazing thing happened.

One last time … She took me by the hand. Told me not to worry. Said “I love you.” And through the tears, we said a Hail Mary together.

It has struck me since then that the love my mother showed me all through my life and even on her deathbed is a love that can only have been laid on her heart by the very hand of God. It’s an indelible mark seared into her heart that cannot be removed.

Because with all the pro-life slogans and all the years of working toward the legal protection of the unborn child, we seem to have allowed a very profound fact to be obscured in the dim mists of activism and legislative language.

While it is true that life begins at conception, it is also true that motherhood begins there, too. When sperm meets egg, a child is created, but so is a mother, and she bonds with that child in a way that is not understandable outside of the understanding of an Almighty God. When that motherhood is interrupted for any reason, it is interrupting a natural order that was set in place long before any of us were conceived.

For motherhood is the core of what the pro-life community espouses. Motherhood is the personification of divine love. And it carries the delicate aroma of joy.

Tim Welsh is executive director of the Bethesda Healing Ministry for post-abortive women and men.

Give diapers for needy mothers during Lent

St. Gabriel Catholic Radio executive director Bill Messerly (left) and assistant director and station manager Dave Orsborn pose in front of diapers that listeners have dropped off at the station for the Bottoms Up diaper drive. Bottoms Up is encouraging listeners of St. Gabriel Radio to include buying diapers for needy mothers as part of their Lenten almsgiving. Diapers may be dropped off at the station, 4673 Winterset Drive, Columbus, or purchased online at https://bottomsup.life and shipped directly to Bottoms Up.
Eighth-grade students at Columbus St. Anthony School, including Joey Harrington and Samaria Beedles (pictured), made ice cream in a bag in Brandon Garrick’s science class. The students learned that ice cream freezes at minus-6 degrees Centigrade (21 Fahrenheit) and that the freezing point of water is lowered by adding rock salt to ice placed in the bag. Heat energy is transferred from milk poured in the bag to the salty ice water, causing the ice to melt. As it does, the water in the milk freezes, resulting in ice cream.

Photo courtesy St. Anthony School

All students at Columbus St. Andrew School took part in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) activities brought to their classrooms by Dr. Betty Anderson of The Ohio State University. They worked on projects related to wireless energy, speakers, heart rate monitors, DC motors, LED flashlights, and water filtration systems. Pictured are Izzy Poulton (left) and Ella Erdman learning about water filtration.

Photo courtesy St. Andrew School

Four Scouts and five adults took part in the annual St. Tarcisius program sponsored by the diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting on Friday and Saturday, March 1 and 2, at Plain City St. Joseph Church. They are (from left): first row, Chuck Lamb, Jodi Santini, Sharon Roche, Ed Schneider, Dominic Paulus and Jon Santini; second row, Tim Paulus, Isaak Giddens, Father Joseph Trapp, pastor of St. Joseph Church, and Jon Santini. The 24-hour program, which began at 6 p.m. Friday and concluded with Mass on Saturday, is for anyone age 11 and older. It takes place on the Friday and Saturday before Ash Wednesday and focuses on the Eucharist. St. Tarcisius, an early Christian martyr, was a young man who was killed for protecting the Eucharist from pagans. St. Joseph Church hosted the program for the first time this year and will be the new home for the event.

Photo courtesy diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting

Columbus Trinity Elementary School’s Power of the Pen team placed third in the district tournament and advanced to the regionals. Team members pictured are (from left): first row, Madi Dickson, Evie Borgerding, Sarah Kelby, Jacob Blubaugh and Josh Ashmore; second row, Zelma Hutton, Mia Stratton, Lucy Rodriguez, Sarah Qemalli, Gabbie McCready, Alana Ionno, Raya Gardner and Sam Schulz.

Photo courtesy Trinity Elementary School

Knights of Columbus

 Lenten Fish Fry

5750 N. High St., Worthington
Fish Dinner: Regular-$9.00, Small-$7.00
Macaroni-Cheese Dinner - $7.00
Meal: Fish (or Mac/Cheese), Fries, Roll, Cole Slaw (or Apple Sauce), and Beverage
Sides: Clam Chowder, Mac/Cheese - $2.00, Desserts - $1.00

All Fridays in Lent 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
St. Michael Church

DINE IN, Handicap Seating Available
DRIVE THRU, CARRY OUT

St. Anthony students make ice cream

Trinity Power of the Pen

STEM activities at St. Andrew School

Scouts, adults take part in St. Tarcisius program
Rite of Election shows power of personal example

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

Every year, near the conclusion of the diocesan Rite of Election ceremony, Bishop Frederick Campbell asks adults from the Diocese of Columbus who plan to join the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil what prompted them to take this step.

First, he asks how many were principally influenced in their decision by something they had read, and a few people stand up. Second, he asks how many decided to become Catholic based on something they saw, such as a movie or television show, and a few others stand. This year, one man, when the bishop asked what influenced him, responded, “A bumper sticker.”

Finally, the bishop asks how many came to Catholicism because of the example set by a family member or friend, and a vast majority of the “candidates” (those already baptized in another Christian denomination) and “catechumens” (those who never have been baptized) stand.

