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Bishop Brennan’s Easter message

‘Christ Lives!’ in the people of the Columbus diocese

My dear friends, we are approaching the great celebration of Easter! This is a time for rejoicing. This is a time for all of us to exclaim with joy-filled hearts, “Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is alive! He truly lives!”

The season of Lent was, for me, a bit of a blur as I was transitioning from the Diocese of Rockville Centre to joyfully come and serve you and to work with you as your bishop in our wonderful Diocese of Columbus. While I have not been here all that long, I have thus far visited more than two dozen parishes in many parts of this vast diocese of ours to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation, celebrate Masses in several other parishes and schools, and tour several of our outreach locations.

In my short spate of travels, I have met many people of all ages and from all walks of life and cultures who are full of faith and the joy, hope and inspiration that the Gospel gives us.

I have been fortunate to meet the majority of priests in our diocese. They are dedicated servants working very hard in the vineyard to serve you in our parishes and schools, in our hospitals and nursing homes, in our prisons and VA hospitals, and in so many other capacities. I am honored to call them my brother priests, along with Bishop Campbell and Bishop Griffin, both of whom I greatly admire.

The religious sisters and the deacons serving our diocese are truly amazing people as well, ministering in so many important ways. The principals and teachers in our schools whom I have met thus far – what a blessing they are in teaching our young people about our faith in order to live our faith! And the people serving and volunteering in our plethora of social service agencies and outreach activities – thank you!

Something that I have taken note of since becoming your bishop – all of us have much to be proud of here in the Diocese of Columbus. I can say that because I am the new person in town. I have the fresh set of eyes to see and explore and to witness; I have the fresh set of ears to listen and hear and to learn all that is taking place. And what I have witnessed thus far is exciting.

My friends, the reason why so much is good here is because the faith is alive here – the Good News of Jesus Christ is very much alive in the people of our diocese.

Just a few weeks ago, on the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, Pope Francis promulgated his apostolic exhortation “Christus Vivit!” – Latin for “Christ Lives!” Having read this document, I have experienced that “Christ Lives!” in the hearts and minds of the people I have encountered in our diocese. They know the faith and they joyfully live the message of the Gospel.

Here are just a few examples I would like to share with you:

• At Easter Vigil Masses in our parishes this year, there will be more than 400 new and fully initiated members of the Catholic Church! What a great cause for joy and prayer for these men and women, their families and sponsors, and for their parish families! We welcome you, we congratulate you, and we pray for you!

• Students at Dover Tuscarawas Central Catholic Elementary School and Dennison Immaculate Conception School volunteer on a quarterly basis to do yardwork for senior citizens and shut-ins. They, along with other volunteers, also help at the local food pantry and food bank and help prepare and serve hot food at a weekly dinner for the needy at Dover St. Joseph Church.

• The boys lacrosse team at Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School participated in a Polar Plunge in February, raising $3,000 to support Special Olympics Ohio.

• The Our Lady of Guadalupe Center staff and volunteers assisted nearly 4,000 persons last year with food, health screenings, emergency services, English classes, and referrals to legal and other services in our community.

• Columbus Bishop Watterson High School students recently collected food and personal care products for the families served by St. Stephen’s Community House. The staff and volunteers at St. Stephen’s – celebrating its 100th year of service, I might add – provide family-to-family strengthening programs to achieve levels of self-sufficiency and maintain at-risk children in their own homes, summer youth employment training and work assignments, neighborhood services food and nutrition programs, and a number of other outreach services in the Linden neighborhood of Columbus.

• The St. Francis Evangelization Center in Vinton County of our diocese (one of the poorest counties in Ohio) served 19,000 persons last year, primarily with food, clothing and other basic necessities of life.

• Students from Columbus St. Catharine’s School watched WOSU-TV34 and saw how the staff and volunteers at St. Joseph Cathedral’s “Back Door Ministry” feed the homeless every day; the students raised more than $600 from their “penny wars” during Catholic Schools Week and donated it to support the “Back Door Ministry” program.

• Speaking of the cathedral, I was amazed to learn that the “Back Door Ministry” provided 24,000 food bags to the homeless and needy in 2018, up from 18,000 food bags from the year before! (This outreach to the homeless takes place down the hall from my office; I’ve seen it up close many times. I find great satisfaction, as do the cathedral staff and volunteers, in helping those in need – seeing the face of Jesus Christ in everyone, letting them know that we are here to serve them and we truly care about them.)

• The St. Francis Center in Portsmouth served almost 12,000 people last year through its food pantry; more than 7,400 hot meals were served at its Shepherd’s Table; more than 1,000 persons were recipients of Giving Tree items at Christmas, and a number of people were provided with counseling and other services.
Father Floyd Richard ‘Dick’ Snoke passed away on Monday, April 15, 2019

Father Floyd Richard “Dick” Snoke died on Monday, April 15 while in hospice care at Mount Carmel East Hospital in Columbus.

Father Snoke, the son of Floyd Richard Snoke Sr. and Katherine Lucille (Ackers) Snoke, was born on Sept. 17, 1935 in Lancaster.

He was baptized on Sept. 29, 1935 at Lancaster St. Mary Church, and attended and graduated from St. Mary Elementary School (Class of 1949) and St. Mary High School (Class of 1953).

Following graduation, he worked on the family farm and in his father’s garage, later studying poultry science at Ohio State University before entering St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Columbus in 1957, graduating from there in 1961. Father Snoke then studied theology at Mount St. Mary of the West Seminary in Norwood, from which he graduated with a master’s degree in 1965. He also received a master’s degree in education from Xavier University in Cincinnati. He was ordained a priest of the Diocese of Columbus by Bishop John Carbery on May 29, 1965 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral.

During his 54 years of devoted service to Christ, His Church and His people, Father Snoke served at Columbus St. Leo Church while teaching at Columbus Bishop Hartley and Father Wehrle high schools. He also served as assistant principal at Columbus St. Francis DeSales and Bishop Watterson high schools and principal at Portsmouth Notre Dame and Chillicothe Bishop Flaget high schools.

Returning to full-time parish life, Father Snoke served as pastor for 10 years at New Lexington St. Rose Church and for 25 years at Danville St. Luke Church, from which he retired in 2012.

During his priesthood, Father Snoke was very involved in the Knights of Columbus, both in the parishes where he served and on the state level, especially the Ohio State Council of Columbian Squares, of which he served as state chairman (chaplain) for more than 20 years.

When he retired from active ministry in 2012, he had the longest pastoral tenure of any priest in the Diocese of Columbus at the time.

He was involved in many Danville-area community groups, most notably the Association of Danville Area Ministers; the Sanctuary, a center for community programs; and Danville Interchurch Social Services.

He also was an enthusiastic gardener, maintaining as many as five separate plots throughout Danville and sharing the produce he grew with the community.

Following retirement, he lived with family members in the Lancaster area.

Father Snoke was preceded in death by his parents; stepmother, Patricia; brother, Kenneth; stepbrother, Ernest Shepferd; and brother-in-law, Leland Dupler. He is survived by sisters, Maryln Dupler, Mary Ann Snoke and Melissa (Russell) Skinner; brother, Gene Snoke; and friend Debbie Schwalbach, along with many nieces and nephews.

Calling hours will be from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. on Sunday, April 21 at the Sanford Funeral Home, 222 S. Columbus St., Lancaster (www.sanfordfuneralhome.net).

Calling hours will continue from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, April 23 at St. Luke Church, 307 N. Market St., Danville (www.st-lukedanvilleoh.org). Calling hours will resume at the church at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, April 24 and continue until just before a Mass of Christian Burial at 10:30 a.m. Bishop Robert Brennan will celebrate the Mass and deliver the homily; retired Bishops Frederick Campbell and James Griffin will concelebrate, along with priests of the Diocese of Columbus. Burial will follow in Lancaster St. Mary Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Father Snoke’s name to Sanctuary Community Action, 304 S. Market St., Danville OH 43014 (www.sanctuarycommunityaction.org) or to the Ohio State Circle of Columbian Squares (www.ohiosquares.org).

Bishop supports Ohio’s new ‘Heartbeat’ law

Bishop Robert Brennan joined pro-life advocates from across the nation in praising the Ohio Legislature and Gov. Mike DeWine on Thursday, April 11 after the governor signed the Human Rights and Heartbeat Protection Act (“Heartbeat Bill”). The bill would make it illegal to perform an abortion once a fetal heartbeat is detected.

The law is scheduled to go into effect in 90 days, but potential legal challenges are expected to cause a delay.

Bishop Brennan emphasized that respect for life in every stage is part of the Catholic Church’s mission, which includes the outreach of many dedicated volunteers and staff to provide services to the most vulnerable.

“In years past, the debate was ‘When does life begin?’” Bishop Brennan said. “We, as Catholics, have always held that life begins at conception. More and more, science validates that truth. Even with debate, it is reasonable and logical to say that a beating heart of a human indicates life. Our commitment to life is informed by our faith, but it is a human issue, not a religious issue.”

“Many states are actually celebrating taking of the life of a baby even up to the moment of birth. This is horrifying. I’m proud of the Ohio Legislature and Governor DeWine for practical and courageous protection of life.”

Before signing the bill, sponsored by state Sen. Kristina Roegner (R-Hudson), DeWine said, “The function of government is to protect the most vulnerable among us, those who do not have a voice. Government’s role should be to protect life from the beginning to the end, to protect those who cannot protect themselves, such as the elderly, the unborn, those who are sick, those who have mental illness or have an addiction.”

This is the third time the Legislature has approved the “Heartbeat Bill,” but former Gov. John Kasich vetoed the two previous attempts. An effort to override the veto failed by one vote in December.

A fetal heartbeat can be detected as early as six weeks into a pregnancy. State statistics do not require incremental gestational reporting before nine weeks, but it is estimated that the new law would prohibit between 70 percent and 90 percent of abortions.

There were 20,893 abortions performed in Ohio last year.

Under the law, anyone who performs an abortion after a heartbeat has been detected or who fails to do ultrasound before performing an abortion could be charged with a fifth-degree felony on a first offense.

Failure to abide by the law also could result in professional sanctions, including medical license suspension or revocation by the State Medical Board and fines of as much as $20,000, with the money sent to a new state fund for foster care and adoption services.

The law also requires civil lawsuits against those who perform an abortion under wrongful death laws.

The law does not contain an exception for rape and incest, but does not prohibit actions taken to preserve the life of the mother if her physical health is in danger.

