New norms:
Bishop Robert Brennan welcomed the revised and clarified norms on abuse reporting announced last week by the Vatican, Page 2

Racism session:
The diocesan Catholic Ethnic Ministries Office is sponsoring a listening session next month at the Josephinum with U.S. bishops, Page 3

Celebrating marriage:
It’s a good time to reflect on marriage with the annual diocesan Jubilee of Anniversaries set for June 23 at Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Page 4

DIOCESAN HIGH SCHOOLS TO GRADUATE 1,082 SENIORS
Pages 8-13
Msgr. James A. Geiger passed away on Wednesday, May 8, 2019

Funeral Mass for Msgr. James A. Geiger, 94, who died on Wednesday, May 8 at Mother Angeline McCrory Manor in Columbus, was celebrated on Tuesday, May 14 at Sugar Grove St. Joseph Church. Burial was at St. Bernard Cemetery, New Washington, Ohio.

He was born on Feb. 17, 1925 in Bucyrus to Clemence and Rose (Burger) Geiger. The family moved to Toledo when he was two years old and to Columbus when he was seven. He attended St. Aloysius School, Holy Family High School and St. Charles Preparatory School in Columbus before the family moved to the Cleveland suburb of Lakewood in 1941.

He graduated from Cleveland St. Ignatius High School in 1943, then returned to Columbus to begin studying for the priesthood at St. Charles Seminary, graduating in 1947. He concluded his theological studies at Mount St. Mary’s of the West Seminary in Norwood.

He was chosen to be a “student priest” and was ordained a priest of the Diocese of Columbus by Bishop Michael Ready on Aug. 15, 1950 in the chapel of St. Charles Seminary. At the time of his death, he was the senior priest of the diocese in point of service. After his ordination, he studied at various times at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas in Rome, Ohio State and Georgetown universities and the University of Salzburg, Austria.

He was pastor at both Logan St. John and Sugar Grove St. Joseph churches for periods of 17 years each and was associate pastor at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral and Lancaster St. Mary Church, weekend assistant at Columbus St. Philip Church, and an instructor in residence at St. Charles Seminary.

He also was an instructor at Ohio Dominican University and the Pontifical College Josephinum, a member of the diocesan Tribunal, the diocesan board of consultants and the diocesan liturgical commission, chaplain of several Knights of Columbus councils, moderator of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Nurses and chaplain of the Columbus circle of the Daughters of Isabella.

He was appointed as a monsignor by Pope St. John Paul II, with the title prelate of honor, on Aug. 28, 1999. He retired on June 30, 2009.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Louis; Paul, Clair; Dan and Thomas; and a sister, Angela Tilleman. Survivors include a brother, Charles (Charlotte) and many nieces and nephews.

Bishop Brennan reacts to new norms on abuse reporting, bishop accountability

From local and Catholic News Service reports

Columbus Bishop Robert Brennan welcomed the announcement on Thursday, May 9 of revised and clarified norms and procedures approved by Pope Francis for holding bishops and religious superiors accountable in protecting minors, as well as in protecting members of religious orders and seminarians from abuse.

The new juridical instrument is meant to help bishops and religious leaders around the world clearly understand their duties and church law, underlining how they are ultimately responsible for proper governance and protecting those entrusted to their care. The new document establishes a clearer set of universal procedures for reporting suspected abuse, carrying out initial investigations and protecting victims and whistleblowers.

The new document was titled Vos estis lux mundi (You are the light of the world), based on a verse from the Gospel of St. Matthew (5:14). The new norms go into effect on June 1.

“Today’s release of Pope Francis’s motu proprio decree regarding the sexual abuse of minors is a significant step for the Universal Church in addressing this inherent evil,” Bishop Brennan said. “His order provides standards, expectations, and procedures that will assist the Church in addressing this worldwide problem.

“Here in the United States, and specifically within the Diocese of Columbus, this document reinforces the practices put in place by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) in 2002, with the enactment of the Essential Norms and the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. It affirms our current commitment to offer spiritual care for survivors and their families, to provide full compliance with all civil laws regarding reporting of allegations of sexual abuse to authorities, to uphold the right of any person to report these crimes, to guarantee prompt and objective investigations, and to assure strong lay involvement. Additionally, the decree addresses processes regarding the conduct of bishops and other ranking members of the Church, which, based on recent events, needed immediate attention.

“Moving forward, along with my brother bishops of the USCCB, we will use this decree from our Holy Father as a framework to strengthen and focus our efforts to rid our Church of this sinful crime. In the Diocese of Columbus, I give to you my commitment to continue to work to provide a safe and nurturing environment for all within our community. Inspired by Christ and the joy of his Gospel and consistent with our teachings and traditions, let us all pray and work together to grow a stronger Church.”

In the document released last Thursday by the Vatican, Pope Francis said, “The crimes of sexual abuse offend Our Lord, cause physical, psychological and spiritual damage to the victims and harm the community of the faithful.”

He wrote that to stop all forms of abuse from ever happening again, “a continuous and profound conversion of hearts” is necessary and there must be “concrete and effective actions that involve everyone in the church.”

Cardinal Marc Ouellet, prefect of the Congregation for Bishops, said the new norms ascribe a new role to heads of dioceses by making them responsible for alerting the proper Vatican authorities of all forms of suspected abuse, including the possession, distribution or creation of pornography involving a minor.

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 2, 16 & 30; July 14 & 28; and Aug. 11 & 25. We will return to weekly publication in September.

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Diocesan ethnic ministries office to sponsor listening session

By Devin R. Jones
Diocesan Catholic Ethnic Ministries

The diocesan Catholic Ethnic Ministries Office is sponsoring a listening session on Wednesday, June 19 at 6:30 p.m. in the Jessing Center of the Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., Columbus, with bishops who are members of the ad hoc committee against racism of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Bishop Shelton Fabre of Houma-Thibodaux, Louisiana, chairman of the committee, will be in attendance, along with Bishop Robert Brennan of Columbus. There is no charge for the event. For more information or to register, visit columbuscatholic.org/ethnicministries or call (614) 221-7990.

At its November 2018 general meeting, the USCCB voted to approve and publish *Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love*, a pastoral letter against racism. This letter is the first formal document from the bishops addressing racism since their 1979 letter *Brothers and Sisters to Us*. Many people in communities most affected by racism have been eagerly awaiting a new, perhaps updated guidance from the USCCB for a generation. For all the faithful of the United States, this should be a welcome teaching.

At the time it was written, *Brothers and Sisters to Us* was groundbreaking and courageous in its direct approach to what racism was and is, and in its admittance of the failings of Church leadership and the faithful in America. The American bishops boldly opened the letter by stating, “Racism is an evil which endures in our society and in our Church.” They went on to teach that racism is a sin.

For many of the faithful, these were not new thoughts or feelings, although it was the first time that they heard the collective college of bishops from throughout the nation actually state it. As time has passed and overt racism and discrimination has given way to more hidden and at times seemingly “pleasant” forms of racism, the bishops felt the need to modernize and reinforce their previous exhortation.

*Open Wide Our Hearts* is different in that this pastoral letter not only acknowledges the racism that has happened in the past and still occurs, but also acknowledges how compound ed racist laws and societal norms in America continue to inform and haunt our society.

In writing about the African American experience, the letter states, “Consistently, African Americans have been branded, by individuals, society, and even, at times, by members of the Church, with the message that they are inferior. Likewise, this message has been imprinted into the U.S. social subconscious. African Americans continue to struggle against perceptions that they do not fully bear the image of God, that they embody less intelligence, beauty, and goodness.” This is an acknowledgment that the blatant racism of the past continues to inform societal perceptions in the present.

*Open Wide Our Hearts* recognizes the great contributions marginalized ethnic communities have offered the Church in the United States. In a section titled “Native American Experience,” the bishops state, “Many, but certainly not all, Native peoples accepted the Gospel willingly. For instance, St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Nicholas William Black Elk Sr. (a Native American catechist of the early 20th century who led more than 400 people to the Catholic faith), and the martyrs of the *La Florida* missions (more than 50 people martyred in defense of the faith in Florida from the mid-16th to mid-18th centuries) were moved by Christ’s message of love and by the example of Christians who honored their dignity.”

At the heart of the letter is a call to personal conversion in Jesus Christ so that all of us might truly love our neighbor as ourselves. There is much to read and learn in this new pastoral letter, and all the faithful are invited and encouraged to read it. A link to the letter is posted on the Catholic Ethnic Ministries Office website at columbuscatholic.org/aaresources.

Senior celebration at Chillicothe St. Mary

The 42nd annual Diocesan Senior Citizens Celebration will take place on Tuesday, June 18 at Chillicothe St. Mary Church, 61 S. Paint St. Bishop Robert Brennan will celebrate Mass at 10:30 a.m., followed by a luncheon.

This event gives senior citizens from throughout the Diocese of Columbus a chance to get together for prayer, food and fellowship. St. Mary Church is beautifully renovated and full of history. This is the 150th anniversary of the dedication of the current church building and the 182nd anniversary of the founding of the parish in Ohio’s first capital city.

