

The CATHOLIC TIMES

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IN ROME,
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MEN'S CONFERENCE

The 28th annual Columbus Catholic Men's Conference in Kasich Hall at the Ohio Expo Center attracted nearly 2,400 who had the opportunity to be inspired by Mark Hartfiel (pictured) and other speakers, Page 5.



MAN OF THE YEAR

Christopher Grieb, a theology teacher, campus minister and coach at Newark Catholic High School, has been chosen as the Catholic Man of the Year in the diocese for 2025, Page 2

Newark Catholic teacher selected as Man of the Year

By Tim Puet

For The Catholic Times

This year's recipient of the diocesan Catholic Man of the Year award describes himself as an accidental theology teacher.

"I'd always wanted to teach and started teaching history at Newark Catholic High School, my alma mater, right after graduating from Ohio State. I imagined that would be my career," Christopher Grieb said.

"I spent about seven years doing that, then about eight years ago, I began working in campus ministry at the school. I don't have any type of theology degree and it wasn't a subject I anticipated getting involved with, but once I began the ministry work, I was asked if I could be a theology teacher. The request floored me, but I said I'd try and now I see teaching theology as a natural progression to my ministry role."

Bishop Earl Fernandes was to present Grieb with the Man of the Year award, sponsored by the diocesan Catholic Men's Luncheon Club, at the club's meeting on Friday, March 7 at Columbus St. Patrick Church.

Grieb, 39, is a 2003 graduate of Newark Catholic, where he was senior class president. He also is the school's seventh- and eighth-grade football coach, an assistant coach for its youth softball club and third- and fourth-grade basketball coach at the Newark YMCA.

He serves his parish, Newark Blessed Sacrament Church, as an extraordinary

minister of the Eucharist and a teacher for the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults and the Root family catechesis program. He and his wife, Mallory, have four children.

His campus ministry program includes planning all-school Masses on the first Friday of each month, holy days of obligation and other significant feasts, as well as an all-school retreat near the start of the school year and individual class retreats. There also is an annual Kairos retreat for seniors and select juniors, while sophomores take part in a three-day retreat in February at the Damascus Catholic Mission Campus in Knox County.

Grieb said he learned of his selection for the diocesan honor in a phone call received while riding a bus to Damascus with this year's sophomores. "My wife let slip that I was being nominated, but I'd forgotten all about it until I'd gotten the call, which left me shocked and very surprised," he said.

"Being a campus minister is challenging because of the way the culture is so apathetic toward faith. We're not immune to that even here in a school where being Catholic is ingrained in everything we do," Grieb said.

"Faith just doesn't appear important elsewhere in society. As a campus minister, I'm always asking students to stand out from the crowd and live their faith in a way that might motivate others.

"We don't just teach facts to be memorized but things students can apply every day to their lives. When I see students responding to the school environment



Christopher Grieb, a teacher at Newark Catholic High School, participates in a virtual rosary with students. Photo courtesy Newark Catholic

by persisting in faith through prayer and Mass attendance and in other ways, I want to champion that."

He said he hopes his students will have the same type of high school experience that led him to come back to Newark Catholic after graduating from Ohio State.

"I wanted to return because I wanted to give back to a community that gave me so much," Grieb said. "During my time as a student here, I grew in faith, came out of the shell I was in and made lifelong friendships, and I wanted to share this with others. This school has always been my home."

In a letter nominating him for the award, Lauren Bogner, also a teacher at Newark Catholic, said Grieb was deserving of the honor because of the way he leads others, particularly students, toward a deeper understanding and relationship with Christ.

"In a world where living out one's faith is not always popular, and certainly not easy, I can confidently say that Chris never wavers in what he believes and constantly strives to bring others along with him in all the best ways possible," her letter said.

"Chris can often be heard in the halls amongst our students saying, 'make sure you get to Mass this weekend,'" the letter said. "When dealing with teenagers, this phrase sometimes gets the occasional eye roll or sarcastic comment. But, I know, as do the students, that Mr. Grieb is just looking out for them. He wants

them to experience Jesus in the most intimate way possible, the Eucharist.

"Another phrase that often comes to mind when thinking about how important Chris' faith is to him and how he constantly strives to share it with others is, 'This is the most important thing that we will get to do today.' That phrase is in reference to the times that we get to celebrate Mass together and other church-related events as a school.

"Before Mass, that reminder is one that commands an auditorium full of students instantly. The tone of both these phrases is calm, it is sincere, and it is compassion filled, just the way Christ ministered to his people. ...

"It is evident that Chris perpetually challenges himself to become a better follower of Christ, not just for himself, but so that others may also come to know our Lord."

Other nomination letters were written by his pastor, Father Anthony Lonzo, and his former students, Joseph Mummey, Sam Wendt and Kelly Wendt. Mummey also is a teacher at Newark Catholic.

He was chosen from 16 nominees for the Catholic Man of the Year award by representatives from the Catholic Men's Luncheon Club, Young Catholic Professionals, the Catholic Men's Ministry, the Knights of Columbus and the Serra Club.