“There are many groups in the pro-life community who are working together to change hearts, minds and laws, and to provide women with positive alternatives to abortion,” said Beth Vanderkooi, executive director of Greater Columbus Right to Life. “As a grassroots education organization, it was an honor to join colleagues and the governor at the Statehouse for this bill signing, and we greatly appreciate the work of all who brought it about. If anything, this shows just how much we need to continue with the work of pregnancy help, sidewalk ministry, evangelization and post-abortion healing.”

Arkansas, Mississippi, North Carolina, Iowa, Kentucky and North Dakota have enacted heartbeat laws, but several of those states are facing legal challenges. Legislation in Georgia and Florida is under consideration.
Pope’s letter sparks fervor in youth of dioceese

Last Tuesday, Pope Francis released an apostolic exhortation titled *Christus Vivit* (Christ Lives), addressed to the youth and young adults of the world. This letter is the Holy Father’s reflection on the Synod on Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment which took place in Rome in October 2018. The intent of this synod was to listen to the young people of the world. In *Christus Vivit*, Pope Francis responds to what he heard. As the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops said in its letter on the release of this document, it “is a wonderful summons to the Church to more vigorously invest in youth and young adults.”

Bishop Robert Brennan shared *Christus Vivit* with the schools of the Diocese of Columbus. Immediately, it resonated with the students in teacher Kelly Matthews’ Italian class at Columbus Bishop Watterson High School. Matthews explains the reaction: “With a minute to spare at the end of the class period, I read a few lines from the document to my second-year Italian class. We are currently working on a research project focused on the lives of contemporary Italian saints and blesseds, and I shared with the students that Chapter 2 of the document highlights some of the individuals they are studying. But when I read them the title of Chapter 3, ‘You Are the ‘Now’ of God,’ they were very energized by the words.”

With this chapter title, Pope Francis is calling the Church to the understanding that “we cannot just say that young people are the future of our world. They are its present; even now, they are helping to enrich it.” He calls on the Church to refocus on the young of the world today, not in some distant future. He calls the Church to engage with the young, encourage them toward service and lead them to an encounter with Jesus Christ.

Back in Matthews’ classroom, one of her students was so excited by the pope’s words that he insisted on sharing them with others. Sophomore Vincenzo Paradiso wrote, “You are the ‘now’ of God” in big letters across the board. He said, “I really felt like God was telling me to live out my faith and be proud of it, to spread my joy to those around me, and to never lose trust in Jesus. I wrote the quote on the board to hopefully get other students to do the same.”

Ellie Hanson, a sophomore at Bishop Watterson and a member of the Diocesan Youth Council, echoed this enthusiasm. “I am so excited to see that the Church is calling young people to be alive in Christ and to inspire others by our lives to do the same,” she said.

Matthews added, “I love the way that *Christus Vivit* upholds the dignity of the young person and illuminates the holiness of youthful passion and energy. At Bishop Watterson, I am blessed to witness the way that young people embrace their faith through worship, volunteerism, retreats, study and reflection, and it inspires those of us who work with them to embrace those hallmarks of youth that Pope Francis mentions and that the students model so well.”

The Office of Youth and Education

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Faith in Action

Cost comparisons

Lent is a good time to meditate on Our Lord’s passion, because in it we can see two things more clearly.

First, we can see the incredible, almost reckless love Jesus has for each one of us. And second, we can see just how dear was the price of our redemption. St. Paul reminds us that “God proves His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 4:8) Christ’s saving work meant enduring the most extreme mental and physical sufferings — scourging, crucifixion, and pouring out every drop of blood for us out of love.

Within the life of the Church, the Eucharist, as the source and summit of our faith, makes this reality present at every Mass we attend. Father Matthew Kelty, a Trappist who lived at the Abbey of Gethsemani in Kentucky, once said, “We are the people who can truly answer ‘Yes’ to the question posed by the old hymn ‘Were you there when they crucified my Lord?’”

Other devotions and prayers also have helped us contemplate Jesus’ love and the suffering He endured.

At the beginning of Lent, I spent time praying the 15 prayers of St. Bridget of Sweden, who received revelations from Our Lord about His passion. In the middle of Lent, I discovered the writings of the Servant of God, Luisa Piccaretta, who also had vivid experiences of the depths of Our Lord’s love in His passion. Years later, she obediently wrote down her experiences in *The Twenty-Four Hours of the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ*, as well as the promises Our Lord made to her and to those who meditate daily on these hours. Most recently, I have been drawn to the Stations of the Cross. Tradition has it that this pious practice was started by Mary in returning to the places that Jesus walked on His way to Calvary and pondering what took place there.

This week, we are nearly there, at the threshold of the great Triduum, which includes, as Paul Harvey would say, the rest of the story – Jesus’ resurrection. It is Jesus’ resurrection that shows us His definite victory over sin and death and gives us the hope and courage to follow Him. We are an Easter people who celebrate that Christ is alive. As such a people, we are called to deeds of discipleship that witness to the reason for our hope.

As we contemplate the price of our redemption, let us also contemplate the cost of our discipleship. Jesus calls us to see Him in the hungry and the thirsty, the sick and the imprisoned, the suffering and the stranger. And seeing Him today in this distressing disguise, we who have life and breath can use that power to ease His suffering through our actions, as Simon of Cyrene did. The Walking Stations of the Cross, which take place on Good Friday in downtown Columbus, beginning at St. Joseph Cathedral at 8 a.m., help us make the linkage between the saving act of Jesus’ passion, His presence in the lives of those who suffer today, and our call to respond as disciples of the risen Lord. Reflections for each station are prepared by parish youth groups. Please join us for a three-hour reflective walk with 14 stops along the way that can open us to the love of our God, given to be shared.

**Mark Huddy is episcopal moderator for the Office of Social Concerns of the Diocese of Columbus.**

**Ss. Augustine & Gabriel Friends and Family Day**

Columbus Ss. Augustine & Gabriel Church, 1550 E. Hudson St., will host a Friends and Family Day on Sunday, May 19.

It will begin with the 10 a.m. Mass, followed by food, fellowship and raffles in the cafeteria.

Alumni of St. Augustine and St. Gabriel schools and the parish’s neighbors in the Linden area are especially welcome. Those attending are asked to bring a dish to share.
Father Blau to present ‘He Is Risen’ mission at London St. Patrick

Father Thomas Blau, OP, will be the presenter for a mission titled “He Is Risen” at London St. Patrick Church, 61 S. Union St., from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Monday, April 29 to Wednesday, May 1.

The mission will look at the evidence and the logic of the belief that Jesus has risen from the dead and answer the question “What difference does it make?”

Father Blau, a Dominican friar ordained in 1999, lives at St. Patrick Priory in Columbus. His principal activity is preaching missions. Pope Francis appointed him as a missionary of mercy during the 2015-16 Jubilee of Mercy.

For more information, call the parish at (740) 852-0942.

St. James the Less to host opioid program

Bobbi Krabill will give a presentation on the opioid epidemic at the ministry center of Columbus St. James the Less Church, 1628 Oakland Park Ave., at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 30. The presentation will include information about how the right prescription plays a part in preventing overdose and information about the science and policy behind use of the anti-overdose medication naloxone.

Krabill is assistant chief in the office of health improvement and wellness for the Ohio Department of Health, where she works on population health activities, as well as responses to emerging health threats. Her office forms overdose prevention strategies as a part of Ohio’s response to the opioid epidemic.

She will speak about the epidemic and its history in Ohio, changes in opioid prescribing practices, strategies used to respond to individuals who experience overdose, and the state’s cooperative work with the Diocese of Columbus in addressing the situation. Refreshments will be available. For more information, call Dave Frickey at (614) 268-3828 or Pat Spires at (614) 288-3827.

Panther Players present ‘The Taxi Cabaret’

Ohio Dominican University’s student theater organization, the Panther Players, will present The Taxi Cabaret at 7 p.m. Thursday and Saturday, April 25 and 27 and 4 p.m. Sunday, April 28 at the newly renovated Sister Mary Andrew Matesich, OP, Theater in Erskine Hall on ODU’s campus, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus.

General admission is $10 for adults, and $5 for students younger than 18 and adults age 65 and older. Children younger than five will be admitted free. Admission also is free for ODU students with their ID card.

The play follows six people in their 20s during their first year in New York City. Scottie, an aspiring novelist, discovers you do not have to suffer to write. Mark and Sara test their relationship when they move in together. Zach lives an “EZ-Pass” lifestyle, while the unlucky but relentlessly optimistic Karen falls for him, only to have her heart broken. C.C. is an actress and an office temporary worker who longs for something that will last more than 16 bars of music.

The play’s cast includes Zoie Fisher, Ashley Jarvis, Ethan Sinning, Alyssa Mattern, Rachel Smith and Namare Pryan. Zachary Ratliff will provide piano accompanied and Caitlyn Kelley will direct.

ODU’s historic Matesich Theater recently underwent a $1 million refurbishing, during which crews repaired and strengthened its exterior walls and roof, restored its wood and plaster work, painted its interior walls and ceiling and replaced its seats, carpet and stage curtains.

Conceived by Cara Reichel, with book, music and lyrics by Peter Mills, The Taxi Cabaret is presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

YCP chapter president to speak at luncheon club

Joseph Zaino, president of the Columbus chapter of Young Catholic Professionals, will speak about the organization at the May meeting of the Catholic Men’s Luncheon Club.

The club will meet on Friday, May 3 at Columbus St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave. Lunch will be served after the church’s 11:45 a.m. Mass, and the meeting will end by 1 p.m. No reservations are necessary. A $10 donation is requested to cover the cost of the lunch and meeting.

The luncheon will be sponsored by Anzelmo Law (www.anzelmolawfirm.com). For information on the club, visit www.catholicmensministry.com/cmlc or contact club president Craig Hepner at craigkofc@gmail.com.

St. Dominic Gospel Choir concert is May 5

The Columbus St. Dominic Church Gospel Choir invites everyone to its spring concert under the direction of Vernon Hairston at 5 p.m. Sunday, May 5 at the church, 453 N. 20th St. There is no charge for the event.

Grove City parish to host grief workshop

Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 3730 Broadway, will host a workshop on “Grieving With Great Hope” with John and Sandy O’Shaughnessy from 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, May 17 in the church and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 18 in the parish life center.

