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Local news and events

St. Vincent de Paul Friends of the Poor walk set for Sept. 28 at DeSales

The diocesan St. Vincent de Paul Society has added a five-kilometer run/walk to its ninth annual Friends of the Poor walk at 9 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 28 at Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School, 4212 Karl Road. The one-mile walk consists of four laps around the school track, and the 5K will loop through the adjoining neighborhood. It will be timed and will offer prizes to the top overall male and female finishers and the top finishers in various age groups.

Proceeds from the event will be used for the St. Vincent de Paul Society’s parish-based programs for neighbors in need throughout the diocese. The honorary chair will be Phil DeVol, author of Getting Ahead in a Just Gettin’ By World, co-author of Bridges Out of Poverty, and an international consultant on alleviating poverty.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society’s mission is to bring the love of God to those in need, making efforts to build a more just world and end poverty through systemic change. It offers food pantries; meals at St. Lawrence Haven in downtown Columbus; a Christmas store; a clothing center; a funeral fund; the Bishop Griffin Resource Center on Columbus’ east side; shelter and transitional housing in Newark; and other tangible emergency assistance to individuals and families.

Additionally, newer programs assist under-resourced persons to lift themselves out of poverty. These include Getting Ahead in a Just Gettin’ By World workshops; Bridges Out of Poverty workshops; a microloan program of low-interest loans; the Vincentian Ohio Action Network; think tanks on poverty; the Accompaniment of Poverty; the Accompaniment of Poverty Network; and an international consular think tank.

The diocesan St. Vincent de Paul Society’s Young Catholic Professionals board of directors, will speak at the diocesan YCP meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 11 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St. Schiebelbein is chief culture officer and a founding partner at 5, an Irving, Texas-based energy services firm.

Young Catholic Professionals brings together young adults in their 20s and 30s from across the area for speaker events, panel discussions and networking to foster Catholic identity, encourage community and inspire a call to action.

For more information about YCP, go to www.ycpcolumbus.org or send an email to info@ycpcolumbus.org.

Deanery sponsors bereavement ministry

The North High Deanery invites anyone affected by the loss of a loved one to take part in its Seasons of Hope Bereavement Ministry meetings.

The program is a Catholic, Christ-centered support group that includes Scripture, prayer, reflection, and sharing. It is offered for six weeks four times per year. Its fall session will meet on consecutive Sundays from Sept. 15 to Oct. 20 at Worthington St. Michael Church, 5750 N. High St.

Registration each week will be from 1:30 to 1:55 p.m., followed by a group sharing session from 2 to 4 p.m. Questions may be directed to Rose Daiga at rose.daiga@gmail.com.

Cathedral Healing Mass and service to take place Sept. 16

A Mass of healing and healing service will take place at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 16 at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St.

The healing service will follow the Mass and include Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, veneration of relics of the True Cross of Christ, and an opportunity for everyone present to speak individually with a priest and have him say prayers of healing for what they seek. The sacrament of Anointing of the Sick also will be available. The service will close with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

All persons who seek Christ’s healing are invited, especially those who suffer with physical illness and infirmities, in addition to those seeking emotional and spiritual healing. All caregivers, family members, and members of the medical community also are invited.

Secured parking is available off East Gay Street. There is a handicapped-accessible elevator in the courtyard (west side of the cathedral) on East Broad Street. Healing Masses take place at the cathedral on the third Monday of every other month. The next Healing Mass at the cathedral will be on Nov. 18.

For more information, call the cathedral at (614) 224-1295.

Business leaders to speak at Catholic Foundation

Generally, when we think of a company, we think about commercial profits, while the term “social impact” brings thoughts of philanthropy. Businesses for social impact combine generating financial returns with endeavors to achieve a change in society. But can two seemingly unlike endeavors coexist successfully? Family businesses that survive for many generations make sure to permeate their ethos of ownership with a strong sense of purpose.

The Catholic Foundation’s new Catholic business leaders group will discuss this topic from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 12 in the second of its three meetings scheduled this year. John Igel, president of George J. Igel & Co., Inc.; Lucinda Dager, president of Velvet Ice Cream Co.; and Marc Hawk, chief executive officer of the RevLocal digital marketing agency will speak on “Balancing Your Business and Philanthropy – It’s Possible!”

These three accomplished Catholic business owners will tell how they created in their respective enterprises a sense of purpose and community impact, living their faith while demon-
Diocese creates task force to review safe environment practices

Bishop Robert Brennan is commissioning a task force to perform a complete review of safe environment policies and procedures, as well as outreach efforts to those affected by sexual abuse by clergy within the Catholic Diocese of Columbus.

The task force’s mission is to ensure that the diocese is doing its utmost to provide healing and assistance and that no one affected by the crisis involving sexual abuse of children and young people in the Church suffers in silence and isolation.

“Through its work, the task force will strive to help all in the Diocese of Columbus,” Bishop Brennan said. “We wish to learn from all that has occurred, as well as from others’ experience and expertise, in our ongoing effort to transform brokenness into wholeness for all in our diocese and for our Church.”

The work of the task force will include a review of the following: current organizational structure; policies for receiving and investigating allegations of abuse and for reporting of allegations to appropriate legal and Church authorities; outreach efforts to survivors of abuse; and outreach to all members of the Church.

The task force will be chaired by Regina Quinn, diocesan Safe Environment Office director. Quinn joined the diocesan staff in 2009 after a career in criminal justice and schools.

The selection of task force members is in process. Those selected will be from a variety of disciplines and experiences, including survivors of abuse, mental health professionals, law enforcement, social work, clergy and lay ministry, and civil and canon law. Members of the task force will be predominantly laypersons, along with representatives of the clergy.

The diocese began working on creation of the task force in May. Bishop Brennan, other diocesan staff members, and other bishops and experts from around the county attended a conference hosted by Spirit Fire, a nationwide association of clergy abuse survivors, on May 1 at the Catholic University of America.

Spirit Fire is providing guidance to our diocese and other U.S. dioceses to develop and strengthen pastoral care for survivors and their family members in response to the impact of abuse on victims, loved ones, parishes and all others in the Church, as well as the broader community. Spirit Fire’s associates also offer insight into the protection of minors and vulnerable adults, ministry programs, health care and healing.

“Bishop Brennan wanted a broad review,” Quinn said. “An enormous amount of good work has been done over the last 17 years within the Church, and as we stand on the cusp of a new decade, this task force and its work will be a critical opportunity to take stock of where we are and set a firm and clear course of action and care for the future. We look forward to the task force’s work.”

Evangelization ‘is everybody’s job,’ new diocesan coordinator says

Father Adam Streitenberger says that as coordinator of evangelization for the Diocese of Columbus, he wants to have an impact on everyone in its 23-county area.

“Evangelization isn’t limited to the clergy or laypersons who work for the diocese or a parish or school,” he said. “The work of evangelization is everybody’s job.”

“The position of evangelization coordinator is a new one for the diocese, but Bishop (Robert) Brennan intentionally didn’t create an office or a staff to go with it. He wants every Catholic in the diocese to think of himself or herself as an evangelist and, as he has said so often, to share the joy of the gospel and the splendor of truth.”

“In my new role, I will work with the lay apostolate in parishes and diocesan offices to help with their individual evangelization initiatives and to coordinate and connect them. While doing that, I hope to discover areas where parishes can do more individually and in groups and find new initiatives as inspirations from the Lord arise.”

One of his first outreach efforts as evangelization director will begin when he hosts the first of a weekly series of talks titled “Catechesis from the Cathedral” from 6:45 to 7:45 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 8, in the undercroft of Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St.

Father Streitenberger said the talks will attempt to examine the Catechism of the Catholic Church from start to finish over the course of about two years, with occasional breaks from the weekly schedule for liturgical hol-idays or cathedral special events.

He said he will start by looking at the Creed from September through December, following that with talks on the sacraments in the first half of 2020 and morality and prayer in late 2020 and early 2021. The one-hour format will include discussion in the last few minutes, plus time for refreshments.

“The cathedral is the mother church of the diocese, where truth is taught and we are formed in faith,” Father Streitenberger said. “It’s an ideal place for ongoing formation of disciples. The Catechism is a thick book that looks daunting, but it becomes a wonderful opportunity to encounter Christ when it is broken down into smaller portions.”

Father Streitenberger said those unable to attend will be able to hear the talks broadcast on St. Gabriel Catholic Radio AM820 in Columbus.

The cathedral also will be the site for “From the Cathedral Pulpit,” an occasional series on discipleship featuring nationally known speakers. The first of these events will be a talk on Saturday, Oct. 19 by Dr. Ralph Martin of Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit, whose ongoing The Choices We Face television series began in 1985 and is the longest-running Catholic television program in the world.

Dr. Mary Healy will speak at the cathedral on Saturday, Dec. 7. She also is from Sacred Heart Seminary and is a noted author and speaker on healing and the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Father Streitenberger said he hopes the talks become a monthly series, with the timing of future programs dependent on speaker availability.

Father Streitenberger hopes to expand evangelization efforts to cover all of the approximately 20 institutions of higher education in the diocese. This work would be in addition to programs already available at the Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center adjacent to Ohio State University and at Ohio Dominican, Capital, Denison, Muskingum, Ohio Northern, Ohio Wesleyan and Otterbein universities and Kenyon College.

“Providing pastoral care for young adults at these institutions is critical at this important time in their lives as they prepare for their future roles in the Church,” he said. “I want to ensure a missionary presence or outreach is available at all these centers of learning.”

Father Streitenberger also was appointed as administrator of Columbus Sacred Heart Church when he was chosen to become diocesan evangelization director, and he will continue as parochial vicar at the cathedral, where he is in residence.

“I’m excited about the opportunity to be evangelization director because it’s a new role for me and for the diocese, and I don’t think any other diocese has a position quite like this,” he said. “Since the bishop didn’t give me any guidelines, it’s a job that’s being written as I go along, and there’s no limit to its possibilities.”