Also nominated were Leonard Barbe, Jacob F. Froning, Jeffrey Gardner, Richard Gummer, Michael Kozlowski, Alex Milburn, Michael Stephen Myers, Thomas Nance, William Oberdick, Joseph Regan, Dr. Mwawaza M. Sanyika, Francis Schneider, Tony Stout, Gerard Tracy and Zachary A. Wooten.

The club established the honor in 1957, awarding it to John Iggoe of Columbus St. Agatha Church, and presented it every year through 2020. No 2021 award was presented because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The 2024 recipient was Henry Szabo of Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator Church.

The club's next meeting on Friday, April 4 at St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., after the 11:45 a.m. Mass, will feature a talk by lay evangelist Justin Fatica of "Hard as Nails." No reservations are necessary. There is a suggested donation of \$12 to cover costs of the lunch and meeting. The Joseph Group will sponsor the luncheon.

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Front page photo

DEACON ORDAINED IN ROME

Deacons, including Bryan Inderhees of the Diocese of Columbus, lie prostrate during an ordination Mass in St. Peter's Basilica during the Jubilee of Deacons at the Vatican on Feb. 23.

Catholic News Service photo by Pablo Esparz



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Deacon describes ordination in Rome as ‘moving’

By Hannah Heil

Catholic Times Reporter

In a special Mass celebrated Sunday, Feb. 23 at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, Deacon Bryan Inderhees of Columbus was ordained to the permanent diaconate.

Inderhees was one of 23 men from eight countries selected to be ordained to the diaconate. The ordination Mass culminated a Jubilee of Deacons held Feb. 21-23, part of the 2025 Jubilee Year taking place in the Church.

Archbishop Rino Fisichella, pro-prefect of the Dicastery for Evangelization, celebrated the Mass in Pope Francis' stead while the Holy Father remained hospitalized with pneumonia.

More than 4,000 permanent deacons gathered for the Mass, with Italy sending the majority, followed by 1,300 deacons from the United States, 656 from France and deacons from various other countries.

Inderhees described the ordination Mass as “overwhelming and amazing.” He said being ordained with 23 men from around the world showed the global aspect of the diaconate.

While each candidate came from a different background, all were present to surrender their lives to Christ.

“One of the most moving things from that Mass, for me, was even just during the opening procession, following the cross down toward the canopy over the main altar,” Inderhees recalled. “There’s a rose window of the Holy Spirit that you can see through that – just like, ‘This is Who I’m going toward.’ We’re called to configure ourselves to Christ, and that’s where I’m going.”

The Diocese of Columbus’ Office of the Diaconate previously received a request from Rome to nominate men for ordination to the diaconate at the special jubilee Mass. With Bishop Earl Fernandes’ approval, Inderhees was nominated and later accepted for ordination.

He was previously in formation for the diaconate with nine men from the diocese who were ordained at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral last August.

Inderhees said it was decided that he was not ready for ordination at the time after discussions with his spiritual director and mentors. In the proceeding months, there were thoughts of selecting an ordination date, he said, when the diaconate office received the invitation from the Vatican.

Archbishop Fisichella read Pope Francis’ homily during the ordination Mass. The Holy Father encouraged the deacon candidates to serve with humility. He called them to a ministry of selflessness, forgiveness and communion.

During the rite of ordination, each candidate knelt before the archbishop, who laid his hands on their heads,



Deacon Bryan Inderhees of the Diocese of Columbus kisses a dalmatic presented to him by Father Nicola Ventura, a priest from the diocese, during Mass for his diaconate ordination in St. Peter's Basilica during the Jubilee of Deacons at the Vatican on Sunday, Feb. 23.

Catholic News Service photo by Pablo Esparza



Deacons from the Diocese of Columbus gather for the Jubilee of Deacons last month in Rome. Photo courtesy Office of the Diaconate. Photo courtesy of Deacon Tom Berg

calling upon the Holy Spirit. The newly ordained were then vested in a stole, a shawl-like garment that is draped over the deacon's left shoulder, and dalmatic, a knee-length sleeved garment.

The Jubilee of Deacons was one of a number of Jubilee Days set for 2025 that recognize and celebrate different groups of people and ministries in the Church. Catholics are encouraged to make a pilgrimage during the Jubilee celebration, whether to Rome or a holy site in their diocese.

“The whole pilgrimage was absolutely a wonderful experience and that chance to visit Rome – I haven’t been to Rome for almost 30 years now – so coming

back to it, especially as I’ve grown in my studies and my understanding of the Church and its evolution ... I really enjoyed the opportunity,” Inderhees said.

While in Rome for the three-day jubilee celebration, he was interviewed by Catholic News Service (CNS). He told the news outlet that the diaconate in the United States serves as a model for the universal Church.

“Here’s a way that we’ve found that we can take advantage of men who have this calling,” he told CNS. “Almost all of us who have already been married can support the clergy, support the Church, support our priests while still living both the sacred life and our lives as married

men.”

