Inside this issue

**Stewardship:**
Andrea Pannell writes that stewardship is a response to our grateful awareness of a life in Jesus Christ, Page 4

**End of an era:**
Scott Manahan is retiring as Columbus Bishop Watterson’s baseball coach after a long and successful run that included a state title and 640 wins, Page 8

**Ascension & Pentecost:**
Scripture columnist Father Timothy Hayes explains the spiritual significance of the Ascension and Pentecost, Page 14

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**BISHOP BRENNA NN ORDAINS FOUR NEW DIOCESAN PRIESTS**

Pages 10-13, 20
Local news and events

Annual St. Anthony Mass set for June 13 at St. Christopher Church

Columbus St. Christopher Church, 1420 Grandview Ave., will host its annual Mass celebrating the Feast of St. Anthony of Padua at 6 p.m. Thursday, June 13. Msgr. John Cody and Father David Poliafico will concelebrate.

The Mass will be preceded at 5:45 by a procession and will be followed by the distribution of small loaves of bread – a tradition at many parishes where the feast has a special meaning. Food and refreshments will be available after Mass, and there will be raffles, door prizes and a fish pond for children.

Proceeds go to the parish’s St. Anthony Circle, which awards two $500 scholarships to eighth-grade students who plan to attend a diocesan high school. The celebration will include announcement of the scholarship recipients.

The circle is the extension of an organization started by a group of women in Italy, who brought it to the United States as immigrants. It was organized at St. Christopher in 1951 and has been awarding scholarships for the past 20 years.

For more information, contact Patricia Brown at (614) 488-5893 or (614) 440-5893. Donations to the scholarship fund may be sent to the church, with checks payable to St. Anthony Circle #1.

St. John Chrysostom selling baked goods

Columbus St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church, 5858 Cleveland Ave., is conducting a sale of baked goods from 4 to 6 p.m. Friday, June 7 in the parish hall. Items for sale will include cabbage rolls, sausage and sauerkraut, piroghi, and nut, apricot and poppyseed rolls. No advance orders will be taken. All items will be sold on a “first come, first served” basis.

Shroud exhibit coming to Ss. Simon and Jude

A traveling exhibit on the Shroud of Turin titled “The Man of the Shroud” will be presented in the social hall of West Jefferson Ss. Simon and Jude Church, 9350 High Free Pike, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily from Saturday, June 15 to Wednesday, June 19. This is the only Ohio visit scheduled for the display this year.

There is no charge to view the exhibit, which will include a full-scale (14 feet by 3 feet) linen replica of the shroud, a life-size, authentic-appearing crucifix, and 92 informational panels representing more than 25 years of study and research by the Center for the Study of the Passion of Christ and the Holy Shroud. The items are on loan from the Conventual Franciscan Friars of Marytown, Illinois.

As part of the exhibit, Tony Stout of Columbus St. Cecilia Church will present a program on the shroud’s history, based on his more than 20 years of study of the object, at 5 p.m. Saturday, June 15.

Corpus Christi Church to celebrate feast day

Columbus Corpus Christi Church, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., will celebrate the Solemnity of Corpus Christi on Sunday, June 23 with a Mass at 10 a.m., followed by a procession through the parish prayer garden, weather permitting.

After returning to church for Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, there will be a free breakfast, featuring pancakes by Chris Cakes, in the rectory courtyard.

All past parishioners, as well as graduates, faculty and staff of the former

Catholic Times is on summer schedule!

Things slow down during the summer, and that includes the Catholic Times. In June, July and August, we will be publishing every other week. Look for the Catholic Times in your mailbox just prior to June 16 & 30; July 14 & 28; and Aug. 11 & 25. We will return to weekly publication in September.

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By Leandro (Lany) M. Tapay  
Director, Diocesan Missions Office

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has designated one weekend every year for the Catholic Home Missions Collection. Funds gathered in the collection help mission dioceses in the United States and its territories. This year, in the Diocese of Columbus, the collection will be on the weekend of Saturday and Sunday, June 1 and 2.

The Diocese of Columbus has four missionaries working in places covered by the USCCB home missions:

- **Father David Glockner** is a member of the Glenmary Missionary Group. He works in a Glenmary mission in West Virginia. He is from Portsmouth.
- **Father Robert Goodyear** is a member of the Servants of the Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity. He works among the Choctaw Indians in Mississippi. He is from Reynoldsburg.
- **Brother David Henley** is vocations director of the Glenmary Missionary Group. He is from Columbus.
- **Sister Giovanni Paulo del’ Eucharistia** is a member of the Society of Our Lady of the Holy Trinity. She works in her congregation’s mission in Colorado. She is from Powell.

Let us pray for our missionaries, that God may continue to bless all they do on our behalf. Although most of us are not called to go to mission lands, all of us are called to be missionaries by virtue of our baptism. We fulfill this mandate of Christ by partaking in the Church’s mission work through our prayers, sacrifices and financial support for the missions.

Approximately 43 percent of dioceses and eparchies in the United States are designated as mission dioceses by the USCCB. Five of them are in Ohio – the Diocese of Steubenville, the Diocese of Youngstown, the Catholic Eparchy of Parma, St. George’s Romanian Catholic Eparchy in Canton and the Ukrainian Eparchy of St. Josaphat in Parma. All of them receive funds from the Catholic Home Missions Collection. In 2018, the Diocese of Columbus donated $73,592.85 to the collection.

Most of the dioceses and eparchies covered by USCCB home missions are in the Appalachian regions, the South, the Southwest along the Mexican border, the Rocky Mountain states, Alaska, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and the Marshall Islands and the Carolines in the Pacific. The Church in these areas cannot exist without the help of Catholics elsewhere.

Among the challenges the Church faces in these areas is a shortage of priests, a small Catholic population, bad roads, or no roads at all. Some of these mission areas can be reached only by boat or plane.

In the United States and its territories, more than two million people live in counties without a Catholic Church. 182 counties have no Catholic priest, 927 counties have only one parish and 171 counties have fewer than 50 Catholics.

This is an example of the challenge the pastor of Holy Redeemer Church in La Pine, Oregon faces. His parish church and mission centers spread across 10,000 square miles. Because of the vast distance, the pastor logs 500 miles round trip on Sundays.

This type of arrangement is common in the home mission areas. It is replicated across the Northwest and in the Southwest, where distances are great distances and many parishes do not have a resident pastor.

In home mission areas, Catholics are few. Of the total population of 577,737 people in Wyoming, 11 percent are Catholic. The state has 70 parishes spread over 100,000 square miles. Of the 3.16 million people in Utah, 270,000 are Catholics. Utah has just 63 parishes.

The smallest Catholic populations tend to exist in rural areas of the South, in Mississippi, Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia and the Carolinas. Tennessee has the smallest percentage of Catholics of any state, with only 3.5 percent of the population identifying as Catholic. Many people in Tennessee never have seen or met a Catholic priest.

On behalf of Bishop Robert Brennan and of missionaries and the people they serve, I thank you for all you do for the mission work of the Catholic Church. May our prayers, sacrifices and financial support for the missions bring us closer to the day when in the name of Jesus, every knee will bend and every tongue will confess that Jesus is Lord.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has designated one weekend every year for the Catholic Home Missions Collection. This year in our diocese, the collection will take place on the weekend of Saturday and Sunday, June 1 and 2. The program was established to guarantee continued funding for the mission dioceses in the United States, which cannot continue to exist without financial help from Catholics elsewhere.

The financial assistance is offered to the scattered and isolated churches in the vast wilderness of Alaska and in the Deep South, the Rocky Mountains, the Appalachian region, the Southwest, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and the distant Pacific islands, such as American Samoa and the Marshalls, that are United States territories. Funds from the appeal extend and strengthen the Catholic Church’s presence in these areas by providing basic pastoral services.

Catholic Home Missions Collection helps fund evangelization efforts, religious education programs, education and training of seminarians, and training of pastoral care givers in areas of the United States where Catholics are few and the Church is fragile.

Our prayers and support for the appeal help meet the faith needs of these dioceses. Helping satisfy the spiritual needs of our brothers and sisters across America unites all of us as a Catholic family. I invite you to respond generously to the Catholic Home Missions Collection.

May the Lord bless us in our efforts to help expand and strengthen the presence of the Church at home.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Robert J. Brennan, DD  
Bishop of Columbus
A thankful steward

Stewardship can be hard to live and teach when it is limited to campaigns for increased offertory collections or to other fundraising activities. As a way of life, we experience stewardship as a response to a grateful awareness of our life in Jesus Christ. We proclaim the truth that this and every day is a day the Lord has made, and so we rejoice and are glad in it, alleluia!

As we journey through the Easter season of joyful exultation, we celebrate the amazing gift of Christ’s resurrection and the new life we have been given. I am reminded of the traditional gospel song *This Little Light of Mine*. It is one of the first Christian songs I learned as a child and one that continues to grow in meaning for me as an adult. As we rejoice our way through the 50 days following Easter Sunday and ending on Pentecost Sunday, we can feel a light within us becoming more brilliant. The challenge of this light is that it not only shines brightly on the goodness surrounding us, it also can bring to light those not so good things in our life and in the world around us. This can cause some of us, as Bishop Brennan says in his homily on the prodigal son, “to remain on the outside of the Father’s house by our own choosing.”