“Grieving with Great Hope” is an offering of the O’Shaughnessy’s Good Mourning Ministry, a Catholic bereavement apostolate the couple founded after experiencing losses. They will offer personal and professional insights on ways to help people mourning the loss of loved ones.

To register, visit OurLadyOfPerpetualHelp.net or call parish pastoral minister Marti Hurd at (614) 875-3322. There is a $20 registration fee.

For more details, visit www.goodmourningministry.net or send an email message to goodmourningministry@hotmail.com.

Wedding seminar at St. Christopher

A seminar for those interested in having their wedding at Columbus St. Christopher Church will take place at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 7 in the church, 1420 Grandview Ave.

The program will be conducted by parish music director Pandora Porcase, with guest musicians including a string quartet, vocalist, trumpet and guitarist, plus Porcase on piano and organ. They will perform some of the selections permitted at wedding Masses or ceremonies at the church. Couples are invited to bring their parents.

Those interested in attending are asked to confirm by Monday, April 29. For more information, call Porcase at (614) 306-0342.

‘Autism Mythbusters’ at de Forres Center

April is Autism Awareness Month! But what do you know about autism?
I love children, and I know that babies will cry at inopportune times. That said, I am puzzled at the young parents in our parish who allow their children to cry loudly in church for extended periods of time.

I tend to believe that it might be part of our American culture of “freedom.” But freedom comes with responsibility; in our church of 700 congregants, those three or four babies are ruining the Mass experience for all the rest of us. (Baton Rouge, Louisiana)

St. John Chrysostom, more than 1,500 years ago, wrote this: “Nothing so becomes a church as silence and good order. Noise belongs to theaters, and baths, and public processions, and marketplaces; but where doctrines … are the subject of teaching, there should be stillness and quiet and calm reflection and a haven of much repose” (Homily 30 on the Acts of the Apostles).

On the other hand, Pope Francis, celebrating Mass in 2014 at a parish in Rome, said this: “Children cry, they are noisy, they don’t stop moving. But it really irritates me when I see a child crying in church and someone says they must go out. God’s voice is in a child’s tears.”

As in many things, the truth is probably somewhere in the middle. Congregations do have a special responsibility to welcome children, and parishioners need to be patient with small children’s occasional outbursts. (As one adage has it, “Your parish is dying if no baby is crying.”)

But crying that is constant and loud can hold a congregation hostage and, as the letter writer says, “ruin the Mass experience for the rest of us.” The answer lies in balance and discretion; parents need to be sensible and take their child for a “walk” when they recognize behavior that is seriously distracting.

Certainly no celebrant should go suddenly silent, focusing attention on a disruptive child and the offending family; but perhaps an occasional bulletin announcement, prudently stated and in a kindly fashion, can remind parents that the Mass should be, as far as possible, a positive experience of prayer.

Q: My daughter went away to college last year and now chooses not to attend Mass -- although there is a Catholic parish just a couple of miles from her school. When she comes home (every few months), she attends church with me.

Should I tell her not to receive Communion -- since she has not been to confession and has been consciously neglecting her Sunday obligation? (I want to encourage her to stay with the church, so I am not sure how to proceed.) (Richmond, Virginia)

A: Your question, as I view it, is more one of strategy than of theology -- and reasonable minds could well differ as to how to respond. Everyone’s goal, of course, is the same: to get your daughter back to regular practice of the sacraments.

The teaching of the church is clear; the Catechism of the Catholic Church says this: “The Sunday Eucharist is the foundation and confirmation of all Christian practice. For this reason, the faithful are obliged to participate in the Eucharist on days of obligation, unless excused for a serious reason (for example, illness, the care of infants). … Those who deliberately fail in this obligation commit a grave sin” (No. 2181).

Gravity of matter, though, is just one of three necessary conditions for a mortal sin -- the others being complete consent of the will and full knowledge of the sinful character of the act or omission. In that light, I would not be certain that your daughter has been committing mortal sin because I don’t presume to know the state of her mind (how fully she recognizes her duty to be at Sunday Mass.)

So I don’t think that I would tell her directly that she can’t receive Communion. I would, though, find a way -- in a low-key manner that is not confrontational -- to explain to her from time to time what the sacraments mean in your own life and to suggest that she might find a similar benefit in her own.

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

Autism Spectrum Disorder is estimated to affect one in 59 children in the United States. Although more people are aware of its effects, many misconceptions regarding the disorder remain.

The Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus is hosting an “Autism Mythbusters” program from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 24 to help people learn more about the condition. Representatives from the Autism Society of Central Ohio will be on hand for a special information session. A panel of educators, parents and others will share their experiences of living with autism and will answer questions. A Spanish interpreter will be available.

During the event and throughout April, the center is displaying an exhibit titled “Everyday Adventures in Cartooning and Autism,” featuring the works of Katie Butler, an artist who has autism.

For more information, contact (614) 416-1910 or go to martindeporres@oppeace.org.

ODU info session on physician assistant studies

Ohio Dominican University will host an information session for its master of science in physician assistant studies program from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 22 in St. Albert Hall, located on ODU’s campus at 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus.

Those interested in attending can register for the event at ohiodominican.edu/PAEvent.

During the information session, attendees will have an opportunity to learn more about ODU’s physician assistant program; speak with current students, faculty and staff; and take a tour of the program’s facilities.

Grades of the program have achieved a 100 percent pass rate on the physician assistant national certifying exam. Certified physician assistants are in demand across the nation. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the field is expected to grow by nearly 29,000 jobs by 2024.

To learn more about the program, visit ohiodominican.edu/PA, send an email to grad@ohiodominican.edu or call (614) 251-4615.

ODU receives gift to benefit special-needs teachers

Ohio Dominican University has received a $50,000 gift to establish an endowment fund that provides financial support to education majors at the university who aspire to teach students with special needs.

Income from the Glenn O. Woodward Endowment Fund will provide scholarships and financial awards to students who are pursuing a license in moderate-intensive intervention and maintain at least a 3.0 grade-point average in their education courses.

Robert Woodward of the Glenn Osler Woodward Foundation made the gift in 2018 in memory of his brother, Glenn Woodward, who was born with developmental disabilities and died in 2014. Glenn Woodward was a founding client of several central Ohio organizations which assist people with a range of disabilities, including the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities, ARC Industries and Franklin County Residential Services.

“I am pleased to know that students will benefit from these scholarships established in Glenn’s memory,” Robert Woodward said. “I’ve been so impressed by the faculty and students I’ve met in Ohio Dominican’s intervention specialist program, and the leadership of the GLOW Foundation is committed to inspiring future students who have a desire to enter this critical field of education.”

“Our faculty do an incredible job preparing students for this specific discipline within the field of education, and Mr. Woodward and the GLOW Foundation recognize that excellence,” said ODU’s president, Dr. Robert Gervasi. “We produce highly qualified, caring teachers who have a passion for working with students and clients with special needs. Thanks to the generous spirit of the GLOW Foundation, we can provide support to even more students in this valuable program.”

To learn more about ODU’s education programs, visit ohiodominican.edu/Education.
Pay attention to the little things in life

I probably have walked many a mile in my day without bothering to stop and take in the scenery. I probably have listened to many homilies, but never took the time to understand their meaning. Nor have I spent enough time with those I love so that I could better appreciate their love and company.

My brother was diagnosed with dementia this past year. He had head trauma early in life that left him developmentally disabled and sped up the symptoms of the disease. He may or may not be with us very much longer, and I regret not getting treatment for him sooner. I will miss the small things he said and did, especially his voice and his smile.

In the midst of our everyday life, we seem to take for granted those things that make us better and connect us more to the people we care about and to our surroundings. We go through our days never seriously appreciating the importance of doing simple things for another person. Offering a hand, a meal, some warm clothes, a gentle smile or a warm heart can change a life in immeasurable ways.

I have learned not to take for granted the seemingly small, insignificant events in life. My brother may not have lit the world on fire, but most certainly, he left his impression on his family and his friends. Special-needs children offer a unique expression when it comes to doing things. They see the beauty in ordinary life and live as if there is no tomorrow. They remember with remarkable clarity those things in life we conveniently forget. They never complain. They never take light of their struggles, and blame no one for their shortcomings.

Because we do not have insight or clarity, it does not make our situation any more valuable or any more unique. My mom used to say that no matter how hard your life, there is always someone else’s that is so much worse.

Sainthood is not necessarily proclaimed to the historic, the bold, the visionary and the courageous, but often is offered to those of us who go through a normal, simple life constantly giving and serving their fellow man. Being resurrected is not solely regulated to the divine, but can happen in each one of us who are willing to give not only of their time, but of their heart, regardless of reward.

St. Josemaria Escriva once said that you must “understand this well: there is something holy, something divine hidden in the most ordinary situations, and it is up to each one of you to discover it.” He also said, “Either we learn to find the Lord in the ordinary everyday life or else we shall never find him.”

So do not go looking for Christ in a genie’s bottle, in a box or on a shelf. He is there with those wonderful and awesome special people and in those moments of time where simple acts of courage are performed, and in the littlest of efforts we take to come closer to our understanding of the Spirit that resides in us all.

May our loved ones never be forgotten. May the Easter celebration enjoin us to remember home. May the wind be forever at our backs. And may His peace be with you always.

Joseph Thomas, a member of Gahanna St. Matthew Church, is a Third Order Franciscan and freelance writer who is active in many diocesan and church activities.

Lenten series: Mary receives the body of Jesus in her arms

By Sister Constance Veit, LSP

We ponder Mary’s sorrow as she received the body of her dead Son into her arms.

Like the encounter on the way to Calvary, this scene is not explicitly mentioned in Scripture, but in St. John’s Gospel (19:31-37), we read about how Jesus’ body was treated after his death: “Now since it was preparation day, in order that the bodies might not remain on the cross the Sabbath, for the Sabbath day of that week was a solemn one, the Jews asked Pilate that their legs be broken and they be taken down.

“So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and then of the other one who was crucified with Jesus. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs, but one soldier thrust his lance into his side, and immediately blood and water flowed out.”

Tradition tells us that when the body of Jesus was taken down from the cross, his mother took him in her arms. I think it’s a natural reaction, when someone dies, to want to see and touch their body. We often see this when our residents die. Family members seem to want to linger, to hold their deceased loved one’s hand or stroke their hair, to give them a final kiss, say a prayer or share one last story. Sometimes it helps the family members to prove to themselves that their loved one is really gone, or they need time to let the reality sink in; or maybe they want to engrave their loved one’s features in their memory.