“Bishop Brennan has a great heart for evangelization. He wants it to be a priority for the diocese and wants to encourage parishes to become the places where missionary disciples are formed. This may involve a change in culture for everyone, from the people in the parish offices to the people in the pews. All of us need to see ourselves as missionaries to the world and to evangelize people wherever they are, not just in a church setting.”

Father Streitenberger, who grew up as a member of Waverly St. Mary Church, has been a priest of the Diocese of Columbus since 2007, serving as parochial vicar at Newark St. Francis de Sales and Gahanna St. Matthew churches and as pastor at Portsmouth St. Mary and Holy Redeemer churches before being assigned to the cathedral in 2018. He is studying for a licentiate of sacred theology degree, focusing on the New Evangelization, from Sacred Heart Seminary.
Ultrasound machines save lives. I’ve found this to be a true statement, but it doesn’t paint the whole picture. Let me explain.

One of the great perks of my job is the privilege of working with the Knights of Columbus ultrasound program. What is the program? The Knights of Columbus work with pregnancy help centers in the purchase of an ultrasound machine. After the state and/or local council of the Knights and the donors to the pregnancy help center raise 50 percent of the cost of a new ultrasound machine, the Knights’ supreme council will provide the other 50 percent needed to purchase the machine.

An ultrasound machine is a critical element of a pregnancy help center. Ultrasound machines save lives because they give women the opportunity to see their unborn children and hear their heartbeat. Ultrasound machines have come a long way since I caught a glimpse of our first child. Today, ultrasound machines are in 3D and 4D versions offering a vivid perspective of God’s creation.

The women who come into a pregnancy help center face the prospect of an unplanned pregnancy. They are afraid or in crisis. They feel the pressures of family and society and possibly are considering abortion. Ultrasound machines save thousands of lives annually in central Ohio because, in many cases when a woman sees her unborn child and hears her daughter’s or son’s heartbeat for the first time, she falls in love with her child and continues with the pregnancy.

In my role as diocesan respect life director, I perform a diocesan evaluation for the Knights of Columbus ultrasound program to ensure the local pregnancy help center abides by practices consistent with Church teaching in regard to abortion and birth control, has the staffing and finances to justify support of a purchase, and is welcoming to Catholics.

What this means is that I must review financial statements and mission statements. For me, the best part of the evaluation is touring a pregnancy help center and meeting the staff. This is when I get to see the whole picture.

You may have read secular media reports about how pregnancy help centers allegedly are part of a deceptive agenda and do not truly provide for the needs of women in a crisis pregnancy situation. Something tells me the reporters who write these stories never have set foot in a center. The stories cannot be further from the truth.

The true agenda for these centers is love and compassion for women and men. They offer a welcoming environment, with caring staff. In addition to the ultrasound, the centers offer family empowerment, such as parenting classes, and ongoing support in the forms of diapers, clothing, car seats and more.

Centers in the area include the Women’s Care Center of Columbus; Pregnancy Decision Health Centers (PDHC); the Life Pregnancy Center in Washington Court House; and the Women’s Clinic of Columbus, among others. Although Birthright and Catholic Social Services do not offer ultrasounds, they also provide compassionate accompaniment, maternal support and material assistance.

We also are blessed to have Heartbeat International, which is based in Columbus. It’s the most expansive network of pregnancy resource centers in the world, with 2,600 affiliates in 62 nations.

To paint the whole picture of the value of lifesaving ultrasound machines, it must include the truly dedicated and compassionate people on the front lines at pregnancy help centers and the Knights of Columbus. Their witness is truly inspiring.


Pregnancy Decision Health Centers (PDHC) will host two upcoming events to celebrate life at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19 at The Mill Event Center, 431 S. Columbus St., Lancaster and Thursday, Sept. 26 at Villa Milano, 1630 Schrock Road, Columbus.

“There are women in our communities who feel overwhelmed and alone when faced with a pregnancy. They deserve to have all of the support they need. These events are an opportunity to do just that.” PDHC president Julie Moore said.

Hannah is one of these women. She had mapped out a plan for college and law school. During her freshman year at Ohio State University, she thought she was sick with the flu when she learned she was pregnant. She went to PDHC to learn about her options.

“When I first went to PDHC, I was pretty lost. I just found out I was pregnant at 19 years old. I didn’t know what I wanted to do,” she said.

A PDHC nurse listened to Hannah’s concerns and talked through parenting, adoption and abortion procedures and risks.

“After talking with nurse Kathy, I realized just how many resources and how much help there is for women in my situation,” Hannah said.

Every day, women come into PDHC looking for pregnancy help. They worry they won’t be able to fulfill their dreams, have enough money or know how to be a good parent. At PDHC, women talk with experienced medical professionals who help think through solutions and look at the bigger picture, not just the positive pregnancy test in front of them.

PDHC offers parenting classes, maternity and baby clothes, diapers, cribs, and coaching on how to share the news with family and where to go for additional help.

Last year, PDHC helped women through nearly 5,000 appointments at its four centers. Of the women who used PDHC’s services last year, 88 percent reported annual incomes of less than $30,000. PDHC empowers women and families by providing individualized consultations that include healthy pregnancy and reproductive education, as well as no-cost pregnancy testing, ultrasounds and prenatal vitamins. PDHC is dedicated to serving the whole person — body, mind and soul.

Hannah went back to PDHC for an ultrasound, which was a pivotal point in her decision to parent, and attended every PDHC parenting class that she could before her daughter was born.

“After taking classes, I felt a lot more prepared and less scared. It allowed me to really get excited and feel like ‘I got this!’” Hannah said. “It breaks my heart to even think about it, but I don’t know what would have happened if I didn’t get the information and encouragement from PDHC. My daughter is truly a blessing in my life and I’m still on track to finish college and all my other goals.”

People in the community interested in helping women, babies and families should attend one of PDHC’s Celebration of Life events to learn more. Thanks to generous donors, there is no cost to attend. Guests will be given an opportunity to help others by contributing to this life-changing, life-saving work.

Attendees must register by Sunday, Sept. 15. For more information and to register, visit SupportLifePDHC.org/celebrate.

PDHC has been a crucial resource in central Ohio since 1981. To reach PDHC, call its hotline at 614-444-4411 or visit www.pdhc.org.
‘Leave and cleave’ in marriage; explaining concept of original sin

**Q** My husband and I have struggled since being married with the concept of “leave and cleave.” He seeks his family’s advice for every decision we have to make. Their opinions are valued over my own, even when I am in staunch disagreement.

We attended Christian counseling, which proved to be fruitless, and he refuses to talk to a priest about marriage. (He doesn’t believe that priests can advise on marital problems, never being allowed to marry themselves.)

I am struggling with staying in this marriage, because he is clearly not willing to make any changes. I admit my own flaws and work to correct them. If he will not accept God as No. 1 and his wife as No. 2, is this a valid reason to annul our marriage and be divorced? (Columbus)

**A** The concept of “leave and cleave” takes its origin from God’s statement in the creation narrative (Genesis 2:24) that, in marriage, “a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife.” That doesn’t mean, of course, that a man or woman must abandon contact with birth families, but it does mean that the new spouse needs to be the most significant person in one’s life.

As for your husband’s reluctance to speak with a priest, I share some of his discomfort; as a priest, I have often felt unqualified and referred a couple to a professional marriage counselor, usually a layperson. (I do have a preference for Catholic counselors, because I want the assurance that marriage is viewed as a permanent commitment.)

As to whether your current situation might justify an annulment in the church’s view, I cannot say for sure without more information.

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**QUESTION & ANSWER**

Father Kenneth Doyle

*Catholic News Service*

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

Annulments are not easy. For an annulment, one must be able to go back to the time of the marriage and show that, from the outset, there was some fundamental problem (emotional immaturity on one or both sides, for example, or a radical disharmony of values) substantial enough to indicate that this particular marriage could never have lasted.

You and your husband are better off speaking first with a trained counselor and trying to work your issues out.

**Q** How do I explain original sin to a fallen-away Catholic? (He won’t accept anything from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church.*) He asked me, “Why are people born thousands of years after the fall held accountable for something they didn’t do?” (Arlington, Virginia)

**A** Your friend is not the first one to misunderstand the concept of original sin. In 2018, Rodrigo Duterte, the president of the Philippines, created a furor when he called God “stupid” because of original sin – for allowing others, he said, to be stained by something in which they were not involved.

The key is that we are not really “stained” by the sin of our first parents; instead, we are simply deprived of what would otherwise have been ours -- namely, the absence of suffering and death.

Actually, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* – which, unfortunately, your friend chooses to reject – explains it well. It says that “original sin is called ‘sin’ only in an analogical sense: it is a sin ‘contracted’ and not ‘committed’ – a state and not an act” (No. 404).

Further, the *Catechism* explains, “Original sin does not have the character of a personal fault in any of Adam’s descendants. It is a deprivation of original holiness and justice, but human nature has not been totally corrupted. “Baptism, by imparting the life of Christ’s grace, erases original sin and turns a man back toward God, but the consequences for nature, weakened and inclined to evil, persist in man and summon him to spiritual battle” (No. 405).

And the way that makes sense to me (which I have used in instructing converts) is that, because of the failure of our first parents, we have been born into a world surrounded by sin and selfishness, which makes it more difficult for us to be good.

If my grandfather squandered away a fortune that would otherwise have been passed down to me, I would have lost out, even though I had not been personally responsible. That, in my simple way of looking at things, is like original sin.

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If Jesus went to college today, He would have plenty of excellent options

If Jesus went to college, we know it would not have been a Catholic college, only because the Catholic Church had not yet been established. Jesus was a good and devout Jew, and He learned well from His parents first, and then from the schooling in the community. Of course, there was no real college or university system in place in first century Palestine/Israel. But the formal education and training Jesus received must have been pretty intense.

