



DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

CATHOLIC TIMES

A journal of Catholic life in Ohio



DECEMBER 23, 2012
THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
VOLUME 62:12
WWW.CTONLINE.ORG





My dear friends in Christ,

As we make our final preparations for the celebration of the great feast of the Nativity of Our Lord, life can seem hectic and unfocused. There is still a wonderful amount of expectation and joy even in the rush, but in the world around, there are events and situations that worry and sadden us. We hail the newborn child in Bethlehem as the Prince of Peace and long for His reign to be manifested throughout the world. Our desire to make the Kingdom of Christ a reality gives our songs and sentiments of this season an important urgency. For we understand that, in spite of all that may worry us, the message of Christmas remains one of joy and wonder.

In the birth of Jesus Christ, the love of God has taken on our human flesh and our human reality. In becoming like us, the Lord offers the invitation to become like Him. We are to be drawn up into the very life of the Blessed Trinity. No earthly event is ever the final word about our lives. The Lord Who appeared so humbly and quietly in Bethlehem some 2,000 years ago, and Who is still with us in His word and sacraments, will appear again in majesty and awe. For our part, we are called by the incarnate Lord now to make the gift and promise of Christmas a yearlong reality and to work, in our own time and place, in whatever small way possible, to touch the lives of others with the peace of God.

I wish all of you a happy and blessed Christmas.

*Most Reverend Frederick F. Campbell, DD, PhD
Bishop of Columbus*






Merry Christmas

from all of us at Catholic Times!

Alexandra Dave Jodie Steve Tim

The Times will be taking a week off for Christmas, so there will be no issue next week. We'll be back with more on Jan. 6, 2013.



Front Page photo:

Columbus Holy Cross Church, decorated for the Christmas Eve Mass celebrated on Dec. 24, 2011.

CT photo by Jack Kustron

CATHOLIC TIMES

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Postmaster: Send address changes to Catholic Times, 197 E. Gay St., Columbus, Ohio 43215. Please allow two to four weeks for change of address.

THE DATING OF CHRISTMAS

By Jake Tawney

As we approach the Solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord, periodicals both secular and religious attempt the task of explaining how it came that Christmas landed on the 25th of December. It is always amazing how theories which have been sufficiently debunked continue to persist in popular myth. Such is the case with the dating of Christ's birth. The popular myth is that the date was a Christian response to a pagan Roman festival honoring Mithras, the "unconquered sun god."

In his book "The Spirit of the Liturgy," Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger argues against this myth and instead demonstrates that the decisive factor involved in dating the birth of Christ was the connection to Creation, Cross, and Christ's conception.

The whole story begins not with Dec. 25, but rather with March 25. The African ecclesiastical author Tertullian (c. 150 – c. 207) discussed a well-known tradition that Christ suffered death on March 25, a day that was also associated with the creation of the world. March 25 was taken as the spring equinox (which we now know to be off by a few days), and hence the date after which light definitively conquers darkness. For the same reason, March 25 also was taken as the day of the New Creation (the Incarnation or Annunciation) as well as Christ's Passion. In each of these events, there is an element of light overcoming darkness.

Therefore, the key date is March 25. It is from this historical development, and not that of the Mithras myth, that Christ's birth is dated Dec. 25. The dating

of the Annunciation comes first. Christmas subsequently is placed nine months after March 25.

St. Thomas Aquinas, quoting a fifth-century source, reiterates the dates of both March 25 and Dec. 25, as well as their cosmic significance. Aquinas points to Scripture's placing of the Annunciation in the sixth month of John the Baptist's conception. He understands the "sixth month" to be March, with the day being the 25th. Like Tertullian, he then places Christmas nine months later, on the 25th day of December. The former occurs on the vernal equinox, the latter on the winter solstice. On the vernal equinox, the light overtakes the darkness, a cosmic event that reflects the Incarnation. On the winter solstice, we encounter the height of darkness and the moment when light turns from a period of decrease to a period of increase. This too is fully appropriate for the birth of the one Who lightens the world and all of humanity.

St. Jerome also comes out in support of these ideas: "Even creation approves of our preaching. The universe itself bears witness to the truth of our words. Up to this day (Dec. 25, the approximate date of the winter solstice), the dark days increase, but from this day the darkness decreases. ... The light advances, while the night retreats."

Finally, Ratzinger discusses another important cosmic event: the summer solstice. "Between the two dates of March 25 and December 25 comes the feast of the Forerunner, St. John the Baptist, on June 24, at the time of the summer solstice. The link between



the dates can now be seen as a liturgical and cosmic expression of the Baptist's words: 'He (Christ) must increase, but I must decrease' (John 3:30). The birthday of St. John the Baptist takes place on the date when the days begin to shorten, just as the birthday of Christ takes place when they begin to lengthen."

Ratzinger, now Pope Benedict XVI, has long been trying to recover the cosmic significance of the Sacred Liturgy. The dating of Christmas is one of many profound insights in his magnificent work, "The Spirit of the Liturgy." Certainly, the text would provide a valuable Christmas reflection.

Jake Tawney is a husband and father of six. He and his family are members of Delaware St. Mary Church. In his spare time, he writes for the website Roma Locuta Est.

On His birthday, give Jesus what He wants

By Leandro M. Tapay

Have you noticed it? Nowadays, we tend to glamorize the manger scene. But is that realistic? We tend to make our mangers nice with bright lights and beautiful decorations. But the manger where baby Jesus was born was filthy. It was dirty. The shepherds were not well-dressed people, such as we see at weddings or at the Polaris or Easton shopping centers. Shepherds were rough and uneducated people. They smelled like sheep. They did not have the opportunity to take showers or change clothes as often as we do. Polite society shunned them.

I am not suggesting for you to put animal urine and manure on the Nativity scene in your living room. I am just offering a thought to ponder to recapture the true message of the manger in Bethlehem.

In spite of its filthiness, Christ still was willing to go in the midst of it. The message of the dirty manger is that even when the condition of our life is not perfect because of our greed, violent attitude, anger, jealousy, or lust, Jesus is still willing to be born in our hearts as He was in the manger. We don't need to stay away from Jesus because we think that Jesus would not have anything to do with the mess in our lives. Don't you get it? That is the whole point. He wants to be in the very midst of the mess of our life. He became a

man to clean up our mess.

God is willing to be in the very midst of the dirty mess of our life. He wants to be in the midst of it every day. He wants to be the center of our lives as He is the center of the Nativity scene. He wants to meet us right where we are.

To make Christ the center of our life as He is the center of the Nativity scene, we must say "Yes" to God's will as Mary did. Think about it ... if Mary did not say "Yes," there would have been no Christmas – no salvation. When Mary was confronted with the will of God, she put her own will aside and said "Yes" to the will of the Father. And because she said "Yes," salvation came to the world. So it will be for us.

When you say "Yes" to Christ, you will never be alone any more. You will belong to the family of God. We will belong to each other forever. You will belong to a community of love. Look at the manger scene. When He came to earth, He was not alone. Many people came to be with Him. And what He wants all of us to do is not to follow Him alone, but to follow Him as a community. It is said that the place of the damned is an eternal aloneness because there is no community there. The damned cannot communicate with each other.

God left heaven to become man because He loves us – to become one of us. And what we have to do is

desire to become one with each other and become a family. A family is what God came to create.

What God wants of you is a relationship with Him. When you are in a relationship of love with somebody, you want to be with that person. So when you receive holy Communion, look at God and say "Yes, Lord, I want you to be in my life. Yes, Lord, I want you to be born in my life and I want you to be in my life every day."

God gives us His ultimate gift – His own life. What you and I have to do to participate in this ultimate gift is to give ourselves to Him – to totally surrender ourselves to Him in love. To participate in God's life is to say "yes" to God's will as Mary did – to let Him be born in the filthy manger of our life.

Would you give the ultimate gift of your life for the ultimate gift of God's life? This opportunity comes to us at holy Communion. When Jesus comes to you at holy Communion, make sure to say "Jesus, today is your birthday. What do you want?" And Jesus will look at you and me and He will say "What I want is you!"

On His birthday, give Jesus what He wants. Give Him yourself!

Leandro Tapay is director of the Missions Office of the Diocese of Columbus.

ALL SCRIPTURE HERALDS GOOD NEWS OF CHRIST

This is the second column in a 14-part series.

BY CLIFFORD M. YEARY
Associate Director

Little Rock Scripture Study

This Year of Faith calls us to enrich our faith in Christ. By no coincidence, the Year of Faith comes to us upon the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council, a council dedicated to the renewal of the Church and our Christian witness in the context of the modern world. The vision for renewal is clearly found in the 16 documents of Vatican II, and the riches of our faith are explored in depth in the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

It is in Sacred Scripture, however, that the deepest roots of faith always will draw from the wellspring of new life in Christ. In the Book of Acts, in the testimony of Stephen, our faith's first martyr, we discover something of the biblical panorama awaiting those who turn to Scripture as part of a biblical year of faith (Acts 6:8-7:60).

Stephen is one of seven Greek-speaking Jewish followers of Christ whom the apostles set aside as special ministers to the Greek-speaking widows of the community. In theory, the service of these new "deacons" would free up time for the apostles to preach and teach (Acts 6:1-6). From Stephen's example, however, and Phillip's as well (Acts 8:4-8, 26-40), we quickly realize that they are as vigorous preachers, teachers, and healers as the apostles themselves.

When false witnesses press charges of blasphemy against Stephen before the Sanhedrin — the same religious court that heard charges against Jesus — Stephen answers the charges by summarizing the religious experience of the Jewish people. Filled with the Holy Spirit, he retells, in effect, the story of the Old Testament.

Stephen is a faith-filled witness to the new life he experiences in Christ. Deeply familiar with Sacred Scripture, he knows his faith is greater than life itself.