In Mary’s case, the body taken down from the cross was the Son she had brought into the world and wrapped in swaddling clothes. It was the Son she bathed and fed and rocked to sleep at night. This was the same body, but now he was so bruised, bloodied and broken that he was nearly beyond human appearance. It had to be very difficult for her to confront the horrible reality before her eyes, but I’m sure she lingered over each wound, compassionating with her Son’s pain.

Perhaps Mary ran her fingers over the gaping hole created by the soldier’s lance, trying to close it up just a bit. I never really thought about this before, but Jesus was already dead when the soldier pierced his side and blood and water flowed out. Setting aside any theological interpretation, why did the soldier violently stab someone he knew was already dead? It was brutal and unnecessary, as when a killer stands over his victim, firing excessive shots into the body at point blank range.

How cruelly they treated Mary’s Son! They didn’t need to inflict that final wound unless it was for Mary herself – since he was already dead, Jesus couldn’t feel the pain of the lance, but Mary could. Perhaps this was the sword that pierced her heart, as Simeon’s prophecy had foretold. In any case, Mary must have grieved to see how disrespectfully they treated her Son’s body.

Reflecting on this scene, I thought of all the ways the human body is disrespected in today’s throwaway culture: from abortion and euthanasia to human trafficking, violent crime, substance abuse and pornography. During World Youth Day, Pope Francis spoke about these grave violations of human dignity. He prayed for the victims and asked his audiences not to succumb to the temptation to treat themselves and others with such contempt. His prayer after the Way of the Cross, which we already have quoted and which appears in its entirety on our website, is worth reading again and again.

On another occasion, Pope Francis wrote, “Our defense of the innocent unborn … needs to be clear, firm and passionate, for at stake is the dignity of a human life, which is always sacred and demands love for each person, regardless of his or her stage of development. Equally sacred, however, are the lives of the poor, those already born, the destitute, the abandoned and the underprivileged, the vulnerable infirm and elderly exposed to covert euthanasia, the victims of human trafficking, new forms of slavery, and every form of rejection. We cannot uphold an ideal of holiness that would ignore injustice in a world where some revel, spend with abandon and live only for the latest consumer goods, even as others look on from afar, living their entire lives in abject poverty.”

As we contemplate the Pieta this week, let’s pray in a special way for the victims of our throwaway culture, and let’s ask for all young people a right understanding of the dignity of every human life created in the image and likeness of God.

Sister Constance Veit, LSP, is director of communications for the Little Sisters of the Poor.
Busy bishop takes spirited tour of social service agencies

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

Bishop Robert Brennan said he “experienced the Church at its best” during an introductory tour of diocesan service agencies in Columbus.

“It was a very positive and uplifting experience,” he said at the end of the 4½-hour tour on Wednesday, April 10. “What I saw today fits everything I’ve been talking about in connection with ‘the joy of the gospel’ and ‘the splendor of truth’” — phrases from Pope Francis and Pope St. John Paul II that Bishop Brennan has used often since being installed as the 12th bishop of Columbus on March 29.

“Seeing the way people work with the social service agencies and the agencies work with the community shows how we really act as church for one another,” the bishop said. “Every one shares something, even the poorest and most vulnerable.”

After breakfast with board members of several agencies at The Catholic Foundation’s offices, the tour began with stops at the Catholic Social Services (CSS) Our Lady of Guadalupe Center and the Seton Square West housing complex. It continued with a visit to LifeCare Alliance, which is not a Catholic agency but was the site of a monthly in-service luncheon for CSS’ Senior Companion and Foster Grandparent programs. This was followed by stops at the St. Vincent Family Center and St. Stephen’s Community House.

Everywhere the bishop went, he was greeted enthusiastically and responded in kind, briefly chatting with bus after serving his home diocese in a priestly role for nearly 30 years, the last seven as auxiliary bishop.

At the Guadalupe center, he talked to several children, bouncing one baby in his arms and playing with a red truck offered by another child.

A woman who said she comes to the center regularly, Ana Mercedes Valle, told the bishop how appreciative she was of help she has received there from attorneys and social workers concerning immigration questions. She also talked to him about the difference the center’s food pantry has made in her life. The center was founded in 1999 and was significantly expanded in 2017 to serve the Latino community on Columbus’ west side. The pantry serves more than 3,000 people and provides more than 100,000 meals annually.

The center’s director, Ramona Reyes, who also is a Columbus school board member, said she discussed the possibility of the bishop speaking at a large gathering of local Latino Catholics. He told her he would be delighted to address such an event.

“People meet Jesus Christ here,” and for the bishop and his party. “What I lack in my tongue (in connection with his knowledge of Spanish), I make up for in my heart, as well as in my stomach with your food,” he said before taking a burrito with him to eat while being driven to Seton Square West.

There, he visited about 20 of the complex’s residents, who had gathered for their weekly Wednesday Breakfast Club, at which a catered meal is delivered. He went from table to table greeting people, and he signed a copy of the program from his installation that had been sent to Seton Square resident Terri Mallon. She shares the bishop’s birthday of June 7 and will become 80 years old on that date this year.

“I feel so welcome here coming into your home,” he said. “I’m so fortunate since I’ve come to Columbus, because it seems like when I come to people’s homes, you open the door and I can barge right in...just came from the Our Lady of Guadalupe Center, and it was so beautiful. Some of the kids jumped into my arms. I’m glad nobody’s jumping into my arms when I come here.”

Before leaving, the bishop viewed Mallon’s apartment in the building. She told him of her life as a police officer and a parole officer. He saw an organ in the living room and asked if she played. She responded that she was not a musician, but when she learned the organ was going to be ground into wood pulp, she saved it because she felt God had told her to do so. She said she would be glad to give it to any church needing an organ.

Seton Square West, which has 48 units, is one of 14 Seton Square com-
DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (DRE) POSITION AVAILABLE

St. Peter Roman Catholic Church in north suburban Columbus is seeking a full-time Director of Religious Education (DRE) able to start at the beginning of June 2019. The new hire would enjoy a month of mentoring by the retiring DRE.

St. Peter has 2,500 families, with about 500 children and teens enrolled in our Parish School of Religion (PSR) and RCIA teen program. The DRE is responsible for coordinating the elementary, junior high, and RCIA teen programs; planning and organizing for First Reconciliation, First Communion, Confirmation, and the Confirmation Retreat, including associated liturgies; directly supervising individual coordinators; securing and training volunteers; budgeting and calendar preparations; writing weekly newsletters and bulletin articles; overseeing meetings of catechists; running PSR registration and Vacation Bible School (VBS) registration; and making PSR policies in conjunction with the Pastor.

Hours are Monday through Thursday, 34-40 hours a week when PSR is in session (which includes two evenings a week) and 28-30 hours a week outside the school terms.

Applicants must have either a master’s degree in Theology (M.A., M.Div.) or Education (M.Ed.) or a bachelor’s degree in Theology or Education, and a minimum of three years’ experience administering a Parish School of Religion. Salary is commensurate with experience.

Send resumes, with references, to the Director of Religious Education, Maureen Luis, Ph.D., at St. Peter Roman Catholic Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus, Ohio 43235.

BUSINESS MANAGER – ACCOUNTANT POSITION AVAILABLE

St. Peter Roman Catholic Church in north suburban Columbus is seeking a full-time Business Manager and Accountant able to start at the beginning of June 2019. The new hire would enjoy a month of mentoring by the retiring Business Manager.

In brief, the Business Manager and Accountant administers all parish business operations, including payroll, employee benefits, personnel and office management, bill paying, cash flow management, bookkeeping, collections, insurance programs, financial statements and budgets; attends meetings with the Parish Finance Council; oversees the computer network and assists the pastor in making parish policies.

The Business Manager must have strong management and accounting skills, flexibility and aptitude in order to handle diverse and simultaneous duties. To perform this job successfully, an individual should have knowledge of Microsoft Office Word, Excel, Outlook and QuickBooks and the ability to learn the diocesan payroll system. Excellent oral, written communication and human relations skills are essential.

Applicants must have a bachelor’s degree in accounting or finance and management experience. Salary is commensurate with experience.

Send resumes, with references, to the Business Manager, Mike Luis, C.P.A., J.D., at St. Peter Roman Catholic Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus, Ohio 43235.
Paschal candles reflect faith, creativity of central Ohio artist

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

Paschal candles designed by central Ohio liturgical artist Gina Switzer will play an important part in the Easter Vigil celebration this year at several churches in the Diocese of Columbus and other parishes from coast to coast. Blessing and lighting of the large candle during the Service of Light at the beginning of the Vigil Mass marks the start of the Catholic Church’s 50-day Easter season, a time when the candle is lit at Masses and other major liturgical celebrations every day from Easter to Pentecost. After Pentecost, the candle remains in a church’s baptistery. It is used always in baptisms and often at funeral services until the following Easter, when a new candle replaces it.

“I’ve done new Easter candle designs every year since 2011, when I received a request to do one from Father Michael Mary Dosch, OP, who at the time was pastor of my home parish, Columbus St. Patrick,” Switzer said. “It’s been a tremendous blessing to be able to create something beautiful and to know it will be part of a church all the time, especially in baptisms and funerals. To know that the images will add meaning to those experiences is a great honor. The candle is a potent visual sign of Christ at our birth into new life and our death into eternal life. “I know several priests use the candles as teaching tools throughout the year, and that also is very meaningful. As an artist, I am edified to bring beauty into churches all over the country. It’s a thrill to be able to participate vicariously in the Easter Vigil in so many places.”

The Paschal candle is one of the Catholic Church’s oldest Easter traditions, dating to at least the fourth century and perhaps much earlier. It probably derives from the evening prayer with which early Christians began the vigil for every Sunday and especially for Easter. In turn, this probably was inspired by the Jewish custom of lighting a lamp at the conclusion of the Sabbath.

Paschal candles can feature a variety of Christian symbols, but most include the Greek letters alpha and omega – the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet, symbolizing Christ as the beginning and end of all things.

At the center of the candle is a cross, representing Jesus’ redemptive sacrifice, and at each of the corners formed by the crossbars is one of the four numerals of the current year. Five grains of incense are inserted into the candle to recall the spices that were used to prepare Christ’s body for burial and the five wounds to his hands, feet and side, which remained after his resurrection.