Jesus, the Son of God, needed no education. But the human brain and mind of Jesus needed to be challenged and formed. It was very necessary and critically important for Jesus, the man. He had to learn and study. He had to be tested. The Scriptures had to come alive and be understood, even though He would be the one to fulfill them. In other words, Jesus the man would read the scroll of Isaiah while Jesus the Son of God could assert, “Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.” It is hard to imagine Jesus having to learn or study anything. But whatever He did, it must have been incredibly astute, engaging, inspiring and challenging, even for His teachers. We only get a brief glimpse of this when Jesus is found in the Temple at a mere 12 years old, discussing and explaining Scripture with adult teachers and elders. The Gospel mentions they were astounded at His knowledge. That is one thing for sure regarding the Word of God. No one else but Jesus could have been born with a natural talent or knowledge of God’s Word. Our own children can be born with incredible talents and natural, God-given abilities. They can sit down and take off with the piano or saxophone or flute. They can hit a baseball, shoot a hockey puck or hit a tennis ball. They can do so many other things as individuals. But the Word of God not only must be taught and learned; it comes to them in the silence and solitude of prayer.

Catholic colleges are awesome, and we are so blessed to have them. Catholic education in general is a backbone of our society and culture. And specifically, Catholic college education has provided the basis for countless great thinkers and doers for centuries. In the United States, we have had Catholic colleges since Georgetown University opened in 1789. Catholic colleges are a priceless resource. The combination of environment, critical thinking, lifestyle, respect, service, and love for neighbor is tough to duplicate. We can zero in on faults and perceived inconsistencies that are found from time to time. But I think that sometimes in higher education, we lose sight of basic truths and morality because of the need to challenge one’s thinking. Good and bad? You be the judge. In the Diocese of Columbus, we are blessed with Catholic colleges. The Pontifical College Josephinum continues to provide great priests as products of the formation process. Its leadership and faculty are second to none. The men are well prepared when they are ordained. We wish its new rector/president, Father Steven Beaseu, all the best with our prayers. Ohio Dominican University provides Catholic education in the Dominican tradition. Dr. Robert Gervasi leads a wonderful community of faculty and undergraduate students, along with great graduate opportunities like the physician assistant program. There are many other examples, such as the Mount Carmel School of Nursing. I would include the effective programs of support and Catholic formation at other colleges, like our Newman Centers and St. Paul’s Outreach. If Jesus went to college today, He would find some excellent choices in Ohio and our diocese.
As the National Football League begins its centennial season …

By Robert A. Gervasi, PhD

By the gargantuan standards of the 21st-century National Football League, Gino Marchetti, who died this past April 29, was undersized at 6-foot-4 and a mere 245 pounds. But he was arguably the greatest pass rusher in pro football history. The official record, 22 1/2 quarterback sacks over 16 games, was recorded by Michael Strahan in 2001. But a review of a year’s game film by Baltimore Colts coaches, before the sack statistic (tackling a quarterback behind the line of scrimmage before he could throw a pass) was officially kept, once disclosed 43 sacks by Marchetti in a 12-game season.

Whatever the record books show, however, Gino Marchetti was a big man in several ways.

His parents were impoverished Italian immigrants who set up a bar in Antioch, California. By his own account, Marchetti, born in 1926, was “a little wild.” And after a “certain difficulty” with a high school teacher, he made the prudential judgment that enlistment in the Army was preferable to what awaited him at home: “I figured I could either face the Germans or I could face my father.” He made it to Europe in time to fight in the endgame of the Battle of the Bulge and stayed with the 69th Infantry Division until V-E Day.

This XL-size vet with the flowing, jet-black hair then hung around Antioch for a while, riding a Harley in a black leather jacket (“17 zippers,” he later recalled) and working as a bartender while playing some junior college football. A smart recruiter then asked whether he wanted to play at the University of San Francisco (then both Catholic and Jesuit), and a legend was born.

The 1951 San Francisco Dons were a great team in an era when college football easily bested the NFL in fan interest. Ten of those Dons went on to pro careers, and three are enshrined in the Pro Football Hall of Fame. They were unbeaten and untied, more to the point, they were “uninvited” to a big postseason bowl – not because of a lack of talent but because of an excess of character, much of it embodied by Gino Marchetti.

Three of the big bowls – Orange, Cotton, and Gator – wanted the Dons, but on condition that they leave their two star black players, Ollie Matson and Burt Toler, back in San Francisco. After their last regular-season game, Coach Joe Kuharich told the team, “We can play in a big Southern bowl game or stay home. It’s up to you.” Marchetti, according to legend, said, “(Expletive deleted) the big Southern bowl games.”

He later claimed that all he had said was “No,” and that every other white player on the team said the same thing. I prefer the legendary "(Expletive deleted) the big Southern bowl games.”

See WEIGEL, Page 16

The Catholic Difference

George Weigel

George Weigel is the Distinguished Senior Fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C.

The Idea of a Catholic University in the Newman tradition

By Robert A. Gervasi, PhD

As Ohio Dominican University welcomes students to a new academic year, we look forward to celebrating three exceptional events this fall.

First, our campus community had a wonderful opportunity to welcome Bishop Robert Brennan to campus on Aug. 22 to serve as the keynote speaker at ODU’s annual opening convocation. The bishop’s address, “Reflections on Truth,” is ODU’s key Dominican theme for this academic year.

Second, on Oct. 12, we will celebrate the grand reopening of the historic Matesich Theater at the heart of the campus’ iconic tower-topped Erskine Hall. Sister Mary Andrew Matesich, OP was an Ohio Dominican alumna, chemistry professor, and longest-serving president (1978-2001).

With the Matesich Theater’s refurbishment, we look forward not only to serving our own students in this magnificent space, but also to welcoming Catholic and public schools, local arts groups, and other community organizations and forums as we all strive to improve the quality of life and learning in central Ohio.

Finally, Ohio Dominican joins Catholic university educators everywhere in anticipation of the canonization by Pope Francis in October of Blessed John Henry Cardinal Newman, 19th-century theologian and educator. Born in London, Newman was a student, then scholar and Anglican clergyman, for almost 30 years at Oxford University. The depth of his historical study and personal prayer eventually led him to convert to Roman Catholicism in 1845. He subsequently was ordained a Catholic priest and, in 1879, was named a cardinal by Pope Leo XIII.

Among Cardinal Newman’s many writings, the book most celebrated in Catholic higher education is The Idea of a University, a series of lectures in which Newman explains his educational philosophy. Among its key themes are the central place of theology among the disciplines of study, since God ultimately is the source of all knowledge; a profound respect for the role of reason and conscience; and an equally profound reverence for the deposit of faith, as revealed by Scripture and tradition. In short, Newman was a passionate advocate of both faith and reason – and therefore of both continuity and change.

Perhaps Newman’s overarching achievement was his ability to integrate reason and faith so seamlessly; but that integration came only with difficulty and at great cost. His embrace of Catholicism caused his ostracism from the Anglican community. He also struggled for years to reconcile respect for conscience and submission to ecclesiastical authority. As a key example, he expressed different views at different times in the debate over papal infallibility, which ultimately was affirmed by the First Vatican Council in 1870.

In today’s unfortunately polarized Church, both “liberals” and “conservatives” can find proof texts in Newman’s writings to support their views. For example, in affirming the primacy of conscience, “liberals” might quote Newman’s guip, “I shall drink – to the pope, if you please – still, to conscience first, and to the pope afterwards.”

Conversely, “conservatives” can point to his insistence, as Newman biographer Father Ian Ker has written, “that dogma was the ‘fundamental principle’ of his religion…” for 30, 40, 50 years I have resisted to the best of my powers the spirit of liberalism in religion.” Unfortunately, that sentiment, taken out of context of the full range of Newman’s thought, has led some self-styled guardians of “authentic” Catholicism to use Newman’s name to justify arbitrary judgments about which of the more than 250 Catholic colleges and universities in the U.S. are “faithfully” Catholic. In the “society” of these self-appointed judges, only about 10 percent of Catholic institutions earn the “faithful” label, ignoring 90 percent of Catholic colleges and universities that are devoted to their Catholic mission and identity – not to mention the many bishops with whom Catholic institutions are in faithful communion. Such a “society” and such judgments, wrongly associated with Cardinal Newman, cause confusion and division, while Newman himself was devoted to Church unity.

Let us hope that the canonization of Blessed John Henry Cardinal Newman will inspire all Catholics to integrate faith and reason beyond partisan labels. As Father Ker puts it, “The truth is that Newman was neither simply conservative nor liberal. He is best described as a conservative radical or reformer.” And as Catholic columnist George Weigel elaborates, “Newman was a reformer devoted to history, who … helped the Church learn to tell the difference between genuine development and rupture.”

At Ohio Dominican University, The Idea of a University is part of the core curriculum. We have great reverence for Cardinal Newman and we treasure our communion with the universal Church. We look forward to all of the exciting events this semester that exemplify our mission and that communion – beginning with Bishop Brennan’s talk on campus and culminating in Cardinal Newman’s canonization in Rome.

Robert A. Gervasi is the president of Ohio Dominican University.
The University of Dayton (UD), founded by the Society of Mary (familiarly known as the Marianists) in 1850, enters the new academic year with record enrollment, fresh academic programs, growing research investment and continued focus on strengthening access for talented students who might think a top college is out of reach.

UD, a top-tier national Catholic research university with a mission of service and leadership in the community, expects to eclipse last year’s record fall enrollment of about 11,300 students at the undergraduate, graduate, law and doctoral levels.

The university has the largest enrollment of any Catholic institution of higher learning in Ohio, with many of its students coming from the Diocese of Columbus, including Joseph Beckett of Otway, a sophomore mechanical engineering major, and Emmanuel “Manny” Agyeman of Columbus, a junior majoring in sports management with a minor in business education.

“I chose to continue my education at UD because it combines an exceptional engineering program with a real focus on contributing to the common good,” said Beckett, a graduate of Portsmouth Notre Dame High School and a member of Otway Our Lady of Lourdes Church. “I liked the way in which it combines Marianist values with a great education and how it’s a place where I can grow in faith.”