“This should impress on you the crucial element of personal witness,” the bishop said at this year’s Rite of Election on Sunday, March 10 at Westerville St. Paul Church. “As St. John Neumann said, ‘The Gospel is merely a series of words on paper unless enhanced in the person of the believer.’”

The stories of five participants in this year’s Rite of Election – candidates Jim Davoli and Jodi Marmion of Columbus Our Lady of Peace Church and Jim and LeAnn Hendrickson of Hilliard St. Brendan Church, and catechumen Steven Fu of Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church – illustrate the impact of personal example upon evangelization.

Deacon Jeffrey Fortkamp of Our Lady of Peace said his parish had four people taking part in the ceremony, with all four making the decision to become Catholic largely because of the influence of their children, who attend Our Lady of Peace School.

“Our son, Dominic, is in the third grade,” Davoli said. “My wife and I decided to send him to school at Our Lady of Peace because it fit what we were looking for in a school. We take him to Mass, he partakes of the Eucharist by himself, and that spurred me to decide that I wanted to join him.”

Davoli, 46, said he grew up as a member of a Disciples of Christ church and joined his wife’s Methodist church after getting married. “We would go to church occasionally but got more engaged with that aspect of life when Dominic began going to school,” he said. “Once I started going to Mass, I found I was getting more out of it than I was from worship services of other denominations.

“I also found Catholics were less judgmental and more open than I some-how thought they would be. Some of the churches I’ve been to seemed to have the attitude of ‘we have the right way to do it and others are wrong.’ I didn’t find that in the Catholic Church. Catholics seemed to have more of a spirit of humility,” Davoli said.

“Once I began getting involved with RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) classes to learn more about the Catholic faith, I found it was no walk in the park, but it felt like the right thing to do. In becoming Catholic, I feel like I’m coming home.”

Davoli said his wife, Elizabeth Wiley, is not considering Catholicism but is happy with his decision. The couple also has a 3-year-old daughter, whom they plan to send to Catholic school when she is old enough. Davoli said that once he becomes a member at Our Lady of Peace, he plans to join the parish men’s faith-sharing group.

Marmion, 44, grew up as a Baptist and married her husband, Shea, who is Catholic, 10 years ago. He also is her sponsor. In that role, he serves as an example and provides support as the catechumen or candidate examines his or her relationship with God.

“Our daughter is in second grade at Our Lady of Peace School and is preparing for her first Communion. That was the catalyst for me to join the Catholic Church,” she said. The couple also has a son in kindergarten at the school.

“My mom died last October, and that also was a big factor in my deci-sion. Even without those two events having an impact, I probably would have become Catholic at some point because of the influence of my husband and his family. They’re the best examples of being Catholic that I’ve met, because of the way they give to the community,” she said.

Marmion said that once she made the decision to become Catholic, she took the Alpha course, which has been described as “Catholicism 101” and is a review of the basics of Christianity and Catholicism for both those who are Catholic and those who are interested in the faith. She followed
that up by entering her parish’s current RCIA class (the formal process through which adults are instructed about Catholic teaching in the months leading to the Easter Vigil).

“As I learned about the Catholic Church, the feeling kept getting stronger that all this was happening for a reason,” Marmion said. “It got me thinking more and more about my relationship with God and realizing how important it was to join a church and be part of a community. Until now, I haven’t gone to church that much.

“I feel the Catholic Church provides the sense of community I’m looking for,” she said. “It’s been especially interesting to learn about the beginnings of Christianity and how Jesus affected people not just during his life, but after his death, and how that caused belief in him to spread. My involvement with more Catholics also has made me see the strength of the power of prayer more than I ever have.”

Fu is a junior majoring in math education at Ohio State University and has been in the United States since coming from China and enrolling at Columbus Bishop Ready High School as part of an exchange program. He was placed with Charles and Anne Durbin of Grove City and joined the choir at Our Lady of Perpetual Help while he was at Ready. Once he started singing with the group, “I realized how natural it was for me to be at Mass, and I had this feeling that I belonged there,” he said.

During his senior year at Ready, he went on a retreat with his classmates. “That was the real starting point of my journey to becoming Catholic,” he said. “I enjoyed the peacefulness, the teachings and, most importantly, the faith. In addition, the way the Durbin family practiced their faith left a strong impression on me.”

Another important influence was Charles Durbin’s response upon learning he had stage-four cancer.

“He was telling us that he was sorry for all that his disease would entail for us. I replay that moment over and over in my head. It spoke volumes of his character,” Fu said of the man he calls Dad. “What a selfless man! That is what a real Catholic should be. He was such a selfless role model. He gave the biggest smile to everyone he met.

“After Dad passed away, I told myself, ‘I need to pass on his positive attitude, his deep faith, his courage and his unbreakable spirit.’ In short, I wanted to bring all that was good about him and spread the love of Chuck Durbin, one of the most Christ-like men I ever knew, to everyone.