In all her wisdom, the Church seems to be very aware of our dilemma and looks to support us through this joyous, yet challenging time. The readings we hear in Mass are bold and forthright. Giving us the blessed assurance that we are the flock of the Good Shepherd, we are commanded to be known through our love for one another and to believe and trust in all that Jesus has revealed in His life and now in His resurrection. We are offered peace beyond all understanding, told we have no need to be troubled or afraid, and called to be a witness to this great glory – a light unto the world. We are encouraged as we hear Jesus’ praying for us in the Gospel of John saying, “Holy Father, I pray not only for them (the Apostles), but also for those who will believe in me through their word, so that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me.”

Oh, how blessed we are to have Jesus. This is what we are grateful for as good stewards – not for things bought or acquired, but for the radical love of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. For this, I give thanks and offer my prayer, participation and generosity. Let the light of the Lord shine brightly above you, below you, all around you and within you.

“Christ Our Lord, risen Lord, light of the world, to you be all praise and glory! Shine your light on us this Easter season so that we may reflect brilliantly the glory of your resurrection. Make us a blessing for those who suffer, live in fear, or are overwhelmed by life. And let the Spirit fill our hearts with your loving presence so that we may become good stewards of your Gospel out of love for you who, for our sakes, lived, died and rose from the dead; you who live and reign with your Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen” (stewardship prayer for May 2019 from the International Catholic Stewardship Council).

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

Rice Bowl provides funds for local grants

For more than 45 years, Catholics have used the Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Lenten Rice Bowl program to help guide us in daily reflections as we strive to deepen our relationship with God and neighbor, no matter where in the world that neighbor may live. The Rice Bowl’s spiritual pillars are prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

CRS is the official global relief and development agency of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Through CRS Rice Bowl, we have opportunities to put our faith into action.

CRS uses its share of our Rice Bowl donations to support hunger initiatives around the world, and the diocesan Office for Social Concerns uses its share to support hunger initiatives in the 23 counties of the Diocese of Columbus. Every year, Catholics across the nation use nearly four million iconic “rice bowls” for almsgiving that results in nearly $12 million collected annually. Of that amount, 75 percent is sent to the CRS international office in Baltimore and is used for supporting CRS global programs, while 25 percent stays in each diocese to support local efforts to address hunger and food insecurity.

This year, the Office for Social Concerns is launching its CRS Rice Bowl local funds grants program to support local soup kitchens and pantries. Grant requests should be in the $200 to $2,000 range. Grant applications are available at www.columbuscatholic.org/social-concerns-office. Priority will be given to applications that identify needs that cannot be met by other means. Consideration will be given to requests for food or equipment replacement and repair costs. Funds may not be used for salaries or administrative costs.

The grant application is not complicated. Basic contact information and information about the soup kitchen or pantry is required. The information questions include: What is your mission? What services do you provide? Who do you serve? How many per month? With whom do you partner? How would the grant be used?

One important point is that each application will require the signature from a Catholic parish pastor or Catholic agency director. These funds were donated by our parishes and are designated for smaller soup kitchens and pantries that are supported by our diocesan Catholic community.

Applications for the first round of grants are due by Monday, June 17 and will be awarded by the end of June. The CRS Rice Bowl grants application can be found on the diocesan website at www.columbuscatholic.org/social-concerns-office, or obtained by emailing socmailbox@columbuscatholic.org or calling Erin Cordle, diocesan CRS director, at (614) 241-2540.

Erin Cordle is associate director of the diocesan Office for Social Concerns.
Bishop Robert Brennan’s funeral homily for Msgr. James A. Geiger

“To begin with, Bishop Griffin, Bishop Campbell and I join all of the priests of the diocese in two things – first, in offering now our prayers and our condolences and our hope in the risen Lord to all of you of Msgr. Geiger’s family, with a great sense of thanksgiving for his beautiful service as a priest and for the joy – the joy that he brought to so many people, even to me in his last days.

“And if we could also, to the Carmelite Sisters, we have to thank you so many times over for the prayers and the help and the great love that you have shown to our priests and the care that you have given to us. We could never express our thanks enough for all that you do for our priests, but today in a very particular way for Msgr. Geiger, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

“Now this is my third priest funeral in the short time that I’m here. The first two were during Easter week and it was within the octave of Easter, and if you remember, each of them chose one of the resurrection appearances for the Gospel to be proclaimed at the funeral. How fitting!

“Today, we just heard the choice that Msgr. Geiger made of the Good Shepherd, as we are in this week of the Good Shepherd, having contemplated on Sunday that beautiful image of Christ the Good Shepherd. So, fathers, be very careful what you ask for.

“Indeed, what a powerful image, right? The Good Shepherd, Christ the Good Shepherd – it captures Msgr. Geiger, but it brings us to concentrate, as I can tell you from the readings chosen, on Jesus Christ. He wanted us to focus on Jesus Christ, who is the true Shepherd, the one Shepherd.

“And so indeed, Msgr. Geiger helped us to keep our eyes fixed on Christ the Good Shepherd, who laid down his life for his sheep, who laid down his life for us.

“Pope Francis uses this image that I draw on quite often for us as priests, and he talks about how we model our life after Christ the Good Shepherd, and he says that the Good Shepherd – the priest that is modeling himself after Christ the Good Shepherd – is called to walk with the flock – to walk with the flock.

“We all know the image that the pope uses of smelling like the sheep, right? Well, he says that the shepherd walks all around the flock.

“There are times when the Good Shepherd is walking in front of the flock, leading the flock. The Good Shepherd leads to pastures that are green, to springs of water that are life-giving. The Good Shepherd leads in the ways that are affirming and helpful, and so as Christ leads us, you and I are called to lead the flock, to show people the way, to give a sense of confidence and hope.

“Msgr. Geiger did that in so, so many ways, didn’t he? Leading that flock as a pastor, as a loving shepherd, as a loving pastor, showing the way to Christ, giving that sense of knowing Jesus as our shepherd, teaching us along the way.

“Let me ask you something: How many of you were taught by Msgr. Geiger? (Many hands were raised.) Look at that, right? Look at that!

“He and I shared that great love of geometry. I love it, but what a combination – geometry, philosophy, right? – and moral theology (all subjects Msgr. Geiger taught to seminary students at the former Columbus St. Charles College).

“As a shepherd, as the leading shepherd, not only did he lead and guide the flock entrusted to him, but he formed generations of others to shepherd, to lead and to guide. Indeed, as we celebrate his eternal life, we are inspired ourselves as priests to seek to follow Christ the Good Shepherd, to lead others to him.

“At times, the shepherd also walks in the middle of the flock, correct? The shepherd walks – the Good Shepherd walks – in the middle of the flock so that he can listen, that he can share life, that he can encourage, that he can learn.

“And so it is again that we’re thankful for the ways that Msgr. Geiger – and we recall all the ways that we are called to walk in the midst of the flock and to draw our strength and our hope from knowing one another, from encouraging Jesus Christ through one another.

“I’ve heard great, great, great stories of how Msgr. Geiger was a great and loving pastor. I hear about his work with the chamber of commerce here – a real man of the community, correct? – and I think in his time here in Sugar Grove, he wasn’t an aloof visitor who dropped in from outside, but really embraced it and was embraced by the community.

“The Good Shepherd teaches us to listen to one another, to listen carefully to one another. The Good Shepherd teaches us to take concern, to be concerned about the concerns of one another and to help one another see the shining light of Jesus Christ. We thank Msgr. Geiger for doing that, for being that shepherd walking among us.

“Another image that was given to me just today was that he was the great encourager. Isn’t that something? These are the things that people remember. He was the great encourager, a great spiritual companion both in formation and here in the parish.

“And then – you guessed it – sometimes the Good Shepherd walks toward the back of the flock, behind the flock. The Good Shepherd walks behind the flock sometimes to continue that encouragement, but maybe to encourage by gently plodding and pushing along, right? Or sometimes to accompany somebody who has – might be struggling in keeping up, to offer a hand to those who have fallen and to seek out those who are lost.

“Msgr. Geiger once said, around the time that he was named a monsignor, he said, ‘I think the toughest thing is seeing people that abandon the church for whatever reason, but to see people embrace the faith, then grow with the faith – well, it’s like a parent watching a child grow up. That’s when you say it’s all worth it.’

“He took great joy – we all take great joy – in someone encountering Christ and seeing their life changed. Think of all the people who were encouraged along the way, who encountered the mercy of Christ in reconciliation or found that Christ was carrying their burdens because he lifted a gentle hand underneath, right?

“And so today, as we commemorate our beloved Msgr. Geiger to the hands of God, we do so with a tremendous sense of gratitude and a tremendous sense of hope. In the psalm we prayed, that psalm of the Good Shepherd – ‘The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want’ – the Lord Jesus was his guide, his shepherd, his companion through the pastures of life, and now he leads him beyond the waters of death, beyond the valley of death, to the place of life and love and peace.

“May our brother be with Christ forever and enjoy the rewards of his labor and the goodness of Christ, who leads us to the pastures of life.”