“It’s relatively large for a private college, but compared to the big state-related schools, it’s a midsized institution with small classes and plenty of career and extracurricular opportunities.”

Agyeman is a graduate of Horizon Science Academy in Columbus who came to the United States from Ghana in 2013. He hadn’t known of UD before visiting the college with a friend.

“‘I was planning to attend the University of Kentucky, but when I came here, I could feel a real sense of community and an atmosphere of diversity and inclusion that was important to me as a minority student and an immigrant, so I changed my plans,’” he said.

“I felt a little awkward when I first came here, but a lot of college students feel that way. I started engaging with people, and before long I made many friends and felt a real home on campus. It’s a very safe place, with plenty of great people who share mutual interests. I’ve grown a great deal personally, and I feel I’ve become closer to God while gaining a greater understanding of myself. I’m not Catholic, but I think this is a result of the Marianist tradition. You feel a great sense of spirituality here.”

With more than 270 student clubs and organizations, UD offers opportunities beyond the classroom for every type of interest. Beckett has been involved with the campus ministry in praise and worship nights, hikes and off-campus retreats. Last year, he attended a New Beginnings retreat for freshmen at Camp Kern near Cincinnati. This year, he is an organizer for the same event.

He also is part of “It Flies!,” an organization whose name pays tribute to the Wright brothers, who did most of their research in aviation not far from the Dayton campus. The student group is an aerospace design team that uses the university’s flight simulator and builds a plane on a computer by using designs from historic aircraft built by the Wrights and other aviation pioneers.

Last year, Beckett was selected as one of 15 Chaminade scholars, a group of first-year students who engage in a common set of seminar-style courses, retreats and leadership experiences designed to help them think of their lives as a calling from God and to develop their skills as Christian leaders. The program is named for the Marianists’ founder, Blessed William Chaminade, who died in France in 1850, the same year the university began.

Agyeman wants to become a soccer coach and spends some of his off-campus hours officiating at intramural games and coaching young people. He hopes to obtain a coaching license from USA Soccer by the time he completes college.

His sports management training includes courses on athletic facilities, finance, human resource management, law, marketing, media and sales, and how these relate to sports. He also will complete one on-campus and one off-campus internship.

“I want to help young people understand soccer, not just in the playing sense, but to encourage them to become better people through the les-
ODU adds 32 to honors program

Ohio Dominican University welcomed 32 freshmen to its honors program, who joined 54 returning students for a total of 86 participants during the 2019-2020 academic year.

This year’s entering group achieved an average high school grade-point average of 4.1 and an ACT test score of 28. Four students were awarded the honors distinction scholarship, which covers the full cost of tuition for as long as four years at Ohio Dominican.

Members of this year’s freshman honors program class are Thapasyi Anantha, Carissa Baker, Keith Bray, Emily Campbell, Tiffany Chadwell, Megan Chalmers, Dylan Davis, Megan Debolt, Braxton Downs, Lydia Edwards, Maryann Elmajdoubi, Marshall Flynn, Andrew Gantzer, Karah Hessing, Brennen Hurt, Rosie Kheirandish, Audra Lambert, Mya Linder, William Luft, Marley McDonald, Reagan Mounts, Callan Myers, Alyssa Newsom, Daniella Sanchez, Cole Schweikert, Macy Talarico, Lauren Thomas, Deven Winski, Emily Wittekind and Emma Yeager.

“This year marks three consecutive years of growth in the honors program, which is allowing us to increase the diversity of course offerings, programming in our living and learning community, and extracurricular activities,” said John Marazita, ODU psychology professor and honors program director. “Our honors program students have a long history of active engagement in scholarship, student government, athletics and university leadership. We are very excited about the contributions these new students will make to the program and the entire campus community.”

ODU’s honors program is designed to enrich the academic experience of talented and motivated students. It is a community of learners who seek to develop their love of learning, deepen their understanding of significant issues, express their creativity and engage in independent scholarly, scientific and artistic endeavors.

Participants have access to separate living and learning spaces, opportunities for close mentorship with faculty in related academic disciplines, an invitation to participate in collaborative research with faculty, and an ability to participate in extracurricular programming.

To learn more about Ohio Dominican University’s honors program, visit ohiodominican.edu/Honors.

Xavier begins new academic year with 1,200 freshmen, new health buildings

Xavier University has welcomed 1,200 freshmen, as well as returning students, to a refreshed campus that includes the opening of the academic side of its Health United Building.

Under construction for nearly two years, the building opened its doors on Monday, Aug. 19, to 64 classes of students studying health-related majors. Additional sport-related classes are scheduled to meet in the HUB when its recreation center opens in January for the spring semester.

The university also has a new health and counseling services office, staffed by TriHealth and Xavier medical and counseling professionals, located inside the HUB.

Construction of the $52 million building is part of a landmark affiliation between Xavier and TriHealth, two Cincinnati faith-based organizations dedicated to improving the quality of life for the community. The HUB’s structure and programming celebrate health and wellness as an expression of Xavier’s Jesuit Catholic educational mission and foundational value of care for the whole person.

In the building, students take classes in the health-related majors of nursing, occupational therapy, radiologic technology, health services administration and sport studies, and seek out health and counseling services to support their physical and mental well-being. In a few months, the building also will include a modern recreational facility including courts, pool and fitness rooms.

In addition, Xavier’s nationally ranked athletic programs will have access to an expanded world-class sports medicine team and an enhanced university-based, multidisciplinary clinical care model for student-athletes.

Other new developments at Xavier this fall include the conversion of its 1,100-student nursing school into a nursing college, bringing to four the number of colleges at Xavier. The others are the Williams College of Business, the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Professional Sciences.

In addition, the campus is welcoming four Jesuit priests as professors, parish officiants and administrators. This is the largest increase in Jesuits at Xavier in many years.

Xavier, a community of educators in Cincinnati who are firmly grounded in Jesuit tradition and values, has been recognized by U.S. News & World Report as a Top 10 Midwest university for 24 consecutive years. It’s also consistently recognized by Princeton Review and Kiplinger’s Personal Finance as one of the best values in private college education. Learn more about Xavier at www.xavier.edu.
Walsh University biology professors Thomas Freeland (left) and Adam Underwood with student Daniel Rasicci, working in the university’s bioinformatics lab. Photo courtesy Walsh University

Walsh University opens school year with new leadership

Timothy Collins began serving in August as the seventh president of Walsh University, a 3,000-student independent Catholic institution in North Canton. He succeeds Richard Jusseaume, who retired after leading the school since 2001.

Collins joins Walsh from Johns Hopkins University’s applied physics laboratory (APL), where he was chief government relations officer for the nation’s largest university-affiliated research center. In addition, Collins was the APL board’s secretary and was chair of two graduate degree programs in the Johns Hopkins Whiting School of Engineering.

He has more than 22 years of senior-level experience in handling philanthropic endeavors, implementing institutional strategic plans, and understanding a private university’s mission, student-centered culture and Catholic traditions. As a national guest lecturer and scholar on Catholic higher education, Collins has been involved in Catholic education for nearly three decades.

With more than 100 academic majors and minors, Walsh continues to explore the latest employment trends and industry needs to create academic programming that is relevant and in demand. This fall, the university’s DeVille School of Business will launch a new undergraduate degree program in sports management.

According to Forbes magazine, by the end of 2019, the sports market in North America is expected to reach $73.5 billion. Walsh’s sports management program is designed to provide students with academic preparation and practical training for success in the sports industry, which includes any activity, experience or business focused on fitness, recreation, sport tourism or leisure. The program also presents an opportunity to specialize in marketing, communication or data analytics. Interested participants should contact the university’s admissions office at (330) 490-7172 or visit https://www.walsh.edu/sports-management.

Walsh’s math and science division offers students many advanced research opportunities through collaborations with top research facilities such as Alabama’s HudsonAlpha, the University of Pittsburgh, and Michigan State University’s Grand Rapids Research Center.

Students have participated in hands-on lab internships, published their own research, and presented nationally among some of the most recognized members of the scientific community, all before they enter graduate school.

Walsh’s research has attracted the attention of health care institutions such as the Mayo Clinic and St. Jude’s Children Research Hospital. This year, a record number of Walsh students presented their research on the national stage in the fields of cancer research, environmental science and microbial genome annotation.

Walsh students also have found that their internship experience has led to published research.

Recent biochemistry graduate Emily Cronin spent 10 weeks with the Goncharova Lab at the University of Pittsburgh, where she researched pulmonary arterial hypertension cells, which are similar to cancer cells in their ability to quickly reproduce. Her internship work led to published research. The program also presents an opportunity to specialize in marketing, communication or data analytics. Interested participants should contact the university’s admissions office at (330) 490-7172 or visit https://www.walsh.edu/sports-management.

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Franciscan University of Steubenville began its academic year with a new president, Father David Pivonka, TOR, who is known for his work in evangelization.

Father Pivonka was elected by the university’s board of trustees as the school’s seventh president on May 21. He succeeds Father Sean O. Sheridan, TOR, who had served as president since 2013.

For the past seven years, Father Pivonka had been director of Franciscan Pathways, an evangelistic outreach of his Franciscan community. In that role, he has hosted and produced The Wild Goose video series on developing a deeper relationship with the Holy Spirit, a documentary on St. Francis of Assisi titled Sign of Contradiction, and Metanoia, a new series on conversion.

He preaches at approximately 50 events annually, including retreats, workshops, pilgrimages, parish missions, and Franciscan University’s youth, young adult, and adult conferences.

At the university, he held several pastoral, leadership, and administrative positions from 1996 to 2008 and was an adjunct professor of theology from 1996 to 1998.

“It’s both humbling and an honor to be chosen to lead Franciscan University of Steubenville,” he said. “More than 30 years ago, I first arrived at Franciscan as an undergrad and received an outstanding education, as well as life-changing spiritual formation as part of a dynamic Catholic intellectual and faith community.

“A lot has changed in our culture in the last 30 years, but Franciscan continues its mission to provide a superior education in a vibrant faith community where students and parents alike can be confident in their choice of Franciscan University.”