Switzer said that this year, her Paschal candles will be used in about 30 parishes, located in Florida, Washington state, Rhode Island, California, Louisiana, Oregon, Indiana, Kentucky, Alabama, North Carolina and other dioceses in Ohio. She also has shipped candles to Canada and Japan. Several of those parishes are staffed by priests of the Dominican order, as is St. Patrick.

Parishes in the Diocese of Columbus where Switzer’s candles will be used are Columbus St. Patrick, Holy Family and St. Catharine; Chillicothe St. Peter; Vaverly St. Mary; London St. Patrick; and Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas.

Switzer said more churches have been ordering candles each year as she adds to the number of designs she has available. Her 2019 design is based on an icon known as “The Harrowing of Hell” or “The Descent Into Hell,” variations of which are part of both the Eastern and Western Catholic and Eastern Orthodox faith traditions. The most familiar version dates to the 14th century and was in a church outside Istanbul (the former Constantinople) known as the Khora or Chora. The building later was converted into a Muslim mosque and is now a museum.

Switzer’s Paschal adaptation of the icon shows the risen Christ standing on the gates of hell, pointing upward toward heaven. Symbols of the initiation sacraments of baptism, confirmation and Holy Communion adorn the top and arm points of the cross as a reminder that the gates of hell will not prevail against God’s Church and his adopted children.

“Such an image is especially important this year at a time of so much disturbance in the Church,” Switzer said. “It’s a reminder that the Church always has emerged from its difficulties and will continue to do so. My husband, Shane, and I are RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) coordinators at St. Patrick’s. Every year, we see new people coming into the Church because they realize the truths of the Catholic faith. This constantly affirms that the Church is not dying, despite what some people may say.”

Switzer’s first candle was based on the phrase Exitus Reditus, words used by St. Thomas Aquinas that Switzer said translate roughly to “Everything comes from God and is to return to God.” It features images of the sacraments and is highlighted by an icon of

See PASchal CANDLES, Page 11
the three persons of the Trinity, portrayed as the three men who visited Abraham and Sara in the Old Testament and declared the couple would have a son.

A candle titled “Illumination” includes what appears to be an illuminated manuscript with notes of Gregorian chant. Its notes and words come from the Exultet, the joyous proclamation sung at the Easter Vigil that declares Christ’s victory over sin and death. The candle also features images of bees, which are fitting because the candles come from beeswax. In addition, Mary, because she gave birth yet remained a virgin, has long been associated with the bee, and the fruit of her womb, Jesus, has been associated with the wax and honey of the bee.

Switzer and Mary Haemmerle, a fellow St. Patrick parishioner, do all the work of designing the candles and placing images on them. The candles themselves come from the A.I. Root Co. of Medina, probably the nation’s best-known candle supplier, which this year celebrates its 150th anniversary.

Root supplies Switzer with both Paschal candles and smaller candles she designs for use at baptisms. The Paschal candles range in height from 38 to 60 inches. Switzer said the most popular size is 3 inches in diameter by 40 inches tall.

Once she decides on a candle design, the work that follows combines traditional handcrafting with new technology. Switzer draws the design on a wood panel or on paper, takes a photo of it and puts the image into a computer, which prints the image of the design. That image is transferred to a type of paper known as a water slide decal, which Switzer said is thinner than tissue paper, yet has multiple layers.

At that point, gold foil is applied by hand to parts of the image, and sometimes additional paint is used for highlighting. This is the most time-consuming part of the process. Before the decal paper is transferred to the candle, it’s placed in warm water for 30 seconds to release the top layers from their backing. Haemmerle or Switzer then transfer it to the candle surface. Once it dries, parts of the paper that aren’t painted show up white on the candle. Three coats of varnish are then applied. “That makes it look like the image has melted into the candle,” said Haemmerle, who recently earned a bachelor of arts degree in theology online from Catholic Distance University and aspires to be a full-time liturgical artist. “I enjoy painting and I love the Catholic faith,” she said. “Working on the candles allows those two passions to come together.”

“Mary is quiet and gentle,” Switzer said, “but her passions for art and the Church are deep and strong.

Artists are fed a modern lie that the artist’s work is individual, but it’s not true. In the past, there were guilds of artists who collaborated on projects, and there were studios of artists who worked together on single projects. I’ve longed for that kind of relationship. God has blessed me with Mary, and hopefully, she is blessed by me.”

Now that the season for Easter candles is finished, the two artists will begin working on plaques of saints that have been commissioned by the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist who serve Worthington St. Michael Church and School. The artists also are working on ideas for an Adoration chapel in Indiana.

In addition, Switzer said she has sold hundreds of baptismal candles. They come in six designs, which are based on her Paschal candles and can be seen on her website. People who have attended the diocesan Catholic men’s and women’s conferences for the past seven years have viewed her work, because she created the large paintings of Mary and her Immaculate Heart and Jesus and his Sacred Heart that are hung every year on either side of the stage where the altar for the conferences is located. Her daughter-in-law provided the model for the face in the Marian painting.

Works by Switzer also can be seen
Two diocesan students advance to National Spelling Bee

Two students from diocesan schools — Nilla Rajan of Chillicothe Bishop Flaget School (left) and Malcolm D’Souza of Hilliard St. Brendan School — have qualified for the National Spelling Bee in National Harbor, Maryland in late May after winning regional competitions at Ohio University in Athens. This is the third straight year that Rajan will be in the national event, in which she placed 31st last year. She qualified once more for the finals by outspelling 43 other students from counties outside the Columbus metropolitan area at OU in March. The word she spelled correctly to win the title was “pascola,” a masked dancer and storyteller in some Native American cultures. D’Souza was the top speller among 51 students from the metropolitan area. His winning word was “kentledge,” a weight used as permanent ballast on ships. (Photos/Bishop Flaget and St. Brendan schools)

St. Anthony students learn about Braille

Columbus St. Anthony School third-graders were visited by Greg Daniels, who is blind and read to them in Braille. The kids got to see his Braille books and his audio book machine and to ask questions about his life. (Photo courtesy St. Anthony School)

St. Brigid Letters About Literature representatives

Twelve Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare School sixth-grade students were selected to represent Ohio in the second of four rounds of judging in the national Letters About Literature writing contest, in which they write to an author whose book inspired them. They are (from left): first row, Madeline Tinkler, Marin Lynch, Cami Price, Angie Hanson, Mikey Watkins and Chase Lanier; second row, Macie Moreland, Quinn Giha, Jacklyn Kuehl, Colin Hare, Sam Berry and Vinnie Colombo. Moreland advanced to the final round and is one of seven state finalists chosen from 1,690 students who submitted letters. The contest is sponsored by the Library of Congress and co-sponsored at the state level by the Ohio Center for the Book in Cleveland. It integrates language arts standards with an authentic writing opportunity that allows students to express their personal feelings about a book and its effect on them. St. Brigid has been represented by finalists in every year of participation in the program. (Photo courtesy St. Brigid of Kildare School)

Seven Hartley seniors awarded full scholarships

Columbus Bishop Hartley High School has announced that seven of its graduating seniors have been awarded full college scholarships. Pictured with school principal Mike Winters are (from left) Bailee Zacovic, Kayla Malone, Okole Ngalla, Jared (Jay) Smith, Jordan Soltou, Sarah Oboy and Shirleen Otieno. Zacovic received the Gianna R. Joyce Scholarship to the University of Notre Dame; Oboy was awarded the Founders Scholarship to Walsh University in North Canton; Smith was granted the Carolina Covenant Scholarship to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Ngalla, Otieno and Soltou were awarded Morrill Scholarships to Ohio State University; and Malone secured an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy. (Photo courtesy Bishop Hartley High School)

St. Andrew teacher honored

The Upper Arlington Civic Association presented Columbus St. Andrew School intervention specialist Jake Lombardo (center) with its Golden Apple Award for outstanding teaching. The winner is selected by a panel of parents and students. Lombardo is pictured with his father, Vince, dean of boys at Columbus Bishop Watterson High School, and his aunt, Maria Lombardo, kindergarten aide at St. Andrew School. His mother, Cindy, is assistant principal at Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare School. (Photo courtesy St. Andrew School)
The drama department of Columbus Bishop Hartley High School will present *James and the Giant Peach* at 7 p.m. Thursday to Saturday, May 9 to 11 and 2 p.m. Sunday, May 12 at the Columbus Performing Arts Center, 549 Franklin Ave. Tickets are $12 for adults and $10 for senior citizens and students and may be reserved by emailing BishopHartleyTheatre@gmail.com.

The cast of 43 students includes Joseph Supino, Tommy Druhan, Dominic Ratliff, Shannon Carmon, Joseph Sheridan, Caitlin McCarthy, and Sergio Mariscal.

The story is about a young man named James, who is sent by his conniving aunts to chop down their old fruit tree, but discovers a magic potion that results in a giant-sized peach and launches a journey of enormous proportions.

Suddenly, James finds himself in the center of the peach among human-sized insects with equally oversized personalities. After the peach falls from its tree and rolls into the ocean, the group faces hunger, sharks and plenty of disagreements. Thanks to James’ quick wit and creative thinking, the residents learn to live and work together as a family.

**TOUR, continued from Page 8**

their homes.

Rachel Lustig, president and chief executive officer of Catholic Social Services, said the agency has about 160 Senior Companions serving about 500 people. More than 75 Foster Grandparents work with about 225 students.

The bishop couldn’t meet with everyone in the half-hour he was at the training session but spent most of his time seeing as many people as he could.

The event was highlighted by a blessing given to the bishop by Marva Simmons, head of the advisory board for the Senior Companion program.

“God, you have chosen him (Bishop Brennan) for an awesome responsibility for awesome times,” Simmons said, using the rolling cadences of the Southern Gospel style of preaching.

She prayed, “Guide, direct and strengthen him. Surround him with people who will be a blessing to him. Every place that his feet tread, let it be blessed. Lift him above his burdens.”

The bishop responded, “I’ve been fortunate to be blessed in meeting so many wonderful people from different communities, and you are the best.”

The tour moved from the west to the east side of Columbus for its last two stops. Upon arrival at the St. Vincent Family Center, the bishop headed straight for the playground and began pushing children on swings. After a few minutes, the 10 children who were playing gathered around him in a circle, and he began singing *Itsy Bitsy Spider* to them, complete with hand gestures, followed by Little Rabbit Foo Foo.

The center, which began as an orphanage in 1875, has as its motto “We make good kids better.” It serves behaviorally challenged children referred by school officials, medical personnel and the courts.