Registration for the event is $15. To register, send a check payable to the diocesan Office for Social Concerns to Catholic Diocese of Columbus, 197 E. Gay St., Columbus OH 43215. For more information, call (614) 241-2540 or send an email to socmailbox@columbuscatholic.org. Registration is requested by Thursday, June 13.
Diocese to celebrate marriage at annual jubilee of anniversaries

By Catherine Suprenant
Marriage Preparation Coordinator

“What makes a great marriage?”
I asked this question to many people, including an immigrant from Eritrea, a woman married three times, a privileged teenager, a young mom, and an old man who was taking a break from relationships and drugs to find himself.

Why was I asking strangers about marriage? I lead our diocesan Pre-Cana program, which focuses on God’s vision for marriage. Since our beliefs about love and relationships are formed experientially from birth, I sought to know what people are learning about marriage closely mirrored people’s experiences of trauma – homelessness, hunger, addiction, violence, and more.

I learned from these conversations that the joyful witness of married couples is essential if we are to show the world that love is possible, even to the most vulnerable children through her work as a catalyst for change. People are living proof that marriage well, and do not be afraid to share your love. Please take a moment to celebrate the couples in your life who live marriage well, and do not be afraid to have conversations with those in your life about love and marriage.

You may be the one person who does.


Local news and events

St. Vincent presents Corcoran Awards

St. Vincent Family Center (SVFC) presented three individuals and one corporation with its annual Corcoran Awards at a luncheon on Thursday, May 16 in the Hilton Columbus at Easton. Receiving the honor were Linsey Skolds, Dr. Ken Yeager, Gail Lines and Nationwide Corp.

Skolds received a Corcoran Award for funding the center’s growing foster care program to support the recruitment of foster families, meeting the needs of thousands of children who are part of Ohio’s child welfare system and without a home of their own.

Yeager, of Ohio State University’s Wexner Medical Center, was honored as a community partner for pioneering the center’s BEST (Brief Emotional Support Team) to support the emotional wellness of employees who experience secondary trauma and compassion fatigue.

Lines was selected as a community hero because she and her husband, Forrest, pour love into SVFC’s most vulnerable children through her homemade birthday cakes and a generous monthly donation that supports field trips and activities for young people in the center’s residential treatment program.

Nationwide was chosen for the center’s Difference Maker Award because it supports SVFC’s children and families through financial gifts, volunteer hours and special events that contribute to the success of youth in need.

St. Vincent Family Center’s goal is stated in its motto, “We make good kids better.” It is one of the most experienced and skilled pediatric behavioral health care agencies in central Ohio, serving more than 5,000 children and families annually.

Since beginning as an orphanage more than 140 years ago, it has provided essential behavioral and mental health services to the community’s most disadvantaged youth, who live in poverty and cope with the lived experiences of trauma – homelessness, hunger, addiction, violence, and more.

The Corcoran Awards each year recognize several individuals and one corporation who contribute to the center’s work and to the achievements of its young people. They pay tribute to the late Msgr. Lawrence Corcoran, who led the center’s transition from an orphanage to the area’s recognized leader in pediatric behavioral health care for children and families.

Buckeye Lake parish to host concert
A Marian-themed concert will take place at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 19 at Buckeye Lake Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, 5133 Walnut Road S.E.

“A Celebration of Mary, the Mother of God” will be the theme for the event, which will feature selections from all the parish music ministries and opportunities for the audience to sing along with the choir. Light refreshments will be served after the concert.

Father Dailey to speak to luncheon club
Father Stash Dailey, pastor of Columbus Holy Family Church and spiritual director of Sacred Heart Columbus, will speak at the June meeting of the Catholic Men’s Luncheon Club on the subject “Keeping the Faith in a Faithless World: Living the Virtues of the Sacred Heart.”

The club will meet Friday, June 7 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 meal.
Educators association awards scholarships

The Central Ohio Association of Catholic Educators (COACE) awarded 29 scholarships to Catholic school students at its annual awards night. In photo at left are graduating seniors Jackson Illog of Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School and Fiona Brown of Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School, both of whom received a $1,000 Sister Margaret Hoffman scholarship for their freshman year of college. Noah Schnegg of Columbus Bishop Watterson High School also received a Hoffman scholarship. Five current high school students — Vigo Bertolo of DeSales, Robert “Cade” Dent and Claire Kelly of Columbus Bishop Ready High School, and Annie Schnegg and Noah Schnegg of Watterson — each were awarded $1,000 scholarships to their current school. In addition, COACE presented 21 graduating eighth-grade students with a $500 scholarship to the Catholic high school of their choice. Not all of them are pictured. Those students are Sofia Dinnini, Columbus Holy Spirit; Brendan Scholl, Columbus Immaculate Conception; Colby Graham, Columbus Our Lady of Peace; Danielle Wuchner, Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help; Charles Valachovic, Columbus St. Agatha; Noah Garczewski, Columbus St. Andrew; Diana Ayala, Columbus St. Anthony; Taylor Morales, Hilliard St. Brendan; Stephanie Regan, Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare; Jules Samuel, Columbus St. Catherine; Caleigh Cheatham, Columbus St. Cecilia; Allison Feloie, Columbus St. James the Less; Zachary Williams, Columbus St. Mary; Jessica Perez, Columbus St. Mary Magdalene; Gemma Sciaroni, Gahanna St. Matthew; Alexis Reynolds, Columbus St. Matthias; Ryan DeStefanis, Worthington St. Michael; Ellie Reash, Westerville St. Paul; Abigail Murphy, Reynoldsburg St. Pius X; Jack Keller, Columbus St. Timothy; and Raya Gardner, Columbus Trinity.

LOCAL NEWS, continued from Page 4

lunch and meeting.

The luncheon will be sponsored by Sacred Heart Columbus (www.sacredheartcongress.org). For information on the club, visit www.catholicsmensministry.com/cmlc or contact club president Craig Heppner at craigkofc@gmail.com.

The club will not meet in July or August. Its monthly meetings will resume on Friday, Sept. 6.

Sacred Music Institute offers summer seminars, workshops, lessons

The Columbus-based Sacred Music Institute of America is offering two workshops in June at the Pontifical College Josephinum, 7625 N. High St., as well as summer cantoring workshops and lessons.

Introduction to Gregorian and English Chant for the Beginner is a two-day summer seminar intensive on Monday, June 10 from 1 to 4 p.m. and Tuesday, June 11 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This seminar focuses on the basics of chant, including history and development, church modes, notation, chant reading techniques, Latin and English rhythm and word, classification and performance practice, psalmody, introducing chant to the choir and assembly, and basic medieval polyphonic techniques for choir. Cost is $200.

Accessible Choral Music, scheduled for Thursday, June 13 from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m., will provide an introduction to a variety of pieces from the Church’s treasury of choral music which are accessible to a standard church choir, including pieces in unison, two, three and four parts. The focus will be on sacred music suited for Catholic liturgical use, especially in the Mass, Divine Office and Benediction. Opportunities to hear and sing pieces will be available. Cost is $175.

Three-hour summer cantor workshops will provide the foundation to become a cantor for students entering grades seven to 12 this fall. Sessions are Tuesday, June 18, Wednesday, June 19 and Thursday, June 20 from 9 a.m. to noon each day. Cost is $165 per session.

Six-week cantoring lessons are open to adults and teens age 13 and older.

Individual lessons run from Monday, June 3 through Friday, July 26 (except the weeks of July 1 and July 15). Cost is $36 for 25-minute lessons and $55 for 50-minute lessons.

For more information and to register, email Mari Kay Dono at cantor2018@gmail.com or call (614) 390-6925.

Father Reis to celebrate 50th anniversary

Father Justin Reis will celebrate the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood at a Mass at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, June 23 at Columbus St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, followed by a reception in the parish’s Blue Room.

Father Reis, 76, was ordained by Bishop Clarence Elwell at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on May 24, 1969.

He was pastor of St. Peter Church for eight years until his retirement in 2013. He is a resident of the assisted living section of the Villas at St. Therese in Columbus.

He also served as pastor at Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes and Lancaster St. Bernadette churches and associate pastor at Columbus Immaculate Conception, Columbus Christ the King, Gahanna St. Matthew and Columbus St. Philip churches and was in residence at Columbus Holy Rosary Church. He also was a teacher at Columbus Bishop Watterson and Columbus Bishop Hartley high schools.

His brother, Father Michael Reis, has been a diocesan priest for 52 years and lives at Mother Angeline McCrorey Manor in Columbus.

Watterson offers summer camp options

Columbus Bishop Watterson High School, 99 E. Cooke Road, is offering a variety of summer camp options again this year. Art, theater and wood shop complement extensive sports offerings.

Art camps for students entering grades six to 12 in the fall will take place from 9 a.m. to noon or 1 to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday, June 10-14, with Watterson art teacher Julie Bibb. Cost is $160 per child.

There will be a little theater summer camp from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, Aug. 5-9 for students entering grades three to eight. The camp fee of $125 includes a T-shirt. A camp performance will take place at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 9. The camp will be run by Watterson theater director Liz O’Dorisio.

Wood shop camps, open to students entering grades six to nine, will be taught by industrial technology teacher Tom Long and will include Adirondack chair and cornhole camps. The Adirondack chair camps will be on Monday, June 3 at the Lincoln Theater in Columbus. Modeled after the Tony Awards, the Marquee Awards program showcase will include live performances from the nominees for best musical production and best actor and actress, as well as opening and closing numbers that incorporate nominated students from all participating high schools.