In other news, the university has released the findings of a study that suggests what many people in the pro-life movement have suspected for years: There are significant negative biological and behavioral consequences caused by abortion.

The study, presented in the publication Frontiers of Neuroscience, took more than three years to complete. It examined the effect of the commonly used pregnancy termination-inducing drugs mifepristone and misoprostol on rats in a controlled environment.

The study found significant and adverse behavioral changes in the pregnant rats who were given the drugs, compared with the rats who did not receive the drugs or those who received the drugs, but were not pregnant.

Among the changes exhibited by rats in the abortion group were loss of appetite, decreased exploratory movement and decreased self-care – changes that were not present in the pregnant rats that carried their pregnancy to term. The findings suggest behaviors consistent with a wealth of scientific literature documenting the effects of moderate to severe stress on animal models, which scientists regularly use because of the similarities in brain mechanisms between rats and humans.

“This is breaking new ground,” said Dr. Stephen Sammut, the Franciscan psychology professor who led the research. “In the animal model, we observed depression-like behaviors and we saw anxiety-like behaviors. The biochemistry indicated potentially long-term effects.”

He said the findings suggest that social pressure or stigmas – long suggested as causes of depression and anxiety in women who have undergone abortions – do not adequately explain the potential adverse effects caused by abortion-inducing drugs.

“There is something more than social pressure on a person who feels depressed after an abortion,” Sammut said. “There are potential physiological consequences that have not been investigated.”
Mount Carmel College of Nursing enters 116th year

“Life is Our Life’s Calling” at Mount Carmel College of Nursing, where its core values — academic excellence, respect, compassion, social responsibility and diversity — are lived out every day in support of its mission and vision. With the college now entering the 116th year since its founding in 1903 by the Sisters of the Holy Cross, a commitment to excellence in nursing education is realized through its bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) programs and its master of science (MS) and doctor of nursing practice (DNP) programs.

To begin the 2019-20 academic year, Bishop Robert Brennan celebrated a convocation Mass at the college for the incoming class of freshmen and transfer students. Also in attendance were the college’s students, faculty, staff, alumni representatives and members of the board of trustees.

The college’s new second degree accelerated program-hybrid allows busy working professionals to complete its second degree accelerated program (SDAP) on a part-time basis. Students with a bachelor’s degree in another discipline now may earn their BSN while continuing employment. Since the inception of the SDAP in 2007, 12 classes of students have taken their place in one of the fastest-growing, highest career opportunity fields available.

The college’s updated online doctor of nursing practice (DNP) program ensures graduates are equipped to stand apart as innovative experts in practice and health care. The revised program can be completed in 18 months and allows candidates to choose an elective specialization: leadership in advanced clinical practice, executive leadership in health care, or leadership in academic nursing. In addition, every graduate of the DNP program is eligible for national evidence-based practice certification. For more information, visit mccn.edu/DNP.

The college has received a four-year, $2 million federal grant for a new family nurse practitioner (FNP) residency program. Graduates of the master of science FNP program will partner with the Lower Lights Christian Health Center and the Maryhaven behavioral health center to receive training in a primary care community setting benefiting the medically underserved population.

The college’s journey to transformation continues. Even though it looks very different from last year, the changes on its Columbus campus all are physical in nature, with more classroom and green space. What has not changed is the college’s commitment to its mission and its continued attention to its strategic plan, which includes enhancements to program offerings for continual quality improvement, with an emphasis toward ensuring that graduates are well-prepared to answer their calling as professional registered nurses.

Nearly 1,000 students are enrolled in the fully accredited institution. Programs are offered at the Columbus campus and in Lancaster at Fairfield Medical Center. The college’s affiliation with Trinity Health nationally and the Mount Carmel Health System locally offers students innovative clinical learning opportunities at four hospitals and various ambulatory sites in central Ohio and beyond. For more information, call (614) 234-5800 or visit www.mccn.edu.

SUCCESS IN NURSING IS A MATTER OF DEGREE.

ARE YOU READY to become the professional nurse you’ve always wanted to be? Then Mount Carmel College of Nursing is ready for you. We’re a fully accredited nursing college with undergraduate and graduate programs, including online RN to BSN Completion and online Doctor of Nursing Practice. Mount Carmel College of Nursing will help you reach your goals for career success with a nursing degree that truly matters.
John Carroll receives Top 10 honors

John Carroll University has been selected as a top-10 institution in the Midwest for the 30th consecutive year by U.S. News & World Report. The institution, located in the Cleveland suburb of University Heights, also was recognized on the Kiplinger’s Personal Finance list of the 400 best college values for 2019.

This year, John Carroll’s athletics teams, known as the Blue Streaks, are celebrating the 100th anniversary of varsity sports on campus. The university has introduced a new visual identity for all of its teams, featuring a clean, refreshed look that recognizes the school’s heritage and tradition while modernizing the brand for the next generation of student-athletes.

Two new schools in the institution’s John M. and Mary Jo Boler College of Business have been named for generous donors, all of whom graduated from John Carroll in the 1980s. The Donnelly School of Leadership and Social Innovation was made possible through a gift from Susan C. and William P. Donnelly. A gift from Christine M. and Richard J. Kramer established the Kramer School of Accountancy and Information Sciences.

The business college has maintained its accreditation by AACSB International, the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. In addition, it retained dual AACSB accreditation in business and accounting, a distinction earned by only 12 percent of U.S. business schools.

Steven T. Herbert took over as provost and academic vice president in July. He had been associate provost for academic affairs, dean of the graduate school and professor of physics at Xavier University in Cincinnati, where he assisted in crafting and implementing the university’s current academic plan and was in charge of online programming and graduate enrollment.

The educator preparation program of John Carroll’s department of education and school psychology is one of 42 providers from 23 states and the District of Columbia to receive accreditation from the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation, the sole nationally recognized accrediting body for educator preparation.

John Carroll joined NEOLaunchNET, a regional initiative that seeks to inspire a culture of innovation on college and university campuses. JCU entrepreneurship students will benefit from a multitude of opportunities, including coaching, mentoring, special programming and more.

The university also became a founding partner of the Cleveland chapter of Say Yes to Education, a national nonprofit organization with the goal of making a college degree affordable and attainable for every public high school graduate. Through the partnership, graduates of Cleveland public high schools who meet requirements will have access to scholarships to John Carroll and other area institutions.

Thomas More blends mission and tradition

Thomas More University serves more than 2,000 students on its Crestview Hills, Kentucky, campus, located minutes from downtown Cincinnati. Inspired by Catholic intellectual tradition, TMU challenges students of all faiths to examine the ultimate meaning of life, their place in the world and their responsibility to others.

The university, operated by the Diocese of Covington, Kentucky, welcomes students of all faiths and offers a blend of mission and tradition. It is committed to providing a quality, values-based education at an affordable price. One hundred percent of traditional students receive institutional scholarships and/or financial aid.

A 16-to-1 student-to-faculty ratio ensures students receive support for a successful college experience and future career.

TMU offers more than 40 academic programs within the college of business, the college of arts and sciences, and the college of education and health sciences.

Qualified students who apply by Friday, Nov. 1 receive an additional $1,000 Saints Award. Apply online for free at thomasmore.edu/apply.
Catholic colleges ‘look beyond’ classwork, diploma

By Tim Puet
Catholic Times Reporter

With more than 5,000 colleges and universities in the United States from which to select, why choose a Catholic education?

“Catholic colleges and universities offer many advantages, but the best way to sum those up is to look beyond the experience of taking classes and obtaining a degree,” said Joyce Masek, executive director of the National Catholic College Admission Association (NCCAA), based in New Albany.

“Catholic colleges have a long tradition of academic excellence and are among the world’s most prestigious learning institutions.

“Beyond that, they provide a values-oriented learning environment focusing on the whole person and including a spiritual element that goes beyond the classroom.

“In doing so, they offer an experience that affects students for the rest of their lives.

“Our association has nearly 130 Catholic colleges and universities from across the nation and one in Ireland as members, and caring for the student is at the heart of everything they do.

“Some have service requirements, but for all of them, service to others is an important part of their mission.

“Catholic colleges are places where you can ask yourself deep questions about your spirituality, whether you’re Catholic or not, and where you can answer the call each one of us has to promote social justice.

“They provide a diverse range of options in terms of size – ranging from as many as 20,000 students to as few as 1,000 or less – location, and academic specialties. Each has distinctive strengths. It’s my association’s mission to help students find the Catholic school that fits them.”

Through its website, www.catholiccollegesonline.org, the NCCAA offers a one-stop location where students, parents and educators can learn basic information about each of the association’s members, then click on links to individual institutions or fill out online inquiry forms to discover more. Masek said about 1,500 visitors use this service each week.

Most of the nation’s Catholic institutions of higher learning are NCCAA members.

In Ohio, they include Ohio Dominican University, Franciscan University of Steubenville, John Carroll University and Ursuline College in suburban Cleveland, Mercy College in Toledo, Mount St. Joseph and Xavier universities in Cincinnati, the University of Dayton, and Walsh University in North Canton.

Masek said the association began in 1959 as an informal group of Catholic university admissions directors who got together to discuss common concerns and encourage each other.

It’s a nonprofit organization governed by a board of 15 representatives of member colleges from across the United States, including two counselors from Catholic secondary schools.

Masek is its only full-time employee and has a part-time administrative assistant, Kate Deye.

The association’s office is in New Albany because Masek and her husband, a professor at Ohio Dominican University, live in central Ohio with their two children.

She was hired by the NCCAA 10 years ago after responding to an advertisement for a successor to the previous executive director.

She has bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Boston College and previously worked in the admissions departments of Marquette University and Kenyon College. Before joining the NCCAA, she was on the staff of the Columbus School for Girls.

She said her organization and another group, the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, are separate, but work together in many areas.

“The ACCU is mainly an organization of college presidents and has a wider membership base,” she said.