At this point in Acts, the followers of Jesus are not even called Christians yet. Outsiders refer to them as Nazoreans (Acts 24:5), and they probably referred to themselves as followers of "the Way" (Acts 9:1-2). They have no Bible other than the same Sacred Scriptures revered by other Jewish people. But they are firm in their belief that these Scriptures (which we now refer to as the Old Testament) point to Christ in everything they teach.



Stephen, however, nowhere actually quotes Scripture. His familiarity with Scripture, combined with his faith in Christ and his faithfulness to the apostles' teaching, enables him to interpret Scripture. Beginning with Abraham and highlighting the faithfulness of the patriarchs, Moses, Joshua, David, Solomon, and the prophets, he presents an understanding of Scripture that ascribes faithlessness to those who are charging Stephen with blasphemy.

It would be an understatement to say Stephen's interpretation of Israel's story of faith was shocking to his audience. They respond by stoning him to death. Stephen's killers knew Scripture quite well. Even Saul of Tarsus (the future Apostle Paul), who was a well-schooled rabbi, is in complete agreement with Stephen's killing. What these pious men couldn't believe was that their ancient record of faith could be pointing them to a new dimension of belief, a new focus for their faith, in their present moment.

The new dimension of faith that Stephen finds in Scripture is its capacity to proclaim Jesus of Nazareth as Messiah (Christ) and Lord. His ability to understand Scripture in this fashion is something Luke (the author of Acts) ascribes with certainty to Jesus himself as its source (Luke 24:44-46). It was Jesus who opened the minds of the apostles to understand Scripture.

This gift has never been lost to the Church, but it is also one that requires exercising through faithful study. God's word has the power to speak to the very depths of our souls. Delving deeply into both the Old and New Testaments during this Year of Faith will build our faith for years to come.

As Pope Benedict XVI stated in "Verbum Domini": "I wish to encourage all the people of God, pastors, consecrated persons, and the laity, to become increasingly familiar with the Sacred Scriptures. We must never forget that all authentic and living Christian spirituality is based on the word of God proclaimed, accepted, celebrated and meditated upon in the Church."

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Addressing spiritual arrogance; how churches get their names



QUESTION & ANSWER

by: FATHER KENNETH DOYLE
Catholic News Service

Q. I have not made a Cursillo myself, but I have the impression that it is an intensive study in a retreat-type atmosphere from which an individual should come away with a more intimate relationship with God and a deeper desire to be more Christlike.

In our parish, though, there is a group that makes just about every Cursillo in the area, and they project an attitude of being "better than" the rest of us who have not attended. Rather than seeming more Christlike, they resemble a clique from junior high school days, with them being the "cool kids." Our pastor just seems to encourage them. I don't think that he sees the divisive nature of their actions. What advice can you offer? (Missouri)

A. First, some background for those unfamiliar with the Cursillo movement. A Cursillo is a "short course" in Christianity, offered usually over a three-day weekend. It was started by laymen in Spain in the 1940s, became popular in the United States in the 1960s, and is now a worldwide movement. Its goal is that, by reviewing the fundamentals of Christianity in a retreat-like atmosphere, people might be energized to deepen their friendship with Christ and their commitment to others.

Successes from the Cursillo weekend can be well-documented. It has been, for many, a positive and even life-changing experience to hear other laypeople

embrace their faith and testify to its value.

There are also regular follow-up meetings (called "ultreyas") to share experiences in applying faith to daily life. And when new people make the weekend, they often receive letters from Cursillo "veterans" supporting them with the promise of prayers.

As with alumni of any common experience (college fraternity, seminary training, etc.), camaraderie is natural and often endures. However, built in through consistent reminders in Cursillo literature is the caution to avoid "spiritual arrogance," to reject an "us and them" attitude that might suggest that a Cursillo is the only road to holiness.

The goal always is for the Cursillo graduate to become a leaven in the wider Christian community. If that is not happening in your parish, why not talk to your pastor directly about your concerns over the "divisiveness"?

Perhaps he could address the issue by speaking to the Cursillistas, explaining why the energy that flows out of the Cursillo experience can sometimes be misunderstood.

Q. Our Marian study club has a question for you. How do Catholic churches get their names? Who picks them out? (Belle Plaine, Iowa)

A. Canon law gives a wide latitude in the naming of Catholic churches, requiring simply

that they be named after: the Trinity; Jesus, under a title or mystery of his life; the Holy Spirit; Mary; the angels; a canonized saint; or, with Vatican permission, someone who has been beatified.

Since it is a bishop's prerogative to establish parishes and churches, it is also his right to name them. Lately, however, more and more deference has been given to the input of parishioners -- especially in the case of the merger of parishes. The parish where I am stationed may serve as an example.

Four years ago, because of demographic shifts, a neighboring church was scheduled to close and merge with ours to create a new parish. A committee of representatives from both churches was formed to assist with the merger. At the top of that committee's agenda was the consideration of a name for the new parish.

The committee made the decision that, rather than try to combine both former names into a hybrid title, a new name would indicate more clearly that the combined parish was a fresh enterprise, with all parishioners starting off on equal footing.

After study and discussion, the committee listed about a dozen possible names, and parishioners at both churches were polled. The three leading names from that vote were then submitted to the bishop, along with the vote tally, and the bishop ratified our parishioners' top choice.

Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at askfatherdoyle@gmail.com and 40 Hopewell St., Albany, N.Y. 12208.

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BISHOP READY SPORTS TEAMS SHINE

The recently completed fall sports season was a very successful one for two Columbus Bishop Ready High School girls sports teams. The volleyball team finished as state Division III runners-up, and the soccer team won its first district championship.

The volleyball team, coached by Mike Kusan, ended the season with a record of 20-9 and made it to the state's Final Four for the second straight year before losing to Casstown Miami East in the championship match at Wright State University.

Seniors Karley Kusan, Danielle Mercer, Miranda Ball, Carly Culbertson, and McKaylynn Fleshman finished their careers with 82 victories, a school record for a four-year span, and won three district and two regional championships.

Karley Kusan was a first-team all-Central Catholic League, all-Central District, and all-state player, and Mercer made the all-CCL first team. Kusan has signed a letter of intent to the University of Akron and Mercer will play volleyball at South Carolina-Aiken.

"Making it to the state Final Four two years in a row is a tribute to their hard work and leadership and the sacrifices they were willing to make,"



The Division III state runner-up Columbus Bishop Ready High School girls volleyball team included (from left): first row, Karley Kusan, Miranda Ball, Danielle Mercer, Carly Culbertson, and McKaylynn Fleshman; second row, assistant coach Jeannie Krueger, Lauren Rivera, Sarah Warbis, Rose Thacker, Elisabeth Palazzo, Kaitlyn Keyes, assistant coach Courtney Corrova, and head coach Mike Kusan.



Members of the Central District champion Columbus Bishop Ready girls soccer team were (from left): first row, Brooke Ringel, Kimberley Lloyd, Hailey Cartt, and Donovan Capehart; second row, Delaney Cutteridge, Caroline Riewe, Kathleen Colvin, Jordan Bair, and Angelique Bowman; third row, coach Jason Montgomery, Rachel Neff, Annie Mesewicz, Sydney Neff, Ashlyn Szabo, Marina Sweet, and manager Ashley Parisi.

Photos courtesy Bishop Ready High School

Mike Kusan said. "This group had remarkable chemistry, and their bonding paid off."

"We knew after last year that they were capable of making it to state, so this year, we intentionally played a schedule with a lot of Division I and II teams and the best of Division III. Because we ended with nine losses, a lot of people didn't think we would make it as far

as we did, but we knew that schedule showed we were capable of defeating anybody."

This was Kusan's final year as coach. He said he is stepping down after six years to spend more time with his family and because making the state finals fulfilled his goal. He said the freshman and JV teams finished with a combined 32-5 record, so there is plenty of talent coming back.

The Silver Knights girls soccer team ended the year with a 16-3-2 record. Donovan Capehart, a senior, was Ready's first all-state first-team member and first Central District player of the year.

Under coach Jason Montgomery, the team had two all-district first-teamers in Capehart and junior Caroline Riewe. Those two and senior Brooke Ringel also made the all-CCL first team.



ON A FIRM FOUNDATION

By Loren Brown



Cherishing Family at Christmas

As my wife, Stacey, and I stood with our adult children in the brisk 2 a.m. air in our rural back yard, we gazed up into God’s beautiful creation and received a Christmas gift that we did not anticipate. We watched as the Geminid meteor shower delivered an amazing show of streaking lights in every direction of the heavens. Our family was home together for the start of Christmas break, and with news of a clear early-morning sky, we set our alarms for the optimal hour to view the display. Our efforts paid off, as God treated us to an amazing comet show.

We returned to the warmth of the house, hugged each other tightly, said how much we loved each other, and settled back into our beds. Even Rudy, the snoring coonhound, received some extra love on this night by being allowed to sleep next to our bed. Each of us felt happy to experience the comet show together, and felt reassured by the safety of each other’s arms.

In more recent years of Advent and Christmas, and certainly this year, given recent events, these moments as a family resonate so deeply in my soul as a husband and father. I find myself wanting to hold on to these moments and not let them become a memory so quickly. As our children grow into young adults and form their own lives, time seems to be moving even faster. I’m pleased to watch them grow into responsible adults, and I cherish the time that I have with them.

For the first time, Stacey and I will need to trav-

el to be with our extended families at Christmas. Even our children will travel separately from us for the first time. However, I again feel a gift for Christmas that I did not expect. It is the gift of coming together, to share time with one another and to be with all of our family at Christmas – even if it means traveling to do so. We are thankful that we can share this time with our family, especially when so many parents and families are grieving the unexpected loss of their children and loved ones.