(Pictured above: The funeral Mass for Msgr. James A. Geiger, celebrated at Sugar Grove St. Joseph Church on Tuesday, May 14 by Bishop Robert Brennan and priests of the Diocese of Columbus. (Photo courtesy Scott Cherryholmes)}
Meaning of ‘153 fish’; Confirmation for developmentally disabled

Q
Recently, the Gospel read at Sunday Mass was from the 21st chapter of John, where Jesus appears to the apostles after his resurrection and tells them to lower their nets into the sea, and they catch 153 fish.

Our visiting priest said in his homily that the number 153 related to the number of regional territories in that era. But then I read Bishop Robert Barron’s explanation – that 153 was the number of species of fish known at the time. I’m confused. Which is it? And does it matter? Help! (Conyers, Georgia)

A
I am tempted to side with the second part of your question – “Does it matter?” I confess that it has never been an issue keeping me awake at night. But on the other hand, if John chose to use this precise number in his inspired writing, some allegorical significance may well have been intended.

Two theories proposed by scriptural scholars over the years are the ones you mentioned – that “153” stands for the species of fish in the Sea of Galilee at the time or that the number indicates the known population groups of that day. St. Jerome, who died around 420, first popularized the “species of fish” view, and that is the one still favored by most commentators.

Either way, though, I think the general meaning is the same: that the mission and message of Jesus, and the salvation he was offering, were meant not just for the Jews of his day, but for all people of every generation.

Q
Our son, age 24, has severe cognitive delays. Would he be able to be confirmed? What level of understanding is required? (New Philadelphia, Ohio)

A
Your son would certainly be able to be confirmed, and should be. Canon 889 of the church’s Code of Canon Law states that the reception of this sacrament requires that “a person who has the use of reason be suitably instructed, properly disposed and able to renew the baptismal promises.”

But with regard to the developmentally disabled, the U.S. bishops’ Guidelines for the Celebration of the Sacraments with Persons with Disabilities are even more expansive. Those guidelines, revised most recently in 2017, say that “persons who because of intellectual or developmental disabilities may never attain the use of reason can receive the sacrament of confirmation and should be encouraged either directly or, if necessary, through their parents, to receive it.”

This would be consistent with the thinking of Pope Francis, who has spoken strongly about the need to make the sacraments available to the disabled. In June 2016, he celebrated a mass in St. Peter’s Square to mark the church’s Year of Mercy. Persons with disabilities proclaimed the first two Scripture readings, including by using Braille, and several altar servers with Down syndrome assisted the pope.

The day before, the pontiff had held an audience for those whose work involves catechism for the disabled; with regard to Holy Communion for the developmentally disabled, the pontiff noted that some might object on the basis that recipients might not understand what they were doing. Opposing that view, Pope Francis said, “We all have the same possibility of growing, moving forward, loving the Lord, doing good things.”

Referencing Pope Pius X, who ruled in 1910 that children as young as seven years old could receive Communion, Pope Francis noted that “each one of us has a different way of understanding things. One understands one way and another in a different manner, but we can all know God.”

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

LOCAL NEWS, continued from Page 2

Corpus Christi School, are invited to join current parishioners at the event.

Graduates of the school also are invited to join the “Alumni of Corpus Christi in Saint Ladislas Catholic Elementary schools” Facebook group page and spread the word to classmates.

For more information, contact parishccslcolumbus@gmail.com at (614) 443-2828.

YCP plans networking event

The Young Catholic Professionals organization will conduct its quarterly networking happy hour from 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, June 12 at the Park Street Tavern, 501 Park St., Columbus. The group’s monthly executive speaker series will take place the following Wednesday, June 19, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Jubilee Museum, 57 S. Grubb St., Columbus.

Young Catholic Professionals brings together young adults in their 20s and 30s from across the Columbus area for speaker events, panel discussions and networking to foster Catholic identity, encourage community and inspire a call to action. For more information, go to www.ycpcolumbus.org. If you are interested in donating to or volunteering with the organization, email info@ycpcolumbus.org.

Wehrle Class of 1974 reunion set for July 13 at Bolton Field

The Columbus Father Wehrle High School Class of 1974 will have its 45th anniversary reunion from 6 to 10 p.m. Saturday, July 13 at JP’s Barbecue at Bolton Field, 2000 Norton Road, Columbus.

The cost is $40 per person or $75 per couple. Plane rides from the airfield for an aerial view of central Ohio may be available for about $34 per person if three people at a time go up. Payment would be made on the night of the reunion.

Those interested in attending are asked to RSVP by Saturday, June 15. Make checks payable to Bill Leddy. List the name of the persons attending, indicate whether there is interest in the plane ride, and mail checks to B&L Vending, Post Office Box 06121, Columbus OH 43206.

Ohio Dominican professor awarded fellowship

Dr. Imali Abala, an Ohio Dominican University professor of English, has been awarded a fellowship by the Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship program to travel to Kenya and work with author and poet Christopher Okemwa at Kisii University.

During the 60-day summer fellowship, she will teach a creative writing course, conduct student workshops for the university, mentor high school students, work with students on their graduate research projects and help Kisii University develop its creative writing program.

Her work will be part of 11 projects that will pair African Diaspora scholars with one of 12 higher education institutions and collaborators in Africa for curriculum co-development, collaborative research, graduate training and mentoring activities.

Abala, came to the United States in 1982 from Kakamega, Kenya, to attend college. She earned her bachelor’s degree from Wilmington College and two master’s degrees and a doctorate from Ohio State University. She has taught at Ohio Dominican since 1992.

“This program provides scholars like me with a much-needed opportunity to network with peers from Africa in the most dynamic way: mapping them to an institution and connecting them with scholars who have similar academic interests,” she said.

Now in its fourth year, the fellowship program is designed to reverse Africa’s brain drain, strengthen capacity at host institutions, and develop long-term, mutually beneficial collaborations between universities in Africa and the United States and Canada.

A total of 397 African Diaspora fellowships have been awarded for scholars to travel to Africa since the program’s inception in 2013. Fellowships match host universities with African-born scholars and cover the expenses for visits of 21 to 90 days, including transportation, a daily stipend and the cost of obtaining visas and health insurance.
Decorations usually refer to something special, or even someone special who is being recognized or honored for doing good. We decorate rooms and cakes for birthday parties, anniversary parties, retirement or other occasions. Decorations also are used for baptisms, first Communions, Confirmations, graduations and quinceaneras. Trees, houses, entire yards and towns are decorated for Christmas each year. Christmas cookie decoration remains an important art and tradition passed on from generation to generation. Decorations not only help us to focus on a current celebration, but also can remind us of great accomplishments and memories of the past. And as Elvis sang, “Decorations of red, on a green Christmas tree, won’t be the same, dear, if you’re not here with me.” Decorations remind us of good news and good things in a world dominated by bad news.

It is all too easy to write about all the evil and bad news in the world – from political nonsense in the United States and abroad to death and destruction in poor and Third World countries because of civil war and starvation. All of this is brought about by selfish greed and hatred, not to mention inequity in the growing divide between rich and poor. Allow me a brief digression. One estimate shows that in the next 25 years, 45 million households in the United States will transfer $68 trillion in wealth. Yes, trillion. My hope is that a good deal of that goes to charity and that those who may inherit that wealth have very charitable and philanthropic hearts and minds.

Back to reality. There is plenty of good news out there. Especially locally, we can be proud of some very good things happening in our communities and diocese. We have a new bishop and newly ordained priests and deacons. We are six weeks into the Easter season, and we still have one more week to celebrate until Pentecost. Young couples are getting married, making a lifelong commitment to God and one another. Eager, still-innocent children are excited to transition from home and preschool to kindergarten and grade school. Eighth-graders are cautiously anxious to get to high school. Seniors are graduating and cannot wait to get to finish high school. College graduates are ready to conquer graduate school, a career and the real world. First Communion and Confirmation are celebrated by many.

In all of these areas, we have good children, young people and adults making an impact on those around them, their local community, and the future. As Catholic Christians, they know their responsibility to live and act in a way that models and reflects Jesus Christ. You and I have raised them and taught them to be the best they can be, but always with their faith as number one. We know that we are nothing without God and Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. That spiritual sustenance keeps us going as we do our best, but also fail at times as sinners. Yes, there are still a lot of good people among us doing good things, and many more who are growing up. This is more cause for decorations.

Memorial Day began as Decoration Day, with people decorating veterans’ graves in memory of their sacrifices for our freedom. Thanks to them, we are free to be good and to do good. God’s grace and mercy, along with our veterans, have allowed us to remain free and good. If you did not decorate a grave last weekend, decorate yourself with a smile, a prayer and a kind act. Show the world by your personal decorations that there are still a lot of good people out there.

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Local people

**Sister Mary Franz turns 103**

Columbus native Sister Mary Franz, OSF, celebrated her 103rd birthday quietly on May 23 at the Our Lady of the Angels Retirement Home in Joliet, Illinois. She has been a member of the Joliet-based Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate for nearly 87 years – since Sept. 8, 1932 – and is her congregation’s oldest member in terms of both age and length of service.