“Easter cannot get here soon enough, as I am so excited to be baptized in the church,” Fu said. “I look forward to sharing my faith and my love for God with everyone who I meet.” He has chosen Anne Durbin to serve as his godparent, fulfilling the role a sponsor does for candidates.

The Hendricksons, who both came from a Southern Baptist background, found themselves looking for a deeper worship experience than they were finding in that denomination.

“We were very active in our church,
but as it adopted more of a contemporary worship environment, we were finding it more difficult to attend,” said Jim Hendrickson, 57, who teaches logistics at OSU’s business school.

“The services, the music, the preaching and the people were all nice, but we struggled to find Jesus. It seemed like we were going more to a concert than to a worship service.

“St. Brendan’s is in our neighborhood, and we have a number of Catholic friends, so we went to a Mass there and found it to be strikingly different than what we were used to,” Hendrickson said. “The presence of Jesus was very apparent. We had no difficulty with Catholic teaching on Jesus being present in the Eucharist, but we struggled with things like confession and the role of Mary and the saints.

“We sat down with Father Tom Gardner, who was parochial vicar at St. Brendan’s at the time, to tell him of our concerns, and he was very encouraging. He explained that in confession, it’s not the priest who is forgiving you, but that it’s God forgiving you through the authority Jesus gave to the Apostles and their successors.

“He also said that Catholics honor Mary and the saints, but we don’t worship them, for that would be idolatry – that statues to them are merely forms of honor in the same way we honor public figures,” Hendrickson said. “We have statues of George Washington or Abraham Lincoln, but don’t worship them, and it’s the same with Mary and the saints.

“This was very eye-opening, and going through RCIA has been amazing. One of the great things I didn’t realize about the Catholic Church is the vast resources it has available to laypersons. The Catechism of the Catholic Church explains things so well that it confuses me why there are so many religions.”

The Hendricksons’ daughter Emma, a junior at OSU, also will join the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. She is in the RCIA program at the Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center, adjacent to the university campus. The couple also has two grown children.

This was the 15th time Bishop Campbell has presided over the Rite of Election and the last time he will serve in that role. He officially has been apostolic administrator of the diocese since the Vatican accepted his letter of resignation as bishop in late January. Bishop Robert Brennan, auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, New York, will be installed as his successor on Friday, March 29.

In his homily at the Rite of Election ceremony, Bishop Campbell cited the example of St. Josephine Bakhita, who was born in Sudan around 1869, died in Italy in 1947 and was canonized in 2000.

“She was eventually freed from slavery and ended up in Italy in service to a family where, in the words of a commentator, ‘Josephine experienced kindness that she hardly knew existed.’ She encountered a group of religious sisters, whom she would later join, and among them met her longtime companion more vividly, and discovered that his name was Jesus Christ.

“Thankfully, very few of us will have to endure such suffering, although we can all have her experience of eventual kindness, peace and joy,” the bishop said. “Her lesson is that in all times and places, whether known for a while or experienced with clarity of mind and heart, Jesus Christ is a companion to us on our pilgrimage, through this life awakening a persisting hope that all things will be transformed for our good and happiness.

“Remember that your full reception into the body of Christ will call you to a mission, not only to make the truth and peace of Christ more and more the heart and soul of your own lives, but also to make the name of Jesus known and loved throughout the world,” Bishop Campbell told the candidates and catechumens. “Our earthly joy will wax and wane, our earthly challenges and sorrows will have an end, but Jesus Christ is now and forever.”

The diocesan Office for Divine Worship said 400 people – 227 candidates and 173 catechumens – within the diocese declared their intention at
the Rite of Election to become Catholics. Since 2005, when Bishop Campbell became the spiritual shepherd of the Diocese of Columbus, there have been 8,501 participants in the ceremony – 3,447 catechumens and 5,054 candidates.

The Rite of Election takes place each year on the First Sunday of Lent. Catechumens indicate their desire to join the church by signing the Book of the Elect, giving them the title “members of the elect.” Candidates participate in the Call to Continuing Conversion that is part of the ceremony and sign the book.

The word “election” in this case has nothing to do with politics; rather, it is a discernment that God is present in the life of the catechumens and candidates and is inviting them into a fuller life of the Sacraments.

The celebration of the rite has two parts: a sending and a receiving. First, catechumens are sent by the parish. This is a public pronouncement that they are ready to enter a covenant relationship through participation in the sacramental life of the church. This pronouncement is done through their presentation to the bishop. We are sent every Sunday from Mass to love and serve the Lord. This is the first of many sendings they will receive throughout their faith journey.

Those who are sent can then be received. The bishop of a diocese attends the Rite of Election, accepts the parish community’s judgment, receives the catechumens and invites them to enter their names in the Book of the Elect. The announcement of the church’s decision to call candidates to receive the sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist) at the Easter vigil falls to him.

Candidates are asked to present a record of their baptism to the bishop. Through the presentation of their prior experience of the first of the sacraments of initiation, they publicly embrace the Catholic Church and demonstrate their commitment to a process of growth in faith and solidarity with the Catholic community.