We are blessed to have so much love in our family at Christmas and always. Our children bring so much happiness and joy to our lives. I pray that you all feel peace and joy this Christmas, as I do, and throughout the year to come. At times it might seem difficult to be joyful as tragedy strikes our nation, but we can take comfort and rejoice in the fact that God made it possible for each of us to one day return to Him through His son, Jesus Christ.

I know you share with me a heavy heart this Advent and Christmas as we support through prayer the families of Newtown, Conn. We pray for healing and peace in their lives though God’s comforting mercy and love. *Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

Brown is President and CEO of the Catholic Foundation and a parishioner at Granville St. Edward Church.

The Catholic Foundation Awarded More Than \$840,000 in Grants

With the support of generous donors, The Catholic Foundation distributed \$840,660 in grants during the first quarter of its fiscal year (July 1 – Sept. 30). Each of the Foundation’s four pillars was supported: 17 grants went to Catholic education, 14 grants to parish life, 39 grants to social services, and 11 grants to vocations.

More than 97 percent of these grants came from donor-advised funds, which offer a hands-on approach to philanthropy. A donor-advised fund allows the user to contribute to one account and recommend distributions to multiple organiza-

tions over time. The donors’ recommended grants totaled \$815,760 for the schools, parishes, or organizations of their choice, while the remaining \$24,900 came from an endowment fund.

By opening a donor-advised fund with The Catholic Foundation, fund holders can ensure that investments are made in accordance with the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ guidelines for socially responsible investments. For more information on opening a donor-advised fund, visit www.catholic-foundation.org or call The Catholic Foundation at (614) 443-8893.

Evangelization Ambassador Award Dinner



Father W. Shawn McKnight, STD, of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, will be the featured speaker at the inaugural Evangelization Ambassador of the Year dinner, sponsored by St. John’s Hermitage, at 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 10, at St. Charles Preparatory School, 2010 E. Broad St., Columbus.

Father McKnight will provide some food for thought on what the Year of Faith is supposed to be and speak about its purpose: to form credible witnesses in the new evangelization.

Father McKnight was ordained a priest of the Diocese of Wichita, Kan., in 1994. He received a bachelor of science degree in biochemistry from the University of Dallas and both a master of arts degree in theology and a master of divinity degree from the Pontifical College Josephinum. He remained at the Josephinum to teach graduate courses and served in several leadership capacities. He has been at the US-CCB as executive director of the secretariat of clergy, consecrated life, and vocations since June 2010.

Bishop Frederick Campbell will receive the Evangelization Ambassador of the Year award from friends of the hermitage, a sanctuary being built in rural Scioto County for the exclusive use of priests. The event will provide an opportunity for Catholics to fulfill one of the conditions of Pope Benedict XVI’s plenary indulgence for “participating in local events connected to the Year of Faith.”

For more information, to register, or to sponsor priest seating, visit www.stjohnshermitage.com or call (614) 743-9619.



A People Set Apart



The Great Surrender Megan Thompson

Gaudium et Spes is one of the documents that came forth from Vatican II and is an overview of the Church’s teaching about humanity’s relationship to society. A few months ago, my boyfriend, Paul, introduced me to one of the paragraphs in this document, and his decision to do so has made me simultaneously appreciate him AND wish that he weren’t so virtuous. *Gaudium et Spes*, Paragraph 30, states that in our world, “the obligations of justice and love are fulfilled only if EACH person, contributing to the common good ... promotes and assists the public and private institutions dedicated to bettering the conditions of human life,” which includes (deep breath) following “laws establishing speed limits.” Or, simply, as people committed to justice and love, the common good, and a life of virtue, we are called to follow the speed limit.

The truth is, I love speeding. Though I’ve only been pulled over on one occasion for speeding (ask me about this story later), I should have been ticketed countless times for my hasty driving. So when Paul showed me this and encouraged me to give this act of virtue a try, I was less than excited. Or to be completely honest, I was deeply resistant. I made excuses such as “it’s okay to speed if I’m trying to get to Mass” or “this whole *Gaudium et Spes* thing is overly scrupulous.” Speeding felt strangely like a drug I didn’t want to give up. It was a commitment to virtue that seemed unnecessary and insignificant.

But the Lord has worked so beautifully in this decision. He has revealed to me both the value of virtue

and its scarcity in this world. On one particular day, I was driving back from Cincinnati on Interstate 71, a highway I have traveled countless times and on which I have NEVER gone the speed limit. But this day, I did. As the sun set after a beautiful day, I watched car after car fly by me. Driving in the right lane, I cruised at 65 mph in a world of cars going 70, 75, 80. And I realized that THIS is the reality of Christians in this world. When we make the choice to follow Jesus, to desire the Good in all situations, we look different. In fact, if we DON’T look different, I’d venture to say that we aren’t really followers of Christ.

In Luke 12, Jesus says that he has not come to establish peace, but division – meaning he has come to make us a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a HOLY nation (1 Peter 2:9). The word “holy” comes from the word meaning “to be set apart.” We, as people who say we love Jesus, should be different than those who do not yet know him. As the presence of one flicker of light causes a division in darkness, so we should “shine like lights in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation” (Philippians 2:15), by our

pursuit of holiness and lives of virtue.

But this requires of us to realize that virtue cannot just be practiced within the walls of our churches. Virtue cannot just be something that we read about in the lives of the saints. A life of virtue must be one that we seek, even in the smallest decisions and quickest moments of our day. In the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, paragraph 1803, virtue is defined as “a habitual and firm disposition to do the good.” The Lord is asking us to be people who seek the good, seek HIM, in all circumstances – whether convenient or inconvenient, whether small or big acts. And he is asking us to practice virtue regardless of whether or not others are doing so, for the benefit of the world.

All this to say it is virtue that will set us apart. In a world full of skepticism and despair, our being infused with the virtues of faith and hope will cause others to wonder. In a world of extravagance and poor decision-making, temperance and prudence will make us stand out. In a world of selfishness and fear, justice and fortitude will shine brightly. But mostly, in a world of loneliness, brokenness, and sin, it is our LOVE that will make us stand out the most. And this LOVE will lead others to Jesus Christ, Love Incarnate, who promises that “the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness (will) not overcome it” (John 1:5).

Enjoy going the speed limit. :)

Megan Thompson is youth minister at Gahanna St. Matthew Church. She posts her thoughts online at <http://surrendertohislove.blogspot.com>.

Holiday cheer with Watterson students



Left: John Bakle of Columbus Our Lady of Bethlehem Preschool shows Santa a gingerbread ornament he made at the Columbus Bishop Watterson High School Business Club’s Sunday With Santa. Proceeds were donated to Nationwide Children’s Hospital. Right: For the 10th straight year, Watterson students donated toiletries and socks for the adults served by the Holy Family Soup Kitchen. Students then assembled 250 fabric gift bags, which were finished by the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Photos/Bishop Watterson High School





Left: Hundreds of people rallied in front of the Federal Building in Columbus on March 23 and June 8 to protest the federal mandate requiring employee health plans, including those of Church-affiliated organizations, to cover procedures to which the Church is morally opposed. Right: Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, apostolic nuncio to the United States, came to Columbus in April to speak at the annual rector's dinner at the Pontifical College Josephinum. CT photos by Jack Kustron

YEAR IN REVIEW



Msgr. Christopher Schreck, STD, president of the Pontifical College Josephinum. Photo/PCJ



Above: Tom Wagner, diocesan Catholic Man of the Year. Right: Father Michael Hinterschied (center) at his ordination Mass. CT photos by Tim Puet (top) and Ken Snow (right)

BY TIM PUET, *Catholic Times Reporter*

The most significant news story of 2012 for the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Columbus and the United States involved the impact of a federal mandate requiring most employee health plans to cover procedures to which the Church is morally opposed.

The U.S. Department of Health and Services said those plans must include free coverage for contraception, sterilization, and prescriptions for some abortion-inducing drugs.

The diocese joined 42 other dioceses, as well as schools, hospitals, social service agencies, and other institutions in filing lawsuits in several federal courts in an attempt to halt implementation of the mandate.

The diocese also took part in June and July in the Fortnight for Freedom campaign, a two-week effort by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bish-

ops to remind people of the nation's heritage of religious freedom and the threat posed to that tradition by the mandate and other aspects of the secular culture.

Bishop Frederick Campbell took part in a forum on religious freedom at Columbus Immaculate Conception Church on June 27, along with Dr. Bill Murphy, professor of moral theology at the Pontifical College Josephinum, and Sister Pauline Ross, OCarm, administrator of Mother Angeline McCrory Manor, a Columbus residence for people needing acute long-term care.

Prayer services for religious freedom took place in parishes throughout the diocese throughout the fortnight, with the bishop leading a diocese-wide service at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral. Rallies in Columbus in March and June to protest the mandate each drew hundreds of people.

Another highlight of the diocesan year was a visit by the Vatican's apostolic nuncio to the



United States, Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, who came to Columbus in April to speak at the annual rector's dinner of the Pontifical College Josephinum.

"The church in the United States should lead the entire church in the world" in a revitalization effort, he said. "This is a great task, but you have the determination and the grace to do it. This I know is the vision of the Holy Father regarding the church in the United States."

Tom Wagner of Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton Parish was selected as Catholic Man of the Year by the Catholic Men's Luncheon Club. Wagner, a parishioner at Seton since 1994, was honored for his work with the poor in Columbus and elsewhere, his participation in several faith-sharing groups and Eucharistic adoration at his church, and his work with rosary groups at his home and his job.

The Catholic Woman of the Year, chosen by the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, was Dr. Kathleen Lutter of Columbus St. Timothy Church, honored for her work developing faith in young people. The Catholic Young Woman of the Year was Andrea Haller of Chillicothe St. Mary Church, founder of the Students for Life Club at Chillicothe High School.