Inderhees, who works as an engineer for Honda’s Auto Development Center near Marysville, has been married to his wife, Emelie, since 2013. The couple have three children: Cecilia, 9, Livinia, 7, and Jeremiah, 1.

Inderhees said that while he did not pursue a vocation to the priesthood, he had a sense of being “called to more.”

After getting married, he said, Emelie suggested the diaconate – one of three degrees of the sacrament of holy orders along with the presbyterate (priests) and episcopate (bishops) – might be the call he was experiencing.

“We prayed and considered on that for a few years, and then I started hearing that calling louder and quieter in various ways through the earlier years of my marriage,” Inderhees said.

By 2020, he said, he was ready to move forward and sought to answer the call.

The formation period proved difficult at times, especially choosing to postpone his ordination when nearing the end of formation.

“There’s some growth that came with it – that decision back in August was not an easy one,” he recalled.

Inderhees said he spent time revisiting several questions: “What exactly is this that I’m trying to answer, and am I ready to answer it? Can I find ways to actually serve as I’m called to serve, and can I find ways to express my obedience to the bishop like I promised at my ordination? Can I find ways to balance this with my vocation to my marriage and my family?”

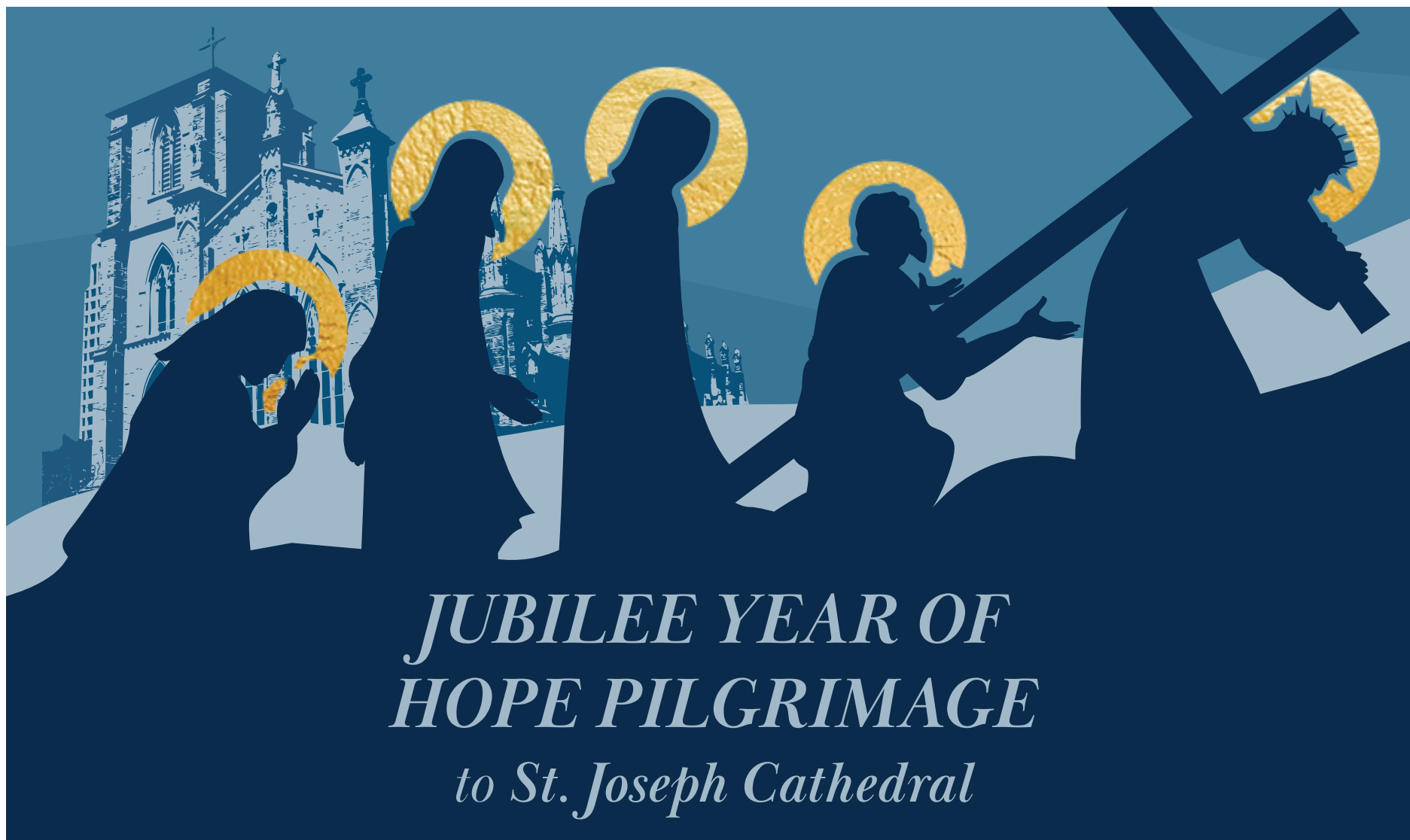
In his vocation as a husband and now deacon, Inderhees is eager to reach individuals and walk with them on their journey with God. He said he wants to help the faithful understand their vocations and how to respond to them.