In addition to those taking part in the Rite of Election services, there are baptized Catholics in the diocese who are taking part in RCIA classes this year because they have not received the sacraments of Confirmation and the Eucharist. They will take part in a service on Friday, March 22 at Columbus Christ the King Church at which they will receive those sacraments from Bishop Campbell.
Lent II Year C Sunday

Are you ready to climb Mount Tabor?

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

The Transfiguration of Jesus.

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18
Psalm 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14
Philippians 3:17-4:1

The image of the Transfiguration of Jesus in His human nature is a powerful reminder of God’s work among human beings and its effects. God is God. When God touches something in our world, there is always an effect that transcends anything the earth can offer. There is an afterglow.

Worldly successes and accomplishments can offer something. But when the moment of human, earthly glory passes, that’s all there is. You may have a picture or a trophy or a medal, but the rest of the world is moving on to the next bearer of the torch.

God’s gifts are quite different. They create changes in us that last and continue to grow.

Look at the great figures of faith that appear in our Scriptures for the Second Sunday of Lent: Abram with God’s promise to him through the covenant; Moses and Elijah, with the fulfillment of their earthly dreams in the person of Jesus; Peter, James and John, in their taste of Christ’s glory; and Paul, in his understanding of the wonderful power at work in us through our heavenly citizenship.

Each one of these unique persons got a hint of something and gave in to its power. Even Jesus can be understood in His human nature to be entering into this movement with a free choice to cooperate with the Father’s plan.

He went up the high mountain to pray, and He decided just this once to take some of His disciples into the intimacy of the experience, even though they could not grasp the depth of what was happening.

Mount Tabor is an amazing sight. It has been a place of worship for millennia. Even before the Jews entered the promised land, it was a “high place” where human beings believed they could encounter their gods.

Now it is a church, with three chapels: the “booths” for Jesus, Moses and Elijah that remind us of their enduring legacy and power in our lives. To get there, you crowd into a taxi whose sole purpose is to go up and down the mountain along a zigzag trail. This “lonely mountain” is visible from Nazareth and across the plains traveled by peoples of every culture and nation through the centuries. It stands as a reminder to all of us of the glory that is in store for us in Christ.

Each human soul is a unique creation of Almighty God. God knows each of us intimately. He knows who we are and who He has created us to be.

At the same time, every soul exists in a living relationship with the whole of creation and with every other human being created in the image and likeness of God.

There are people who belong to you in a physical, biological way. You are connected to certain people in a psychological, emotional way. And you have people who are yours spiritually.

We wander through life seeking “the one” to whom we can relate in a deep and personal way as a “soul mate.” Do we have the same awareness of our relatedness to “many” that God Himself has created to be with us in time and in eternity?

Jesus found three that were His in an intimate way. Peter was His rock. James, and John, the sons of Zebedee, were “sons of thunder.” These three saw Jesus at His best – this moment of transfiguration. And they would see Him at the worst – in the Garden of Gethsemane. John would see Him on the cross. All three would proclaim His resurrection.

As Jesus’ intimate friends, Peter, James and John glimpsed the effects of divinity on human nature. Each of us is invited to see the glory in our friends and to share the news of God’s plan for humanity in Christ. How is Jesus inviting you to share His prayer? Where do you discover hints of glory? Are you ready to climb Mount Tabor and to continue on the way?

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

THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS

MONDAY
Deuteronomy 21:22-23
Psalm 63:1-2, 3-4, 5-6
Luke 10:38-42

TUESDAY
2 Samuel 7:11-16
Psalm 23:1-2, 3-4, 5-6
Romans 14:7-12, 13-14
Matthew 25:1-13

WEDNESDAY
Psalm 23:1-2, 3-4, 5-6
Matthew 26:17-20

THURSDAY
Matthew 26:20-30

FRIDAY
Galatians 3:27-31
Psalm 22:1-10
Matthew 26:36-39

SATURDAY
Micah 6:1-8
Psalm 10:1-5

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE: MARCH 17, 2019

SUNDAY MASS
10:30 a.m. Mass from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com.

Mass with the Passionist Fathers at 7:30 a.m. on WWHO-TV (the CW), Channel 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 365, 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 905).

Mass from Massillon St. Mary Church at 10:30 a.m. on WLIB 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 I-Lifetv (Channel 113 in Ada, Logan, Milburn, Murray City and Washington C.H.; Channel 125 in Marion, Newark, Newcomerstown and New Philadelphia; and Channel 207 in Zanesville).

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

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

Living ‘I Do’ – Weekly Marriage Tips

Remember when you were dating and you asked each other lots of questions? This helped you grow intimacy through knowledge of each other. You preferences and opinions. It shows respect!

You know your spouse better now, but people change over time and have new experiences. Be sure to still ask questions about your spouse’s experiences.