She was profiled in a *Catholic Times* “Answering God’s Call” story three years ago at the time of her 100th birthday, which was the focus of a four-day celebration at the home.

She was born on May 23, 1916 in Columbus’ German Village neighborhood, where her family had moved from Pomeroy after the historic 1913 Ohio River flood. She attended St. Mary Church in German Village and the parish grade school and high school before going to Joliet to finish high school.

She later was a teacher and principal at her alma mater. In the Diocese of Columbus, she also served at various times at Columbus Bishop Ready High School and Marion St. Mary, Columbus St. Christopher, Logan St. John and Columbus St. Elizabeth churches. She retired from active ministry in 2004 and remained in Columbus until moving to Joliet in 2010.

Another Columbus native who is a member of the same Franciscan order of sisters, Sister Mary Berendt, OSF, recently celebrated her 60th year as a member of the congregation.

Naomi DeCapua-Stanley, a friend of Sister Mary’s, said her hearing and vision are limited, but she would be delighted to hear from any of her Columbus friends. Another sister will read her the messages.

Mail can be sent to her in care of Sister Mary Agnes Cross, OSF, 1201 Wyoming Ave., Joliet IL 60435-3718.

**Sister Beata Tiboldi takes vows**

Sister Beata Tiboldi, OP, made her perpetual profession of vows as a Dominican Sister of Peace on Sunday, April 28 in the chapel of the congregation’s Columbus Motherhouse at a Mass celebrated by Father Michael Trainor, OP.

Sister Beata, known as Sister Bea, was the first woman to enter candidacy after the merger that created the Dominican Sisters of Peace in 2009. She said she first was called to religious life at 15 while growing up in Hungary. The call grew stronger after she moved to the United States when she was in her 20s, serving first as an *au pair* and later as a teacher in Dayton.

She has received degrees in elementary education, catechesis and computer programming in her hometown of Budapest, Hungary. She also earned a master’s degree in early childhood education and intervention from the University of Dayton. She will complete her studies for a master’s degree in pastoral studies from Fordham University in 2019.

Sister Bea, 40, has ministered as an educator, catechist and pastoral associate. She currently is a member of the congregation’s vocations team.

**O’Handley inducted into hall**

Dr. John O’Handley, medical director for the Mount Carmel Health System’s community outreach program, was one of 13 people from eight counties inducted into the Central Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame last month in a ceremony at the Martin Janis Senior Center on the state fairgrounds.

The hall, sponsored by the Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging, was founded in 1976 to honor older adults who share their dedication, talent and vitality in ways that significantly improve their communities and the lives of others.

The Mount Carmel outreach program provides free medical care to the homeless and other underserved people who do not have access to health care. Its mobile medical coach goes to 10 sites around Columbus each week.

In addition, O’Handley and other medical professionals who are part of Mount Carmel’s street medicine program go to homeless camps to provide checkups and prescribe medicine.

Before coming to Mount Carmel, O’Handley was volunteer medical director for the Asian Health Initiative, an Ohio State University project that seeks to improve the health of the area’s underserved Asian population by providing appropriate cultural and linguistic services.
Retiring Watterson baseball coach not ready to ‘sit back’

By Doug Bean
Catholic Times Editor

After more than 30 seasons and 600 wins as a high school baseball coach, Scott Manahan no longer will have to wrestle with the anxiousness he felt before every game.

An insatiable hunger to win and to help his players succeed remained the same from his first head coaching job in 1986 at Ontario High School near Mansfield to his final game at Columbus Bishop Watterson last week.

“The anxiety of whether we’re going to win or lose still drove me crazy after all these years,” he said. “I’m not a sit-back-and-enjoy guy.”

But he’ll now have more time to sit back and enjoy a game to which he has devoted most of his working life.

Manahan announced in March that 2019 would be his final year in the dugout at Bishop Watterson. And in a season filled with tributes for the Hall of Fame coach, the Eagles (21-7) finished with 20 wins for the first time since Manahan left the school for a three-year stint at Hamilton Township High School before returning in 2011.

The end came in gut-wrenching fashion on Thursday, May 23 with a 7-4 loss to Granville in the Division II Central District final after Watterson led going into the final inning.

In 25 seasons at Watterson, Manahan, 56, instilled consistent winning as part of the baseball DNA. The Eagles won 640 games, a state championship in 1997, 12 district titles, four regional titles and 19 league championships, including a share of first place in the Central Catholic League this year with Columbus Bishop Hartley and Columbus St. Francis DeSales.

He will remain at Watterson as alumni director and will take on additional responsibilities in development.

“Scott teaches the game of baseball as well as anyone in the business,” said Deacon Chris Campbell, the school’s principal. “More importantly, he teaches his players structure, discipline, responsibility and character building. He has made a huge impact on the lives of so many young men at Bishop Watterson, and we are grateful for that.

“Scott approaches everything he does with passion and enthusiasm, and that will be invaluable in his new position in development. He understands not only the mission of the school, but he also understands that whether it is in the areas of teaching, coaching, alumni or development, it’s all about relationships.”

Accolades include being named state coach of the year three times, and induction into the Central District Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame, the Ohio High School Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame and the National High School Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

The capstone came in May, when his peers chose him as Central District Division II Coach of the Year.

“Sympathy vote,” he joked. “It’s nice to get recognized for something you really didn’t do to get recognized. Really cool that they feel that way about the kids and the program.”

For as many wins as the Eagles enjoyed under Manahan’s guidance, the losses still sting. In his first year at Watterson, in 1992, he inherited a team that had won a state title the year before. But an early exit from the district tournament left him so upset he didn’t come to school the next day.

“I remember walking up and down the streets of Mansfield, Ohio (where he lived at the time) thinking about what happened,” Manahan said. “The next day, Tom Scholl, our athletic director then, called me into his office and just let me have it. ‘Don’t you ever not show up after you’ve lost a big game like that.’ I’ve got tears coming down my eyes.

“That’s one of the greatest things I learned about baseball. The lesson is you have to come back the next day.”

Two years later, the Eagles started a run of four straight district titles that culminated in a state title in 1997.

Andrew Theado, a standout on that team who is now the principal at Upper Arlington High School, learned what it takes to succeed from Manahan, then-football coach Mike Golden and other mentors at Watterson.

“Scott was the perfect person to be my coach because he’s relatable to young people and he gets young people really well,” Theado said. “But he also has an accountability piece, and he held us to very high standards. He did so in a way you wanted to work for him. He had that respect and we wanted to do the best we could. There were always life lessons in what we were doing. He was honoring Watterson baseball historically, and we recognized we had high expectations.”

Manahan remembers that team as maybe not one of his most talented, but his most cohesive.

“All those winning teams were special,” he said. “We’ve had a lot of wins, but I worry about the losses. I still do. But when I start thinking about the losses, you think about all the things that happen with the kids and the fun things.”

There’s no place like Watterson for Manahan. Three of his four children are Watterson graduates and a daughter, Emily, is the head softball coach there. His new duties will give him an opportunity to promote the school and the benefits of Catholic education.

“What I’m really excited about is I’m going to be the face of this place,” he said. “I’m going to be at everything. I’ll be helping the school as a whole now, not just the 50 kids in my baseball program.

“I think somewhere I said it was the best high school God ever created. Someone said, ‘What the heck does that mean?’ I said it’s what I feel. I think this place is awesome. Somehow or other, God had a reason why he put this place here, and it’s been a great part of my life.”

Some things he’ll miss about coaching and teaching; others, not so much.

“Number one, it’s the kids. I’ll miss teaching them,” he said. “The kids and the community are really something that’s important. That’s why I want to be a part of it.

“I’m going to miss sitting in the locker room and talking with my assistant coaches. I’m not going to miss the anxiety of the games, I’m not going to miss workouts in September, I’m not going to miss Saturday morning weightlifting.”

Manahan expressed confidence that his replacement will carry on the program’s legacy. The new coach will inherit an indoor hitting facility and a new turf field behind the school that will be ready for play next year.

“It’s perfect timing,” he said. “I’m praying and hoping they’ll find someone. The job has meant a lot to me.”

2019 All-Central Catholic League baseball

First team

Second team
Thomas Mayhan, sr., James Farrell, jr., Bishop Hartley; Ryan Roark, sr., Sam Greiner, sr., Bishop Watterson; Michael Pallaci, sr., Colin Doyle, sr., St. Francis DeSales; Mason Olding, sr., Aidan Rice, sr., Trey Willis, jr., St. Charles; Caden Boyd, jr., Alex Worhle, sr., Cael Dent, soph., Bishop Ready.
Seminarians receive Josephinum diplomas

Nine seminarians from the Diocese of Columbus were awarded academic degrees by the Pontifical College Josephinum at its 120th commencement exercises on Saturday, May 11. The graduating class included 32 seminarians from 11 dioceses, who became alumni of the only pontifical seminary outside of Italy. Degrees were conferred by Msgr. Christopher Schreck, Josephinum rector/president, in the presence of Columbus Bishop Robert Brennan, vice chancellor of the institution. Three Columbus diocesan graduates who received master of divinity degrees while they still were deacons were ordained as priests of the diocese on Saturday, May 25. The local graduates and their degrees are (from left): first row, Michael Haemmerle, bachelor of philosophy; Tyler Carter, bachelor of arts in philosophy; Daniel Colby, bachelor of philosophy; and Cassian Harman, bachelor of arts, honors philosophy; back row, Father Christopher Yakkel, master of divinity; Father Kyle Tennant, master of divinity, master of arts, and bachelor of sacred theology; and Father Paul Brandimarti, master of divinity. Columbus graduates not pictured are David Johnstone, bachelor of philosophy, and Anthony Pinto, bachelor of arts in philosophy.