He also looks forward to supporting the faithful through the sacraments, he said. As a deacon, Inderhees can administer the sacraments of baptism and matrimony.

The Second Vatican Council (1962-65) authorized the restoration of the diaconate as a permanent order of ministry in the Church.

More than 13,000 deacons in the United States minister in the Order of the Diaconate permanently. Students in formation for the priesthood are also ordained deacons before their ordination as priests. There is no difference in sacramental sign between “transitional” and permanent” deacons.

Bishop Fernandes assigned Inderhees to carry out his ministry at Columbus St. Agatha Church.



JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE PILGRIMAGE

to St. Joseph Cathedral

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

Celebrate the Jubilee Year of Hope with a *Pilgrimage to St. Joseph Cathedral* on the Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. All are invited to participate in this Jubilee Year Event to receive the plenary indulgence.

SCHEDULE

10:00 - 11:45 am | Confession will be available

12:05 pm | Mass with Bishop Earl K. Fernandes

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament following Mass and Veneration of the Relic of the Cloak of St. Joseph

1:30 - 5:30 pm | Confession will be available

Confessions in Spanish available from 1:30-5:30 pm

6:00 pm | Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament



Dr. Ray Guarendi gives his afternoon talk at the Columbus Catholic Men's Conference. Photo courtesy Larry Pishitelli



Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers speaks at the Columbus Catholic Men's Conference. Photo courtesy William Keimig



Father Thomas Blau, OP, of Columbus St. Patrick Priory presents the homily during Mass. Photo courtesy Larry Pishitelli



Father James Black carries the Blessed Sacrament at the Columbus Catholic Men's Conference on Saturday, Feb. 22 at the Ohio Expo Center. Photo courtesy William Keimig



Gabriel Gerardo (13) and his dad, Fritz Gerardo, who are members of Sunbury St. John Neumann Church, enjoy lunch at the Columbus Catholic Men's Conference. CT photo by Ken Snow

Men's conference focuses on mission

The three featured speakers seized upon the theme of the 28th annual Columbus Catholic Men's Conference to implore nearly the 2,400 in attendance to live out their vocations.

The attendees from more than 80 parishes throughout the diocese and beyond were encouraged during the conference on Saturday, Feb. 22 in Kasich Hall at the Ohio Expo Center to be "Men: On Mission" while the Jubilee Year is being observed by the Catholic Church in 2025.

Mark Hartfiel focused on mission, Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers emphasized the importance of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and Dr. Ray Guarendi stressed the necessity of men being strong spiritual leaders in their marriages and families.

Bishop Earl Fernandes, who was in Rome at the time of the conference, addressed the men via a video message, asking them to carry out their mission to be disciples of the faith who bring others into a deeper relationship with Christ.

After Burke-Sivers' morning talk, hundreds of men availed themselves to the Sacrament of Reconciliation at the midpoint of the conference. Two lines for confession stretched hundreds of feet on both sides of the hall as men pa-

tiently waited their turn for the opportunity to receive the sacrament from one of 51 priests.

Burke-Sivers, a longtime EWTN host, author and popular speaker, reminded men to protect the purity of their hearts through the powerful disciple of reconciliation.

"The heart is a place where your desire for God lives inside of you," he said. "The heart is what we use to respond to God's call.

"Deep devotion for God is in our hearts. God doesn't care what you look like, how white or how black and how Hispanic or how Asian you are, or whether you're Polish. God cares what kind of heart you have as a man for Him."

He asked the men what God would see if He looked at their hearts.

"Can God see His reflection in your heart as a man?" the deacon questioned. "Can God see His image and likeness in you? That's a serious question to ask yourself because if we are to be prepared for battle against this broken, confused culture, we need to have glorious, strong hearts for the work that God has called us to do as men – our beautiful mandate to serve, protect and defend our families, our Church and our culture."

Burke-Sivers went on to break down

the differences of mortal and venial sins while answering arguments that Protestants in particular pose about the need for the confession to a priest. He cited Biblical references in addition to the traditional teachings of the Church.

"Jesus gives specific and direct authority to forgive sins in the Holy Spirit and in His holy name," the deacon said. "He gave that power and authority to the first priests. ...

"How can the priest speak in the name of Christ to forgive sins? The only way that the priest can do that is if you receive specific and direct authority by God himself. When we hear the words of the priest, we are hearing the words of Jesus Christ forgiving sins through his priest because God wants to touch us with his own hands."

At the hour of death, Burke-Sivers said, all of an unrepentant mortal sinner's transgressions will be revealed in a fashion similar to the credits on a movie screen at the end of a film, but the repentant man's sins will be forgotten in the eyes of God.

Burke-Sivers told the assembly to cast away their mistakes and give themselves a new heart and a new spirit.

"Our job is not just to exist but to live, truly live, and to thrive and to be

an inspiration for the next generation of young men who are following our footsteps," he said. "Strong men. Strong families. Strong Church.

"We must take back this culture, but it has to start with each and every man sitting in this room."