Watterson production nominated for awards

Columbus Bishop Watterson High School’s spring musical, The Addams Family, received nominations in four categories of the inaugural Marquee Awards program sponsored by the Columbus Association for the Performing Arts.

Its senior production team was nominated in the category of backstage excellence. Individual nominees were lighting designer Mandy Flanagan for technical achievement; Kieran York, who played Lurch, for best supporting actor; and Liz O’Dorisio for best director.

Award winners will be announced on Monday, June 3 at the Lincoln Theater in Columbus.
Did God condone aggression?; Are deceased aware of those on earth?

Q I am 91 years old and recently, after reading the Gospels, I began to read the Old Testament – which I think was a mistake! Please explain why God ordered Moses and Joshua to be so aggressive that they killed thousands of people and plundered their cities. (Conyers, Georgia)

A You have identified an issue that is clearly problematic and has been the source of discussion among theologians for centuries. One example of the passages to which you refer comes in the sixth chapter of the Book of Joshua, where God is said to have authorized Joshua to march around the walls of Jericho until they had fallen, then to enter the city with the Israelite army and to slay its inhabitants.

Some might argue that the Canaanite culture was inherently immoral – given to brutality, bestiality, incest and even human sacrifice – and that it therefore deserved God’s wrath. But the passage certainly does not seem to square with our Christian notions of peace and nonviolence.

Pope Benedict XVI addressed the topic in his 2010 apostolic exhortation Verbum Domini in a section titled “The ‘Dark’ Passages of the Bible.” He explained that “God’s plan is manifested progressively and it is accomplished slowly, in successive stages and despite human resistance” – which is another way of saying that the fullness of truth is revealed only in the person, teaching and ministry of Jesus (No. 42).

I would draw an analogy to the passage in the Gospel of Matthew (19:1-12) where Jesus is asked why Moses allowed divorce; Christ’s response was that it was because of the “hardness of your hearts.” God was working over time with an imperfect people, gradually leading them to Christ.

As a longtime practicing Catholic, I would like to know whether the church has a position on whether those who are now in heaven can observe, and are aware of, how we are living our lives here on earth. Also, can we pray to our deceased loved ones for help and guidance in the same way that we pray to the saints? (San Francisco)

A As to your first question, the belief of the church is that the saints in heaven are, in fact, aware of us and of how we are living. From the earliest days of the church, Christians have prayed to the saints and asked them to petition the Lord on our behalf. Your second question is a bit more complicated. As for praying to deceased loved ones, we may not be certain whether they have yet merited heaven. If they are still in purgatory, we can surely pray for them – but can they pray for us? And here, theologians have differed.

St. Thomas Aquinas believed that the souls in purgatory were not yet in a position to intervene on our behalf. St. Robert Bellarmine, on the other hand, felt that these souls were already secure in their eventual salvation and therefore were in a favorable position to beg divine help for those of us still on earth.

If the deceased loved ones to whom we pray are already in heaven, then of course they can bring our prayers to the Lord.

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

Altar servers receive awards at cathedral

A record 135 altar servers in the Diocese of Columbus were honored for their service at the annual Serra Club Altar Server Awards on Sunday, May 12 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral. “Your fidelity, generosity and prayerful service shines forth so that others may be inspired or comforted by your good example. People notice the good things that you do,” Bishop Robert Brennan said in his reflection during the ceremony. “You are the boldest of teachers by your example — a light to all the nations. You draw your courage, you draw your generosity from the Good Shepherd and then you let his light shine so that others can see something of Jesus. In your humble service at the altar, you are helping people to know God.”

(CT photo by Ken Snow)

Bishop consecrates altar at renovated St. Mary

Bishop Robert Brennan (right) consecrated the altar with holy oil during a rededication Mass at Columbus St. Mary, Mother of God Church in German Village on Sunday, May 12. He was assisted by Deacons Kyle Tennant (left) and Michael Fulton (center), who are diocesan seminarians. The historic 151-year-old church underwent 2 1/2 years of extensive renovations after the structure was damaged and deemed unsafe by engineers as the result of a lightning strike in August 2016. The church, which was built in 1868, reopened last month on Palm Sunday. The rededication Mass was concelebrated by Father Kevin Lutz, the parish pastor, and other priests from the diocese.

(Photo courtesy John Rees)
A letter to my brother

LIGHTING THE WAY

J. P. Leo Thomas

It is both holy and healthy to reflect on the New Testament readings from daily Mass this Easter season, as the apostles are on fire with the Holy Spirit and begin to teach, preach and evangelize freely.

From Acts 4:13-14, “Observing the boldness of Peter and John and perceiving them to be uneducated, ordinary men, the leaders, elders, and scribes were amazed, and they recognized them as the companions of Jesus.”

Peter went from denying Christ to preaching boldly in the name of Jesus at risk of imprisonment and even death. His courageous words challenge us to be unafraid to show our love for Jesus with our words and actions.

Many of us go through life with blinders on, never really appreciating the beauty in holding a hand, saying “I love you” or just being there with those for whom we care. We seem today to rush into everything and forget the slow pace it takes to live out a celebrated life. Something as simple as watching the sun come up in the morning and doing things with family is lost in our culture. You taught me that the biggest way to show your love was not to treat you as “special,” but to treat you like an ordinary person.

St. Peter the Rock

HOLY AND HEALTHY

Lori Crock

May we take to heart these words from St. Peter the Rock in 1 Peter 3:5: “By his great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and to an inheritance which is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God’s power are guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.”

Lori Crock is a parishioner at Plain City St. Joseph Church. Lori leads SoulCore Rosary prayer and exercise at parishes, teaches physical strength classes and writes about faith and fitness at holyandhealthycatholic.com.
COMMENCEMENT SCHEDULE

The commencement schedule for Columbus diocesan high schools:


Columbus Bishop Hartley – Saturday, June 1, 9 a.m., First Church of God, 3480 Refugee Road, Columbus. Graduating seniors: 136. Valedictorians: To be announced. Baccalaureate: Friday, May 31, 7:30 p.m., Columbus St. Catharine Church.


Columbus Bishop Ready – Saturday, June 1, 10 a.m., school gymnasium. Graduating seniors: 75. Valedictorians: Eva Freeman, Angelica Rivera-Martinez. Salutatorian: Connor Nagy. Baccalaureate: Friday, May 31, 7:30 p.m., Columbus St. Cecilia Church.


Columbus Cristo Rey – Saturday, June 8, 2 p.m., Mershon Auditorium, Ohio State University. Graduating seniors: 82. Valedictorian: Nancy Mora. Salutatorians: Leanne Greenlee, Steffy Tene. Baccalaureate: Thursday, June 6, 4:30 p.m., Columbus Holy Cross Church.

GRADUATION FACTS

The 11 high schools in the Diocese of Columbus will graduate 1,082 seniors during the next three weeks. The first of 11 graduations will be Sunday, May 19 at Portsmouth Notre Dame High School. The last will be Columbus Cristo Rey High School on Saturday, June 8. The size of the graduating classes range from 22 at Notre Dame to 239 at Columbus Bishop Watterson.

All of the schools are graduating 100 percent of the seniors who are enrolled except Bishop Watterson, where the figure is 99 percent. Percentages of seniors at diocesan schools going on to four-year or two-year colleges, community colleges, or technical schools in the fall range from 100 percent at Zanesville Rosecrans to 90 percent at Newark Catholic and Columbus Cristo Rey and 80 percent at New Philadelphia Tuscarawas Central Catholic.

Seven seniors at the schools – six at St. Charles and one at Watterson – are National Merit Scholarship finalists, and 12 others are NMS commended students, including five at St. Charles, three at Watterson, two at Columbus St. Francis DeSales and one each at Columbus Bishop Hartley and Columbus Bishop Ready.

VETERAN EDUCATORS RECOGNIZED

Sixty-eight teachers and administrators from Columbus diocesan schools who reached service milestones have received service awards from the diocesan Office of Education. Honored educators are:

40 YEARS – James Pena, Columbus St. Charles; Philip Smith, Columbus St. Charles; Mary Underwood, Columbus St. Catharine.

30 YEARS – Donna Bozitz, Columbus St. Agatha; Carl Bucher, Columbus Bishop Watterson; Barbara Krile, Logan St. John; Patricia McCreary, Westerville St. Paul; Eric Springer, Columbus Bishop Watterson; Lorie Steller, Columbus St. Francis DeSales.