The Ohio Knights of Columbus chose Joseph Maroon of New Lexington St. Rose Church as their state Knight of the Year. His efforts in the Perry County community of New Straitsville during the last 15 years have led to creation of a community garden, a veterans monument, a Sept. 11 mural, a rain garden, Christmas and holiday lighting, and a site known as Inspiration Hill which features stone tablets of the Ten Commandments and a 17-foot white cross, which is lit at night.

Msgr. Joseph Hendricks, pastor of Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Church, was selected as a 2012 distinguished pastor of the year by the National Catholic Education Association, receiving the honor in April at the NCEA convention in Boston.

Yvonne Schwab, principal of Columbus St. James the Less School, was honored in January at the White House as one of nine Catholic educators chosen as "Champions of Change" under President Obama's "Winning the Future" initiative. She took part in a panel discussion at which she told about the successes achieved by students in a school where half the pupils are learning English as a second language and 80 percent have incomes below the poverty level.

Ten members of the Franciscan Brothers Minor of Fort Wayne, Ind., moved into Columbus St. James the Less Church's former convent, renaming it the Sacred Heart Friary. The friars are living in an austere manner in the tradition of St. Francis of Assisi, possessing little, begging for food, and taking part in an extensive prayer life while serving the community around the friary.

Three of the friars are studying at the Pontifical College Josephinum. The presence of the college is the main reason why the three-year-old order decided Columbus would be the location of its first friary outside of Fort Wayne.

Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John Church marked completion of a number of improvements on Jan. 28, with Bishop Campbell celebrating a Mass of Thanksgiving. The church's rose window, which had been in a significant state of disrepair, was restored, the original floor was refinished, new carpeting and pews were installed, and the altar was cleaned. A crucifix and two statutes were repaired, with work continuing on other statues and elsewhere in the church.

Sunbury St. John Neumann Church completed \$4.5 million worth of changes which include a new Faith and Family Center and renovation of the existing parish hall. The new building is a multipurpose space that can accommodate as

From left: Karen Kitchell, Diocesan Council of Catholic Women president; Andrea Haller, Young Catholic Woman of the Year; Dr. Kathleen Lutter, Catholic Woman of the Year; and Bishop Campbell. CT photo by Ken Snow



many as 325 people on the upper level and includes classrooms, a kitchen, an elevator, a choir practice room, and a nursery on the lower level. The former hall now has parish offices on the first floor and five meeting rooms and a counselor's office in the basement.

Preparations continued for the opening of the new Cristo Rey Columbus High School in the fall. Dr. Cathy Thomas was selected as its first principal. She had been the first principal of the Cristo Rey high school in Houston.

Ohio Dominican University dedicated its renovated St. Albert Hall science building in September, finishing a two-pronged development which also included the opening of Battelle Hall for science education in 2010. St. Albert Hall is the

home of ODU's master of science in physician assistant studies program, the only one of its kind in central Ohio and the newest in the Midwest.

Msgr. Christopher Schreck, STD, became rector-president of the Josephinum on July 1. He had been executive vice president of the institution, which is the only papal seminary outside of Italy. He succeeded Father James Wehner, STD, who became rector-president of Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans.

The newest member of the diocesan priesthood, Father Michael Hinterschied of Granville St. Edward Church, was ordained by Bishop Frederick Campbell on May 26. He is serving as parochial vicar at Westerville St. Paul Church.



Bishop Ready students participate in Salvation Army Angel Tree Drive

The Columbus Bishop Ready High School community, led by the school's Student Council, participated in the annual Salvation Army Angel Tree toy drive for children in Franklin County. Pictured are members of the Student Council leadership committee and homeroom representatives from each class who led the drive. The Salvation Army supplies a list of toys. Ready students buy and wrap them, and the Salvation Army distributes them.

Photo courtesy Bishop Ready High School



Fr. DeVille's anniversary Mass

Father William DeVille will celebrate the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood at a Mass of Thanksgiving at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 30, in Columbus St. Andrew Church, 1899 McCoy Road, followed by a reception in the parish hall.

Father DeVille was ordained by Bishop Clarence Issenmann at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on Dec. 22, 1962, and celebrated his first solemn Mass on Dec. 30, 1962, at Columbus St. James the Less Church.

He was pastor at Wellston Ss. Peter and Paul (1973-76), Columbus St. Timothy (1976-81), Columbus Sacred Heart (1987-99), and Columbus Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal (1999-2008) churches, retiring from pastoral life on July 8, 2008. He was associate pastor at St. Andrew from 1964-71 and 1982-86 and also was an associate at Lancaster St. Mary (1963), Chillicothe St. Peter (1963-64), Columbus St. Matthias (1971-73), the cathedral (1981-82), and Columbus St. Catharine (1986-87).



The Early Interval

A Flemish Twelfth Night Celebration

Music from the Medieval, Renaissance & Baroque periods celebrating the Twelfth Night of Christmas.

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—The Columbus Dispatch

Saturday, Jan. 5, 2013 • 8:00 pm
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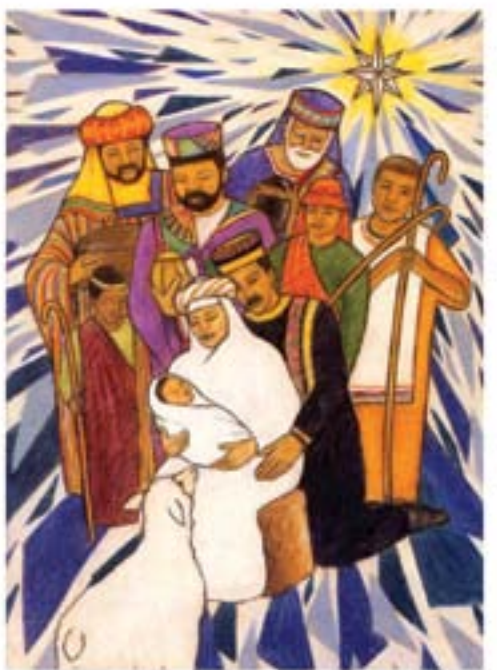
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or call 614-861-4569 or
614-469-0939 (CAPA).








*Exult greatly,
O daughter
Zion!*

*Shout for joy,
O daughter
Jerusalem!*

*Behold,
your king
is coming to you...*

Zechariah 9:9

*May He who is Peace
be born anew in your heart
this Christmas and always.*



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IN MEMORIAM - DIOCESAN RELIGIOUS WHO DIED IN 2012

The longest-serving priest in the Diocese of Columbus at the time of his death, **Msgr. John V. Wolf**, died on Aug. 18 at age 91 after 67 years in the priesthood.

He was pastor at Lancaster St. Mary Church from 1969-81 and Kenton Immaculate Conception Church from 1981-91, then retired and moved to Fredericktown, serving until 2009 as weekend assistant at Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul Church. Before entering pastoral life, he had taught many of the priests of the diocese at Columbus St. Charles Seminary, where he served from 1953-69 and was dean of men from 1959-69.

Father John Thomas Shonebarger, 75, died on Jan. 6.

He was a Trappist monk for 13 years at Gethsemani Abbey in Kentucky before being ordained a priest in 1969. He served as pastor of Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Newark Blessed Sacrament, and Columbus St. Timothy churches before retiring from the active priesthood in 2006, when he moved to the Mohun

Health Care Center.

Father Charles R. Griffin died on March 12 at age 83. He had been a priest for 55 years.

He was pastor at Zaleski St. Sylvester from 1968-80 and spent the last 31 years of his priesthood as associate pastor at Chillicothe St. Peter. He also was chaplain at the Chillicothe Correctional Institution from 1981 until his retirement in 1999 and continued in prison ministry after his retirement.

Father Gary Scherer, CPpS, 73, a priest of the Precious Blood Fathers for 44 years, died July 6.

He was a Portsmouth native who served for 30 years as a hospital chaplain in Cincinnati and Dayton and for 10 years as parochial vicar at St. John the Baptist Church in Whiting, Ind., the position he held upon his retirement.

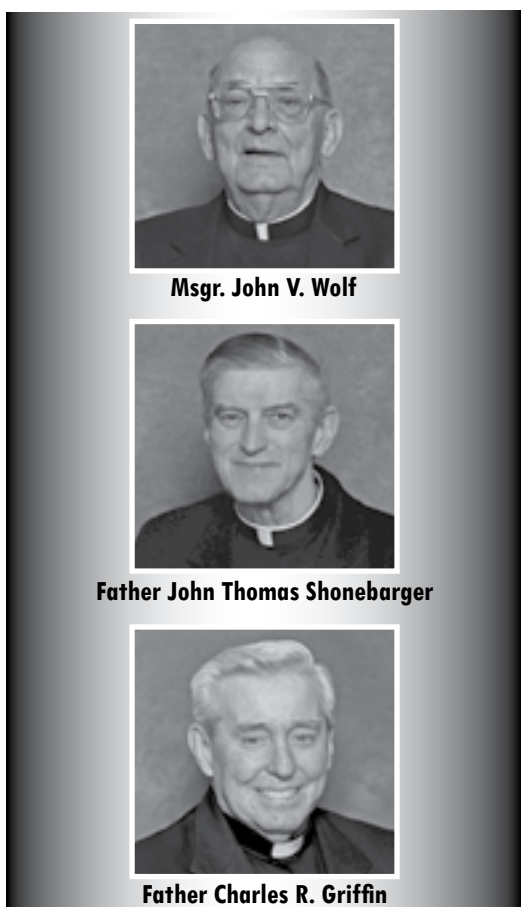
Brother Francis Deibel, SM, died July 30 at the age of 103.

The Columbus native was a member of the Marianist order for 85 years,

spending 48 years as a librarian at the University of Dayton.