(Photograph courtesy Pontifical College Josephinum)
Fathers Beal, Brandimarti, Tennant, Yakkel ordained by Bishop Brennan to serve Diocese of Columbus

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

Bishop Robert Brennan told the four newest priests of the Diocese of Columbus at their ordination Mass that their success in drawing people to Christ will come from the way they allow the joyous message of the Gospel to be reflected in their own lives.

Bishop Brennan ordained Fathers Brian Beal, Paul “PJ” Brandimarti, Kyle Tennant and Christopher Yakkel on Saturday, May 25, at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral. They are the first priests he has ordained for the diocese since being installed as bishop of Columbus on March 29.

Also present were retired Bishops Frederick Campbell and James Griffin, about 70 priests of the diocese, and Archbishop Timothy Broglio, archbishop for the military services of the United States. He took part in the ceremony because Bishop Brennan has given Father Yakkel permission to become a chaplain in the Air Force after completing at least three years of service as a diocesan priest. Father Yakkel, an Air Force second lieutenant, will remain a priest of the diocese while on active military duty.

Fathers Brandimarti, Tennant and Yakkel completed their studies for the priesthood in May at the Pontifical College Josephinum. Father Beal’s priestly formation took place at Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary in Weston, Massachusetts, which specializes in educating men who discern a call from God to the priesthood after they are 30 years old.

After the reading of the Gospel at Saturday’s Mass by Deacon Seth Keller, the rite of ordination began as the candidates for the priesthood, who until then were seated with their families, were called from the congregation and presented to the bishop by Father Paul Noble, diocesan vocations director, who declared them ready for the priesthood.

Each man answered “Present” as his name was called, then walked to the altar and was seated on a stool in front of the bishop, who delivered his homily from his chair, rather than the pulpit.

“Because these, our sons, who are your relatives and friends, are now to be advanced to the order of priests, consider carefully the nature of the rank in the church to which they are about to be raised,” he said. “It is true that God has made his entire holy people a royal priesthood in Christ. Nevertheless, our great priest himself, Jesus Christ, chose certain disciples to carry out publicly in his name, and on behalf of mankind, a priestly office in the church.

“For Christ was sent by the Father and in turn sent the Apostles into the world, so that through them and their successors, the bishops, he might continue to exercise his office of teacher, priest and shepherd. Indeed, priests are established co-workers of the order of bishops, with whom they are joined in the priestly office and with whom they are called to the service of the people of God.

“Af te r m at u re delibe ration, the s e our brothers are now to be ordained to the priesthood so as to serve Christ the teacher, priest, and shepherd, by whose ministry his body – that is, the church – is built and grows into the people of God, a holy temple.

“In being configured to Christ the eternal high priest and joined to the priesthood of the bishops, they will be consecrated as true priests of the New Testament to preach the Gospel, to shepherd God’s people and to celebrate the sacred liturgy, especially the Lord’s sacrifice,”

The bishop addressed the rest of the homily specifically to the four men seated in front of him. “You are to be raised to the order of the priesthood. For your part, you will exercise the sacred duty of teaching in the name of Christ the teacher,” he said. “Impart to everyone the word of God which you have received with joy. Indeed, the Gospel you preach is a message of joy and hope for the world. Let God’s people see that joy in you.

“United to Christ the teacher through ordination, the spirit of the Lord is upon you as you are now anointed to go forth in his name – yes, to go forth to being glad tidings to the lowly and

Woman’s prayer nudged boy toward priesthood

Father Kyle Tennant said his path to the priesthood began with one woman’s simple prayer when he was a sixth-grader.

“I was feeling a little overwhelmed while preparing for Confirmation,” he said. “I got to thinking that if God loves me and he made me, if I figured out what he wants me to do, then I’d be happy.

“Father Pete Gideon (now at Lancaster St. Mark) was pastor at the time at my home church, New Boston St. Monica. During the prayer of the faithful at Mass, he would invite people to speak up and express their prayer intentions. One woman asked for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life, and that started me thinking. There were many detours along the way, but that prayer started the process that led to my ordination.”

Father Tennant, 30, the youngest of three children of Steve and Patty Tennant, graduated from Portsmouth Notre Dame High School and the University of Notre Dame. He was valedictorian of his high school’s 2007 class, played golf and basketball there, and is an Eagle Scout. He took part in a couple of live-in weekends at the Pontifical Josephinum during his high school years, but decided he couldn’t pass up the opportunity of a college education at Notre Dame.

After ‘drifting from faith,’ he heard call again

Father PJ (Paul Joseph) Brandimarti says Catholic radio played a significant role in his return to Catholicism after a period away from the Church and ultimately in his becoming a priest.

“I had moved from Pittsburgh to Columbus and began listening to St. Gabriel Radio in the car and it made me realize what I was missing,” he said. “I began going back to Mass and found great support and inspiration from Father Ted Sill (pastor at Gahanna St. Matthew Church, his home parish) and other priests.

“I also was inspired by the conversion to Catholicism of a high school friend, Leland Thorpe. He asked me to be his Confirmation sponsor, and I decided if I was going to do that, it was time to start going back to church,” he said. Thorpe is now Brother Leland Thorpe, OMV, a member of the Oblates of the Virgin Mary, and is studying theology in anticipation of being ordained as a priest of that order in two years.

Father Brandimarti, 32, is the son of Paul and Joan Brandimarti of the Pittsburgh suburb of Allison Park and has a married younger sister. “I was raised around vocations,” he said. “My parents both discerned the possibility of religious life at one time, and my godmother is a member of the Sisters of the Holy Spirit.

“After high school, I

See TENNANT, Page 12
See BRANDIMARTI, P. 12
Fathers Beal, Brandimarti, Tennant, Yakkel ordained by Bishop Brennan to serve Diocese of Columbus

“Let what you teach be nourishment for the people of God. Let the holiness of your lives be a delightful fragrance to Christ’s faithful so that by word and example, you may build up the house which is God’s church. You know my goodness. I’ve seen it first-hand. Let that goodness lead people to Christ,” the bishop said.

“Carry out the ministry of Christ the priest with constant joy and genuine love, attending not to your own concerns but to those of Jesus Christ. Strive to bring the faithful together into one family so that you may lead them to God the Father through Christ in the Holy Spirit.

“Walk with God’s people. Listen and encourage. Be generous and approachable with your time and attention, especially in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Keep always before your eyes the example of the good shepherd who came not to be served but to serve, and who came to seek out and save what was lost.”

After the homily, each candidate declared he would faithfully serve the people through administration of the sacraments and performance of other priestly duties. The men then each knelt before the bishop and promised obedience to him and his successors. They had made similar promises before Bishop Campbell when he ordained them as deacons one year ago.

After their declaration came the congregational chanting of the Litany of the Saints, during which the soon-to-be priests prostrated themselves on the floor around the altar in a gesture of supplication symbolizing their unworthiness. After the litany, each man knelt before the bishop, who laid his hands on their heads one by one in the traditional sign of ordination, with the priests of the diocese who were in attendance repeating that gesture individually.

This was followed by the bishop’s prayer of ordination and the investiture of the new priests with stoles and chasubles symbolizing their transition from the diaconate to the priesthood.

Each newly ordained priest chose two priests to do the vesting. The priests selected were: for Father Beal, Fathers Daniel Olivera and Edward Shikina; for Father Brandimarti, Fathers Theodore Sill and Brian O’Connor; for Father Tennant, Fathers Joseph Yokum and Peter Gideon; and for Father Yakkel, Archbishop Broglio and Father Michael Lumpe.

Bishop Brennan then anointed the new priests’ hands with sacred chrism and the mothers of the priests presented a chalice and paten to the bishop, who handed them over to the newly ordained to signify their sharing in Christ’s sanctifying mystery of transforming bread and wine into his body and blood. This was followed by a fraternal kiss of peace from the bishop and all other priests on hand, concluding the ordination portion of the Mass.

The newly ordained then joined their fellow priests at the altar to continue celebrating the Liturgy of the Eucharist and to pronounce the words

See ORDINATION, Page 20

Military service awaits new priest after ordination

Given Father Christopher Yakkel’s background, it’s not surprising that he plans to become a chaplain serving with the U.S. Air Force now that he has been ordained as a priest.

Father Yakkel comes from a military family that moved often throughout his childhood as his father was given various assignments in the Air Force. His parents, Ron and Susan, now live in Xenia after his father’s retirement from the military.

Father Yakkel, 30, has an older sister, who is married with a family, and a younger brother. He spent his last two years of high school in Hawaii, graduating in 2007 from Damien Memorial School in Honolulu, and then went to Miami University in Oxford, receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in health and sports studies in 2011. For the next two years, he served with NET Ministries, a St. Paul, Minnesota-based group of Catholic young adults who travel the nation sharing the Gospel with other young people and their families.