The first talk in the morning session was delivered by Hartfiel, the vice president and national director of That Man Is You men's program that has grown from one parish in Houston to 950 parishes and 35,000 men in 46 states, including the Diocese of Columbus.

He's currently involved in a That Man Is You four-part series, The Mysteries of the Rosary, and referenced the Sorrowful Mysteries in his conference presentation to encourage his listeners to carry out their duties as husband and fathers.

"Do we know our mission? Do we know our fight? Do we know how to fight that fight? Do we know that it's a spiritual fight?" he asked.

Working in men's ministry for 20 years, Hartfiel said he has seen the epic battle being waged for souls in modern times. He believes most men are willing to fight the fight but aren't sure how to do so.

See CONFERENCE, Page 14

Josephinum to honor award winners at Good Shepherd Dinner

The Pontifical College Josephinum will honor Bishop Steven Raica of Birmingham, Alabama, with its 2025 Good Shepherd Award and Kathleen Gibbons of Dublin with its Pope Leo XIII Award, the two highest honors the seminary bestows annually on members of the clergy and the laity, at the Good Shepherd Dinner on Monday, April 28.

Bishop Raica, who joined Josephinum's Board of Trustees in 2019 while serving as Bishop of Gaylord, Mich., continues to bring strong and insightful leadership to the seminary as Vice Chair of the Board and as Chair of the Board's Academic Affairs Committee.

Bishop Raica is a native of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. He was ordained in 1978 for the Diocese of Lansing and, during his years as a priest, had a wide range of parish and pastoral experiences in Michigan.

He spent a number of years in Rome, where he served as superior of the Casa Santa Maria post-graduate residence for American priests, and obtained his doctorate in Canon Law from the Pontifical Gregorian University. Pope Francis named then-Father Raica the bishop of Gaylord in 2014 and bishop of Birmingham in 2020.

"The Josephinum has had the privilege of forming seminarians from both Birmingham and Gaylord for many years," said Father Steven Beseau, the Josephi-

num's rector-president. "It is an honor for us to recognize Bishop Raica for his support of vocations, his valuable contributions to our Board of Trustees and, above all, for his lifetime of witness to faith as a priest and bishop after the heart of Christ."

First conferred in 2009, the annual Good Shepherd Award is presented to a member of the clergy who exemplifies in his life and ministry the qualities of a good shepherd, especially in the promotion of vocations and in support of the Josephinum and its seminarians. The conception of this award considers how Jesus Christ, as the Good Shepherd, exhorted the apostles to lay down their lives for the sake of love (cf. Jn 15:12f).

Gibbons is the winner of an award named for the pope who granted the Josephinum pontifical status in 1892. The honor is given to an individual in recognition of his or her support for the Church, the priesthood, vocations and the Josephinum.

The Josephinum has enjoyed a relationship with Gibbons for more than 40 years. In 1984, she helped to establish The Friends of the Josephinum, a lay organization that raises funds to assist seminarians. She also served on the Josephinum's Board of Trustees for nine years, orchestrating many fundraising events. Through the decades, Gibbons graciously has continued to support the



Bishop Steven Raica



Kathleen Gibbons

seminary and its mission to form priests.

In addition to her relationship with the Josephinum, Gibbons is a patron of many Catholic charities and causes. She and John "Jack" Gibbons, her late husband of 56 years, raised their six children in the Columbus diocesan school system and for many years were lay leaders for diocesan fundraising efforts.

She is a founding member of Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Church, served on the board of St. Stephen's Community House and was integral in the opening of the Columbus' Women's Care Center.

Gibbons also started the Columbus chapter of The Christ Child Society, serving eight years on the organization's board and then as its national president. She is the first female Dame in the Holy Order of Malta in the Central Region and has served on the boards of St. Mary's

College and Holy Cross College, both in Notre Dame, Indiana.

"Few people have influenced the Catholic presence in central Ohio as much as Mrs. Kathleen Gibbons," Father Beseau said. "Her determined efforts and dedicated leadership for so many charities and organizations, including the Josephinum, embody what it means to use one's gifts to live the Gospel message. It is with great respect and admiration that we recognize her with the Pope Leo XIII Award."

The Good Shepherd Dinner is the Josephinum's signature fundraising event. Proceeds support its programs for men discerning a priestly vocation. Funds are raised through a variety of sponsorship opportunities, all of which are available to individuals, parishes, dioceses, organizations, and companies.

"The Good Shepherd Dinner offers us a rare opportunity to recognize our honorees and to raise funds essential to our mission of forming holy, generous, adaptable, and resilient priests," Father Beseau said. "The exceptional formation program we offer our seminarians is made possible only by the generosity of all who support us."

To learn more about supporting seminarians of the Pontifical College Josephinum and the Good Shepherd Dinner, visit pcj.edu/goodshepherd.



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What if I don't get ashes?

Dear Father,
I have to work on Ash Wednesday. Is it a mortal sin to not get ashes? If so, can I make my own and put them on myself? Also, what do I tell my friends who quote Matthew 6:16 to me?