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

PRAYER TO THE VIRGIN
(Never known to fail)

Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of heaven, blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in necessity. Oh, star of the sea, help me and show me here you are my Heaven and Earth. I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to secure me in this necessity. There are none who can withstand your powers. Oh, show me here 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. WPH
Cardinal George Pell’s December 2018 conviction on charges of “historic sexual abuse” was a travesty of justice, thanks in part to a public atmosphere of hysterical anti-Catholicism—a fetid climate that had a devastating impact on the possibility of his receiving a fair trial. How else does one explain how 12 jurors, presented with uncorroborated charges refuted by overwhelming evidence that the alleged crimes could not have happened, completely reversed the overwhelming pro-acquittal vote delivered by a hung jury in the cardinal’s first trial last year? Cardinal Pell knew from hard personal experience how virulent the anti-Catholic atmosphere in Australia had become. As a member of the College of Cardinals and a senior Vatican diplomat, he had become. As a member of the College of Cardinals and a senior Vatican diplomatic passport; he could have stayed put, untouchable by the Australian authorities. Yet he freely decided to submit himself to his country’s criminal justice system. He knew he was innocent, he was determined to defend his honor and that of the Church, and he believed in the rectitude of the Australian courts. So he went home.

It is not unreasonable to suggest that the Australian justice system has thus far failed one of Australia’s most distinguished sons, who had put his trust in it. The police went on a tawdry fishing expedition for something on Pell. (Who, one wonders, set that in motion? And why?) A preliminary hearing sent the subsequent charges in public. (Who, one wonders, set that in motion? And why?) A preliminary hearing sent the subsequent charges in public. It is not unreasonable to suggest that the Australian justice system has thus far failed one of Australia’s most distinguished sons, who had put his trust in it. The police went on a tawdry fishing expedition for something on Pell. (Who, one wonders, set that in motion? And why?) A preliminary hearing sent the subsequent charges in public.

So as of early March, the cardinal is in jail, in solitary confinement, allowed a few visitors a week, as well as a half-dozen books and magazines at a time. But he is not permitted to say Mass in his cell, on the bizarre grounds that prisoners are not allowed to lead religious services in prisons in the State of Victoria and wine is not permitted in cells.

Given all this, it is not easy to understand why, the day after the conviction was announced publicly, the interim Vatican press spokesman, Alessandro Gisotti, reiterated the mantra that has become habitual in Vatican commentary on the Pell case: The Holy See, Gisotti said, has “maximum respect for the Australian judicial authorities.” Why say this? It is precisely the Australian judiciary (and the lynch-mob atmospheres in Melbourne and elsewhere) that is on trial today in the global court of public opinion. There was no need for such gratuitous puffery. Mr. Gisotti could have, and should have, said that the Holy See awaits with interest and concern the results of the appeal process, and hopes that justice will be done. Period. Full stop. No flattery. Above all, no hint of a suggestion that the Holy See believes that the Australian police and judicial authorities have done their job fairly, impartially and respectfully thus far.

Shortly after Mr. Gisotti’s comment, it was announced that the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith was beginning its own canonical inquiry into the Pell case. In theory, and one hopes in practice, the CDF investigation can be helpful: properly conducted, it will exonerate Cardinal Pell of the preposterous charges on which he was convicted, because there is zero evidence that the cardinal abused two choir boys and ample evidence that the abuse could not have occurred in the circumstances in which it allegedly happened. So justice can be done by the Holy See, whatever the ultimate outcome in Australia.

For the sake of an old friend, but also for the sake of Australia’s reputation in the world, I hope that the appeal process, which begins in early June, will vindicate Cardinal Pell – and the faith he has put in his countrymen and the Australian judicial system. The latter is and should be under the closest scrutiny by fair-minded people, however. The Holy See should take note of that, and should therefore resist any further temptations to render a gauzy and certainly premature verdict on “the Australian judicial authorities.”

George Weigel is Distinguished Senior Fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C.
Diocese updates list of clergy credibly accused of abusing minors

The Diocese of Columbus has released two updates to the names of those clergy who have served in the diocese who have been credibly accused of sexual abuse of a minor.

After review and consultation with the Diocese of Steubenville, Msgr. Robert A. Brown has been added to Section V, “Extern or religious clergy who served in the Diocese of Columbus that were credibly accused of sexual abuse of minors elsewhere (alleged conduct occurred outside the Diocese of Columbus).” The Diocese of Columbus is in the process of cross checking its list with the lists of other dioceses in Ohio.

Since the initial list was released, a credible allegation of abuse has been received for Father John J. Ryan. He has been added to Section II, “Clergy incardinated in the Diocese of Columbus against whom a credible allegation of sexual abuse of a minor within the Diocese was made after the clergy’s death.”

The revised list is available on the diocesan website by clicking on the graphic at the top of the home page or by entering https://columbuscatholic.org/list-of-credibly-accused-clergy from a web browser.

The Diocese of Columbus encourages anyone who may have claims of abuse by clergy or others associated with the Church to notify law enforcement immediately and also the diocesan victims assistance coordinator at (614) 224-2251, (866) 448-0217, or helpisavailable@columbuscatholic.org.

Cremation for Catholics?

Are you aware the Catholic Church allows cremation? This informative brochure takes an in-depth look at the effect recent changes have made. It’s free and you’ll learn more about cremation and where the Catholic Church stands.