He entered the Pontifical College Josephinum in 2013 to begin studying for the priesthood and received a Master of Divinity degree from the institution last month.

“I come from a devout Catholic family and kept growing in faith through my teen years,” he said.

Father Brian Beal says he always was attracted to the priesthood, but it wasn’t until he was in his late 30s that he felt it was time to answer his calling.

“It took a lot of prayer and consultation with my spiritual director,” he said. “The process started when I was a senior at Ohio Dominican University,” from which he graduated cum laude with a theology degree. “I considered playing the semiprofessional tennis circuit or going into the greenhouse business, but God surprised me. I surrendered those pursuits and worked as a tennis instructor at The Lakes Country Club while being a full-time Christian missionary for three years.” He later did postgraduate work at Franciscan University of Steubenville, studying theology with a specialization in catechetics, and graduating magna cum laude with honors.

Father Beal said the turning point which led to his entry into religious life was his experience helping to start Perpetual Adoration at Columbus Immaculate Conception Church, which was one of the first Adoration programs in the diocese and continues today.

After a period with the Fathers of Mercy religious community as a novice, Father Beal in 2004 returned to his hometown of Hermitage, Pennsylvania,
TENANT, continued from Page 10

Tennant. “God was telling me, ‘Not yet,’” he said.

He earned a degree in mechanical engineering at Notre Dame in 2011 and was involved in campus ministry there, then worked for two years in Chicago as a security analyst for the Accenture technology services company.

“I was still hearing a ‘Not yet’ from God,” he said. “I took the job with Accenture because I thought it was another invitation from God to mature and develop skills that would be fruitful for priestly ministry.

“A year later, I was having lunch with a priest friend and told him the best parts of that year involved working with my parish in the Lincoln Park area of Chicago. I was wondering if I should work full time for a parish, and he said I could do that and pretend to be a priest or get started on actually becoming one. So I decided to enter the seminary.”

Father Tennant received a philosophy degree from the Josephinum in 2015 and Master of Arts and Bachelor of Sacred Theology degrees from the institution last month.

His training for the priesthood also has included service at the Church of the Ascension in Johnstown, Chillicothe St. Peter, Columbus St. Andrew and Marion St. Mary churches and the Scioto-Jackson County consortium of parishes.

He has been at Westerville St. Paul Church after being ordained to the diaconate last year.

He said that besides his family members and Scioto County friends, some of the most influential people in his life during that time have been Father Tom Gaughan, CSC, at the University of Notre Dame; Father Joseph Yokum, pastor of the Scioto-Jackson consortium; Father Ted Sill, his spiritual director; and Father Gideon, who baptized him.

“I’ve learned through my experiences that you never know how Christ is going to use you to impact people,” Father Tennant said. “I’m well aware that this line of work has eternal consequences, but if I’m reliant on God’s grace and accept the pain that comes with growth, I know I’ll be useful to him.

“I’m more excited than I’ve ever been, and I couldn’t recommend more strongly to any other young men to pay close attention and see if God is calling you.”

BRANDIMARTI, continued from Page 10

Brandimarti went to St. Paul’s Seminary in Pittsburgh when Father (James) Wehner (former rector at the Pontifical College Josephinum) was rector there, but I didn’t do well academically, decided the time wasn’t right for me to be a priest, and ultimately began drifting from the faith.”

Father Brandimarti attended Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, and then worked as an assistant manager for Wendy’s and a store operations manager for Circuit City in Pittsburgh and as a retail store manager for Sony Electronics and a market development manager for Motorola Mobility in Columbus. He began studies at the Josephinum in 2012, earned an undergraduate degree in philosophy there in 2015 and recently was awarded a Master of Divinity degree.

While studying at the Josephinum, Father Brandimarti has served in various assignments at St. Matthew, Westerville St. Paul, Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul, Danville St. Luke and Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas churches and Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral. He was ordained a deacon last May and has served for the past year at Columbus St. Matthias Church. He also is a fourth-degree member of the Knights of Columbus.

“During this last year, I’ve noticed a great deal of growth in my ability to meet people where they’re at, of meeting them authentically, not as deacon to parishioner, but as one human being to another,” he said. “I’ve come to realize that if I’m called to the priesthood, I’m called as me, just as I am, not as some perfect version of me.”

He said some of the biggest influences in his priestly studies have been his parents; Father Sill; Father Louis Iasiello, former chief of U.S. Navy chaplains who has taught at the Josephinum since 2010; pastors of all the parishes where he has served; and Father Brian O’Connor, pastor of Canal Winchester St. John XXIII Church.

“But I couldn’t have been happier at the seminary, but I’m definitely ready to take the next step,” Father Brandimarti said. “I don’t have any apprehensions. I know I’m going to be an associate pastor somewhere, and wherever I go, there will be challenges, whether it’s learning 3,000 names at a big parish or waking up early to drive in the snow to one of the parishes in a cluster. But it will be worth the effort to be able to celebrate Mass, hear confessions and serve the people of God.”

Congratulations and prayerful best wishes from Reverend Monsignor Christopher J. Schreck, Rector/President, and the seminarians, faculty and staff of the

Pontifical College Josephinum, to

Alumni

Father PJ. Brandimarti
Father Kyle Tennant
Father Christopher Yakkel

Ordained to the Holy Priesthood May 25, 2019
Ad Multos Annos!
“World Youth Day in Sydney, Australia, in 2008 was a life-changing experience.something clicked for me as I came to more fully understand the reality of the Eucharist.

“There were plenty of young priests there I could relate to, and I began to consider the priesthood. I really enjoyed a discernment weekend during my sophomore year at Miami but felt at the time that God was saying to me, ‘Not yet.’”

Father Yakkel said that after graduation from Miami and through his two years with NET, he began thinking more about the priesthood and praying about the direction of his life, until he knew that entering the seminary was his next step.

As a military chaplain, he will serve in the Diocese of Columbus for three years, then go on active duty with the Air Force, which he joined in 2015 and where he holds the rank of second lieutenant. Under the co-sponsorship agreement between the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA, and the nation’s dioceses, he will be loaned out to serve as a chaplain and return to Columbus on completion of his military service.

Father Daniel Swartz, ordained a priest of the diocese in 2016 and serving as parochial vicar for the Perry County Consortium of Parishes, also is a military chaplain and anticipates going on active duty with the U.S. Navy this summer. Father Yakkel said Father Swartz has been a great friend and the two of them have been able to support each other in their similar calling.

Father Yakkel has served at Sunbury St. John Neumann Church during the year since he was ordained to the deaconate last May. Other assignments since he entered the seminary have taken him to Columbus St. Catharine, Columbus Immaculate Conception and Powell St. Joan of Arc churches and Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, where he is a member. During summer breaks, he has served at Misawa Air Base in Japan, Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama and several other bases in the South.

“The closer I’ve come to being ordained, the more I’ve come to trust in God and the graces he gives to those called to the priesthood,” he said. “I’ve learned he will give me the grace I need in each moment of ministry. Even though I will be a young priest with lots to learn, I know God will use me. This year has especially opened my eyes to how important prayer life really is. I know I can’t be fully prepared for the challenges that will arise in the years ahead, but I also recognize that through the grace of ordination, God will be working through me as a vessel.”

BEAL, continued from Page 11

where for 10 years he served as executive director of Pro-Life of Mercer County. From 2010 to 2015, he also was chief executive officer of the Missionaries of Purity, an organization that promotes healthy relationships among teenagers.

“I stopped dating in 2005, with the hope God was calling me to the priesthood. It took nearly 10 years until in 2014, at 37, I knew it was the right time,” he said.

For the past five years, Father Beal, 41, has been studying at Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary in Weston, Massachusetts, which specializes in priestly formation for men age 30 and older.

This is the third year in a row a John XXIII graduate has been ordained as a Columbus diocesan priest. Father Beal joins Fathers Daniel Olvera and Edward Shikina, who were ordained in 2017 and 2018, respectively.

Father Beal is the son of Emory and Rosalee Beal and has four sisters. “My mother is the most influential person who has inspired me to become a priest,” he said. “She is a cradle Catholic. My wonderful dad came into the Catholic Church because of her example. He devoted the last 15 years of his life to promoting Eucharistic Adoration and the Cursillo movement, and that in turn inspired me.

“I was to make the intentional decision to visit a seminary to discern whether he’s being called to the priesthood. My advice is to not be afraid, because God has a wonderful plan for you.”
**Ascension Sunday, June 2 (Year C)**

**The glory of the Ascension**

**Father Timothy Hayes**

The Ascension of Jesus does something for us — for our very nature as human beings — that is beyond our understanding. We cannot grasp its meaning, except through faith and through an ongoing contemplation of the action of God in us.

The Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary help us get a glimpse of what God has in store for us. We can contemplate them in a glance at the power of God that has been unleashed among us.