-Edie

Dear Edie,

While it's customary for Catholics to go to Mass on Ash Wednesday and receive ashes on their head, it's not a mortal sin to miss Mass on Ash Wednesday, or are ashes on your head absolutely necessary. Ash Wednesday is not a holy day of obligation.

I hasten to caution you against making your own ashes, too. It may be dangerous. I've heard a fellow Dominican tell of a non-Catholic minister who wanted to introduce the Catholic custom of ashes on Ash Wednesday. During the day, the congregants were rubbing the place where he had imposed ashes. As the ashes fell off, a red cross appeared on each forehead.

The minister went to the Catholic priest and told him what had happened and asked if this happens to Catholics, too. The wise priest asked the minister where the ashes that he used had come from. The minister replied that he simply took some ashes from his wood-burning stove and mixed them with a bit of water. What the poor minister didn't know was that when wood ash is mixed with water it becomes lye, which is extremely alkaline and burns.

The ashes we use in the Catholic Church come from burning the old and left-over palms from the previous year's Palm Sunday. (I guess you could say that we're very "green!") Some Catholic parishes have a palm-burning ceremony before Lent. Others purchase ashes from a

SACRAMENTS 101

Father Paul Jerome Keller, OP, S.T.D.

Father Paul Jerome Keller, O.P., S.T.D., director of the diocese's Office of Divine Worship, is a priest of the Dominican Province of St. Joseph. His doctorate is from Rome in sacramental theology. He currently assists at Columbus St. Patrick Church.



special company.

I've also heard of Catholic clerics who want the ashes to be darker or stickier, so they add graphite or oil to the ashes, making a kind of paste. Both are bad ideas. The imposition of ashes is not a matter of theatrics, after all.

Ashes are a sign of penance. That's why we start Lent with ashes imposed on our heads. In the United States, the customary way to impose ashes is to make a sign of the cross on the forehead with the words "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return," based on Genesis 3:19. See also Ecclesiastes 3:20 refers to both beasts and humans who are made from dust and return to dust.

An optional Ash Wednesday formula is "Repent, and believe in the Gospel." The first formula expresses more clearly the meaning of the ashes, namely our mortality and dependence on God for our very lives.

Job (41:3) covers himself in ashes and dust to demonstrate his sincere sorrow for offending God with his proud words. Esther (ch 4), even as a queen, covered her head with ashes and dung as part of her prayer of repentance on behalf of her kin. When Jonah (having been vomited from the whale) preached repentance in the non-Jewish city of Nineveh, they all begged mercy from God, beginning with the king, who put on sackcloth and sat in a pile of ashes, and commanded all the people to

do the same.

Receiving ashes on Ash Wednesday, though not obligatory, is important because we all need to be reminded that we are not our own. Our bodies and our souls belong first to God. When we forget whose we are (God's) and His love for us, we tend to think we are our own masters. This kind of pride always leads to sin. Humility and repentance are the hallmarks of a Christian life every day, not just during Lent.

Those who quote Matthew 6:16 often use it as a proof-text against receiving ashes on Ash Wednesday. In that text, our Lord says that when we fast should not alter our appearance so as to show others that we are fasting. In ancient times, fasting accompanied the wearing of ashes.

Our Lord is not against outward penitential practices, per se. He warns that mere externals by themselves are not what save us from our sins and transform us. Christ is teaching us that God wants our interior to match the exterior, and that what we do to please Him in the secret of our souls is more important than putting on a show of holiness for others to see.

Consider that Christ also mentions wearing sackcloth and ashes when He upbraided people who refused to repent (Matt 11:20-24). He compares the unbelievers with those foreign peoples who repented and used the external signs of sackcloth and ashes to show their humility.

The wearing of ashes on Ash Wednesday is a sacramental. It is meant to help us on the road to heaven by calling ourselves to detach from this world and focus on the things of God and heaven. The ashen cross on our foreheads (or, in some places such as Rome, the ashes sprinkled on the crowns of our heads) should reach deep within our souls and cause us to hate the sins that prevent the reign of God from having first place.

Fake it till you make it season

Lent is here. It is a stark contrast to the warm glow of the Christmas season.

I often try to prepare for Lent as the Jewish people prepared for Passover. I empty our home of sweets and pare down our pantry to basics. The decorations are minimal with candles on the table for Friday stations, and the switch of a couple of throw pillows.

An analogy that comes to mind is when you pack up your home to move. The barren countertops, minimal cups in the cabinet, and only enough food in the fridge and pantry to sustain you until the move. You anticipate when you can leave this desert.

The emptiness of Lent is a palpable void and one that should be noticed. In preparing my home, I also prepare my family. There is an absence here that the church teaches us is necessary and I struggle to be comfortable with it. Perhaps that is the point. Lent is not meant to be comfortable. Lent is meant to form us.

Every Lent, I have this desire to enter deeply into this season of sacrifice and simplicity. There is a longing to give my all to this relationship with the Lord. I want so much for it to look and feel like I am fasting, sacrificing in a real way for the Lord. But as Father Mike Schmitz reminded me in a homily, "My feelings don't make me more like Jesus. My actions make me more like Jesus," and that is where my struggle in Lent lies.