20 YEARS – Mark Baker, Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans; Kimberly Crumrine, Newark Blessed Sacrament; Daniel Daugherty, Newark Blessed Sacrament; Deborah DelPrince, Columbus Bishop Hartley; Janet De Roo, Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul; Jennifer Douglas, Columbus Bishop Hartley; Robert Dvorak, Columbus St. Francis DeSales; Ellen Falter, Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare; Fulvia Fowler, Columbus Bishop Hartley; Lawrence Gallic, Columbus Bishop Hartley; Lucia Gibbons, Dover Tuscarawas Central Catholic Elementary; Nancy Johnson, Columbus St. Francis DeSales; Marian Knox, Columbus St. Catharine; Doreen Kohrmann, Columbus All Saints Academy; Andrea Kuhn, Westerville St. Paul; Cindy Lombardo, Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare; Thomas Lopresti, Columbus St. Charles; Suzanne Macioce, Gahanna St. Matthew; Stephanie Maloney, Reynoldsburg St. Pius X; Barbara Mathews, Newark Blessed Sacrament; Greta Ode, Columbus St. Francis DeSales; Fawn Parks, Columbus Bishop Watterson; Kristen Ramsey, Columbus St. Catharine; Michael Roark, Columbus Bishop Watterson; Jennifer Rush, Columbus Bishop Watterson; Shelli Smith, Lancaster St. Mary; Pamela VanArsdale, Columbus St. Francis DeSales; Kim VanDerMolen, Columbus Bishop Hartley; Georgiana VanSycelle, Columbus Bishop Watterson; Amy Voehsing, Newark Catholic; Janet Weisner, Columbus St. Catharine; Deborah Welch, Newark Catholic; Nancy Williams, Delaware St. Mary.

10 YEARS – Saya Becker, Westerville St. Paul; Karen Boles, Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help; Kate Cavello, Hilliard St. Brendan; Helen Chirakos, Columbus Trinity Elementary; Sheri Cook, Columbus Bishop Watterson; Christine Dembinski, Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help; Kay DeMonte, Dennison Immaculate Conception; Lori Dulin, Columbus Our Lady of Bethlehem; Stephen Edwards, Columbus Bishop Watterson; Lori Evans, Reynoldsburg St. Pius X; Christopher Grieb, Newark Catholic; Kathleen Hare, Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare; Lauren Harmon, Zanesville Bishop Fenwick; Andrew Jahahn, Columbus Bishop Hartley; Colleen Kent, Columbus Immaculate Conception; Amy Loring, Worthington St. Michael; Jennifer Maschari, Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare; Lauren Harting, Columbus Bishop Fenwick; Cara Johnson, Columbus St. Francis DeSales; Edith Johnson, Columbus St. Francis DeSales; Shelli Smith, Columbus Bishop Watterson; Mary Weisner, Columbus St. Catharine; Michelle Posani, Columbus Bishop Watterson; Jennifer Rush, Columbus Bishop Watterson; Shelli Smith, Lancaster St. Mary; Pamela VanArsdale, Columbus St. Francis DeSales; Kim VanDerMolen, Columbus Bishop Hartley; Georgiana VanSycelle, Columbus Bishop Watterson; Amy Voehsing, Newark Catholic; Janet Weisner, Columbus St. Catharine; Deborah Welch, Newark Catholic; Nancy Williams, Delaware St. Mary; Karen Boles, Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help; Kate Cavello, Hilliard St. Brendan; Helen Chirakos, Columbus Trinity Elementary;

Veteran educators recognized...
2019 Ward Scholarship Recipients

Benjamin Phillips of Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans High School and Courtney Blau of Portsmouth Notre Dame High School are the 2019 recipients of Wendy O. Ward Foundation Memorial Scholarships.

Ward’s husband, Chris, a graduate of Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School, established the scholarship in 2015 in memory of his wife, a Hilliard resident, who died of breast cancer on May 18, 2012 after a 10-year career as a writer and public relations consultant.

The scholarships are awarded to graduates of Columbus diocesan high schools who have been involved in school, community and parish activities and have demonstrated academic achievement, particularly in language arts. Phillips will receive $5,000 for first-year college expenses and Blau will be given $2,500 for her freshman year. The recipients are eligible to apply for a $1,000 renewal award for three subsequent years. The Ward foundation will pay the scholarship money directly to the institution the recipients plan to attend.

Courtney Blau of Portsmouth Notre Dame High School received a Ward scholarship.

Ward scholarship honoree Ben Phillips of Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans High School.

Phillips is a founder of his school’s Green Club, treasurer of the National Honor Society and the senior class, and captain of Marcus House, a group of 30 students who are part of Rosecrans’ system of smaller student communities within the larger school. He also has been a Hugh O’Brian Youth Foundation ambassador, an iBelieve ambassador, and an after-school tutor and a member of the track and soccer teams, the peer ministry, the choir, and the Muskingum County Youth Foundation’s executive committee.

He plans to attend Ohio State University, majoring in environmental service, and hopes to become a hydrologist in Appalachian Ohio.

Blau is a member of the National Honor Society and Student Council and has served as class vice president and treasurer. She also has been a member of the volleyball and swimming teams, Pep Club, Red, White and Youth volunteer organization, Ohio Model United Nations, Key Club, and SEARCH retreat team and a volunteer at the St. Francis Outreach pantry.

She plans to major in psychology at Ohio State.

Ward, a graduate of Bishop Luers High School in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and of the University of Dayton, was grateful for her Catholic education and always said she counted herself lucky to have the opportunity in her career to do something not all English majors can – to use her skills and write every day for her company, Constructive Communication, Inc., where she was vice president. Her husband and children, Caroline and Jack, hope the scholarships will help provide others with the same opportunity.
BISHOP HERRMANN SERVICE AWARD WINNERS

LAUREN AKAINYAH  
School: Columbus St. Francis DeSales  
Parish: Columbus St. Anthony  
Student Council; Evangelization Team; Parish Festival Volunteer; Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist; Children's Liturgy Teacher; Kairos Retreat Leader; Run the Race Club; Altar Server; St. Vincent de Paul Society; World Culture Committee; Rosary Making Club; Parish Volunteer.

CARTER BRADY  
School: Lancaster Fisher Catholic  
Parish: Lancaster St. Mary  
Organized Humane Society Food Drive and Sandwiches for the Poor Event; Stage Crew; Bike Trail Cleanup; Upper Room Junior and Senior Representative; Middle School Tutor; Volunteer for Nursing Home Song Programs, Honor Flight, Holiday Happening, Soccer Camps and Community Care Day; Altar Server; No Limits Basketball Camp Coach; Parish Youth Group; Shane Roush Memorial Achievement Award; Heather Ann Sullivan Memorial Award; Shelley Strigle Honor Scholarship.

JOHN CLORE  
School: New Philadelphia Tuscarawas Central Catholic  
Parish: New Philadelphia Sacred Heart  
National Honor Society; Buckeye Boys State; Life Scout; Special Olympics Volunteer; Gospel Road Volunteer; Football, Wrestling and Track Teams.

KATIE DETTWILLER  
School: Portsmouth Notre Dame  
Parish: West Portsmouth Our Lady of Sorrows  
National Honor Society; Senior Class Secretary; Key Club; St. Francis Outreach Center Volunteer; Wendy's High School Heisman Winner; Basketball and Volleyball Teams; Ohio Model United Nations; Liturgical Choir.

BRUKIE KASSA  
School: Columbus Bishop Hartley  
Church: Peniel Ethiopian Evangelical  
St. Bernard Project Hurricane Relief Team; Volunteer Work at Chicago Soup Kitchen; Community Activities With Peniel Ethiopian Church.
DANNY KRAFT  
School: Columbus Bishop Watterson  
Parish: None listed  
Student Ambassador for Freshman Orientation and Open House; Kairos Retreat Leader; Freshman Day of Reflection; School Marketing Design Volunteer; Wounded Warriors Sled Hockey; Columbus Ice Hockey Club Volunteer; Colerain Elementary School Volunteer; Global One Health Initiative; Ohio State Community Thanksgiving; Sports and Society Volunteer Email Campaign.

ARIYHANA MARSHALL  
School: Columbus Bishop Ready  
Parish: Columbus St. Mary Magdalene  
Capital City Jaguars Youth Organization Volunteer and Coach; Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona Church Confirmation Retreat Facilitator; Parish Garden Club; Parish Festival Volunteer; Run the Race Club Mentor.

LAURA NOWICKI  
School: Newark Catholic  
Parish: Newark St. Francis de Sales  
Pelotonia Bike Race; Memorial Golf Tournament Volunteer; Newark Catholic Girls Basketball Camp Teacher and Coach; Summer Gym Volunteer; Summer Classroom Cleanup and Preparation; Dayton Dragons MVP Program; Vacation Bible School; Weathervane Playhouse Volunteer; Columbus Zoo Volunteer; School Christian Witness Award.

WILLIAM SWEATT  
School: Columbus St. Charles Preparatory  
Parish: Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare  
National Honor Society Tutor; Robotics Summer Camp; Robotics Outreach; Heinzerling Foundation Volunteer; Giving Tree Christmas Project.

FLORENCE TAKIYWA  
School: Columbus Cristo Rey  
Church: Deeper Life Bible Ministry  
National Honor Society; Honoria Hispana Sociedad; Central Ohio Leadership Academy; School Spirit Store Manager; Columbus Metropolitan Library Volunteer; School Garden Party Volunteer; School Freshman Social Volunteer; Star House Volunteer; Soccer Team; Junior State of America; Student Ambassador.