It also trains foster parents to support children who don’t have a place to call home. Last year, it supported nearly 5,300 children and families. This year, it expects that number to grow to around 6,400 because of increased emphasis on prevention and early intervention programs.

The bishop didn’t give a speech during his stop at the center, but spent more than an hour visiting classrooms, play areas and the site’s residential area for children who are determined to need full-time care beyond the home. He also ate a lunch of cold cuts and potato salad with some of the children.

Bishop Brennan’s final stop was at St. Stephen’s Community House in the city’s Linden neighborhood. Like the St. Vincent center, it also serves at-risk children and their families. The issues its children deal with are not limited to behavior problems, but arise from the effects of poverty, lack of food and broken families.

St. Stephen’s is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. It was founded just after World War I in 1919 on the city’s south side, then moved to Linden about a half-century later.

CEO Marilyn Mehaffie and human resources director Aja Davis took the bishop through the community center’s building and showed him classrooms for early learning and after-school programs, play areas and an urban farm known as Project AquaStar, where 50 kinds of fruits, vegetables and plants are grown through aquaponic gardening – the cultivation of aquatic animals and plants in a recirculating environment. Bees, chickens and fish also call the garden space home.

The bishop also visited the center’s food and nutrition area, which includes a pantry that is open five days a week and serves 900 families who are eligible to visit once a month. Families also can come in once a week for fresh produce from the Mid-Ohio Foodbank.

St. Stephen’s provides many other family services for newborns to the elderly. Infants and their mothers benefit from its Baby Nook program, in which participants earn points that can be exchanged for items such as diapers and toys that are available at the center. Senior citizens can take advantage of a case management program for a variety of needs, transportation to doctors’ offices and grocery stores, and a lunch program that provides a hot meal five days a week and activities on Fridays through a partnership with LifeCare Alliance.

“You’re right at the core of what the Catholic Church is here for,” the bishop said after hearing presentations about each of the center’s major areas of concern. “That’s what we do here. We help lift each other up.”

Having completed what already had been a busy day, the bishop then continued on what has been a whirlwind schedule by heading to Plain City St. Joseph Church to administer the sacrament of confirmation for the 11th time in the 12 days since his installation as bishop of Columbus. He had confirmations scheduled at two additional sites before Palm Sunday, April 14.

He also has visited the Pontifical College Josephinum, Columbus St. Stephen the Martyr Church and several sites in Portsmouth, the southernmost point of the 23-county Diocese of Columbus, in his first two weeks as bishop.
Easter Sunday Year C 21 April, 2019

Christ, our hope, has risen

Father Timothy Hayes

Acts 10:34a, 37–43
Colossians 3:1–4 or
1 Corinthians 5:6b–8
Sequence Christians, to the Paschal Victim
John 20:1–9

The empty tomb that is first discovered by Mary Magdalene as the Gospel of John recounts the story of Easter morning is an ambiguous sign. The empty wrappings discovered by Peter and John add to the mystery and wonder, and, to John, they present the opening to Easter faith. However, it will take the resurrection encounters with the Lord himself to fill in the truth: Jesus, who suffered and died, is risen! From the dead we know. Victorious king, Thy mercy show!

(Easter Sequence)

When Peter later preaches the truth he learned that day to Cornelius and his family (our reading from Acts 10), he manifests a new understanding of the story. God invites us to open our own minds and hearts to this message and to become bearers of the truth in our own lives. A greater wisdom comes when we see through the eyes of faith in the resurrection. The resurrection is not a mere return to our world, but an engaging of our world in a journey beyond itself.

We are confronted in our world with signs of death and darkness. Easter invites us to open to newness and hope. We all have to admit that the Church is an institution made up of sinful human beings. The Church is also the home of grace and healing and mercy and truth. We are called to be a sign to the world of the truth of the resurrection.

God speaks to us in ways that we can understand, especially through the lives of those who continue to respond to the message we proclaim. The Easter Vigil, which takes place on Holy Saturday, assures the growth of the Church throughout the world by adding new members. In days ahead, many sacraments will be administered that make use of the holy water and holy oils blessed during this sacred time. The risen Lord continues to raise his people to new life in and through us.

As Catholics, we often need to rediscover ourselves. The Easter Masses, more than any other celebration, reveal who we are and who we are called to be; we can deepen our understanding of this reality by contemplating what happens in this celebration.

The initiation of new members, proving the truth that the Gospel is meant for every age, opens us to the ongoing mission of proclaiming the resurrection and invitation to eternity. At the Vigil and the Masses of Easter Sunday, we renew our baptismal vows, acknowledging that we choose to respond with faith in God’s action among us.

We bask in the glory of the risen Lord, whose resurrection was proclaimed first by women and men who had despaired at the loss of their teacher.

We hear the Word and are charged to continue to announce the Gospel of Life to all. Our alleluias ring out and resound in churches throughout the world.

We join together in fellowship with the family of faith that is formed by the Eucharist. Newly present among us are our neophytes, those who have been claimed by Christ through the Easter Sacraments.

Chosen by God, experiencing his mercy, we are given the invitation and the challenge to bring the news of the resurrection to the world.

Can we hear the voice of the Lord speaking in our hearts? With St. Paul, can we come to realize that “when Christ our life appears, then we too will appear with him in glory?” Our lives become the leaven that invites the world to grow in an ever-new understanding of the power of the risen Lord among us.

With Mary Magdalene, we sing the paschal song: “Christ, my hope, has risen: He goes before you into Galilee. That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know. Victorious king, Thy mercy show!” (Easter Sequence)

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad!

Father Timothy M. Hayes is pastor of Columbus St. Timothy Church.
Some two millennia ago, a ragtag bunch of nobodies learned what their tortured and executed friend, the rabbi Jesus from Nazareth, meant by “rising from the dead” (Mark 9:9-10) – because they met him again, the same but utterly transformed, as the Risen Lord. The Easter Effect upturned all they had once thought about time, history, and God’s promises to Israel; it also transformed these nobodies into extraordinary evangelists, for the missionary project they launched converted perhaps as much as half the Mediterranean world over the next 1½ centuries.

That Easter Effect is worth keeping in mind in this season of Catholic discontent. Even amid anger and embarrassment, Christians can do the work of evangelization because the first Easter told us that, for the truly converted disciple who has met the risen Lord, despair never gets the final word; God will vindicate his plan for the salvation of the world. And if we momentarily filter out media bias, political posturing and social media vitriol, Catholics can see the Easter Effect at work in the Church in 2019.

The best sign of Catholic vitality will be found at the Easter Vigil on April 20 when tens of thousands of adults, fully aware of the current crisis, will be baptized or will enter into full communion with the Catholic Church. Their primary act of faith is in the Risen Lord. By accepting baptism or reception into the Catholic Church today, however, these men and women are also making an act of faith in the Church and its capacity for reform. Let the desperate among us take heart and courage from that.

Great conversion stories are being written today. If you’re feeling glum about the Catholic future, try Sohrab Ahmari’s memoir, From Fire By Water: My Journey to the Catholic Faith (Ignatius Press). My friend Sohrab, one of the brightest young lights in the contemporary commentary, is six years short of his 40th birthday but already has lived a few lifetimes: ex-pat Iranian atheist becomes Marxist (of sorts) in Utah (I’m not making this up) before discovering the beauty of the Mass and the intellectual magnetism of all-in Catholicism. His story, told with verve and good humor, ought to make anyone despondent about the current Catholic situation think again.

This Easter, there is also good news at the contentious crossroads where Catholic truth meets the ever-more-aggressive sexual revolution: Pope St. John Paul II’s Theology of the Body, Christianity’s most compelling response to that cultural and social upheaval, is being “translated” into educational tools for elementary and secondary schools. Check out the materials being produced by Ruah Woods Press in Cincinnati (www.ruahwoodspress.com) and the Theology of the Body Evangelization Team (http://tobet.org). Then suggest that your local Catholic school or parish religious education program adopt them.

Catholics stuck in the slough of despond might also visit one of America’s many reformed seminaries, or the novitiate of one of its growing religious orders (the Dominican Sisters of Nashville; the Religious Sisters of Mercy of Alma, Michigan; the Sisters of Life in New York). There you’ll find deep Eucharistic and Marian piety, serious grappling with the fullness of Catholic truth, and an apostolic determination to be Christ’s healing presence in a society where addiction and suicide rates are rising ominously.

Catholic intellectual life is flourishing – if not always on big-brand-name Catholic campuses – thanks to initiatives like the Thomistic Institute, sponsored by Washington’s Dominican House of Studies. For the past five years, the Institute’s strategy of bringing top-notch, vibrantly orthodox Catholic scholarship to high-leverage campuses has met an enthusiastic response, demonstrating that, while Catholic Lite is dying, the symphony of Catholic truth speaks powerfully to today’s cultural confusions. This month alone, the Institute is sponsoring events at Carnegie Mellon, UC-Berkeley, Columbia, Duke, Harvard, Hillsdale, Kansas, George Mason, Ole Miss, New York University, Ohio State, Princeton, South Carolina, SMU, Stanford, Tulane, UCLA, West Point and Yale.

And then there are our reformist bishops. Let me invite those who groan at the very thought of a bishop to spend four minutes with Bishop Thomas Daly of Spokane, Washington (https://vimeo.com/286946305). Here is the Easter Effect manifest in bracing honesty, clear analysis, pastoral concern, and zero clericalism.

These signs of renewal and reform are as much a part of today’s Catholic story as the things that make us angry or disgusted or desperate. Think on them this Easter with gratitude and hope.

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

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN

The Pontifical College Josephinum, a Roman Catholic Seminary located in Columbus, Ohio, is in need of a full-time technician to replace a retiring employee. Responsibilities include:

- Performing routine building maintenance tasks in one or more fields of carpentry, electrical work, heating, ventilation, air conditioning and plumbing.
- Inspecting buildings and other structures to determine functional systems and detect malfunctions and needed repair.
- Painting, minor masonry repair, snow removal and general cleaning.

Background in HVAC controls, computer literacy and a minimum of three years of experience working in a maintenance environment in the above technical areas is required.