Religious sisters who died in 2012 or late 2011 and served in or were natives of the Diocese of Columbus, or were living in the diocese at the time of their death, were:

Sister Mary Justina Payne, RSM, 88, who died Dec. 17, 2011; **Sister Mary Carlton Ott**, PCPA, 94, Dec. 17, 2011; **Sister Rita Lane**, OSF, 89, Jan. 1; **Sister Margaret McDonough**, OP, 92, Jan. 24; **Sister Ruth Suedkamp**, SNDdeN, 94, March 9; **Sister Mary Grace Burg**, SNDdeN, 86, March 10; **Sister Ruth Ann Gardner**, OP, 87, April 25; **Sister Alice McCaffrey**, OP, 98, June 30; **Sister Mary Lawrence Caniff**, OP, 86, June 30; **Sister Verona Weber**, OSF, 90, Sept. 18; **Sister Rita Walker**, OP, 88, Oct. 6; **Sister Robertine Saunders**, OSF, 99, Oct. 8; **Sister Elizabeth Marie Doyle**, OP, 99, Oct. 15; **Sister Margaret Duffy**, OSF, 90, Dec. 6; and **Sister Anne Veronica Mooring**, PCJ, 86, Dec. 10.



Irish History Writing Contest

The National Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians (LAOH) has announced topics for its 2012-2013 Irish history writing contest, which is open to all students in grades six through 12 attending public, private, parochial, and home schools.

This year's essay subjects are "Castles of Ireland-Location, Structure, and Use" (500 to 1,000 words) for grades six through eight, and "Mother Jones and the American Labor Movement" (750 to 1,500 words) for grades nine through 12. The contest deadline is Friday, Jan. 25.

Winning essays at the local level are placed in state and national competition. At the national level,

winners receive cash prizes from \$50 to \$1,000.

The contest is conducted in every state where the LAOH has an established division. Last year, Ohio's divisions had many students who won prizes at higher levels. The topics are different each year and are selected by LAOH historian Sarah Mains and the organization's national convention committee. The LAOH is an Irish Catholic organization that perpetuates the history and traditions of the Irish people and their culture.

For more detailed contest rules, contact Julie McGhee at (614) 891-6736 or email her at julie_mcgee@att.net or <http://www.ladies-aoh.com>.

**Look for the Catholic Times'
2013 publication again
on January 6th**

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Cycle C)

Two women bring together two epochs



Father Lawrence L. Hummer

Dec. 23, 2012
Micah 5:1-4a
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-45

Dec. 30, 2012
Sirach 3:2-6,12-14
Colossians 3:12-21
Luke 2:41-52

This close to Christmas, we would expect to find the readings drawing us closer to the mystery of the Incarnation. We are not disappointed. The reading from Micah (eighth century BC) covers a period after the northern kingdom of Israel had fallen to Assyria in 722 BC and Jerusalem was also in danger of falling into the Assyrians’ hands.

Today’s reading sounds a note of hope that a new descendant to the throne of David will arise from Bethlehem-Ephrathah. Bethlehem is where the original David had come from (see I Samuel 16 and Ruth 4:11). Micah 5:2 is the only place where the two names are combined.

Matthew incorporated this prophecy in his infancy narrative (Matthew 2:5-6), so that Christian readers are meant to see, in the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, the fulfillment of another Old Testament prophecy which is directly connected with the birth of Jesus of Nazareth (or of Bethlehem in this context).

Matthew does this seven different times in his infancy narrative (chapters 1 and 2) to establish Jesus as a descendant of David or simply to show how, in so many different ways, Jesus has fulfilled Old Testament prophecies. Later, of course, in Matthew 5:17, Jesus will claim to fulfill the Law and the prophets. Matthew will heighten that claim by showing already at his birth how that fulfillment was happening.

Luke had something else in mind in his infancy narrative (also chapters 1 and 2), as he links the end of the Old Testament period of the Prophets, symbolized by

John the Baptist, with the period of the Christ, which is the beginning of the New Testament.

Luke has done this by drawing this tender scene of two women: one younger, one older; both pregnant, each with unique problems, who meet in a scene of timeless beauty as Luke brings these two great epochs together for the first time in the Gospel. The epoch of prophecy, symbolized by the action of the child leaping for joy in his mother’s womb, is matched by the epoch of the Christ, who becomes the fulfillment of all prophecy.

In Luke’s narrative, Mary represents the faithful Israel, waiting for the Lord’s promises to be fulfilled. With the arrival of the Christ, whom she carries in her womb, those promises are fulfilled. Both John and Elizabeth recognize this arrival, independently of each other. John “leaps” in the womb. Elizabeth interprets the leap as a leap of joy.

As early recipients of the Holy Spirit, who will play such a dramatic role in Luke’s writing, both Elizabeth and John testify by the power of that Spirit to the fuller meaning of their personal experiences. That their words and actions pave the way for the coming (and now arriving) Messiah fulfills their role as prophets.

In the case of Elizabeth, she acknowledges Mary as “blessed among women” and says that the “fruit of her womb” (that is, her son) is also blessed. When Elizabeth asks how it happens that the “mother of my Lord should come to visit me,” she is effectively acknowledging her belief in Jesus as Lord, with information given to her by the Holy Spirit.

As for the final verse, “Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled,” we have to understand it in two ways. As the ideal figure of faithful Israel, who had received many prophetic utterances prior to this, she represents all those generations of women before her who had remained faithful and trusting in the Lord. As the one blessed among all women, she remains the model for all Christians as we greet the Messiah again in the festival time of Christmas.

Father Lawrence Hummer, pastor at Chillicothe St. Mary, can be reached at hummerl@stmarchillicothe.com.

REGISTRATION FOR THE 2013

COLUMBUS CATHOLIC MEN’S CONFERENCE

The 2013 Columbus Catholic Men’s Conference will take place Saturday, March 2, at the Lausche Building on the State Fairgrounds. Speakers will be Tim Staples, director of apologetics and evangelization at Catholic Answers; Marcus Grodi, founder of the Coming Home Network International; Dan Spencer, co-founder of the Catholic Business Network; and Father Theodore Sill, pastor of Gahanna St. Matthew Church. Men may register by going to the conference website,

www.columbuscatholicmen.com, and using their Visa, Master Card, or Discover credit cards or a PayPal account. The cost is \$30 for adults and \$10 for students. Priests and seminarians are free.

Men also may register via mail, as outlined in conference brochures which are available at parishes.

If you have any questions, call Scott Williamson at (614) 798-1792 or e-mail him at swilliamson@att.net.

The Weekday Bible Readings

12/23-29	12/31-1/5
MONDAY (Vigil) Isaiah 62:1-5 Psalm 89:4-5,16-17,27,29 Acts 13:16-17,22-25 Matthew 1:1-25	MONDAY 1 John 2:18-21 Psalm 96:1-2,11-13 John 1:1-18
TUESDAY (Midnight) Isaiah 9:1-6 Psalm 96:1-3,11-13 Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-14	TUESDAY Numbers 6:22-27 Psalm 67:2-3,5-6,8 Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:16-21
WEDNESDAY Acts 6:8-10;7:54-59 Psalm 31:3-4,6-8,17-21 Matthew 10:17-22	WEDNESDAY 1 John 2:22-28 Psalm 98:1-4 John 1:19-28
THURSDAY 1 John 1:1-4 Psalm 97:1-2,5-6,11-12 John 20:2-8	THURSDAY 1 John 2:29-3:6 Psalm 98:1-3,6 John 1:29-34
FRIDAY 1 John 1:5-2:2 Psalm 124:2-5,7b-8 Matthew 2:13-18	FRIDAY 1 John 3:7-10 Psalm 98:1,7-9 John 1:35-42
SATURDAY 1 John 2:3-11 Psalm 96:1-3,5b-6 Luke 2:22-35	SATURDAY 1 John 3:11-21 Psalm 100:1-5 John 1:43-51

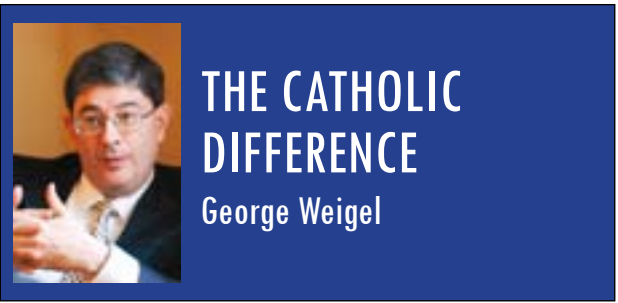
DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE WEEKS OF DEC. 23 AND 30 2012

SUNDAY MASS
10:30 a.m. Mass from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on St. Gabriel Radio (820 AM), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com.
Mass with the Passionist Fathers at 7 a.m. on WHIZ-TV, Channel 18, Zanesville, and 7:30 a.m. on WWHO-TV (the CW), Channel 53, Columbus. Check local cable systems for WHIZ’s and WWHO’s cable channel listings.
Mass from Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, Birmingham, Ala., at 8 a.m. on EWTN (Time Warner Channel 385, Insight Channel 382, or WOW Channel 378)
(Encores at noon, 7 p.m., and midnight).
Mass from Kenton Immaculate Conception Church at 10 a.m. on Time Warner Cable Channel 6 (Hardin County).
Mass from Portsmouth St. Mary Church at noon on Time Warner Channel 24 in Scioto County.

DAILY MASS
8 a.m., Our Lady of the Angels Monastery in Birmingham, Ala. (Encores at noon, 7 p.m. and midnight) See EWTN above; and on i-Lifetv (Channel 113 in Ada, Logan, Millersburg, Murray City and Washington C.H.; Channel 125 in Marion, Newark, Newcomerstown and New Philadelphia; and Channel 207 in Zanesville); 8 p.m., St. Gabriel Radio (820 AM), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com.

We pray the Sanctoral and Seasonal Propers of the Liturgy of the Hours, with variations.