RACHEL TAYLOR  
School: Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans  
Parish: Zanesville St. Nicholas  
Junior and Senior Class President; Key Club; Campus Ministry; Green Club Service Project; Muskingum County 4-H Junior Leaders; Muskingum County Community Youth Foundation; School Ambassador; Parish Cantor and Lector; Kiwanis Peanut Sale and Christmas Party; Festivals at Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Nicholas Churches; Cub Scout Camp Counselor; Safety Town; Light the Night Walk; Vacation Bible School; Christmas Coat Drive; Rosecrans Bazaar; Salvation Army Bell Ringer; Festival of Trees; Zane Grey Intermediate School Mentor; Ohio University-Zanesville Groundhog Day Auction.
ALL-DIOCESAN ACADEMIC HONOR TEAM MEMBERS

MARIA BENITEZ / Portsmouth Notre Dame
Parish: Portsmouth Holy Redeemer.
Mock Trial; Ohio Model United Nations; Science Bowl; Quiz Bowl; Key Club; St. Francis Outreach Center Volunteer; Southern Ohio Medical Center Aqua Kids Teacher’s Assistant; Liturgical Choir; Suicide Awareness Fundraiser; Shawnee State University African, Hispanic, Asian, Native American Club; Templeton Scholars Full Tuition Scholarship. Attending Ohio University.

LINDSEY COX / Zanesville Bishop Rosecrans
Church: Coshocton Church of the Nazarene
National Honor Society; Key Club; Peer Ministry Environmental Leader; Cheerleader; Green Club; Mass Choir; Mentor Group Leader; Starlight School Volunteer; Elementary After School Program; Kiwanis Peanut Sale; Christmas on the Hill; Biddy League Cheer Camp; School County Fair Booth; Prom Decorating; School Auction; Vacation Bible School; Nursery and Children’s Church Worker. Attending Indiana Wesleyan University.

ELIZABETH D’SA / Columbus Bishop Watterson
Parish: Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare
Student Council President; Junior, Sophomore and Freshman Class President; National Honor Society; Zonta Club of Columbus Outstanding Young Woman; Harvard Pre-College Program; Hugh O’Brian Youth! Foundation Leadership Seminar; Ohio State University Neuroscience Camp; Presidential Award for Educational Excellence; Soccer and Basketball Teams; Kairos Retreat Leader; Fellowship of Christian Athletes; Paso a Paso Club; Spanish Club; She’s the First Club; Mathnasium Instructor; St. Brigid Track Coach; Guatemala Mission Trip; Parish Catechist; Altar Server; Polaris Anti-Trafficking Project. Attending the University of Notre Dame.

GRANGER EVANS / Newark Catholic
Parish: Newark St. Francis de Sales
National Honor Society; Senior Class President; Kairos Retreat Team; Christian Witness Award; Football, Basketball and Baseball Teams; Liturgical Choir; Parish Rectory Tour Guide; Granville St. Edward Church Preschool Program Volunteer. Attending Ohio State University.

AUSTIN FANTIN / New Philadelphia Tuscarawas Central Catholic
Parish: New Philadelphia Sacred Heart
National Honor Society; Tuscarawas Chamber of Commerce Leadership Award; American Legion Government Test County Winner; Buckeye Boys State; Mock Trial Outstanding Attorney; Science Olympiad; Academic Challenge Captain; Golf, Bowling and Basketball Teams; Altar Server; Parish Youth Group; School Mass Band; Lector; Parish Capital Campaign Technology Coordinator; Vacation Bible School; Biddy Basketball Camp Helper; Parish Kids Zone Helper; Community Hospice Golf Outing; Food Server to Cancer Patients at Dennison Immaculate Conception Church; Camp Counselor. Attending Walsh University.

IAIN KAROS / Columbus St. Charles Preparatory
Parish: Columbus St. Agatha
National Latin Exam Summa Cum Laude; Advanced Placement Scholar; Ohio State University Maximus Scholarship; Xavier University Scholarship; Loyola University Presidential Scholarship; Cross Country and Track Teams; Altar Server. Attending Boston College.

HANNAH KITSMILLER / Columbus Bishop Hartley
Parish: Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton
National Honor Society: Thurston Flying Fingers and Extraordinary Explorers 4-H Clubs; Cross Country, Track and Swimming Teams; School Musicals; Hawks Who Pray; The Julias Female Leadership Team; Piano and Voice Student; American Sign Language Club; Pro-Life Club; Little Free Library; Parish Portsmouth Outreach Mission Trips; Parish Choir; Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist; Altar Server; Columbus Marathon Volunteer; Dick Geyer Book Award; Bob Telerski Scholar-Athlete; Ohio State University Maximus Scholarship; South Central Power Scholarship; Fenstermaker 4-H Scholarship. Attending Ohio State University.

NANCY MORA / Columbus Cristo Rey
Parish: Columbus Christ the King
National Honor Society; Junior State of America; Activism Committee; Academic Celebration Committee; Chief Yearbook Editor and Photographer. Attending Ohio State University.

CONNOR NAGY / Columbus Bishop Ready
Parish: Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona
National Honor Society: In the Know Team; YMCA Youth in Government Delegate; Stage Crew; Beta Club; Volunteer Club; Red Cross Blood Donor; Gladden Food Pantry Volunteer; Dom Ghiloni Scholarship; Junior Speaking Prize Finalist. Attending Ohio State University.

HAVEN RODOCKER / Columbus St. Francis de Sales
Parish: Westerville St. Paul
National Honor Society: Spanish National Honor Society; Ohio State University Provost Merit Scholarship; Gerri Hatch Science Scholarship; School Leadership Council; Competitive Dancer; Cheerleader; Student Ambassador; Chemistry Club; Spanish Club; Math Club; Go Red for Women Club Co-Founder; Vacation Bible School; Medical Mission Trip to Mexico. Attending Ohio State University.

ELIZABETH VIGUE / Lancaster Fisher Catholic
Parish: Junction City St. Patrick
Student Body President; Junior Class President; Interact Club; Youth and Government Club; Choir; Quiz Team; Rotary Youth Leadership Award; Shane Roush Memorial Award; South Central Power Scholarship; Tennis, Softball and Track Teams; Alley Park Earth Camp; St. Patrick Rectory Cleanup; Habitat for Humanity Yard Sale. Attending Marietta College.
GERTRUDE C. KUEHEFUHS MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP
(Elementary and Secondary Schools)

Four students in diocesan schools have been awarded the annual Gertrude C. Kuehefuhs music scholarships.

Outstanding instrumental and choral music students receive the $250 awards to help them pay Catholic high school tuition or college tuition. Two scholarships are awarded to high school seniors, and the other two go to eighth-graders.

Kuehefuhs was a longtime member of the Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral choir and a teacher of music at Ohio State University. The awards are made possible from a gift received from her estate.

HIGH SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC
JOSEPH SHERIDAN
Joseph Sheridan, a senior at Columbus Bishop Hartley High School, plays the trombone and French horn, is a baritone in the school choir and is founder of the school’s instrumental music club, which serves as the school’s unofficial band in the absence of a band director. He also is involved in school theatrical productions, the National Honor Society, and the tutoring program and is a member of the swim team, a Buckeye Boys State delegate and an Eagle Scout. He belongs to Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church and teaches students in the St. Pius School band.

He has not made a college choice, but plans to study theater and business in hopes of working in the entertainment industry.

HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL MUSIC
SHANNON CARMON
Shannon Carmon, a Bishop Hartley High School senior, is a soprano in the school choir and has taken part in regional and national piano competitions for 10 years. She has been in school theatrical productions, is a captain of one of the school’s house teams and president of the Pro-Life Club, and is or has been a member of the National Honor Society, field hockey team, Hawks Who Pray, Art Club, Kairos retreat team, and music ministry and an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist. At Columbus St. Catharine Church, she is a cantor and a member of the youth group and the choir, a Parish School of Religion teacher and an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist, and has been an altar server and Alpha course leader and been involved in Vacation Bible School and Girls in Faith Together.

She plans to pursue a bachelor of science degree in nursing, with a minor in Spanish, at Mercy College in Toledo in hopes of becoming a medical missionary in Central America or South America.

ELEMENTARY CHORAL MUSIC
CAROLINE CHRISTY
Caroline Christy, a Reynoldsburg St. Pius X School eighth-grader, is an alto in the school choir, has been awarded the lead role in the school musical for the past two years, and has been in the diocesan honor choir for three years. She also plays the piano, the flute and the ukulele, has taken part in a community theater workshop, and is a cantor for school Masses and a 4-H Club member. At Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, she is a youth band member, altar server, and Mass cantor and a volunteer with Vacation Bible School, the children’s choir, the Alpha program, the parish festival, adult faith formation and the outreach program to Scioto County.

In the fall, she plans to attend Bishop Hartley High School.

ELEMENTARY INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC
ALEXANDER MATTHEWS
Alexander Matthews, an eighth-grade student at Delaware St. Mary School, is a percussionist and a pianist and has played with Columbus Bishop Watterson High School’s indoor drumline and honor band. He has been a member of his school’s chess club and the 4-H Club. At St. Mary Church, he is an altar server and a member of Troop 249 and has volunteered for several Knights of Columbus events, the parish festival and the Stations of the Cross and decorated the church for Christmas. He joined the Catholic Church three years ago.

He plans to attend Bishop Watterson in the fall.

Shamrock Club awards Grimes scholarships

The Shamrock Club has awarded its 17th annual Msgr. J. Colby Grimes scholarships to five diocesan high school students.

Recipients of the $1,000 scholarships – one for each of the five diocesan high schools in Columbus – are Jesse Burke, St. Francis DeSales; Jaden “Libby” Erwin, Bishop Hartley; Jack Foley, Bishop Ready; Hagan Stovall, St. Charles Preparatory; and Alessandra Quinn, Bishop Watterson.