The Resurrection gives Jesus back his human nature and glorifies that same nature. The Ascension takes human nature into the very heart of the Trinity; human nature quite literally becomes God. God became man in the person of Jesus Christ, as ascended into glory, and the crowning of Mary as queen of heaven and earth. Our “mere” human nature is given the same nature. The Ascension serves to free our minds and hearts for the new life God has in store for us. Just think of it: The very stuff of the world around us is destined for glory. The Ascension of Jesus shows us that the connection, the bridge, has been established. Jesus becomes present to us, no longer in mere earthly flesh, but in the risen body and that same body “disappeared” into heaven, into the very life of God. We will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes to us and we will be witnesses.

This week, we hear the promise of the Spirit. Next week, we will hear of Mary and the Apostles receiving the gift of the Spirit on Pentecost.

The time between is a time of prayer and longing. It is a time of waiting to see just what the gift will be and what it will mean for each one of us.

Let us be one in this simple prayer for the Church and for the world: “Come, Holy Spirit!”

**Pentecost Sunday, June 9 (Cycle C)**

**Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of thy faithful and enkindle in them the fire of thy love**

Acts 2:1–11
Ps. 104:1, 24, 29–30, 31, 34
1 Corinthians 12:3b–7, 12–13 or Romans 8:8–17
John 20:19–23 or John 14:15–16, 23b–26

The Solemnity of Pentecost, the culmination of the Easter season, closes the great cycle of the paschal mystery that is the heart of the liturgical year. From Ash Wednesday through Lent to the Easter Triduum and its octave (Divine Mercy Sunday), then to the Ascension, we have journeyed with Jesus and His disciples to the gathering of Mary and the Apostles to pray for the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The offering of scriptures for this celebration is a smorgasbord of rich texts that plunge us into the mystery of the third person of the Holy Trinity and the birth of the Church, with all the charisms that will help her endure through the ages.

The Pentecost vigil Mass offers a series of Old Testament texts that speak of the promise of the spirit of God and new life for the people of God. This parallels the Easter Vigil.

Pentecost Day presents a proper Sequence, the hymn that follows the second reading, poetically expressing the wonder of the Spirit’s gifts to souls open to receive. All these texts are worth our reflection in order to allow the full richness of the Spirit to penetrate our hearts.

Pentecost gathers God’s people to share the fruits of His actions. In hearts open to receive the gift of God’s spirit, new and wonderful things happen.

Wind and flame announce the Spirit’s presence. The Spirit takes possession of the assembly. The Word is proclaimed as each person speaks as the Spirit prompts and everyone hears and understands. Pentecost gives birth to the Church and empowers the Apostles to proclaim the Gospel.

See PENTECOST, Page 20
Joe Biden, Cardinal Bernardin, and today

Given the seriousness with which the post-Watergate Washington Post takes itself, it seems unlikely that its editors strive for hilarity in devising headlines. Whatever their intention, though, they managed the not-inconceivable feat of making me laugh out loud at breakfast on May 20, when the headline on the jump from a Page 1 story about former vice president Biden’s current campaign read “Biden’s Team Says There’s No Need for Democrats to Stampede Toward the Left.”

Indeed, boys and girls, there is not. For judging by the positions taken by most of its two dozen presidential wannabes, the party is there already, firmly stationed in the farthermost left field bleachers of American politics. The evidence? Widespread support for infanticide, cloaked in the guise of promoting “women’s health.” The inane “Green New Deal.” The historically illiterate fascination with so-called “women’s health.” The pro-choice credentials of Cardinal Joseph Bernardin, principal promoter of the “consistent ethic” in U.S. public policy debates. But decades after the Chicago prelate first proposed linking Catholic pro-life advocacy to other issues involving the defense of the dignity of the human person and, in Bernardin’s case, nuclear arms control, the effect of the “consistent ethic” argument is clear. It has provided cover to Democratic politicians who either buy pro-choice ideology or who fear challenging the well-financed and quite implacable pro-abortion forces in their party by allowing these solons to suggest that they’re batting .333 or .500 or even .750 on the “life issues,” because of their stand on health care or immigration or nuclear non-proliferation.

Those are not inconsequential issues; they have serious moral dimensions; they surely involve the dignity of the human person. But they do not and cannot substitute for the grave moral obligation to reverse the abortion license, the lethal logic of which now extends to the infanticide of children who somehow manage to survive the “procedure” (according to the governor of Virginia and more than a few Democratic presidential aspirants).

Some may imagine Cardinal Bernardin applauding, or at least tolerating, Joe Biden’s flip on the Hyde Amendment. To do so, however, is to dishonor the cardinal’s memory, while continuing to let self-seeking politicians distort the meaning of “Catholicism” in American public life.

George Weigel is the Distinguished Senior Fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C.
**PRAY FOR OUR DEAD**

**James E. Ort**

Funeral Mass for James E. Ort, 86, who died on Saturday, May 18, was celebrated on Thursday, May 23 at Columbus Our Lady of Peace Church. Burial was at Resurrection Cemetery, Lewis Center.

He was born on Oct. 13, 1932 to Emerson and Mary Ort and graduated from Columbus Aquinas High School in 1950 and Ohio State University in 1955.

After serving in the Army, he was a teacher, guidance counselor and coach at Olentangy, Bexley and Worthington high schools, worked briefly in the admissions department at Ohio State, then was a freshman guidance counselor for 20 years at Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, David. Survivors include his wife, Phyllis (Zoog); daughters, Teri (Jay) Ryan and Michelle (Doug) Sarff; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

**Sister Camilla Smith, OP**

Funeral Mass for Sister Camilla Smith, OP, 97, who died on Monday, May 6, was celebrated on Friday, May 17 at the Motherhouse of the Dominican Sisters of Peace. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

She was born in Akron on Oct. 17, 1921 to Daniel and Frances (Gossman) Smith.

She grew up in Somerset, where she graduated from Holy Trinity High School. She received a Bachelor of Science degree in home economics in 1948 from St. Mary of the Springs College (now Ohio Dominican University) and a Master of Science degree in 1952 and a doctorate in 1961 in the same subject from Ohio State University. She also received a Master of Arts degree in Biblical studies in 1981 from Providence College.

She entered the congregation of the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs (now the Dominican Sisters of Peace) in 1939 and professed her first vows on Aug. 14, 1941, taking the name Sister Leonita, and her final vows in 1944.

She was a teacher at Coshocton Sacred Heart elementary and high school (1942-43), Lancaster St. Mary elementary and high school (1944-46) and Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas High School (1946-48) and was manager of the dining room at St. Mary of the Springs College from 1948 to 1952.

After teaching for a year at Steubenville Catholic Central High School, she returned to the college, where she served from 1953 to 1982 as home economics department chair and dean of residence.

From 1979 to 1985, she was superior of Mohun Hall, the congregation’s health care center for consecrated religious.

She served as religious education director at Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church from 1985 to 1992, then joined with Sisters Loretta Forquer, OP, and Jane Belanger, OP, to found the congregation’s Shepherd’s Corner Ecology Center in Blacklick, a ministry she considered to be the most rewarding of her religious life.

After nine years at Shepherd’s Corner, she was a volunteer at Our Lady of Perpetual Help from 2001 to 2004, then entered a ministry of prayer at the Motherhouse and the Mohun center.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Philip and Daniel; and sisters, Marie Smith, Eleanor Schmeltzer, Rose Marie Paumier, Agnes Hupp and Mildred Hauser. Survivors include brother, Harry; sister, Mary Frances Pitsick; and many nieces and nephews.

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**PRAYER TO THE VIRGIN**

*(Never known to fail)*

Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of heaven, blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in necessity. Oh, star of the sea, help me and show me herein, you are my Heaven and Earth. Humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to secure me in this necessity. There are none who can withstand your powers. Oh, show me herein you are my Mother.

Oh, Mary conceived without sin, pray for us, who have recourse to thee. (Repeat three times) Oh, Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hand. (Repeat three times) Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads that I can obtain my goals. You gave me the divine gift of forgive and forget all evil against me, and in all instances in my life, you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in eternal glory.

Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine. The person must say this prayer three consecutive days, after three days, the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor has been granted. SP
1. SATURDAY

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

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

Mary’s Little Children Prayer Group

614-294-7702

Rosary for Life at St. Joan of Arc Following 6:15 p.m. Mass, St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, Powell. Recital of Rosary for Life, sponsored by church’s respect life committee. Also on June 11.

5, WEDNESDAY

Divine Mercy Chaplet at St. Pius X 6:30 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Wagggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Recital of Chaplet of Divine Mercy. Also on June 12. 614-866-2850

Marian Devotion at St. Elizabeth 7 p.m., St. Elizabeth Church, 6779 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. Marian devotion with Scriptural rosary, followed by Mass and monthly novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, with Father Ramon Overa, CCFIC. 614-891-0150

6, THURSDAY

Cenacle at Holy Name 6 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. Also on June 13.

Eucharistic Holy Hour at St. John the Baptist 7 p.m., St. John the Baptist, 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. Also on June 13. 614-294-7702

7, FRIDAY

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

Day of Recollection for Women at St. Therese’s 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., St. Therese’s Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus. Day of recollection for women, with Father Stephen Dominic Hayes, OP, sponsored by Catholic Laywomen’s Retreat League. Topic: “The Sacred Page: Touching the Living Mind of God through Sacred Reading (Lectionary) of Holy Scripture.” Includes Mass, lunch, and time for individual prayer and reflection. Cost $25. 614-658-1979

Eucharistic Adoration at Columbus St. Peter 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. First Friday Eucharistic adoration in day chapel.