“We deal specifically with the admissions and enrollment side and are always part of the ACCU’s annual meeting in Washington at the end of January and beginning of February.”

The CCAA also is part of the National Association for College Admission Counselors, which includes admissions staff from public and private institutions of higher learning across the United States.

The CCAA has its national membership meeting in conjunction with the larger group’s convention, which this year will take place at the end of this month in Louisville, Kentucky. More than 1,000 college, high schools and independent counselors are expected to attend the CCAA event.

September is a busy month for the organization because in addition to the national gathering, it sponsors recruitment programs at high schools in Texas and Puerto Rico this coming week for representatives from member schools. In February, it conducted a similar program for 10 days in Latin America.

These events have taken place since 2008 in Puerto Rico, 2009 in Latin America and 2014 in Texas.

“Those locations were chosen because of the large number of Catholic students and Catholic high schools in those areas,” Masek said.

“The program has been going on regularly every year, except for 2017 in Puerto Rico, when the visit was canceled because of Hurricane Maria.

“These programs allow our members to visit the types of schools and students they are looking for, and having a large group of colleges together in one place benefits everyone, especially the smaller institutions. Group travel also cuts down on expenses for the participating colleges.”

She said the Texas program is especially popular, with 38 colleges, the maximum number which could be accommodated, visiting Dallas, San Antonio and Austin from Sunday to Saturday, Sept. 8 to 13.

She also said the association is considering similar programs in other domestic and international areas.

“High school counselors are our most important partners,” she said.

“They are often the first touchpoint for students in the admissions process because of their understanding of how it works and what individual schools have to offer.

“Students can be overwhelmed by all the potential choices, and a good counselor will work with students and parents to make the process manageable. In addition, the association is considering adding counselors from Catholic high schools as association members in the future.

“As social media are becoming more important, we’re also becoming more involved in that area, working on a long-term plan so that we can talk directly and individually to students, parents and counselors.

“Kate is the primary person for that. We also are in the midst of revamping our website. By the end of the year, it will be more dynamic, with more school profiles, videos and other resources.”

Besides working with counselors in secondary schools, the NCCAA assists independent counselors who work outside of school settings to help students and families connect with...
Mass opens academic year at Pontifical College Josephinum

The Pontifical College Josephinum welcomed its vice chancellor, Columbus Bishop Robert Brennan, as principal celebrant for a Mass of the Holy Spirit on Sunday, Aug. 25. Seminarians, faculty, staff, and friends and family members gathered to pray for the blessings of the Holy Spirit on the new year of formation.

The 2019-2020 academic year is the first as rector-president of the Josephinum for Father Steven Besseau, a priest of the Archdiocese of Kansas City, Kansas, who was appointed to the position by the Congregation for Clergy in Rome, effective July 1.

Also new to the seminary are full-time faculty members Dr. Maria Barga; Father Ervens Mengelle, IVE, vice rector of the school of theology; and Father Michael Lumpe, vice rector of the college of liberal arts. Father Lumpe, a Josephinum graduate, is a former rector of Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral and current vicar for priests for the Diocese of Columbus.

Students are randomly selected for the award and must be spring high school graduates who are accepted and enroll at an NCCAA member institution in the fall.

“It’s not a huge scholarship, but it’s an easy one to apply for. Since it’s awarded in a random drawing, every applicant has an equal shot,” Masek said “This year, we had more than 3,200 applicants.”

Each year, the association commissions a research study to provide members with information to help them direct their enrollment and marketing strategies.

The key finding of one such study, titled Values That Matter, was that 92 percent of Catholic college alumni believe their Catholic higher education was a good investment.

Figures from a national college education database cited by the NCCAA and the ACCU show that 44 percent of freshmen entering Catholic colleges and universities graduated within four years, compared with 25 percent for public institutions.

When the time period expanded to six years, the figures were 57 and 42 percent respectively.

The data base also showed that student-to-faculty ratio at Catholic colleges was 12-to-1, compared with 18-to-1 for public institutions.

The student loan default rate for students of Catholic colleges was 7 percent – less than half that of their public counterparts.

The Catholic college retention rate for students was 77 percent, 9 percent higher than the national average, and 96 percent of full-time first-year Catholic colleges received some financial aid, averaging $16,852 per student.

“Parents and students don’t need to have ‘sticker shock’ when looking at college costs,” Masek said.

“Most colleges offer many types of aid because they don’t want lack of funds to prevent students from missing out on a well-rounded education. The Values That Matter study shows that Catholic college graduates think highly of their college experience and realize what a difference it has made in their lives. “Our member colleges want to provide that opportunity for everyone who desires it.”

DAYTON, continued from Page 7

sons they learn on and off the field,” he said. “I’m also fascinated with the business part of sports and how everything works, so sports management was a natural major for me.”

He is also treasurer of the university’s African Student Association and its Black Action Through Unity organization. Both are based at MEC, the university’s Multi-Ethnic Education and Engagement Center, which offers a variety of programs for minority students.

Dayton’s incoming Class of 2023 is expected to be among the largest and most academically gifted in university history, with more than 2,050 full-time first-year students from 41 states and 38 nations.

Sixteen percent of the first-year students are from under-represented racial and ethnic populations.

Additionally, a record number of students are eligible for the federal Pell Grant, a financial aid award for undergraduates who demonstrate economic need. Eighteen percent of the class are eligible for the Pell Grant – a modern record that is the result of the university’s focus on improving access for all students.

“In recent years, the university has championed a transparent tuition model, created new programs and pathways and been a leader in the national American Talent Initiative to expand access to an excellent education for students regardless of their income level,” said Jason Reinoehl, UD vice president for strategic enrollment management.

“This work is at the heart of everything we do as a Catholic, Marianist university dedicated to improving the common good. We look forward to welcoming this diverse class and helping them make their mark on the world.”
23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time

Make straight His paths

Wisdom 9:13–18b
Psalm 90:3–4, 5–6, 12–13, 14, 17
Philemon 9–10, 12–17
Luke 14:25–33

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

Father Timothy Hayes

God writes straight with crooked lines. He does not ask us to understand or to agree with Him. He asks us to do our best to be faithful and to follow His directions. Who can know God’s counsel, or who can conceive what the Lord intends?

God does ask us to weigh the consequences of the decision to follow Him and to be part of His Church, and He makes no secret of the fact that it is not an easy road. He wants our cooperation. He invites us to be disciples, that is, students ready to learn and willing to accept discipline—note the same root as the word “disciple”—the discipline that it requires to be obedient to Him and to follow His way.

To the disciples who claim to be “all in” with Him, Jesus gives the admonition, “Renounce your possessions.” Are we ready to do that? An exercise that some have done to determine what is important to them is to reflect upon and imagine a personal response to this situation: If you were in a burning building and you could take out one thing, what would that be? Or another: If you had to get rid of one item, what would that be?

Our material possessions take up space. When we give them away, we no longer have them. Our possessions really have a hold on us: Do we possess them or do they possess us? No one wants to be possessed by a demon. But how funny it is that we allow ourselves to be possessed by material things. To “renounce your possessions” does not necessarily mean getting rid of them, but, rather, removing our attachment to them, releasing ourselves from their hold on us.

Philemon lost a slave, Onesimus, and St. Paul sent him back after having baptized him as a Christian. Philemon himself was made aware of Christ by Paul, and now he is given a choice in freedom: Can you accept this former slave as a brother in Christ? This is a call to look at our relationships with those who are of service to us.

We don’t have the institution of slavery in our immediate world as the ancient world did, and yet it is very likely that anyone who lived then would not see much difference among us and them in regard to how we treat one another, especially those who give us acts of service we feel we are owed. There is often an attitude of “entitlement” in our expectations of one another.

We can be possessed by material things, by spiritual entities that fool us concerning our freedom (sin and deception about the nature of sin are the devil’s only real tools), and by our own way of seeing the world. We are called to let go of these things without making the mistake of being caught up in them once they are discovered. In other words, we have to let go of our attachment to our judgment of self.

In our time, each of us is free to come up with our own plans, and each individual is given the freedom to decide on a way of life. However, life does not always go as we have planned. We can make a mess of things. We are often very clever in our ability to create crooked journeys. God writes straight with crooked lines. No two paths to faith are the same. Can we also allow God to have His way in us, trusting in Him to put us on the right path? Are we willing to be disciples, as He calls us to be?

The Weekday Bible Readings

**Mondays**
Colossians 1:24-2:3
Psalm 62:6-7,9
Luke 6:6-11

**Tuesdays**
Colossians 2:6-15
Psalm 145:1b-2,8-11
Luke 6:12-19

**Wednesdays**
Colossians 3:1-11
Psalm 145:2-3,10-13b
Luke 6:20-26

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

Mass with the Passionist Fathers at 7:30 a.m. on WWHO-TV (the CW), Channel 53, Columbus, and 10:30 a.m. on WHIZ-TV, Channel 18, Zanesville.

Mass from Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, Birmingham, Ala., at 8 a.m. on EWTN (Spectrum Channel 385, Insight Channel 382, or WOW)

Channel 378. (Encores at noon, 7 p.m., and midnight).

Mass from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee at 6:30 a.m. on ION TV (AT&T U-verse Channel 195, Dish Network Channel 250, or DirecTV Channel 305).

Mass from Massillon St. Mary Church at 10:30 a.m. on WLBN radio (AM 1060, FM 94.5 and 89.5), Canton, heard in Tuscarawas, Holmes, and Coshocton counties.

Daily Mass
8 a.m., Our Lady of the Angels Monastery in Birmingham, Ala. (Encores at noon, 7 p.m. and midnight).

Mass from the Archdiocese of Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com.

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

Task Force, continued from Page 3

to the opportunity to build on what is already in place so that our diocese can serve those who are suffering with the deepest of compassion, as well as improving the ways we strive to assure the safety of children and young people.”

Among the task force initiatives will be a review of methods of outreach to the Church as a whole and to survivors of all abuse, families of survivors and accused clergy, the faithful in the pews, falsely accused clergy, and anyone estranged or alienated from the Church because of the crisis.