Five other students will receive $500 scholarship. The money is awarded by the Diocese of Columbus from the tuition assistance fund of the diocesan Office of Catholic Schools. They are Evelyn Sarle, DeSales; Piper Ogden, Hartley; Lindsey Bair, Ready; Brendan McGinn, St. Charles; and Cassandra Kasberg, Watterson.

A total of 71 students applied for the scholarships. Msgr. Grimes was the Shamrock Club’s chaplain before his death in 2003. The scholarship is based on academic success, leadership skills and community service, among other criteria. The Shamrock Club has provided more than $65,000 in tuition assistance to students since the scholarship’s inception.
Persevere in faith

Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 26 (Year C)

O God, let all the nations praise you

As the Easter season continues, we are reminded that we must persevere in faith through the many trials we encounter. God’s presence among us makes his people and gives us the capacity to endure. Life is difficult. But our suffering has a purpose. Faith that overcomes obstacles is precious. We are invited to praise God in the midst of the struggles.

The key is our love for one another. We are called to love – close at hand, far and wide, at home and abroad. The Spirit is at work among us, establishing us as the kingdom, the New Jerusalem, the living presence of God in the world. We are children of Eden and of Jerusalem. We are given a task, a responsibility that will be measured both in time and in eternity.

Love is a confusing reality in our world today. What the world seems to mean by “love” is a relationship that is primarily physical, sometimes psycho-

logical, and often missing the spiritual dimension, though always pointing to something greater. The Church has been charged by the Lord himself to communicate a more profound vision, one that encompasses what the world intuits, but one that begins with a different kind of love, the very love of God.

God dwells with us. God loves us. God is love. We are called to live in God’s love. To love as Jesus loved means we are willing to die for one another. We are willing to move beyond our own limitations to be who God calls us to be for His Church. The Church’s love sometimes is a “tough love,” speaking the truth when no one else will do so. It is not easy to be part of a Church that does this. The world rejects such a way of acting. Jesus calls us to love as he did. He embraced the cross. He rose from the dead and so will we, if we love not as the world loves, but as Jesus loved us. We are capable of love, not because we choose to do so ourselves, but because God is in us.

We are called to be faithful to the Church by loving, and to share the Gospel with those who have not heard it. Let us remember who calls us – it is love himself. We are called to be part of the Lord’s work to “make all things new.” The new commandment is our charge: “Love one another as I have loved you.”

Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 26 (Year C)

O God, let all the nations praise you

Acts 15:1-2,22-29
Psalm 67:2-3,5-6,8
Revelation 21:10-14,22-23
John 14:23-29

Come, Holy Spirit! Jesus promised that the Father would send us His Spirit and that through the power of the Spirit, we would become free to do his will. The vision for the Church in our time reveals that we are meant to be on the move, always reaching for more, growing and changing, until the responsorial psalm is fulfilled: O God, let all the nations praise You!

Jesus showed us the way. We must live and love as he did, opening our hearts to his spirit. Our lives as individuals and our life together must reveal Jesus. We must become Jesus for the world by the power of his spirit. This involves a transformation, both interior – in our hearts – and exterior, in our personal lives and in our life together – so that the world may see it.

The Acts of the Apostles recounts one of the “clashes of culture” that the Church met as it encountered the wider world. The response was determined by a meeting of the apostles and the missionaries sent to look into the matter. We can acknowledge that our era often experiences similar clashes. There are so many differing opinions that make it hard to decide how to start to re-establish any sense of peace among us.

Peace is the Lord’s gift to us, but his peace is different than our usual understanding. Tension is always present. This is a fact of our limited earthly reality. Peace comes, not

See SIXTH SUNDAY, Page 16
A Christian gentleman in the nation’s capital

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

George Weigel

(On May 8, the Library of Congress and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars co-hosted a tribute to Dr. James H. Billington, who died last Nov. 20. Billington was instrumental in bringing me to Washington during his service as director of the Wilson Center and we remained friends throughout his historic tenure as the 13th Librarian of Congress. As librarian, he vastly extended the reach of what is arguably the world’s greatest repository of knowledge. It was an unremarked aspect of his character, however, that I underscored in my contribution to the May 8 tribute.)

Clement Attlee once described Winston Churchill as akin to a layer cake: one never knew which layer of his personality would be displayed at a given moment – the 17th-century Churchill, imaginatively riding across the battlefields of Europe with his great ancestor, Marlborough; the 18th-century Churchill, standing in Parliament alongside Edmund Burke; the man born into 19th-century aristocracy at Blenheim Palace; the colossus of the democratic 20th century; or the visionary of the 21st century.

Jim Billington was similarly multi-layered in terms of accomplishments. To the rich array of his talents already described this morning, I would add one from my Wilson Center experience with him in 1984-85: his singular ability to enter any conversation and ask the one penetrating question that got everyone thinking in a fresh way – no mean accomplishment among high-powered academics who may doubt the pope’s infallibility, but not their own. In terms of character, though, I would highlight today what three-and-a-half decades of friendship taught me was the deepest “layer” of Jim Billington – the layer that made all the other layers (the husband and father, the scholar, the public official, the diplomat, even the TV star) possible, and that made the man so compelling: Jim Billington was a Christian gentleman.

Once familiar, that character type is all the more precious for being somewhat rare today. So at a moment when some in our public life cannot bring themselves to use the word “Christian” to describe those murdered in Sri Lankan churches on Easter, while others weaponize faith for partisan purposes, let us remember, and be grateful for, the example of Jim Billington. Christian gentlewoman: A man in whom faith enlarged and amplified reason, while reason purified and deepened faith. With Pope St. John Paul II, Jim Billington knew that (as John Paul put it), “faith and reason are like two wings on which the human spirit rises to the contemplation of truth.” And in his gentlemanly, Christian way, Jim Billington tried to help Washington understand that, in his service at the Wilson Center and at the Library of Congress.

Secure in his basic Christian conviction, Jim Billington was a man of great books who knew that a book’s greatness is based, not on aspects of its author’s identity, but on that author’s ability to unveil deep truths about the human condition. And from the great books, Jim Billington learned, and tried to help others learn, that the intellectual enterprise we call the West – including the American democratic experiment – has roots that ran far deeper than the Enlightenment – roots that reach back to Jerusalem, Athens and Rome: to biblical religion, its teaching about the dignity of the human person, and its Exodus-informed conviction that life is adventure and pilgrimage, not cyclical repetition or meaninglessness; to the ancient Greek conviction that reason can get at the truths that are built into the world and into us; and to the Ciceroan conviction that the rule of law is superior to the rule of brute force.

Inviting as many as possible into that great, multifaceted civilizational conversation, in as many venues as possible and through as many instruments as were available, was Jim Billington’s grand strategy for the Library of Congress. It was a commitment forged by both faith and reason. And the accomplishment we remember and honor today was the accomplishment of a Christian gentleman whose deepest convictions opened him up to serious conversation with everyone else.

At a moment in our national history when convictions tend to create silos rather than robust and thoughtful debates, it is good to remember the example of a man of faith and reason whose convictions created genuine human encounters, real conversations that broke out of zero-sum gamesmanship and enlarged the understanding – and thus the humanity – of everyone involved.

George Weigel is the Distinguished Senior Fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C.
from suppressing or ignoring tension, but from becoming open to the spirit who brings all diversity and difference into harmony with the truth. Every person is invited to change. We are called to be made one in Christ.

The invitation of the Church today is to see through the eyes of mercy. Are we truly in relationship with those who share this planet? Are we aware that the spirit is working in us to bring us to unity? Are we open to the kind of change that the Lord asks of us in order to fulfill his father's will?

The City of God in the Book of Revelation is the very people of God who are in that city. We are called to set our gaze on that city and to come to realize that we are the people invited to allow God to be all in all in us. The glory of God is our light and the Lamb of God is our lamp. God shines forth in us through the power of His Spirit. Beginning the Friday after the traditional day of the Ascension, we observe the time of intense prayer for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Church and the world. The nine days of prayer in the upper room experienced by Mary and the Apostles opened the way for Pentecost. Let us pray with them for the same spirit to enliven us and lead us to the kingdom.

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

PRAYER TO THE VIRGIN
(Never known to fail)

Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of heaven, blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in necessity. Oh, star of the sea, help me and show me herein, you are my Heaven and Earth. I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to secure me in this necessity. There are none who can withstand your powers. Oh, show me herein you are my Mother. Oh, Mary conceived without sin, pray for us, who have recourse to thee. (Repeat three times) Oh, Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands. (Repeat three times) Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads that I can obtain my goals. You gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me, and in all instances in my life, you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine. The person must say this prayer three consecutive days, after three days, the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor has been granted. MB

SIXTH SUNDAY, continued from Page 14

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from suppressing or ignoring tension, but from becoming open to the spirit who brings all diversity and difference into harmony with the truth. Every person is invited to change. We are called to be made one in Christ.

The invitation of the Church today is to see through the eyes of mercy. Are we truly in relationship with those who share this planet? Are we aware that the spirit is working in us to bring us to unity? Are we open to the kind of change that the Lord asks of us in order to fulfill his father’s will?