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**Classified**

**OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH**
1559 Rockery Road
Marble Cliff (Parish Life Center)

**FISH FRY DINNERS**
Fridays, 3/8 – 4/12, 4:30 – 7 pm
Fresh Ocean Perch (Fried)
Baked Potatoes, French Fries or Rice
Salad or Slaw, Beverages, Dessert included
$10 Adults, $5 Kids - Carryouts available

**ST. MARGARET OF CORTONA CHURCH**
1600 N. Hague Ave. Columbus
21st Annual
“Best Fish Fry Dinner in Town!”
Fridays during Lent, March 8 - April 12,
4:30 - 7:30 PM
Fried Ocean Perch or Baked Cod, with French Fries, Baked Potato, Sweet Potato, Maccaroni & Cheese, Cole Slaw, Applesauce, Roll & Butter, and Homemade Desserts.
Free coffee!
Adults - $10; Seniors - $9.50; Children 10 & under - $5;
Free under 3
Pop, Beer, Seconds & Carryouts available. Info: 279-1690

**ST. CHRISTOPHER CHURCH**
LENTEN PASTA DINNER
1420 Grandview Avenue / Trinity School Cafeteria
Fridays March 8 thru April 12
5PM to 7PM
$8 for adults / $5 for kids / $30 for Family
Meatless Pasta Sauce provided by local area restaurants
March 8 — Trattoria Roma
March 15 — LaScala

**LEN TEN FISH FRY**
Fridays 5-8 pm, Mar 8-April 12
ST. MICHAEL CHURCH
5750 N. High St., Worthington
FISH DINNER: REG $9, SMALL $7
MACARONI/CHICKEN DINNER $7
SIDES: CLAM CHOWDER, MAC/ROAST MEAT $2
DESSERTS $1
Dine In, Drive Thru & Carryout

To have an obituary printed in the Catholic Times, send it to tpuet@columbuscatholic.org
15-16, FRIDAY-SATURDAY
Three Bags Full Consignment Sale
10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday (selected items half-price Friday night and Saturday), Franklin County Fairgrounds, 5055 Northwest Parkway, Hilliard. Three Bags Full consignment sale of items.

15-17, FRIDAY-SUNDAY
Catholic Renewal Retreat
St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus. Columbus Catholic Renewal retreat presented by Deacon Darrell Wentworth of the Diocese of Richmond, Virginia, with theme "Moving Into the Current of Grace."

16, 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.

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

‘No Greater Love’ at Church of Our Lady
5 p.m., Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Part 2 of Edward Srinivas’ six-part ‘No Greater Love’ series, telling the story of Christ’s Passion on location, repeating at 6:30 p.m. March 18. 614-861-1242

Anointing of the Sick at St. Pius X
5 p.m. Mass, St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Anointing of the Sick. 614-866-2859

4:45 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Sung Vespers with Cathedral choir.

‘The Wild Goose Is Loose’ at Christ the King
5 to 7 p.m., Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus (enter at daily Mass entrance). Lenten preparation program featuring The Wild Goose Is Loose DVD series on the Holy Spirit with Father Dave Pivonka, TORN.

Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter
7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish, with confessions from 6 to 7. 602-761-4054 or 614-294-7702

17-19, SUNDAY-TUESDAY
Parish Mission at St. Elizabeth Seton
7 p.m., St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, 600 Hill Road N., Pickerington. Parish mission presented by Judith Dunlap, with theme "Beyond the Biggest Lie in the History of Christianity." 614-833-0482

Parish Mission at St. John Neumann
7 to 9 p.m., St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37, Sunbury. Parish mission presented by Father Thomas Blau, OP, with theme ‘Matters of Spiritual Maturity.’ 740-965-1358

18, MONDAY
Morning Prayer at Cathedral
6:30 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Morning Prayer, followed by Morning Offering and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 7:30 a.m. with Father Charles Perley, OP.

Evening Prayer at St. John Neumann
6:30 p.m. - 7 p.m., St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37, Sunbury. Evening Prayer led by Deacon Carl Calcare. 960-456-1358

18-19, MONDAY-TUESDAY
Parish Mission at Zanesville St. Nicholas
7 p.m., St. Nicholas Church, 955 E. Main St., Zanesville. Parish mission presented by Dr. Ray Guarardi, EWTN radio and television host. Topics: Monday, ‘Standing Strong As a Parent of Grandparent’; Tuesday, ‘The Logic of Being a Catholic.’ 740-456-0957

19, TUESDAY
Program for Prospective Hospice Volunteers
6 to 7 p.m., Mount Carmel Hospice, 1144 Dublin Road, Columbus. Panel discussion for anyone interested in becoming a hospice volunteer.

Rosary for Life at St. Joan of Arc
6:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, Powell. Recital of Rosary for life, sponsored by church’s respect life committee.

Lenten Literature Series at St. Mark
6 p.m., Holy Name Church, 154 E. Patterson Ave., Columbus. Introduction to Lent, focusing on lent features Father Patrick Briscoe, OP, speaking on ‘The Christian Fiction of Wille Cather.’