First Friday Masses at Holy Family 9 a.m., 12:15 and 7 p.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. First Friday Masses in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. 614-221-4233

Monthly Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. 8:30 a.m., confessions, 9 a.m., Mass, followed by Fatima prayers and Rosary (Shepherds of Christ format); 10 a.m., meeting. 614-861-4888

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

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

Lay Missionaries of Charity Day of Prayer 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. John the Baptist Church, 720 Hamlet St., Columbus. Monday day of prayer for Columbus chapter of Lay Missionaries of Charity. 614-294-7702

Centering Prayer Group Meeting 10:30 a.m. to noon, Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 1111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Centering prayer group meeting, beginning with silent prayer, followed by Contemplative Outreach DVD and discussion. 614-512-3731

Filipino Mass at St. Elizabeth 7:30 p.m., St. Elizabeth Church, 6779 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus. Mass in the Tagalog language for members of the Filipino Catholic community.

2, SUNDAY

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

Prayer Group Meeting at Christ the King 9 to 7 p.m., Christ the King Church, 2777 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus (enter at daily Mass entrance). Weekly parish prayer group meets for praise, worship, ministry, and teaching. 614-886-8266

Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter 7 a.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish, with confessions from 6 to 7. 706-761-4054 or 614-294-7702

Compline at Cathedral 9 a.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Chanting of Compline, the Catholic Church’s official night prayer. 614-241-2526

3, MONDAY

Eucharistic Adoration at Our Lady of Victory 7 to 8 a.m., Our Lady of Victory Church, 1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus. First Monday Eucharistic Adoration, beginning with Morning Prayer, concluding with Mass.

Aquinas Alumni Luncheon 11 a.m., Aquinas Room, Jubilee Museum, 57 S. Grubb St., Columbus. Monthly Columbus Aquinas High School alumni luncheon.

Rosary at St. Pius X 6:30 a.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Wagggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Recital of Rosary for the sick of the parish and all who are ill. Also on June 10. 614-866-2850

Marian Prayer Group at Holy Spirit 7 p.m., Day chapel, Holy Spirit Church, 4383 E. Broad St., Columbus. Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle prayer group for Catholic family life. 614-235-7435

4, TUESDAY

Our Lady of Good Success Study Group Noon to 2 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 693 Hamlet St., Columbus. Monthly meeting of Our Lady of Good Success study group. Social period, followed by remedial catechesis study and discussion.

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Catholic Men’s Lucheon Club 12:15 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N Grant Ave., Columbus. Catholic Men’s Lucheon Club meeting, with talk by Father Stash Dailey, pastor of Columbus Holy Family Church and spiritual director of Columbus St. John. "Keeping the Faith in a Faithless World: Living the Virtues of the Sacred Heart." Cost $10 donation requested. 614-445-6925

St. John Chrysostom Baked Goods Sale 4 to 6 p.m., St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church, 5858 Cleveland Ave., Columbus. Sale of cabbage rolls, sausage and sauerkraut, pierohs and baked goods. No advance orders. 614-882-7578

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

Genevieve Tautkus, a senior at Johnstown High School and a Columbus St. Patrick Church parishioner, recently received the Stars and Stripes Award, the highest honor that can be given to a member of the American Heritage Girls organization. She belongs to AHG Troop OH-0031 at her parish. To receive the honor, she had to complete a service project that would have a lasting impact in her community with a minimum of 100 volunteer hours. For her service project, she designed and installed a Divine Mercy prayer garden, supervising several volunteers and raising her own funds. She spent more than 340 hours on the project, receiving the award after documenting her efforts and being interviewed by a board of review. American Heritage Girls is a Christ-centered character and leadership development program for girls 5 to 18 years of age.

(Student's recycling poster recognized

Clare Hampshire, a third-grade student at Lancaster St. Mary School, won third prize in the Lancaster-Fairfield County recycling poster contest. She is pictured with school third-grade teacher Elizabeth Van Evra. Hampshire received a check, a collection of recycled products and a certificate of achievement. Van Evra also was awarded a check to use in the classroom. More than 1,000 students from 14 elementary schools participated in the contest. Bella Capretta, another St. Mary third-grade student, received an honorable mention for her poster entry.

(Photo courtesy St. Mary School)

Flaget student wins speech contest

Chillicothe Bishop Flaget School sixth-grade student Isabella Flores (center) won the state Fraternal Order of Eagles God, Flag, and Country speech contest in the 10-11 age group. Her speech on diversity and unity earned her a $2,000 scholarship, a $300 cash prize and a trip to the national competition in Louisville, Kentucky, in July. Other Chillicothe Catholic students placing in the competition were Flaget seventh-grader Haley Laughlin (right), third in the 12-13 age group; and Chillicothe Zane Trace High School freshman Carmen Corcoran, third in the 14-15 group. Both received $100 cash prizes.

(Photo courtesy Bishop Flaget School)

One-Stop Admission Day on June 19

It’s not too late to secure your spot at ODU this fall! At our One-Stop Admission Day, you can complete the entire admission process in as few as 60 minutes!

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Teacher Sharon Elder's Lancaster St. Bernadette School kindergarten class took a field trip to Old Man's Cave in the Hocking Hills. Father Ty Tomson, pastor of St. Bernadette Church, joined the students for a picnic and a hike. (Photo courtesy St. Bernadette School)

New Lexington St. Rose School students participated in crowning a statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary during Mass on the Feast of Ss. Philip and James. Eighth-grade student Malia McClenagan was chosen to crown the statue. (Photo courtesy Elizabeth Selegue)

The Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland Council honored Melanie Magin (right), a Senior Girl Scout and sophomore at Bishop Hartley High School, for being among the top three Scouts in obtaining Girl Scout cookie donations for the military. She is pictured with Elaine Leach, a board member for Operation Buckeye, a nonprofit service organization that uses the cookies as part of care packages sent overseas to U.S. troops. Since its inception, Operation Buckeye has shipped 40,000 care packages. (Photo/Marilyn Magin)

Seventh- and eighth-grade students from Columbus St. Anthony School visited Washington, D.C., accompanied by Father Thomas Petry, St. Anthony Church pastor; teachers Kelly Buzenski, Brandon Garrick and Stephanie Hopson; and parents. The group is pictured in front of the Jefferson Memorial. It visited monuments and museums in the nation's capital, stopped at the Gettysburg battlefield in Pennsylvania and George Washington's Mount Vernon home in Virginia, and went on a ghost tour in Alexandria, Virginia. The travelers also participated in the Capitol Vote Program, in which students learned about the voting process and were presented with an issue they were asked to vote on. (Photo courtesy St. Anthony School)

Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help School received the Howard C. Shaw Outstanding School Award at the annual State Science Day sponsored by the Ohio Academy of Science. To earn the award, schools must send at least four students to present research, and 80 percent of those students must earn a superior rating for their projects. Students who received superior ratings, pictured with science teacher Maryann Hartley (far left), are (from left) Renee Smith, Isabella Tigner, Dorothy Oberting, Amor Maker and Josh Richter. (Photo courtesy Our Lady of Perpetual Help School)
of consecration for the first time. At Communion, each of the new priests presented the Eucharist to their family members.

At the conclusion of the Mass and the closing procession of bishops and clergy, the new priests returned to the altar to pose for pictures and give individual blessings to family and friends, with a reception following.

Music for the ordination ceremony was provided by the cathedral choir, directed by Dr. Richard Fitzgerald, cathedral organist Nicole Simental, and the Cathedral Brass.

The day after their ordination, the new priests celebrated Masses of Thanksgiving and delivered their first homilies as priests at their home parishes — Father Beal at Columbus Immaculate Conception Church, Father Brandimarti at Gahanna St. Matthew Church, Father Tennant at New Boston St. Monica Church, and Father Yakkel at the cathedral. The new priests now await assignment to a parish or group of parishes as parochial vicars.

Georgetown University’s Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate, a national nonprofit social science research center that studies the Catholic Church, said the diocese’s four new priests are among 481 men who have been or will be ordained this year in the United States from dioceses or religious orders.

The comparable total for 2018 was 430, including five from the Diocese of Columbus.

PENTECOST, continued from Page 14

Church of today continues this mission.

God is pure act. He is what He does. He promises the Spirit and today, he fulfills that promise.

Pentecost invites us to choose to belong to God and to His Church, empowering us to go beyond where we would reach on our own.

The Spirit is poured freely on those who allow their aspirations, desires and longings to open to something that only God can offer.

The Spirit moves us to conversion, changing our minds and helping us to see our lives in a new light.

The Spirit moves us as wind and fire, breath and zeal, a mighty power that creates anew.

This renewal requires a commitment to accept our call to be the Church, the family of God, in the world, so that others may come to know God in us and through us.

The world needs a savior. The gifts of the Spirit fortify those who proclaim his salvation with wisdom, understanding, counsel, knowledge, fortitude, piety and fear of the Lord.

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