The City of God in the Book of Revelation is the very people of God who are in that city. We are called to set our gaze on that city and to come to realize that we are the people invited to allow God to be all in all in us. The glory of God is our light and the Lamb of God is our lamp. God shines forth in us through the power of His Spirit. Beginning the Friday after the traditional day of the Ascension, we observe the time of intense prayer for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Church and the world. The nine days of prayer in the upper room experienced by Mary and the Apostles opened the way for Pentecost. Let us pray with them for the same spirit to enliven us and lead us to the kingdom.

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

PRAYER TO THE VIRGIN
(Never known to fail)

Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of heaven, blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in necessity. Oh, star of the sea, help me and show me herein, you are my Heaven and Earth. I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to secure me in this necessity. There are none who can withstand your powers. Oh, show me herein you are my Mother. Oh, Mary conceived without sin, pray for us, who have recourse to thee. (Repeat three times) Oh, Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands. (Repeat three times) Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads that I can obtain my goals. You gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me, and in all instances in my life, you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine. The person must say this prayer three consecutive days, after three days, the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor has been granted. MB
**Happenings**

**Catholic Record Society Meeting**
Nuncio House, Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus. Catholic Record Society annual lecture and luncheon, with Msgr. Robert Noon speaking on his recollections of Columbus bishops Clarence Issermann, John Carberry, Clarence Ewell and Edward Herrmann. Cost $20 for lunch. 614-288-4186

**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 chastisements followed by Holy Hour. 614-224-9522

**Kateri Prayer Circle at St. Mark**
1 p.m., Aranda Center, St. Mark Church, 324 Gay St., Lancaster. Kateri Prayer Circle meeting to honor St. Kateri Tekakwitha and promote Native Catholic spirituality.

**St. Padre Pio Secular Franciscans**
1 to 5 p.m., St. John the Baptist Church, 720 Hamlet St., Columbus. Fellowship and ongoing formation followed by adoration and prayer, Liturgy of the Hours, and initial formation with visitors. 614-282-4676

**St. Catherine of Bologna Secular Franciscans**
2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Church, 386 Bottles Ave., Columbus. Prayer followed by ongoing formation, general meeting and fellowship. Visitors welcome. 614-895-7792

**Polish Mass at Holy Family**
2 p.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Monthly Mass in Polish. 614-221-4323

**Taize Evening Prayer at Corpus Christi**
4 to 5 p.m., Corpus Christi Center of Peace, 111 E. Stewart Ave., Columbus. Evening Prayer in the style and spirit of the Taize monastic community, with song, silence and reflection. 614-512-3731

**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. Also on May 26. 614-899-8266

**Marian Concert at Buckeye Lake**
3 p.m., Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, 5133 Walnut Road S.E., Buckeye Lake. Concert by parish music ministries with theme “A Celebration of Mary, the Mother of God.” 614-529-3266

**Catholic Conversations Series**
6 to 8 p.m., Sports on Tap, 4030 Main St., Hilliard. Monthly Conversations Series for anyone 21 and older, sponsored by Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona Church. Speaker: Dr. Perry Cahall, academic dean of theology at the Pontifical College Josephinum. Topic: “What Does It Mean When We Say ‘That’s a Mystery of Our Faith?’” Contact Jule Napolitano at juliennapolitano1@gmail.com.

**Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter**
7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish. Also on May 26. 706-761-4054

**St. Pius X Holy Hour**
7 to 8 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Quarterly Holy Hour of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and prayer for the parish, the diocese and the church in the nation and the world. 614-866-2859

**20, MONDAY**
**Mass of Healing at Cathedral**
6:30 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Mass of Healing, followed by healing service including Exposition and Benediction and veneration of relic of the True Cross. 614-224-1295

**Rosary at St. Pius X**
6:30 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Recital of Rosary for the sick of the parish and all who are ill. Also on May 27. 614-866-2859

**21, TUESDAY**
**ODU Physician Assistant Information Session**
3:30 to 5:30 p.m., St. Albert Hall, Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Information session for ODU’s master of science in physician assistant studies program. 614-251-4615

**Dominican Learning Center Gala**
6 p.m., LifeCare Alliance, 670 Harmon Ave., Columbus. Gala celebrating Dominican Learning Center’s 25th anniversary. Tickets $50 adults, $20 learners. 614-444-7330

**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 May 28.

**22, WEDNESDAY**
**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. Also on May 29. 614-866-2859

**‘Worship and Wings’ at St. Michael**
7 p.m., St. Michael Church, 5750 N. High St., Worthington. “Worship and Wings” program for young adults, beginning with praise and worship in front of the Blessed Sacrament at church, followed by a meal at a local restaurant. 614-885-7814

**23, 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 May 30. 614-294-7702

**Divine Mercy Chaplet at St. Pius X**
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 time and refreshments. Also on May 30. 614-294-7702

**24, FRIDAY**
**Holy Hour at St. Matthew**
7 p.m., St. Matthew Church, 807 Havens Corners Road, Gahanna. Monthly Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and prayers for reparation, purification and sanctification of the universal Church. Also on May 30. 614-471-8481

**Franciscan Mass**
St. Francis of Assisi Church. Monthly Mass with Eucharistic Adoration, confessions, Taize chant and prayer, Liturgy of the Hours, and initial formation with visitors. 614-282-4676

**25, SATURDAY**
**Ordination of Diocesan Priests at Cathedral**
10 a.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Bishop Robert Brennan ordains Deacons Brian Baek, PJ Brandimarti, Kyle Tenent and Christopher Yakkel as priests of the Diocese of Columbus, followed by reception. 614-224-1295

**26, SUNDAY**
**Mass of Thanksgiving With Father Ryan**
11 a.m., St. Catherine Church, 500 S. Geuld Road, Columbus. Recently ordained Father Brogan Ryan, CSC, celebrates a Mass of Thanksgiving. 614-231-4509

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

**Father Brandimarti’s First Mass**
Noon, St. Matthew Church, 807 Havens Corners Road, Gahanna. Newly ordained Father PJ Brandimarti celebrates his first Mass, followed by reception. 614-471-0212

**Father Tennant’s First Mass**
Noon, St. Monica Church, 4252 Pine St., New Boston. Newly ordained Father Kyle Tennant celebrates his first Mass, followed by lunch at Holy Redeemer Activity Center, 1325 Gallia St., Portsmouth. 740-354-4551

**Father Yakkel’s First Mass**
12:30 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Newly ordained Father Christopher Yakkel celebrates his first Mass, followed by reception. 614-224-1295

**Father Beal’s First Mass**
3 p.m., Immaculate Conception Church, 414 E. North Broadway, Columbus. Newly ordained Father Brian Beal celebrates his first Mass. 614-267-9241

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

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

**28, TUESDAY**
**Youth Ministry Network Prayer and Lunch**
11 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. Catharine Church, 560 S. Gould Road, Columbus. An opportunity for leaders of parish youth ministry programs to come together for prayer, lunch and discussion. RSVP to mhall@columbuscatholic.org.

**Pat Pio Prayer Group Meeting at St. John the Baptist**
12:30 p.m., St. John the Baptist Church, 168 E. Lincoln Ave., Columbus. Pat Pio Prayer Group meeting, including rosary, devotions, and 1 p.m. Mass. 614-294-5319

**29, WEDNESDAY**
**Labyrinth Walk at Shepherd’s Corner**
7 to 8:30 p.m., Shepherd’s Corner Ecology Center, 987 N. Waggoner Road, Blacklick. Labyrinth walk led by pastoral associate Susan Bellotti. Theme: “Bloom Where You Are.” Suggested donation $5. Maximum five participants. Registration deadline May 26. 614-866-4302

**30, THURSDAY**
**Solemn High Mass at Holy Family**
7 p.m., Holy Family Church, 584 W. Broad St., Columbus. Ascension Thursday Solemn High Latin Mass (polyphonic setting), with the Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral choir singing William Byrd’s Mass for Four Voices. 614-221-4323
Carl Monnin was born in Dayton and raised Catholic.

“Being Catholic is pretty important to me, as it encompasses my philosophy of life,” he said. His wife, Patricia, wasn’t born into the Catholic faith, but was baptized when she was in second grade. She then continued her Catholic journey through high school and college.

Carl and Patricia met at the University of Dayton and eventually were married. Carl received his bachelor’s degree in physics and math, and earned his master’s in physics at the University of Detroit before the couple moved to Cleveland, where Carl began working for the NASA Lewis Research Center, now the NASA Glenn Research Center.

Carl was involved in 70 to 80 unmanned-vehicle launches, including the Viking, Voyager and Mariner series. He worked on the software for the computers.

Because the space-launch vehicles didn’t carry humans, all the technology was pure “brain power.” His focus was on guidance of the launches, and by the end of his career, he was responsible for all of the flight software. He worked for NASA for about 32 years, and then as a contractor for the space agency for another five to six years. He had to stop when Patricia was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease, and he became her caregiver.

In 2001, Carl and Patricia moved to Plain City and joined St. Joseph Church. Patricia died on Oct. 12, 2008.

These days, Carl is extremely active despite having medical conditions of his own and is fueled by the love of his five children and 13 grandchildren. Since 2002, he has been tutoring inmates in GED math at the West Central Community Correctional Facility in Marysville, as well as attending weekly adoration at St. Joseph. He also is a member of the Knights of Columbus.