Holy Hour at Holy Family
7 to 8 p.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Holy Hour of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by meeting of parish Holy Name and Junior Holy Name societies, with refreshments. 614-221-4332

Vespers, Benediction at St. Margaret
7:30 p.m., St. Margaret of Cortona Church, 1600 N. Hague Ave., Columbus. Sung Vespers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, following Stations of the Cross. 614-279-1690

21-23, THURSDAY-SATURDAY
Fisher Catholic Presents ‘Mary Poppins’
7 p.m., Fisher Catholic High School, 1800 Stewarts Lane, Columbus. Fisher Catholic’s theater department presents the musical “Mary Poppins.” Tickets $8 to $12. 614-654-1231

Blessing of Parishes at Portsmouth
St. Francis de Sales at 10 a.m., St. Therese’s Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus. ‘10 a.m. ‘ world without a child’ program for young adults, beginning with praise and worship in front of the Blessed Sacrament at church, followed by a meal at a local restaurant. 614-885-7814

Eucharistic Holy Hour at St. John the Baptist
7 p.m., St. John the Baptist Church, 720 Hamlet St., Columbus. Eucharistic Holy Hour with the intention of deepened holiness and an increase in the virtue of fortitude for the Holy Father, bishops, and priests, concluding with Benediction, social period and refreshments. 614-294-7702

Presentation On ‘Lumen gentium’
7 p.m., St. Michael Church, 5750 N. High St., Worthington. Part 3 of three-part presentation on ‘Lumen gentium, the Second Vatican Council’s Constitution on the Church. 614-385-7814

Lenten Literature Series at St. Patrick
7 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Series on literature related to Lent features Father Patrick Briscoe, OP, speaking on ‘The Christian Fiction of Wille Cather.’
Diocesan Recreation Association basketball champions

Diocesan school Superintendent Adam Dufault presents trophies to members of the Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare boys and the Hilliard St. Brendan girls basketball teams after the Diocesan Recreation Association championship game in February.

Photos courtesy Diocesan Recreation Association

LOCAL NEWS, continued from Page 6

com or michaelmacklive.com or call (614) 291-4674.

Gilchrist golf outing scheduled for June

The second annual Gilchrist brothers scholarship golf outing, benefiting Walsh University, will take place Saturday, June 8 at Bent Tree Golf Club, near Routes 36 and 37 in Sunbury.

Proceeds will go toward a scholarship honoring Michael and Brian Gilchrist, who were Walsh basketball players and graduates and died in 2010 and 2013, respectively. They were baptized at Columbus St. Dominic Church and attended Columbus St. Mary of the Springs Montessori preschool, Columbus St. Catharine School and Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School.

Friends and teammates established the scholarship and are attempting to raise $30,000 to fully endow it, allowing students to be helped immediately.

FAITH IN ACTION, continued from Page 4

er new ways to be good stewards of God’s creation through our Creation Care Guide, www.columbuscatholic.org/care-for-creation.

It’s time to get back on the right path. It’s time for renewal. Let the

Looking for St. Aloysius 1949 graduates

A group of 1949 graduates of Columbus St. Aloysius School wants to know if there is interest in a reunion. Members of the class can contact Dick Vargo at (614) 855-3629.

All-CCL bowling teams selected

Three members from the Central Catholic League girls high school bowling champions and three from one of the boys co-champions recently were named to the all-conference first team.

The All-CCL girls first team included Mary Pulsinelli, Isabelle Payton and Anna Rose from conference champion Columbus Bishop Watterson, as well as Mary Zerrien of Columbus Bishop Waterston, as well as Mary Zerrien of Columbus Bishop Waterston, as well as Mary Zerrien of Columbus Bishop Waterston, as well as Mary Zerrien of Columbus Bishop Waterston, as well as Mary Zerrien of Columbus Bishop Waterston, as well as Mary Zerrien of Columbus Bishop Waterston.

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Joining them on the first team were Rachel Reuter of Watterson; Maryann Rucker, Samantha Blackburn, Megan Hackman and Kateland Vargo of Ready; and Tara Bush of Hartley.

Second-team boys selections were James Jackson and William McAfee-Witherspoon of DeSales; Dominick Koeth and Jack Anderson of St. Charles; Seth Payton of Watterson; and Jack Shisler of Hartley.

Central Catholic League co-champions Columbus Bishop Watterson and Columbus Bishop Hartley each placed two players on the 2018-19 all-league girls basketball team.

Joining them on the first team were Derricka Bramwell of Columbus Bishop Ready and Gabby Elliott of Columbus St. Francis DeSales.

First-team All-CCL boys selections from league co-champion DeSales were Andrew Swift, Bryan Ritzler and Isaiah Thomas.

Joining them on the first team were Grant Flory of co-champion Columbus St. Charles and Anthony Metness and Victor Jackson of Hartley.

All-CCL girls basketball teams named

All-CCL bowling teams selected

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Central Catholic League co-champions Columbus Bishop Watterson and Columbus Bishop Hartley each placed two players on the 2018-19 all-league girls basketball team.

Watterson’s Paige Woodford and Grace Jenkins were selected for the first team, along with Hartley’s Chia Nwokolo and Kami Kortokrax.