The diocese remains committed to maintaining a safe environment for all people. Anyone with claims of abuse by clergy or Church personnel should contact law enforcement immediately and call the diocese’s Victim Assistance Coordinator at (614) 224-2251 or (866) 448-0217, or email help4victims@columbuscatholic.org.
WEIGEL, continued from Page 6

version because it nicely delineates the man’s character: morally unambiguous, brave and loyal, a “man for others” in the parlance of a later generation of universities in the Jesuit tradition. Those same qualities made Marchetti one of the two centerpieces, along with the immortal John Unitas, of the great Baltimore Colts teams of the late 1950s and early 1960s. That, on Dec. 28, 1958, in frozen Yankee Stadium, the Colts beat the New York Giants in the first sudden-death championship game in NFL history, thereby embedding the NFL in the nation’s sport consciousness, is well-enough remembered. What’s not so well-remembered, except among Baltimore natives of a certain vintage, is that Gino Marchetti was the reason there was a sudden-death overtime.

Late in the fourth quarter, the Giants were leading when Frank Gifford ran a third-down sweep. Marchetti fought off blockers and stopped Gifford inches short of the first down that would have clinched the game for the New Yorkers. In the pileup, though, Colts tackle “Big Daddy” Lipscomb landed on Marchetti’s leg, and Gino’s ankle snapped. “I never hurt so bad in my life,” he told a reporter. But the Colts’ captain insisted on staying on the field’s perimeter, lying on a stretcher under a blanket, as his team tied the score. Asked years later if he’d cried from the pain, he said, “I would have, except I was Gino Marchetti.”

Those Colts, like baseball’s Brooklyn Dodgers, experienced their racial tensions. Yet like the Dodgers, they also modeled teamwork based on the content of a man’s character, not his complexion. How did that happen in a segregated city in an era of segregation? What held them together, Hall of Fame halfback Lenny Moore said years later, was “something inside Gino Marchetti.”

RIP, Number 89.

Sister Marina Matracia, OSF

Funeral Mass for Sister Marina Matracia, OSF, 98, who died Wednesday, Aug. 28, was celebrated Saturday, Aug. 31 at the chapel of the Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity in Stella Niagara, New York. Burial was at the sisters’ cemetery.

She was born Anna Matracia on Dec. 12, 1920 in Buffalo, New York, to Anthony and Catherine (Capone) Matracia.

She graduated from Hutchinson Central High School in Buffalo in 1939 and received a bachelor of science degree in education in 1948 from Mount St. Joseph Teacher’s College in Buffalo.

She entered the Stella Niagara Franciscan order on Sept. 7, 1939 and professed her first vows on Aug. 18, 1941 and her final vows on Aug. 19, 1944.

In the diocese of Columbus, she was a teacher at Columbus St. John (1948-51) and St. Anthony (1965-67) schools.

She also taught at schools in New York, New Jersey and West Virginia. After her teaching career ended in 1983, she served in pastoral care in New Jersey and as a cook, librarian, classroom aide and dining hall staff member in the Buffalo area. Following retirement in 2005, she continued to do volunteer work in that region until 2013, when she became a resident of the Stella Niagara Health Center.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Vincent and Myron; and sisters, Catherine Tornesella, Josephine Barbuto and Marie Duggan. Survivors include many nieces and nephews.

FULL-TIME SECRETARY POSITION AVAILABLE

St. Andrew Parish is searching for a qualified individual to serve as the full-time Secretary for 37.5 hours per week. The individual applying for this position should have a high school education with some completed college work and a minimum of one year prior experience in an office setting.

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to: Greet visitors, answer multiple incoming phone lines in a timely manner, prepare weekly parish bulletin and petitions for Sunday Masses, enter weekly offertory contributions into parishioner’s record, coordinates the scheduling of various liturgical ministries, maintain an up to date parish census, including updates to and from the Diocesan Census, maintain sacramental records, including preparation of permission forms and sacramental certificates, and other typical office responsibilities.

Qualifications for this position include the ability to prioritize and remain flexible with schedule and office demands, ability to multi-task with multiple phone lines and visitors, good organizational skills, ability to communicate effectively and project a positive image, and ability to exercise discretion with confidential matters. Applicant must also have a working knowledge of computer software required to do the job, including Microsoft Office programs. Knowledge of the Catholic Church and its faith and mission is required.

Job offer is contingent on the successful passing of the mandatory background screening and completion of the VIRTUS “Protecting God’s Children” course. Compensation is commensurate with candidate’s education and experience. All benefits are according to Diocesan policy.

Send cover letter, resume, salary requirement and references by Friday, September 20, 2019 to Ann Whiteman, Parish Business Administrator at awhiteman@standrew-parish.cc.
First Saturday Devotion at St. Joan of Arc 8:30 a.m., St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, Powell. Mass, followed by rosary in reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, concluding with Fatima prayers.

Mary’s Little Children Prayer Group Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. 8:30 a.m., confessions, 9 a.m., Mass, followed by Fatima prayer 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

Tuscarawas County Walk for Life 9:30 a.m. Sacred Heart Church, 139 3rd St. N.E., New Philadelphia. Eighth annual Tuscarawas County Walk for Life, from church to county courthouse, with Bishop Robert Brennan as featured speaker at courthouse rally. 330-343-6976

Fatima Talk at Upper Arlington Library 10 a.m., Friends Theater, Upper Arlington Public Library, 1900 Trenton Road, Upper Arlington. Columbus St. Patrick Church Frassati Society young adult group attends fatima talk on Our Lady of Fatima, preceded by 9 a.m. Mass at St. Andrew Church, 1899 McCoy Road, Columbus. 614-294-9522

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

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

8, SUNDAY St. Mark’s 60th Anniversary Mass, Picnic 10:30 a.m., St. Mark Church, 324 Gay St., Lancaster. Parish celebrates 60th anniversary with outdoor Mass and family picnic. 740-653-1229

Waterson Athletic Hall of Fame Induction 11:45 a.m., Chapel, Bishop Watterson High School, 99 E. Cooke Road, Columbus. Brunch honoring six new members of school’s athletic hall of fame, followed by brunch at 1 p.m. in diocesan Hall. Tickets $30 individual, $210 for table of eight. 614-268-8671

Catholic Record Society Quarterly Meeting 1 p.m., St. Theresa’s Retreat Center, 5271 E. Broad St., Columbus. Catholic Record Society quarterly meeting, with Father Kevin Lutz, founder of the Jubilee Museum of Columbus, speaking about its treasures, followed by short business meeting. Lunch available; cost $10 in advance. 614-268-4166

Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic Meeting 1:30 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Meeting of St. Catherine of Siena chapter, Lay Fraternities of St. Dominic.

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 praise, worship, ministry and teaching. 614-886-9266

Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter 5 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6895 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish, with confessions in Spanish from 4 to 4:30 p.m. 614-294-7702

Catholic Conversations Series 6 to 8 p.m. in the Little Chapel at the Columbus St. Peter Church, 1899 McCoy Road, Columbus. Monthly Catholic Conversations series for anyone 21 and older, sponsored by Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona Church. Speaker: Father Kevin Lutz. Topic: “How will the Church Survive Today’s Climate?” Contact Julie Naparono at julienaparono1@gmail.com.

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

9, MONDAY Aquinas Alumni Luncheon 11 a.m., TAT Ristorante di Famiglia, 1212 S. James Road, Columbus. Monthly meeting of the Calix Society, a Catholic and pro-life charities. 614-866-2859

Lancer Theology on Tap 7 p.m., Bob’s Backyard BBQ, 157 W. Main St., Lancaster. Monthly meeting of Theology on Tap discussion group for anyone ages 18 to 39. Contact Cindy Goss at cynthia.goss@outlook.com.

10, TUESDAY Eucharistic Adoration at Bethesda 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Bethesda Healing Ministry, 2744 Dover Road, Columbus. Monthly Eucharistic Adoration in chapel.

Calix Society Meeting 6 p.m., Panera restaurant, 4519 N. High St., Columbus. Monthly meeting of the Calix Society, an association of Catholic alcoholics. Preceded by 5:30 p.m. Mass at Our Lady of Peace Church, across street from meeting site.

Rosary for Life at St. Joan of Arc 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.

Bishop Brennan on Prison, Re-Entry Ministry 6:30 p.m., Immaculate Conception Church, 414 E. North Broadway, Columbus. Evening Prayer and informal conversation with Bishop Robert Brennan on jail, prison and re-entry ministry, sponsored by diocesan Office for Social Concerns. 614-241-2540

EnCourage Ministry Monthly Meeting 6:30 p.m., EnCourage, an approved diocesan ministry for families of people who experience same-sex attraction. Confidentiality is maintained. Call for site. 614-296-7404

Abortion Recovery Network Group 7 p.m., Pregnancy Decision Health Center, 665 E. Dublin-Granville Road, Columbus. Abortion recovery network group meeting for anyone interested in recovering from abortion or who has been through a recovery program, and wants to stay connected. 614-721-2100

11, WEDNESDAY Center for Dominican Studies Series Noon to 12:30 p.m., St. Catharine of Siena Room, Erskine Hall, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Lecture by Sister Diane Trafas, OP, on “The Dominican Call: To Be Authentic.” “First talk in Center for Dominican Studies monthly series on Truth.” Lunch provided; call for seating. 614-251-4722

Turning Leaves and Tea Leaves 2 to 3:30 p.m., Martin de Porres Center, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus. Turning Leaves and Tea Leaves book club with Dominican Sisters MarieAnn Anzenberger and Colleen Gallagher. 614-416-1910

Blue Mass at St. Timothy 6:30 p.m., St. Timothy Church, 1088 Thomas Lane, Columbus. Annual Blue Mass for law enforcement and first responder personnel. 614-451-2671

Divine Mercy Chaplet at St. Pius X 6 p.m., St. Pius X Church, 1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg. Recital of Chaplet of Divine Mercy. 614-866-2859

11-14, WEDNESDAY-SATURDAY Three Bags Full Consignment Sale 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. Friday. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday (selected items half-price Friday night and Saturday). The Grove, 3600 Blacklick East, Columbus, OH 43219. Member of national YCP board of directors and founding partner of 5, an Irving, Texas-based energy services firm, talks at Young Catholic Professionals organization’s monthly executive meeting. Information at www.ycp Columbus.org.