Father Joseph J. Trapp has been the pastor at St. Joseph’s since 2015 and has known Carl for more than three years. Father Trapp said Carl is very involved in the parish, adding, “Carl has a great sense of humor about himself and he is respected by other people in the parish. They enjoy his participation at parish events.”

Carl said that, over the years, the Lord has been good to him. He had been sick while in college, but that same sickness allowed him to meet his wife, and so if he were to do it all over again, he would.

The Church also has been good to Carl. When he was sick, church members prayed for him and cared for him.

In return, Carl wanted to do something for the Lord and the Church. He met Loren Brown, chief executive officer of The Catholic Foundation, at a parish gathering, and from there the Patricia L. & Carl F. Monnin Endowment Fund was established in May 2017.

The fund provides for the general needs of St. Joseph Church.

A thoughtful gift such as Carl’s means a great deal to the parish. It not only helps maintain the church now, but also secures its place in the future. Father Trapp said the parish plans to build a new church, and a development fund was started about four years ago.

Father Trapp said the parish has yearly gatherings with The Catholic Foundation that are well attended. These gatherings provide an opportunity for people to ask questions about how they can support their parish.

“Planned giving is truly the best way to remember their parish and for the parish to remember them,” Father Trapp said.

“It was great working with the Foundation and Loren,” Carl said. “I support many charities with monthly donations. I would rather help people now when I can see it.”

To learn more about setting up your own endowment fund for your parish or contributing to the Patricia L. & Carl F. Monnin Endowment Fund, contact Scott Hartman at The Catholic Foundation at (614) 443-8893 or shartman@catholic-foundation.org.

The Catholic Foundation eliminates donor-advised fund minimums

A minimum amount no longer will be required to open a donor-advised fund (DAF) with The Catholic Foundation.

The Foundation has removed the previous $5,000 minimum in an effort to allow anyone to create a fund in support of a charitable cause.

A DAF, often referred to as a “charitable checkbook,” allows a donor to make contributions to the fund, have the Foundation invest and manage it, and allow the donor to direct the Foundation when and where to send money. Although there now is no minimum to establish a DAF, the Foundation still requires that any distribution out of such a fund be at least $50.

A DAF is a flexible and simple account that allows people or families to manage their philanthropy through one consolidated location. The Catholic Foundation provides professional investment and administration of the fund while allowing the donor to retain access to use it in support of charitable organizations within the Diocese of Columbus and nationally.

The Catholic Foundation’s donor-advised funds are invested in accordance with Catholic teachings, ensuring that they do not conflict with a donor’s religious beliefs. In addition, any money distributed out of a DAF can be sent only to organizations that don’t conflict with Catholic teaching.

There are considerable tax advantages to having a DAF, which include an immediate charitable deduction for any contribution made to the fund, as well as the ability to avoid capital gains taxes if contributing appreciated stock to the fund. A financial adviser can help employ a DAF funding strategy that is both practical and tax-efficient, depending on individual circumstances.

If anyone is looking for an efficient, streamlined way to manage charitable and philanthropic giving, contact Scott Hartman at shartman@catholic-foundation.org or (614) 443-8893 to find out how to establish a DAF.
Monday to Thursday, June 3-6, June 10-13 and June 17-20 from 8 a.m. to noon. The cornhole camp will be on Monday to Thursday, June 24-27 from 8 a.m. to noon. The cost is $160 and registration is limited to 15 students per session.

Sports camps led by Wasserman coaches will take place for boys basketball, girls basketball, cheerleading, field hockey, football, boys lacrosse, girls lacrosse, boys soccer, girls soccer and girls volleyball. Dates vary in June and July, with field hockey kicking things off on Sunday, June 2 and registration is limited to 15 students per session.

Go to bishopwatterson.com for the complete schedule, registration information and other details.

**DeSales offers more than 30 summer camps**

Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School, 4212 Karl Road, will be offering more than 30 camps this summer, including nine academic camps. These camps are a great way to meet new friends while improving your skills, whether it is in the classroom or on the athletic field. Visit www.sfdstallions.org/summercamps for more information.

**Gala celebrates Dominican Learning Center anniversary**

The Dominican Learning Center will celebrate its 25th anniversary with a gala fundraiser at 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 21 at Life Care Alliance, 670 Harmon Ave., Columbus.

The center, located at Corpus Christi Church at 1111 Stewart Ave. on Columbus’ south side, was founded in 1994 by the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs, now known as the Dominican Sisters of Peace. It opened with one student and six religious sisters.

Since then, more than 6,000 adults have taken advantage of services offered by the center, which include adult basic education; preparation for the Graduate Equivalency Diploma (GED) test in English and Spanish; math, reading and writing refreshers; English as a Second Language (ESL) instruction and conversation opportunities; computer classes, and citizenship test preparation.

Tickets to support the gala may be purchased at www.domlearningcenter.org or by calling the center at (614) 444.7330. Donations to support the center’s work may be made at www.domlearningcenter.org.

**Dominican Sisters offer mission immersion program**

Women discerning a call to religious life will have an opportunity to share the lives of sisters and to meet and talk with others at a mission immersion program sponsored by the Dominican Sisters of Peace from Saturday to Wednesday, June 1 to 5 at the congregation’s Lakehouse in Blacklick, just south of Columbus.

Women ages 18 to 45 who participate in this retreat and service event will live with sisters from the congregation’s vocations team, pray and study with sisters and other women discerning a call to religious life, and serve at local community agencies to get a realistic view of what ministry is like.

The mission immersion program is free, and lodging and meals will be provided at the Lakehouse. It will begin at noon June 1 and conclude at 1 p.m. June 5.

The Lakehouse is about 30 minutes south of downtown Columbus and 20 minutes from John Glenn International Airport. Some travel assistance may be available. It also is adjacent to Shepherd’s Corner, one of the congregation’s five ecological ministries. Working at Shepherd’s Corner is one of the service opportunities offered to those who attend the program.

To register, visit the congregation’s website at oppeace.org or contact Sister June at jfitzgerald@oppeace.org or (570) 336-3991.

**Women’s day of recollection set for June 7 at St. Therese’s**

The Catholic Laywomen’s Retreat League is sponsoring a day of reflection for women from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, June 7 at St. Therese’s Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus.

Father Stephen Dominic Hayes, OP, an itinerant preacher of the Dominican Order assigned to St. Patrick Priory in Columbus, will be the speaker for the day.

His topic will be “The Sacred Page: Touching the Living Mind of God Through Sacred Reading of Holy Scripture (Lectio Divina).”

Besides two talks by Father Hayes, the day will include Mass at 11 a.m., lunch at noon and time for individual prayer and reflection. The cost for the day is $25 and the registration deadline is Monday, June 3. Space is limited.

For more information, contact Terry Norris at (614) 595-1972.
Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare School was selected as the grand prize winner in the Catholic identity category of the 2019 Innovations in Catholic Education awards. The school will receive $1,000 and will be featured in a special section in the fall issue of Today’s Catholic Teacher magazine.

The award was presented in Chicago in April at the National Catholic Education Association convention. The awards program honors Catholic schools that have created exemplary, innovative programs designed to improve the teaching and learning of their students, faculty and staff. Grand prizes were offered in four categories: Catholic identity; curriculum and instruction; technology integration; and community involvement.

St. Brigid of Kildare was honored for its discipleship model. With the goal of increasing students’ understanding of their call to discipleship, the school has adopted many methods of teaching and reminding students what it means to be a modern-day disciple.

Teachers provided visuals to help students learn that disciples are kind, respectful, responsible and ready to learn. A statement on student discipleship was created to allow students and teachers to assess progress related to each part of the document.

The code of conduct and the school’s cafeteria rules were rewritten to make it clear that student disciples are to be kind, respectful, responsible and ready to learn in all places and at all times. This discipleship project has taught students how to measure their daily actions, based on the understanding of how Jesus calls us to live.

A project submitted by Alexander Forrest, a seventh-grade student at Worthington St. Michael School, finished in first place in the individual exhibit category for junior high school students at the annual Ohio History Day competition. It now will go on to national competition in Washington. Forrest’s presentation was on a fire at the Cleveland Clinic in 1929 that killed 123 people. This will be the third straight year St. Michael School has sent a student to the national competition. Other students from the school who took part in the state event were Megan Goshe, Michael Daniels, Katie Driscoll, Koen Sauer and Jordan Vais. Ohio History Day is sponsored by the Ohio History Connection (the former Ohio Historical Society) and takes place each year at Ohio Wesleyan University in Delaware. This year’s theme for contest entries was “Triumph and Tragedy.” In their contest entries, students made conclusions, found examples, and identified connections from their historical research of specific topics.

JOIN US FOR ONE OF THE FOLLOWING PILGRIMAGES:

**May 20—31, 2020:** Fatima/Lourdes/Santiago de Compostela/Oberammergau (Spaces are limited. For more information, call or email us.)

**September 2—14, 2020:** The Holy Land and Oberammergau (Spaces are limited. For more information, call or email us.)

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Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare School principal Kathy O’Reilly (left) and vice principal Cindy Lombardo received a $1,000 award from Mark Sumers of “Today’s Catholic Teacher” magazine, which honored the school’s discipleship program. (Photo Lisa Julia Photography/Bayard Inc.)

Katy Wyatt, Group Travel Specialist
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