Pope Benedict XVI is quoted as saying, "The world offers you comfort, but you were not made for comfort. You were made for greatness."

For many of us, we begin Lent with a strong intention to hold fast to our Lenten pledges. But God created us lovingly with an intellect, passions and our own free will. And if you are like me, all three of these are at war with one another daily, especially in Lent when what I want is not what I find myself doing.

ALL THAT WE HAVE

MaryBeth Eberhard

MaryBeth Eberhard writes about marriage, life experiences of a large family and special needs. She attends Sunbury St. John Neumann Church.



Over the years, I have learned that my battle is not so much with the fast as it is with my will. So, I have dubbed Lent, "Fake it till you make it season." I choose to recognize the root of the problem, my will, and pick up my cross and begin again, multiple times a day.

The goal of this season of purging our own desires is to intentionally forge a more intimate and vulnerable relationship with Jesus Christ. My marriage has become a lens from which I can more fully embrace this. Is not the goal of our marriage sacrament to lead the other into a closer relationship with the Lord? Do we not do that by training ourselves to think of the other before ourselves? Less of me, more of you. Are we not called to sacrifice, and lay down our lives for the other?

The beauty of the sacrament of marriage is that it gives us a perfect manual for how to "do Lent" well. There are seasons of marriage when it is challenging to love well. We are overworked, sleep deprived, worried and anxious over many things. The well from which I draw to serve and love my spouse seems cracked and dry. I have learned that in those seasons, the well is filled with sacramental grace, the grace given to us upon our wedding day. It is uncomfortable to realize I am empty but beautiful to know God always fills the well with what we need. This well has sustained us in many dry seasons!

Each of us has been given that same sacramental grace to help us know, love and serve the Lord more fully. Take a moment to think of each sacrament you have received and the grace that rests upon you. Sacramental grace is not a one-

time gift. It is meant as a tool, a shield, a well from which we can draw to live our life as an abundant offering to the Lord.

When I become distracted in Lent or complacent with what I intended to offer to the Lord, when excuses run rampant and self-pity comes knocking with its enticing comfort, we need to draw fully from the well of grace that is given to each of us.

There is a movie called *Paris, je t'aime*. It is a series of relational vignettes. In one of them, a man and his wife are meeting at a café. This man is prepared to tell his wife he is leaving her for his mistress. As they sit down to their table, the wife begins to cry. The husband is immediately convinced that she knows about his affair and has known for a while. When she hands him some papers, his demeanor changes as he learns she has terminal cancer. He vows then to himself to care for her through the end of her life. In caring for her, he falls back in love with her. His reflection at the end of the vignette is poignant and one to write upon our hearts. He says, "by acting like a man in love, I became a man in love."

To become closer to Jesus, we must do the things that draw us closer to Him, even if we fake it until we make it. Our human will is fickle. We are given the season of Lent to tame it. No matter what we "give up," that is the crux of my offering. Not my will but yours Lord. The beauty is that like the bread given to Elijah for his journey; we too are sustained through the grace of the sacraments, many that we can receive again and again in this season.

Lord, let me embrace this barren season of Lent as one of forming me to become the full version of who you created me to be. This Lent, help me to act more like a person in love with you. Show me what that looks like for you and me, so that I truly may become a person more in love with you. I know that is the desire of your heart, Lord. Please grow this desire within mine ...

'He ascended into heaven'

This article in a series on St. Thomas' Catechetical Instructions explores in the Apostles' Creed: "He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty."

Concerning the Ascension, St. Thomas says we ought to observe three things: that it was sublime, reasonable and beneficial.

It is sublime in that He is "in heaven." There is human nature and bodily flesh that resides in "heaven."

By Jesus sitting at the right hand of God the Father, quoting St. John Damascene, he says, "By 'the Father's right hand' we understand the glory and honor of divinity, where he who exists as Son of God before all ages, indeed as God, of one being with the Father, is seated bodily after he became incarnate, and his flesh was glorified."

St. Thomas says it is in accord with reason. "Heaven was due to Christ by His very (divine) nature. It is natural for one to return to that place from where He takes his origin." St. Thomas also says, "Heaven is due to Christ because of His victory. For He was sent into the world to combat the devil, and He did overcome him."

Finally, St. Thomas says it was very beneficial for us. "This is seen three ways. Firstly, as our Leader, because He ascended to lead us; for we had lost the way, but He has shown it to us. (Quoting Micah 2:13) "For He shall go up that shall open the way before them," and thus we may be made certain of possessing the heavenly kingdom: "I go to prepare a place for you (Jn 14:2)."

Second, that He might draw our hearts to Himself:

AQUINAS CORNER | Richard Arnold

Richard Arnold, a parishioner at Chillicothe St. Mary, holds an MA in Catechetics and Evangelization from Franciscan University of Steubenville and is a husband and a father to two children.