12, THURSDAY Catholic Business Leaders Group 5 to 7 p.m., Board Room, The Catholic Foundation, 257 E. Broad St., Columbus. Second meeting of foundation’s new Catholic business leaders group, with theme of “Balancing Your Business and Philanthropy – It’s Possible!” Speakers: John Igel, president, George J. Igel & Co., Inc.; Luconda Sager, president, Velvet Ice Cream Co., and Marc Hawk, chief executive officer, RevLocal. 1-866-298-8893

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.

Marian Dinner at Brye Eck Center 6:30 p.m., Brye Eck Center, St. Andrew Church, 3880 Reed Road, Columbus. Annual Marian Dinner for women, sponsored by diocesan Vocations Office, attended by representatives of religious orders and laity interested in discernment by Bishop Robert Brennan and featured speaker Sister Maria Gemma Salver, OSF. 614-224-2251
Lancaster St. Bernadette School students had their backpacks and book bags blessed by Father Ty Tomson, St. Bernadette Church pastor, in what has become a tradition of the school on the first day of classes. Each student was given a backpack tag with a prayer for successful learning and safe travel.

St. Bernadette backpack blessing

Columbus Bishop Hartley High School dedicated its new Doug Blubaugh Wrestling Facility with a blessing by Msgr. David Funk. The training center honors 1960 Olympic champion wrestler Douglas Morlan Blubaugh, who was an inspiration to 1980 Hartley graduate Kevin Walsh. The principal donors for the facility were Walsh, his wife, Connie, and their family. Walsh said they wanted to praise a man known for his humility and honor a wrestling program which shows great passion and dedication. Members of the Walsh family are pictured with Hartley wrestling coach Kevin Petrella (far right).

Hartley dedicates wrestling facility

Almost 90 men gathered at Mattingly Settlement St. Mary Church on Saturday, Aug. 24 for the inaugural retreat sponsored by Men of the East, an organization of men from the 12 parishes in Knox, Licking and Muskingum counties. The day included talks, lunch, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It ended with Mass for the Feast of St. Bartholomew, celebrated by Bishop Brennan. The talks were given by Deacon Bob Ghiloni, Deacon Doug Mould, and Kevin McNamara of the My House Columbus anti-pornography initiative. Pictured in procession at Mass are (from left): Father Donald Franks, St. Mary pastor, Bishop Brennan and Deacon Mould.

Men of the East retreat

Columbus St. Anthony School fourth-grade students (from left) Dami Olubowale, Evie Sabo, Maddox Traver and Mwalimu Mjomba are pictured at the annual St. Anthony Church corn roast, which included food, rides, games, and live music from St. Anthony graduate and Columbus St. Francis DeSales High School junior Skyla Blumensheid.

Students enjoy corn roast

Five New Lexington St. Rose School students participated in the State Science Fair at Ohio State University. They are (from left): kneeling, Clara Baker and Hannah Sheets; standing, Reece Hagy, Lucy Watkins and Elle Mitchell. Baker, Sheets, Hagy and Mitchell earned superior ratings, with Mitchell’s project, on cost-effectiveness of various paper towel brands, receiving a perfect score of 40 and advancing to the Masters National Science Competition. St. Rose was one of 12 schools receiving the Harold C. Shaw Outstanding School Award at the state event because it had at least four qualifiers, all of whom were in attendance and 80 percent or more of whom earned superior ratings. The five state qualifiers were among 18 from the school who earned superior ratings in district competition, out of 36 participants in the school science fair.

St. Rose State Science Fair participants
Conference to focus on young adults

The Diocese of Columbus is becoming more involved in young adult ministry through its Young Catholic Professionals organization and Theology on Tap events. But until now, it has not sponsored a conference designed specifically for young adults.

The inaugural Columbus Catholic Young Adult Conference is designed to fill this need for college students, young professionals and new families. It will take place Saturday, Oct. 12 at Sunbury St. John Neumann Church, 9633 E. State Route 37.

A planning committee from several parishes and three colleges is putting together a program by young adults for young adults. It will feature a mix of nationally recognized speakers, such as Mary Bielski and Father Nathan Cronly, and representatives from throughout the diocese.

For more information, including an agenda, speaker biographies and registration, go to https://colscatholic-youngadultconf.weebly.com.

Blue Mass to be celebrated

Columbus St. Timothy Church, 1088 Thomas Lane, and Knights of Columbus Council 14345 will host the diocese’s annual Blue Mass at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 11. Bishop Robert Brennan will be the celebrant and homilist.

The Mass is an opportunity to honor and pray for all active, retired and deceased police, firefighters and emergency medical service personnel. It also is an occasion to remember the 2,973 people who died in the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. All active and retired police, fire and emergency medical service personnel in the greater Columbus area and their families are invited.

The Blue Mass dates back to 1934 in Washington, where it was initiated by Father Thomas Dade and the Washington Catholic Police and Firemen’s Society. It has been a longtime tradition in the northeast United States, and spread nationwide after the events of Sept. 11, 2001. Its name evolved from the mainly blue uniforms of police, firefighters and emergency personnel.

Marian Dinner scheduled for Sept. 12 at St. Andrew

Sister Maria Gemma Salyer, OSF, a native of Newark, and Bishop Robert Brennan will be the featured speakers at the annual diocesan Marian Dinner for women. The event will take place at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 12 at the Bryce Eck Activity Center of Columbus St. Andrew Church, 3880 Reed Road.

Women, especially those in high school, are welcome to attend with their pastors, clergy, members of religious communities, and other people of the diocese for an evening of prayer, food, friendship, learning and discerning about vocations.

St. Maria Gemma is a graduate of Newark Catholic High School and earned a bachelor’s degree in theology from Ohio Dominican University. She then entered the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration in Mishawaka, Indiana, and professed her perpetual vows in 2014. She has been involved in various ministries, including as a high-school theology teacher and in vocations ministry. She currently serves at the University of St. Francis in Fort Wayne and is pursuing a doctorate in higher education administration.

For more information, contact Julie Greer at the diocesan Chancery at (614) 224-2251 or jgreer@columbus-catholic.org.

DivorceCare group meets at St. Matthew

Gahanna St. Matthew Church, 807 Havens Corners Road, will host a 13-week DivorceCare support group from 7 to 9 p.m. on Wednesdays from Sept. 18 to Dec. 18 in its St. Michael Room.

DivorceCare is a friendly, caring group which will walk alongside people affected by divorce as they go through one of life’s most difficult experiences. The 13-week program includes a video series featuring several accounts from individuals on how divorce affected their lives. The program contains material from many acclaimed counselors, doctors and clergy on dealing with divorce and its recovery.

There is a one-time charge of $30, which includes the workbook. For more information, contact Mike Workman at (614) 517-8408.

St. Pius offers women’s retreat

Reynoldsburg St. Pius X Church will present its annual women’s retreat at St. Therese’s Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus, from Friday to Sunday, Sept. 20 to 22.

The retreat theme is “Don’t Worry – Be Happy: Finding Joy In Surrender.” A team of parishioners will present the retreat and explore the “give it to God” mantra of surrendering ourselves to the Lord and casting all of our worries into God’s hands.

The program will include small- and large-group discussion, witness talks, confession, Adoration and Mass.

The cost for the retreat is $115 and includes two nights lodging, four meals and all materials. For those not wishing to stay overnight, the cost is $50. The registration deadline is Monday, Sept. 16.
LOCAL NEWS, continued from Page 19

To register, call Leah Kelly at (614) 866-2859.

Ohio Dominican to honor alumni

Ohio Dominican University will recognize three graduates with its Distinguished Alumni Awards during homecoming weekend. Awards will be presented at a banquet at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 21, in the Colonial Room of Sansbury Hall on ODU’s campus, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus.

Honorees are Theresa A. Holleran, who graduated in 1975; Thomas Winters, a 1972 graduate; and Karen Days, who was awarded a master of business administration degree in 2009.

The awards were established in 1980 in recognition of graduates who demonstrate a commitment to serving others in a global society as an ethical and effective leader and are grounded in the pursuit of truth, justice and peace.

Holleran has served in several roles since returning to Ohio Dominican in 1986, including director of academic computing; chair of the division of mathematics, computer and natural sciences; vice president for academic affairs, and professor of computer science. Most of her academic research and interest is related to the use of current technologies to improve learning.

Winters, an attorney, is a member and immediate past chair of the board of directors of Catholic Social Services for the Diocese of Columbus. He has served on the ODU board of trustees since 2003 and is a former member and chair of the board of Shawnee State University, and was appointed in 2013 to the State Racing Commission.

Days is vice president for corporate and community health relations at Nationwide Children’s Hospital. She also has been president of the Columbus Coalition Against Family Violence and The Center for Family Safety and Healing, and worked for 10 years in criminal justice.

Center for Dominican Studies sets lecture series for 2019-20

Ohio Dominican’s Center for Dominican Studies will present a series of lectures that focuses on the university’s theme for the 2019-20 academic year: truth. The series, “The Dominican Call: To Be Authentic,” will feature eight lectures, each by a member of the Dominican Sisters of Peace.

The presentations will take place on Wednesdays from noon to 12:30 p.m. in the St. Catherine of Siena Room of Erskine Hall on ODU’s campus at 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Lunch will be provided.

To reserve a seat, contact Sister Diane Traffas, OP, at traffasd@ohiodominican.edu or (614) 251-4722.

The presentations will take place on Wednesdays from noon to 12:30 p.m. in the St. Catherine of Siena Room of Erskine Hall on ODU’s campus at 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus. Lunch will be provided.

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