Books for Christmas



this Catholic feminist counterculture at its most compelling. “Breaking Through: Catholic Women Speak for Themselves” (Our Sunday Visitor), a collection of essays edited by legal scholar and pro-life activist Helen Alvare, addresses a host of issues in the American culture war from the perspective of highly competent women committed to the truths the Church teaches about the moral life. In a different genre, but just as compelling, is Colleen Carroll Campbell’s beautifully crafted spiritual memoir, “My Sisters the Saints” (Image). A deeply personal reflection, it still, as Cardinal Francis George notes in his endorsement, “teaches a universal lesson: living free is different from being in control.”

As the sesquicentennial of the Civil War continues, I’ve found myself dipping frequently into the never-ending torrent of books on what is called, south of the Potomac, the “recent unpleasantness.” Those who have never feasted on the American “Iliad,” Shelby Foote’s three-volume masterpiece, “The Civil War: A Narrative” (Random House), might treat themselves to a very large stocking-stuffer this year. The sesquicentennial also got me reading Jean Edward Smith’s “Grant” (Simon & Schuster), arguably the best biography of a now-

ignored figure who for decades was considered by many Americans the equal of Washington and Lincoln. Candice Millard’s “Destiny of the Republic” (Anchor Books) is not about the war, but rather about an entirely admirable Civil War veteran, James Garfield, who, much against his will, was elected president in 1880, only to fall to an assassin’s bullet a few months after his inauguration. Or did he? Millard makes a powerful (and chilling) case that Garfield was killed by his doctors, not by the lunatic Charles Guiteau. Emphatically not to be read in the hospital, but a great read in other circumstances.

Anne Applebaum’s “Iron Curtain: The Crushing of Eastern Europe 1944-1956” (Doubleday) is a sobering and richly detailed look at how a hard totalitarianism was imposed east of the Elbe River in the aftermath of World War II, and a fitting complement to Applebaum’s highly-acclaimed study, “Gulag.” How the world Stalin tried to erase was created in the first millennium is the subject of Robert Louis Wilken’s new book, “The First Thousand Years: A Global History of Christianity” (Yale): a masterwork from a master teacher.

And finally, let me mention Ronald Knox’s “Pastoral and Occasional Sermons” (Ignatius Press), a cornucopia of the pellucid, deeply insightful homilies of perhaps the greatest English-language preacher of the 20th century. Knox is unhappily forgotten in much of today’s Catholic Anglosphere. Rediscovering him would do a world of good for homiletics, as it does for spiritual reading.

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

HARTLEY FOOTBALL PLAYERS RECEIVE HONORS

Columbus Bishop Hartley High School football players (from left) Kalil Morris, Ja’Wuan Woodley, and Jacob Matuska were selected to the first team of the 2012 Ohio Associated Press All-Ohio football squad.



Morris, a junior defensive lineman, was a dominating force on a defensive line that was statistically the best in school history.

Woodley, a senior running back and linebacker, was named first team All-Ohio for the second consecutive season. He was chosen as offensive player of the year for Division IV after being defensive player of the year the previous season. He will continue his academic and athletic career at the University of Toledo on a full athletic scholarship.

Matuska, a senior tight end and linebacker, is a four-year letterman and has committed to continue his academic and athletic career

at the University of Notre Dame on a full athletic scholarship. He is a three-time All-Central District and All-Central Catholic League player.

Also receiving honors from the AP were senior lineman Tyler Schaffer and senior running back Marcellus Calhoun, both third-team All-Ohio, and senior Nick King, honorable mention.

Photo courtesy Bishop Hartley High School

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2012-2013 DIOCESAN DIRECTORY



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Pray for our dead

ARMSTRONG, Marjorie, 89, Dec. 13
St. Leonard Church, Heath

BOEHM, Don J., 89, formerly of Columbus, Dec. 13
Queen of Peace Church, Hamilton

BRINKMAN, Dean, 58, Dec. 7
St. Peter Church, Columbus

CANTWELL, Daniel W., 90, Dec. 14
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

CORNA, Albert, 89, Dec. 8
St. John the Baptist Church, Columbus

CUSACK, Mary J., Dec. 10
Immaculate Conception Church, Columbus

DeGENNARO, Antoinette L., 74, Dec. 7
Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Marysville

DOORLEY, Jeanette M., 76, Dec. 10
St. Paul Church, Westerville

ESTABROOK, Marcia F., 88, Dec. 11
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

GALBRAITH, Elmer G., 67, Dec. 8
Church of the Resurrection, New Albany

GROGAN, Mary, 99, Dec. 13
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

HARSH, Donald E., 89, Dec. 14
St. Cecilia Church, Columbus

HENRY, Roger T., 84, Dec. 8
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

HIGGINS, Elizabeth J., 91, Dec. 9
Immaculate Conception Church, Columbus

JORDAN-STEVENS, Rosemary R., 79, Dec. 13
St. Joan of Arc Church, Powell

KARALEWITZ, Sue J., 92, Dec. 7
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

LeMONTE, Harold, 89, Nov. 30
Immaculate Conception Church, Dennison

LITTERAL, John, 80, Dec. 14
St. Peter Church, Columbus

LUKCSO, William A., 63, Dec. 12
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

MARCHI, Ella A., 88, Dec. 9
St. Paul Church, Westerville

MILLER, Angela M., 89, Dec. 3
Church of the Atonement, Crooksville

MONTELL, Mary E., 89, Dec. 14
Holy Cross Church, Columbus

OLIVER, Delores M., 72, Dec. 12
St. Brendan Church, Hilliard

POIRIER, Robert H., 91, Dec. 14
St. Peter Church, Columbus

RAMBACHER, Sylvia M., 84, Dec. 7
Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Marysville

SCHRODER, Helena K., 91, Dec. 4
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

STRAND, Adeline E., 85, Dec. 10
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

THIEL, Bernard J., 89, Dec. 6
St. Mary Church, Marion

YOUNG, Norma J., 94, Dec. 14
St. Francis of Assisi Church, Columbus

J. Colby Grimes

Funeral Mass for J. Colby Grimes, 84, who died Monday, Dec. 10, was held Friday, Dec. 14, at Columbus St. Timothy Church. Burial was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

He was born March 31, 1928, to Joseph Colby and Rebecca (Ryan) Grimes, and was a retired auditor for the city of Columbus.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Msgr. Kenneth Grimes and Daniel; and sister, Nancy Quinn. Survivors include his wife, Georgia; stepdaughters, Jeanne (Richard) Sweaney, Kathryn (Tom) Jaspers, and Therese (Chris) Lentz; and sister, Suzanne Haney.

FR. KLINGER APPOINTED AS CHAPLAIN

Father Charles Klinger has been appointed by Bishop Frederick Campbell as diocesan chaplain of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Father Klinger, pastor of Westerville St Paul Church, has started or revived St. Vincent de Paul conferences in four of the five parishes he has served — Hilliard St. Brendan, Plain City St. Joseph, Zanesville St. Nicholas, and St. Paul.

The only exception was at his first as-

signment, Marion St. Mary, where the conference already was flourishing.

Klinger grew up as a member of Columbus Immaculate Conception Church, and its St. Vincent de Paul conference “was active even in those days. I was inspired by my parish,” he said.

Klinger has supported the annual Walk for the Poor, the society’s biggest fund raiser of the year. He said he is honored by the appointment and “really happy” to be involved as chaplain.

CLASSIFIED

SINGING BUCKEYES OPEN HOUSE TUESDAY, JAN 8TH, 7 PM

Advent Lutheran Church
3660 Kenny Road, Upper Arlington
Open house for men interested in joining
Singing Buckeyes men's a cappella chorus
614-861-6568
www.singingbuckeyes.com

DECEMBER

20, THURSDAY
Day of Reflection at St. Therese's
9 a.m. to 1 p.m., St. Therese's Shrine Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus. Day of reflection for members of Happy Spirits Club of Columbus Holy Spirit Church and other parish members, with Father William Arnold, pastor, and Sister Joan Popovits, OP. **614-861-1521**
20s Group Advent Party at Columbus St. Patrick
7 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Advent party sponsored by parish's 20s Group. All young adults invited. **614-406-9516**

22, SATURDAY
Wilderness Outreach Advent Hike
7 a.m., Lake Logan State Park, Logan. Wilderness Outreach Advent hike for men on the Buckeye Trail from Lake Logan to Ash Cave. Morning Prayer, 7:15; hike, 7:30 to approximately 4:30 p.m. Participants may hike five, 10, 15, or 20 miles. Lunch at midday; prayer on the trail. Go to www.wildernessoutreach.net. **614-679-6761**

All fund-raising events (festivals, bazaars, spaghetti dinners, fish fries, bake sales, pizza/sub sales, candy sales, etc.) will be placed in the "Fund-Raising Guide." An entry into the Guide will be \$18.50 for the first six lines, and \$2.65 for each additional line. For more information, call Deacon Steve DeMers at 614-224-6530 or 800-511-0584.

‘Happenings’ submissions
Notices for items of Catholic interest must be received at least 12 days before expected publication date. We will print them as space permits. Items not received before this deadline may not be published. Listings cannot be taken by phone. Mail to: The Catholic Times Happenings, 197 East Gay St., Columbus, OH 43215 Fax to: 614-241-2518 E-mail as text to tpuet@colsdioc.org

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. **614-565-8654**

22-23, SATURDAY-SUNDAY
Nativity Exhibit at Jubilee Museum
11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, Holy Family Jubilee Museum, 57 S. Grubb St., Columbus. "Mangers at the Museum" exhibit of nearly 100 Nativity sets, including the largest set of Fontanini figures in the United States. Also open weekdays by appointment. and Dec. 29 and 30 and Jan. 5 and 6 at Saturday and Sunday times. **614-461-6204**

23, SUNDAY
Watterson Alumni Basketball Tournament
Noon, Bishop Watterson High School, 99 E. Cooke Road, Columbus. Shay Basketball Tournament for school's alumni. Includes men's and women's brackets. Register at www.bishopwatterson.com.