Please respond with a resume, letter of interest and salary history by April 24, 2019 to: The Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43235, Attention: Director of Plant Maintenance. Alternatively, you can email the information to gshotts@pcj.edu. The Pontifical College Josephinum is an EEO Employer.
President, archbishop vow to rebuild Notre Dame

Catholic News Service

The president of France and the archbishop of Paris have vowed to rebuild Notre Dame Cathedral after a devastating fire on Monday, April 15. Archbishop Michel Aupetit said, “Why was this beauty built? What jewel was this case meant to contain? Not the crown of thorns (a relic saved from the fire), but a piece of bread that we believe is the body of Christ.”

Pope Francis also expressed confidence the cathedral will be rebuilt.

PASCHAL CANDLES, continued from Page 11

at the convent and Adoration chapel at St. Michael Church and the Columbus St. Andrew Church Adoration chapel. She has specialized in liturgical art for more than 15 years but also does portraits of individuals, mainly in pastels and charcoal.

Besides being an artist, Switzer has two Shetland ponies at her Worthington home and uses them to provide therapy at nursing homes and for people with developmental disabilities.

She said it doesn’t take long for the actual artwork once she decides on a Paschal candle design, but the process that leads to the design can take up to six months. For next year’s candle, she’s thinking of something related to Christ in his majesty. “I just trust in the Holy Spirit” when it comes to finding new candle ideas, she said.

To see some of Switzer’s works, visit her website, www.ginaswitzer.com. Her email address is gina.switzer@gmail.com, and she also can be reached at (614) 579-0867.

PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

BLATZ, Janice R. (Evans), 81, April 7
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

BRIGHT, Donald R., 86, April 3
St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Pickerington

CAIN, Thomas I. III, 80, April 8
St. Dominic Church, Columbus

CARTER, Elizabeth “Betty Lou” (Wagner), 75, April 7
St. Paul Church, Westerville

FINNIGAN, Oralee “Lee” (Coughlin), 85, April 10
St. Dominic Church, Columbus

HARRIS, Charles F., 84, April 10
St. Bernardette Church, Lancaster

HASSELO, Jean A. (Dysart), 90, April 10
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

JORDAN, Roy A., 91, April 14
St. Matthias Church, Columbus

KENT, Jeanne L. (Davidson), 67, April 9
St. Timothy Church, Columbus

LONDRIGAN, John 95, April 10
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

McMENEMY, Nadine (Fisher), 92, April 13
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

MILLER, Jeremy D., 32, April 9
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

POWERS, Alice Y. (Knight), 82, April 11
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

WALCUTT, Barbara, 74, April 3
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

WEAVER, Thomas, 90, March 26
St. Joseph Church, Dover

EASTER MESSAGE, continued from Page 2

• The St. Vincent Family Center – once a local Catholic orphanage – provided nearly 5,300 low-income children and families last year with expert behavioral healthcare services. St. Vincent’s has been in existence for 140 years.

• Second graders at Chillicothe Bishop Flaget School worked with Knights of Columbus Council 1071 to create “Operation Sleepyhead.” The second-graders purchased 16 pillowcases, decorated them with Scripture verses, then donated the pillowcases to the Ross County Men’s Shelter.

• Throughout our diocese, there are more than 60 St. Vincent de Paul conferences located in our parishes, providing food and many other forms of assistance to those in need.

• Through our Seton Square housing, the diocese provides more than 1,000 units of safe, affordable housing for low-income senior citizens in Dover, Kenton, London, Coshocton, Zanesville, Wellston, Washington Court House, Lancaster, Marion and Columbus.

This list barely scratches the surface of how “Christ Lives!” in and through the people of our diocese. I look forward to sharing more examples with you in the future.

During my travels, I also have learned about the challenges, hopes and dreams of so many – especially our young people who look toward the future seeking hope, searching for opportunities, yearning for direction and answers. They want, like all of us, to live faith-filled lives rooted in Christ and the Gospel. And in my conversations with so many of them, I find that they are seeking the timeless teachings of Christ because they know and understand that “Christ Lives!”

Pope Francis reminds us: Alive, he can be present in your life at every moment, to fill it with light and to take away all sorrow and solitude. Even if all others depart, he will remain, as he promised: “I am with you always, to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:20). He fills your life with his unseen presence; wherever you go, he will be waiting there for you. Because he did not only come in the past, but he comes to you today and every day, inviting you to set out towards ever new horizons (Christus Vivit, 125).

Over the coming months, I look forward to meeting you, praying with you, proclaiming and preaching the Gospel, working with you to address the challenges that we collectively face, and seeking opportunities that put into practice the teachings of Christ as his faithful and loving followers. As we look toward the future let us remember: “Christus Vivit!” – “Christ Lives!”

May God abundantly bless you and your families this Easter!
The Perfect Mother’s Day Gift!
Send a needy newborn home from the hospital with a new layette lovingly assembled by the Christ Child Society members for a $33 donation. Your Mother will receive a beautiful Mother’s Day card memorializing your gift in her name. To order, email Janey Doviey by May 2nd at jdvies1349@gmail.com, or go to the Christ Child Society of Columbus website at chirstchildsoce.org. Click on Layettes.

APRIL

19, FRIDAY
Walking Stations of the Cross in Columbus
8 to 11 a.m., starting behind St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Annual Walking Stations of the Cross, stopping at 14 sites around downtown Columbus to commemorate Jesus’ crucifixion and reflect on various social issues. 614-241-2540
Walking Stations, Prayer Service in Delaware
11 a.m., St. Mary Church, 82 E. William St., Delaware. Walking Stations of the Cross through downtown, followed by eucumenical prayer service at noon. 740-363-4641
Bishop Presides at Good Friday Liturgy
Noon, St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Bishop Robert Brennan presides at Good Friday liturgy. 614-224-1295
Mime Stations at Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
11 a.m., St. Mary Church, 524 W. Main St., Portsmouth. Walking Stations of the Cross, ending at Holy Redeemer Church, 1325 Gallia St., Portsmouth. 740-354-4551
Bishop at Christ the King Good Friday Liturgy
7 p.m., Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus. Bishop Robert Brennan presides at Good Friday liturgy. 614-237-0401
Overnight Vigil with the Virgin at Holy Family
7 p.m., Holy Family Church, 564 W. Broad St., Columbus. Stations of the Cross, followed by holding vigil overnight. 614-221-1308

HAPPENINGS

20, SATURDAY
Wilderness Outreach ‘Carry the Cross’ Hike
7:30 a.m., Parking lot and shelter house, Barneyham Flats, western end of Clear Creek Metro Park, O.F. 33 near the Fair-Hocking county border. Wilderness Outreach sponsors 12-mile “Carry the Cross” hike for men, carrying a 3-by-6-foot timber cross through park. Participants may take part in all or part of the hike and should bring a day pack with two liters of water, snacks, and rain gear if appropriate. 614-979-8761
St. Pius X 'Carry the Cross' Hike
7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Gazebo, John F. Kennedy Park, 7232 E. Main St., Reynoldsburg. St. Pius X ‘Carry the Cross’ Hike will walk with wooden cross over an eight-mile round-trip course along bike trails and sidewalks of Reynoldsburg. 614-866-2859
Easter Food Basket Blessing in Delaware
11:30 a.m., St. Mary Church, 82 E. William St., Delaware. Blessing of Easter food baskets. 740-363-4641
Easter Food Basket Blessing at St. Pius X
1 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Blessing of Easter food baskets. 614-866-2859
Food Blessing at St. Bridget of Kildare
2 p.m., St. Bridget of Kildare Church, 7179 Avery Road, Dublin, Easter food blessing in chapel, followed by 2 p.m. Easter egg hunt on parish green. 614-761-3734
Bishop Presides at Vigil Service
8:30 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Bishop Robert Brennan is celebrating for Easter Vigil service. 614-224-1295

21, SUNDAY
Bishop Brennan Celebrates Easter Mass
10:30 a.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Bishop Robert Brennan celebrates Easter Mass. 614-224-1295
Angelic Warfare Confraternity at St. Patrick
Following noon Mass, St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Monthly meeting of Angelic Warfare Confraternity, with talk on chasity-related issues followed by Holy Hour. 614-224-9522
Polish Mass at Holy Family
2 p.m., Holy Family Church, 564 W. Broad St., Columbus. Monthly Polish Mass in Polish. 614-224-4323
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. 614-866-8266
Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter
7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6699 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish. 706-761-4504

22, MONDAY
Rosary at St. Pius X
6:30 a.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Recital of Rosary for the sick of the parish and all who are ill. 614-866-2859
Bethesda Post-Abortion Healing Ministry
6:30 a.m., support group meeting, 2744 Dover Road, Columbus (Christ the King convent, first building west of that on 1st Ave.). 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 Sunday of study’s readings.

23, TUESDAY
Rosary for Life at St. Joan of Arc
Following 6:15 p.m. Mass, St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Grove Pike. Recital of Rosary for Life, sponsored by church’s respect life committee.

24, WEDNESDAY
Dominican Sisters of Peace Anniversary
4 p.m., Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Celebration of the 10th anniversary of the founding of the Dominican sisters of Peace through the joining of seven Dominican congregations across the nation. Celebration will include planting and blessing of two burning bushes beside a statue of St. Catherine of Siena. 614-251-4453
‘Autism Mythbusters’ at de Porres Center
6 to 8 p.m., Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus. “Autism Mythbusters” program featuring educators, parents and others discussing and answering questions about their experiences living with autism. 614-416-1910
Divine Mercy Chaplet at St. Pius X
6:30 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Recital of Chaplet of Divine Mercy. 614-866-2859

25, THURSDAY
Ohio Dominican St. Catherine of Sienna Lecture
3:30 p.m., Cloister Room, Sanssouci Hall, Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Sister Megan McIntyre, OP, of the Dominican Sisters of Grand Rapids, Michigan, delivers ODU’s annual St. Catherine of Sienna lecture. Topic: “Justice – Seeing Catherine Through Contemporary Eyes.” 614-251-4453
Cenacle at Holy Name
5 p.m., Holy Name Church, 154 E. Patterson Ave., Columbus. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, with prayers in the Cenacle format of the Marian Movement of Priests.
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
Frassati Society Christ in the City
7 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Christ in the City program sponsored by parish’s Frassati Society for young adults with Eucharistic Adoration, confessions, Taize chant and Dominican Compline, followed by fellowship at Pat and Grace’s restaurant. 614-224-9522

26-28, THURSDAY-SUNDAY
Ohio Dominican Presents ‘The Taxi Cabaret’
7 p.m. Thursday and Saturday, 4 p.m. Sunday, Matesich Theater, Erskine Hall, Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. ODU Panther Players present “The Taxi Cabaret,” a drama about six people in their 20s in their first year in New York City. $10 adults; $5 for those younger than 18 or 65 and older. Free to ODU students with ID. 614-251-4453
Concerts in a Country Church
3 p.m., St. Colman of Cloneway Church, 219 S. North St., Washington Court House. “Playing With the Big Boys, Part 2” concert, with parish music director Craig Jaynes performing solo organ works by major composers, plus some lighter fare. Tickets $10 at door. Part of parish’s “Concerts in a Country Church” series. 937-875-7055
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. 614-866-8266

Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter
5 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish. 706-761-4504
Ethan Bortnick Concert at Lincoln Theater
7:30 p.m., Lincoln Theater, 769 Long St., Columbus. Concert with 17-year-old pianist Ethan Bortnick and featuring the Columbus St. Christopher Chorale and students in the Creation Conception youth choir. To purchase tickets benefiting St. Christopher choir, go to http://bit.ly/etfzano and enter promotional code “choir2019.” Tickets $26.50 to $40.50.
Scholarship memorializes man’s generous spirit

Tom Smith was considered by some as having a “hard shell,” but to others, such as his wife, Dominique, he was known for having a big heart.