Joining them on the first team were Derricka Bramwell of Columbus Bishop Ready and Gabby Elliott of Columbus St. Francis DeSales.

The second team included Elizabeth Rabold and Dani Grim of Watterson, Izzy Strickland and Milayna Williams of Hartley, Ariyhana Marshall of Bishop Ready and Eva Nicolosi of Columbus School for Girls.

Watterson finished with a record of 23-3 overall and 6-1 in the CCL. The Eagles advanced to a Division I district final before losing to Newark.

Hartley posted a 12-11 overall record and went 6-1 in the league. Ready (9-13, 3-4) finished third, followed by DeSales (6-16, 1-6) and CSG (6-16, 0-4).

Watterson’s junior varsity team went 6-0 in the CCL to win the title and compiled a 20-1 overall record.

Hartley (12-7, 4-2) took second in the league.
The story of Hope Hollow is a story of living the gratitude for life and responding to God’s call.

Hope Hollow is a nonprofit that provides lodging, meals, transportation and emotional support, at no cost, to cancer patients and their loved ones. Most are financially in need as they travel to Columbus to seek medical treatment for their cancer.

Hope Hollow began in the home of Kevin Clark and Jane Jacquemin-Clark. The Clarks welcome cancer patients and their families for overnight or short-term stays while visiting Columbus for their treatment.

The Clarks’ desire was and still is to provide a place of comfort, hope and a sense of home to those who need it the most. Due to the generosity of donors, Hope Hollow has expanded its services to include lodging at local hotels and motels, meals, transportation assistance and emotional support to cancer patients and their loved ones. The house itself is warm and has multiple spaces that are welcoming, including a meditation and prayer room.

The Clarks have chosen a life of service to others that came from their own journey with cancer. When Jane was just 10 years old, she lost her mother to pancreatic cancer and eventually her aunts. In addition to loved ones dying of cancer, Jane was diagnosed 10 years ago with an aggressive medullary thyroid malignancy that was an early detection, and then five years later, she was diagnosed with breast cancer.

The Clarks have walked the walk and understand the path with cancer that those they serve must trod. With Jane having survived two cancers, the couple wanted to express their gratitude for her life. In 2009, Hope Hollow was founded, and lives were forever changed.

Jane said, “Our lives have been changed as well. … First, we come to know the patients and families, then we come to love them and then we become family. … The bonding is phenomenal. People invite us into their lives at a very difficult, vulnerable and precious time. … We are truly walking on sacred ground. The relationships we form with those we serve are so important and are a gift beyond compare.”

Hope Hollow House is the home of Kevin Clark and Jane Jacquemin-Clark, who welcome cancer patients and their families.

Hope Hollow is funded by individuals, like Jack and Laura Fisher, and businesses in the community who want to support the mission and ministry of Hope Hollow. The generosity and goodness of donors truly touch the lives of cancer patients who are in need, both physically and emotionally. Hope is the very foundation of a patient’s journey with cancer. Hope Hollow is a place of refuge, safety and peace. Cancer treatment can feel lonely, not only for the ones living through it but also for their loved ones who share the journey. The Clarks want to make that journey a little easier, a little lighter and a little more hopeful.

If you would like to support organizations such as Hope Hollow, visit The Catholic Foundation website at www.catholic-foundation.org and click on “Give Now.”
Young people attending the annual Bosco Bash sponsored by the diocesan Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry take part in an “icebreaker” game. The event for middle school (sixth through eighth grade) students took place on Saturday, March 9 at Columbus Bishop Watterson High School. It is named for St. John Bosco, known for his work among Italian young people in the 19th century. The office’s director, Mike Hall, said “Our theme this year is ‘Strengthened and Sent.’ Its purpose is to bring young people together in an event where they can experience the Lord in many ways, some of them fun, some of them prayerful and solemn. Our hope is that this will impact their faith formation in ways they can bring back to their homes and their parishes.”

Jon Konz sang praise and worship music at the Bosco Bash and presented two keynote talks. During one of the talks, he said, “Through a number of events in my life, the Lord just stripped away everything but himself and I got called into a ministry of music and speaking. Today, I’m sharing from my own heart, my own prayer, and allowing an outflow of Jesus’ presence. Our teens today need to know that it’s not just a nice idea that God is real and powerful and is a person, but that you can know him, you can hear his voice, and you can see him working in the world around you. But you have to spend time with him in order to recognize his voice and know what he looks like when he’s working.”

Brandon Heil, 12, of Westerville St. Paul Church prays during the Bosco Bash. Other activities during the day included student-led drama, parish breakout groups, a large group game, student testimony, a talent show, entertainment by the Station 14 praise and worship band, and dinner. The day concluded with Mass. This is the 12th year for the Bosco Bash. The Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry also sponsored the annual Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference the following day at Bishop Watterson. It also had the “Strengthened and Sent” theme and featured keynote talks and music by Konz, the Station 14 band, and workshops on a variety of topics, including human trafficking, individual charisms, and the strengths and uniqueness of men and women.