St. Catherine of Bologna Secular Franciscans
2:30 to 5 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Church, 386 Buttles Ave., Columbus. Rosary, Liturgy of the Hours, followed by general meeting, ongoing formation, and social. **614-276-1953**
Lessons and Carols at New Philadelphia
3 p.m., Sacred Heart Church, 139 3rd St. N.E., New Philadelphia. Service of lessons and carols. **330-343-6976**
Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter
7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish. **706-761-4054**
Vespers Service at Columbus St. Patrick
7 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Final Sunday Advent Vespers service. **614-224-9522**

24, MONDAY
‘Blue Christmas’ Mass at St. Brendan
6:30 p.m., St. Brendan Church, 4475 Dublin Road, Hilliard. "Blue Christmas" Mass for people for whom Christmas is not a festive occasion. **614-876-1272**
‘Blue Christmas’ Mass at Newman Center
8 p.m., St. Thomas More Newman Center, 64 W. Lane Ave., Columbus. "Blue Christmas" mass, a traditional Christmas Eve liturgy designed to be more quiet and reflective for people who do not feel joy during the holiday season. **614-291-4674**

Midnight Mass with Bishop at Cathedral
11 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Seasonal music with the Cathedral Choir and Brass, followed by midnight Mass celebrated by Bishop Frederick Campbell. **614-241-2526**

27, THURSDAY
Mass for Seminarians, Parents at Our Lady of Victory
6 p.m., Our Lady of Victory Church, 1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus. Bishop Frederick Campbell celebrates Mass for diocesan seminarians, their parents, and the public. Sponsored by Serra Club of Columbus. **614-488-2428**
20s Group Meeting at Columbus St. Patrick
7 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Weekly meeting of parish's new 20s Group. All young adults invited. Begins with Holy Hour, followed at 8 by program. **614-406-9516**

H A P P E N I N G S

29, SATURDAY
Life and Mercy Mass in Plain City
9 a.m. Mass, St. Joseph Church, 140 West Ave., Plain City. Saturday Life and Mercy Mass, followed by rosary and confession. **614-565-8654**

3-Point Shooting Contest at St. Matthias
Noon, St. Matthias School, 1582 Ferris Road, Columbus. 3-point shooting contest for sixth- through eighth-grade boys and girls to benefit family of Omar Vargas, an eighth-grade St. James the Less School student with bacterial meningitis. Registration deadline Dec. 26; \$10 per person fee. Email tmiller@swancleaners.com for details.
Memorial Mass for Children at Resurrection Cemetery
1 p.m., Chapel, Resurrection Cemetery, 9571 N. High St., Lewis Center. Monthly memorial Mass for all unborn babies buried in cemetery's Garden of the Holy Innocents, and any other babies whose parents want to honor their lives, sponsored by Back in His Arms Again ministry. **614-906-3115; 614-800-8888**

30, SUNDAY
Praise Mass at Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal
11 a.m., Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Praise Mass with upbeat contemporary music. **614-861-1242**
Father DeVille's 50th Anniversary Celebration
3 p.m., St. Andrew Church, 1899 McCoy Road, Columbus. Mass of Thanksgiving celebrating Father William DeVille's 50th anniversary of ordination, followed by reception in parish hall. **614-306-1937**
Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter
7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish. **706-761-4054**

31, MONDAY
Charismatic New Year's Eve Mass at St. Therese's
9 p.m., St. Therese's Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad St., Columbus. New Year's Eve Mass celebrated by Father Jim Coleman, sponsored by diocesan Catholic Charismatic Renewal. Preceded by rosary at 7:30 and praise and worship at 8. **614-237-7080**

JANUARY

3, THURSDAY
20s Group Meeting at Columbus St. Patrick
7 p.m., St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus. Weekly meeting of parish's new 20s Group. All young adults invited. Begins with Holy Hour, followed at 8 by program. **614-406-9516**

4, FRIDAY
St. Cecilia Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
St. Cecilia Church, 434 Norton Road, Columbus. Begins after 8:15 a.m. Mass; continues to 5 p.m. Saturday.
Monthly Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church, 5225 Refugee Road, Columbus. Begins after 9 a.m. Mass; continues through 6 p.m. Holy Hour.
All-Night Exposition at Our Lady of Victory
Our Lady of Victory Church, 1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 8 p.m. until Mass at 8 a.m. Saturday, sponsored by church's Knights of Columbus council and Columbus Serra Club.

5, SATURDAY
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 prayers and Rosary (Shepherds of Christ format); 10 a.m., meeting. **614-861-4888**
Life and Mercy Mass in Plain City
9 a.m. Mass, St. Joseph Church, 140 West Ave., Plain City. Saturday Life and Mercy Mass, followed by rosary and confession. **614-565-8654**
Filipino Mass at Holy Cross
7:30 p.m., Holy Cross Church, 204 S. 5th St., Columbus. Mass in the Tagalog language for members of the Filipino Catholic community. **614-224-3416**

6, SUNDAY
St. Christopher Adult Religious Education
10 to 11:15 a.m., St. Christopher Parish Center, 1420 Grandview Ave., Columbus. "Happy Epiphany!" with Scripture scholar Angela Burge. **614-488-9971**

Exposition at Church of the Resurrection
Our Lady of the Resurrection Chapel, Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, New Albany. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, beginning with procession into chapel following 11 a.m. Mass and continuing to 5 p.m. **614-933-9318**
St. Joan of Arc 25th Anniversary Mass
12:30 p.m., St. Joan of Arc Church, 10700 Liberty Road, Powell. Bishop Frederick Campbell celebrates parish's 25th Anniversary Mass. **614-761-0905**
‘Catholicism’ at St. Andrew
6:45 p.m., St. Andrew Church, 1899 McCoy Road, Columbus. Part 5 of Father Robert Barron's "Catholicism" video series, followed by small-group discussion. **614-451-4290**
Spanish Mass at Columbus St. Peter
7 p.m., St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Mass in Spanish. **706-761-4054**
Compline at Cathedral
9 p.m., St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad St., Columbus. Chanting of Compline. **614-241-2526**

7, MONDAY
Charismatic Prayer Group at St. Thomas
7 p.m., St. Thomas Church, 2692 E. 5th Ave., Columbus. Meeting of Charismatic Prayer Group. **614-832-9525**

8, TUESDAY
‘EnCourage’ Support Group Mass and Meeting
6 p.m. Mass, followed by 7 p.m. meeting of a new Columbus-area Catholic organization providing solace, support, and counsel for parents and relatives of those with a same-sex attraction. **614-372-5249**

Singing Buckeyes Open House
7 p.m., Advent Lutheran Church, 3660 Kenny Road, Upper Arlington. Open house for men interested in joining Singing Buckeyes men's a cappella chorus. **614-861-6568**
Catholic War Veterans Monthly Meeting
7 p.m., Red Room, St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road, Columbus. Catholic War Veterans Post 1936 meeting. For those who served three months, were honorably discharged or are on active duty. **614-221-7601**

Prayer Group Meeting at St. Mark
7 p.m., St. Raymond Room, St. Mark Center, 324 Gay St., Lancaster. Light of Life Prayer Group meeting. **740-653-4919**

Sister Anne Veronica Mooring, PCJ

Funeral Mass for Sister Anne Veronica Mooring, PCJ, 86, who died Monday, Dec. 10, at the Mohun Health Care Center in Columbus, was held Wednesday, Dec. 12, at the Motherhouse of the Dominican Sisters of Peace in Columbus. Burial was at Mount Carmel Cemetery, Parkersburg, W.Va.

She was born Nov. 12, 1926, to John and Marie (Esque) Mooring, and was given the name Grady Eleanor. She earned a bachelor's degree in education from Duquesne University, a master's degree in educational administration from the University of Notre Dame, and a doctorate in pastoral counseling from Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

She belonged to the Sisters of the Poor Child Jesus, which has more than 500 members around the world, and was one of the order's three remaining members in the United States. The other two, Sister Mary Thomasina John and Sister Mary Goretti Campbell, both live in Columbus.

She was a teacher and principal at schools in West Virginia. Following retirement, she continued in counseling practice until 2002, living in Parkersburg until coming to the Mohun center.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a sister, Virginia. Survivors include a brother, John; and sisters, Iris Prince and Alice Cokas.



**TUNE IN TO PATRICK MADRID'S
NEW DAILY RADIO SHOW!**

**MONDAY-FRIDAY
4PM - 5PM**

St. GABRIEL
CATHOLIC RADIO
AM 820

“THE FASTEST HOUR IN CATHOLIC RADIO!”



HOLIDAY CONCERT

THE EARLY INTERVAL

“A Flemish Twelfth Night Celebration,” The Early Interval’s annual celebration of Twelfth Night, will feature medieval, Renaissance and early Baroque music from Flanders. The concert will be at First Congregational Church, 444 E. Broad St., Columbus, at 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 5, and 3:30

p.m. Sunday Jan. 6. There will be a pre-concert lecture 30 minutes before the performance.