“One time,” Dominique said, “Tom found out that a woman was paying on her husband’s funeral. So he went down to the funeral home and paid it off. But that was Tom. He didn’t have a lot of money, but he shared what he had.”

His passion for life was fueled by the diagnosis of a serious heart ailment that would affect him for the rest of his life.

Tom graduated high school in 1957 and went into the military. He thought that many high school students, like himself, had great potential but were unable to attend college for financial reasons. It was here that the seeds of a bigger idea were planted.

At age 44, Tom suffered his first heart attack and had to stop working. He later had three more heart attacks and a heart transplant in 1999. Life was precious to Tom, and he took nothing for granted. He considered his illness a gift and refused to let it stop him from living his life or giving back to others.

After receiving a new heart, Tom’s desire to help needy teenagers go to college was renewed. He contacted many people, asking how he could help. But he received no answers.

After Tom died in 2009, Dominique wanted to pursue Tom’s dream in his memory and reached out to Laura Corcoran, principal at Chillicothe Bishop Flaget School. Laura recommended that Dominique contact The Catholic Foundation in Columbus.

Dominique worked with Jennifer Damianowho at the time was executive director of the Foundation, to set up the Thomas L. Smith Memorial Scholarship and later the Thomas & Dominique Smith Endowment Fund in 2013.

The Thomas L. Smith Memorial Scholarship provides scholarship grants to either a graduating senior of a Catholic high school in the Diocese of Columbus or a senior high school student who is a parishioner of Chillicothe St. Peter or Chillicothe St. Mary Church. The 2018 scholarship recipient is Christian Brown.


Christian Brown, a Chillicothe High School graduate and a member of Chillicothe St. Mary Church, is the 2018 recipient of the Thomas L. Smith Memorial Scholarship.

Christian went to Chillicothe High School and St. Peter Church. He graduated at the top of his class with a 4.2 grade-point average and has a long list of accolades and volunteer work, including being an altar server for nine years and a member of the National Honor Society. He plans to attend the University of Cincinnati and major in biology.

When he first heard about being selected for the scholarship, he felt honored, saying, “I try to keep my faith a number-one priority, so receiving an award for it gave me a sense of validation that I have been keeping it first in my life.” He thinks that this scholarship is important because it rewards students for being immersed in their faith.

Being Catholic has affected Christian in countless ways. “It has given me my morals and a great foundation in life because I know that no matter what happens, I always have God to fall back on when things get difficult. It gives me the courage to bring joy into other people’s lives because of the happiness it brings me,” he said.

His parents, Aaron and Angie Brown, couldn’t be prouder of their son and are happy that the solid Catholic foundation they provided has kept him grounded in his faith. Christian would like to thank his parents and give credit to his mom and dad for raising him to be involved in his parish. He believes it has made him a better person.

If you want to help students like Christian and possibly start your own scholarship fund, contact The Catholic Foundation at (614)-443-8893.

Dominique Smith said, “I would encourage others to do this if they have the desire to help young people further their education. They are our future. I wish I could do more. I wish it could be more.”

Tom Smith wrote, in a small, self-published book, “When my life is over, and I meet God for the first time, I hope only that He’ll say: ‘Tom, you turned out better than I thought you would.’”
Why a Catholic Cemetery?

Traditionally, Catholics have their family burial place in a setting which reflects their faith and devotion. Catholic cemeteries are among the greatest testimonials of our faith.

Catholic cemeteries are not mere memorials to the dead, but monuments to eternity. They are religious shrines with statues, chapels, mausoleums, and outdoor devotional settings that evoke feelings of faith and the universal hope of the resurrection.

When a Christian dies, he remains part of the community he shared. At the Catholic cemetery, Christians are united not by race or age or affluence but by unity in their belief in the resurrection and everlasting life.

The Catholic Cemeteries of Columbus Offer . . .

CHAPELS – Available for Committal Services and Masses
MAUSOLEUMS – Community Garden Crypts and Personal Family Crypts
IN-GROUND BURIAL SPACE – Select from Monument, 8-Inch Marker and Lawn Level Marker Space
COLUMBARIUMS & NICHES – Serving your cremation needs
MONUMENTS & MARKERS – Direct to You Through Our Offices
FULL-TIME ADVISORS – Providing You with Personal Service
LOW DOWN PAYMENTS and INTEREST-FREE PAYMENT PLANS

Steve Skinner
Laura Favret
Kevin Kelley
Joyce Kitsmiller

Our advisors are available to help you plan for the type of cemetery service that you want. Whether it be mausoleum entombment, ground burial, cremation services, purchase of a monument or marker, or just some help with the rules and regulations, you will receive professional and courteous service along with accurate, reliable information. If you would like more information about St. Joseph, Resurrection, and Holy Cross Cemeteries call the phone numbers listed below and talk to one of your cemetery professionals today!

St. Joseph Cemetery
614-491-2751
6440 S. High St./Rt. 23 S.
Lockbourne, Ohio 43137

Mt. Calvary Cemetery
614-491-2751
518 Mt. Calvary Ave.
Columbus, Ohio 43223

Resurrection Cemetery
614-888-1805
9571 N. High St./Rt. 23 N.
Lewis Center, Ohio 43035

Holy Cross Cemetery
740-927-4442
11539 National Rd. SW/Rt. 40 E.
Pataskala, Ohio 43062

OFFICE HOURS: Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sat. 8 a.m.-12 noon
Divine Mercy Sunday

APRIL 28, 2019

Our Lord’s words to Saint Faustina regarding Divine Mercy Sunday:

“The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sin and punishment.”

(Diary #699)

“My Lord and my God”

Sacred Heart Church
893 Hamlet Street
1:30 – 2:30 p.m. Confession
2:00 p.m. Blessing of Divine Mercy Image, followed by Exposition and Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
2:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross, followed by Benediction
3:00 p.m. Chaplet of Divine Mercy
3:20 p.m. Mass

Saint Joseph Catholic Church
140 West Ave Plain City Ohio 43064 614-873-8850
2:00 p.m. Exposition
2:00 – 2:45 p.m. Confession
3:00 p.m. Chaplet of Divine Mercy
3:30 p.m. Blessing and Veneration of Divine Mercy Jesus Image, followed by Benediction

St. Catharine
500 Gould Road, Columbus, OH (614) 231-4509
2:00 p.m. Exposition
2:05 – 3:00 p.m. Confessions will be heard
2:05 p.m. Praying the rosary
3:00 p.m. Chaplet of Divine Mercy (Led by Soloist)
3:30 p.m. Benediction

Saint Simon and Jude
9350 Highfree Pike, West Jefferson, OH 614-879-8562
1:00-3:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration
2:00-2:45 p.m. Confessions will be heard
3:00 pm Chaplet of Divine Mercy followed by Benediction

Saint Matthew
Gahanna Ohio
3:00 Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Divine Mercy
4:00 Benediction
Confessions: Saturday 4:00-4:45pm, Sunday 11:00-11:45 am, Wednesday 7-7:30 am

OLPH
Grove City Ohio
1:00 pm Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament
2:00 pm Rosary with the intentions of Pope Francis (Glorious Mysteries)
3:00 pm Chaplet of Divine Mercy
4:00 pm Reposition of The Most Blessed Sacrament

St. Peter Catholic Church
118 Church Street, Chillicothe, Ohio
740-774-1477
April 19 – April 28 Starting Good Friday 7:00 p.m.
Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be sung in Church
3:00 p.m. Daily recitation of Chaplet of Mercy in the Church starting April 20, Sunday April 28, Mercy Sunday Celebration
12:30 p.m. Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament
3:00 p.m. Chaplet of Divine Mercy sung in church – followed by Benediction Confessions will be heard on following days and times
Good Friday, April 19 – 1:00-2:30 & Saturday, April 27 – 3:00-4:30

Saint Timothy Church
1088 Thomas Lane, Columbus, OH 43220 (614) 451-2671
8:00 a.m. Mass 10:00 a.m. Mass 12:00 p.m. Mass,
followed by Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament
Confessions available 1:30 - 2:30
Blessing of Divine Mercy Jesus Image
3:00 p.m. Benediction

Saint Joan of Arc Church
10700 Liberty Road, Powell, OH
2:30 p.m. Blessing of Divine Mercy Jesus Image followed by Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament Liturgy of the Word followed by Chaplet of Divine Mercy
3:45-5:00 p.m. Confessions will be heard
4:45-5:00 p.m. Closing prayer and Benediction
5:30 p.m. Holy Mass

Saint Brendan
4475 Dublin Road, Hilliard Ohio
3:00 p.m. Chaplet of Mercy sung by Polish Sisters of the Immaculate Conception
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 8:45 A.M.
Wednesdays during the Parish Holy Hour, 6-7 PM

Saint Mark
24 Gay St, Lancaster OH 740-653-1229
2:30 p.m. Veneration of Divine Mercy Image
3:00 p.m. Chaplet of Divine Mercy
3:20 p.m. Mass
Reception following Mass

Saint Pius X
1051 Waggoner Rd, Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068
1:30 p.m. 3:00 p.m.
Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament
Confessions will be heard Rosary Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Saint John Neumann
Sunbury Ohio
12:00 Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Confessions, and Chaplet of Divine Mercy
1:00 Benediction