The concert will feature songs for New Year’s Day by Flemish composer Guillaume Dufay; dance music from Flemish manuscripts and publications; popular Flemish Christmas and Twelfth



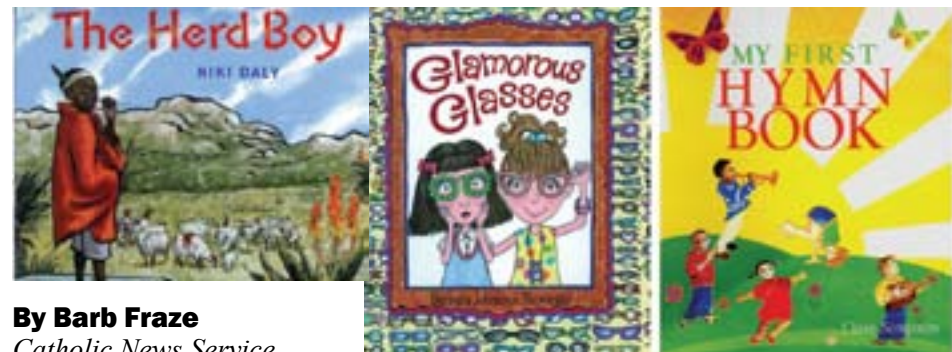
Night songs; and sacred and secular music by a number of Renaissance and Baroque composers from Flanders. The Early Interval will perform vocally and on recorders, bass dulcian, crumhorns, Renaissance harp, violas da gamba, medieval lute, theorbo, guitar, rebec, vielle, violin, and pipe and tabor.

Members of The Early Interval are Ron Cook (director), Jim Bates, Janice Cook, Sean Ferguson, Lyz Liddell, and Tamara Seckel.

The program will be presented in the neo-Gothic splendor of the ensemble’s new home for Twelfth Night, First Congregational Church.

BOOK REVIEW

Space, bugs, saints, humor and more



By Barb Frazee

Catholic News Service

The following children’s books are suitable for Christmas giving:

“*Legendary Journeys: Space*,” by Mike Goldsmith. Kingfisher

After reviewing children’s books for more than 25 years, I would have to say this book would make the Top 10 of my “way cool” book list. It is chock full of information about the history of the space program, the science behind key elements of space, how the equipment works, and biographies of important people. Photographs from NASA and the ITAR-TASS news agency fill its pages. But what makes this book amazing is its design: not just the normal pop-up or peer-behind tabs, but whole cardboard pages that pull out to three times the original size to illustrate things such as space spiders. This book promises hours of fun and learning. Ages 9-up.

“*Glamorous Glasses*,” by Barbara Johansen Newman.

When Bobbie’s cousin Joanie needed glasses, Bobbie decided she wanted a pair, too. Her eyeglass envy even had her faking not being able to see the board in class. Humorous, colorful illustrations add to this picture book with a twist, and a lesson. Ages 4-8.

“*My First Hymn Book*,” by Clare Simpson.

Know a child who likes to sing? This seven-inch long hardback has illustrations and lyrics to 11 different hymns, ranging from songs preschoolers can sing, such as “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands,” to hymns more appropriate for a young elementary school student. What the book does NOT have is the music, but all the

hymns I did not know I found on YouTube. Ages 3-7.

“*The Herd Boy*,” written and illustrated by Niki Daly.

This book is the whole package! Beautiful color illustrations depicting South Africa span two-thirds of each set of facing pages. In the tale, the herd boy watches his family’s sheep and dreams and plays as he does -- until a baboon threatens the herd. Daly’s story captures many cultural aspects of rural South Africa, and the young herdsman even gets a surprise visit from a famous South African who had humble beginnings. Ages 6-10.

“*Juan Diego: Mary’s Humble Messenger*,” “*Kateri Tekakwitha, Model of Bravery*,” by Barbara Yoffie.

These two small paperbacks, designed for early readers, are the first two titles of Liguori’s Saints of North America series. The saints’ basic stories are told in simple language. Colorful illustrations should engage young readers, who normally would not notice that indigenous Americans are lacking indigenous facial features. Pre-readers will enjoy having these read to them. Ages 4-8.

“*Bug Off! Creepy, Crawly Poems*,” by Jane Yolen.

“So many legs/How do you know/Which ones go fast/And which ones go slow?” This verse from “Daddy Very Long Legs” is one of many whimsical poems about creatures ranging from a fly to a tick to a praying mantis. Yolen’s poems show the power of words -- few, but very carefully chosen to make a point or paint a picture. Stemple’s nature photographs are fascinating and also will make this suitable as for curious nonreaders. Each poem and photo is accompanied by some scientific information on the bug featured. Of all the poetry books I looked at, this was my favorite. Ages 4-10.

“*Hope and Tears*,” by Gwenyth Swain.

This book is a treasure! Swain has researched Ellis Island -- not just immigrants, but workers and inhabitants even before it became the gateway to the United States, and has written short, personal essays about many of them. The essays are fiction, but are based on true accounts. Photographs illustrating the person’s situation accompany each of the essays. This book puts a very human face on many of the millions who have passed through this island. Ages 8-up.

Frazee, who reads to her granddaughter, is CNS international editor.

NEWS IN PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE WORLD



A man wipes tears from his eyes as he leans over a makeshift memorial outside St. Rose of Lima Church in Newtown, Conn., on Dec. 15. Earlier that day, a gunman killed 27 people, including 20 children and six adults, at Newtown’s Sandy Hook Elementary School. CNS photo/Joshua Lott, Reuters



Children hold figurines of the baby Jesus during Pope Benedict XVI’s Angelus in St. Peter’s Square at the Vatican on Dec. 16. The children brought their Nativity figurines for the pope to bless.

CNS photo/Giancarlo Giuliani, Catholic Press Photo

A Christmas tree decorates St. Peter’s Square after a lighting ceremony at the Vatican on Dec. 14. The 78-foot silver fir tree is from the Italian province of Isneria. CNS photo/Paul Haring



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CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR MASSES at SAINT JOSEPH CATHEDRAL



DECEMBER 24, 2012 ~ 5:00 p.m & 7:30 p.m.

Midnight with 11:00 p.m. Choir Concert

DECEMBER 25, 2012 ~ 10:30 a.m. Choir sings

DECEMBER 31, 2012 ~ 5:15 p.m. Vigil Mass

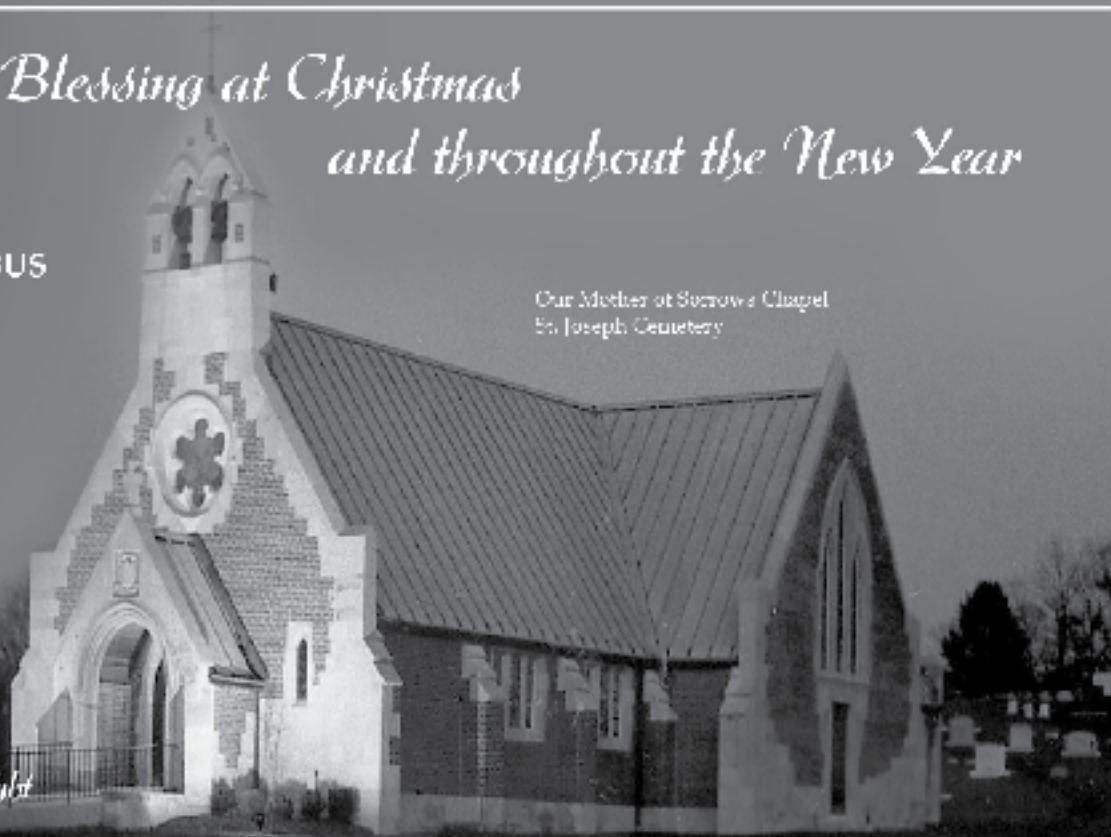
JANUARY 1, 2013 ~ 10.30 a.m.

*Wishing you every Joy and Blessing at Christmas
and throughout the New Year*

THE STAFF AT THE CATHOLIC CEMETERIES OF COLUMBUS

Theresa Bayes	Joyce Kitsmiller
Tim Boggs	Aaron McDole
Tony Burdette	Sandee Murphy
Bob Everts	Mark Noble
Brian Everts	Gary Scholer
Laura Farret	Robert Shirkey
Rich Finn	Steve Skinner
Dan Giesemann	Jim PavlHorn
Jan Gerst	Chuck Weiner
Ed Jones	Gregg Wright
Kevin Kelley	William (Billy) Wright

Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel
St. Joseph Cemetery



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

Resurrection Cemetery
9571 N. High St./U.S. R. 23 N.
Lewis Center, Ohio 43085
614-868-1805

Holy Cross Cemetery
11539 National Rd. S.W./U.S. R. 40 E.
Palaskala, Ohio 43062
740-927-4442

Mount Calvary
c/o St. Joseph Cemetery
614 491 2751