"For where thy treasure is, there is thy heart so (Mt 6:21)." Third, to let us withdraw from worldly things: "Therefore, if you be risen with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is sitting at the right hand of God. Mind the things that are above, not the things that are upon the earth (Col 3:1)."

For me, the Ascension seems to be the least appreciated "part" of the Paschal Mystery (Christ's work of redemption accomplished principally by his passion, death, Resurrection and Ascension). We have a season dedicated to his passion and death (Lent). Easter is "that most solemn of all feasts." The Ascension has a feast day, but it is transferred to a Sunday in most dioceses.

Consider the Ascension marks a long number of "waypoints" that God has placed "in time" for the culmination of His plan, which is His desire that we become His adopted sons and daughters. Through Sacred Scripture, you can follow people through time how their faith response to God has had a direct impact on you and me.

Read John chapters 14-17 and in particular 16:4-15 with an eye toward when Jesus says, "If." In this great

(final) discourse recorded by St. John, Jesus speaks in plain absolute truths (as best as the apostles could understand at the time) as opposed to truths to be discovered as in parables.

In these chapters, He lays out what He must do ... Go to the Father. He then tells them what He will do. This is absolutely critical. We often think God can do anything in any way. No.

God plans perfectly and does not have alternative courses of action. He doesn't weigh in His mind, what happens if Jesus doesn't ascend into heaven and remains on earth even though the apostles probably thought it a good idea that he stays.

"Play God" for a moment and ponder what if Jesus didn't ascend. I think we would be beholden to the "eyes of sight" versus the "eyes of faith." We all have a bit of "Missouri" ("show-me") in us.

We love it when a plan comes together. The Ascension is a magnificent event that reveals the beauty (and intelligence) of God's continuing plan for us.

Pentecost follows 40 days later. We are now nearing the "Endgame." The only event left in God's plan is the return of Jesus.

This is not "a long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away." I highly recommend you listen (again) to The Bible in a Year podcast with Fr. Mike Schmitz. You will follow how God's plan unfolds over time ... how beautiful it is and that it is going to succeed despite Satan's best effort. The best part? You are in it.

Lent and the purification of memory

On December 20, 2002, I was at lunch in the papal department when the wide-ranging conversation John Paul II always encouraged took an unexpected turn, with the pope asking me how President Ronald Reagan was doing. As it happened, I had recently run into Reagan's former attorney general, Edwin Meese, and had asked the same question. The answer was a sad one.

Meese had been to the christening of the *USS Ronald Reagan*, a Nimitz-class aircraft carrier, and had brought one of the traditional baseball caps with the ship's name on it back to the former president. Reagan, ever the gentleman, thanked Meese and then said, "But Ed, why would anyone name a ship after me?" The Alzheimer's that would kill him a few years later had obliterated his memory to the point where Ronald Reagan had no recollection of having been president of the United States for eight years.

When I related this story, John Paul, sitting directly across from me, looked utterly stricken, and what seemed a full minute's silence ensued. The pope was in tough physical shape from Parkinson's disease. But it was as if he now imagined a worse fate than being

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

George Weigel

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locked in an increasingly frozen body: a life in which he had lost the capacity to reflect on his life. The silence was broken by John Paul quietly asking me to "please let Mrs. Reagan know that I am praying for her husband" — a message I conveyed through Ed Meese on my return home.

That vignette puts a prayer once familiar to many Catholics, the Suscipe of St. Ignatius Loyola, into striking relief:

Take, O Lord, and receive my entire liberty, my memory, my understanding, and my whole will. All that I am and all that I possess You have given to me: I surrender it all to You to be disposed of according to Your will. Give me only Your love and Your grace; with these, I will be rich enough and will desire nothing more.

I learned the Suscipe as a boy, and I must confess that, for a half-century, I balked at the idea of offering the Lord my memory. It seemed a bridge too far, a self-immolation of an almost suicidal character. What would be left of me if I lost my memory? I could lose my liberty and still be me. I could lose what little understanding of things I had gained and still be me, for I could always understand better. As for losing my willfulness, well, it would surely be a blessing if the divine will took over in my life, unre-

servedly. But my memory?

On the surface, John Paul II's reaction to my telling him of President Reagan's loss of memory suggests that he, too, choked, at least metaphorically, at the idea of losing his memory in addition to his mobility.

The coming of Lent, however, suggests that the gift of one's memory to God involves the constant purification of memory over a lifetime, as a saint like John Paul surely knew.

The annual 40-day pilgrimage through the desert of Lent, patterned on the Lord's 40 days in the Judean wilderness in preparation for his public ministry, is the preeminent moment in the Church's year of grace for the purification of memory — especially our memories of the successes and failures of living missionary discipleship since Pentecost 2024 closed last year's season of paschal celebration.

As I note in *Roman Pilgrimage: The Station Churches*, Lent, as currently constituted in the sacred liturgy, divides into two periods. The first 2 1/2 weeks ask us to conduct an extensive examination of conscience: What in me needs purification if I am to become more effectively the missionary disciple I was baptized to be? What is the dross in my soul that must be incinerated to make me as transparent a witness to the love of Christ as I ought to be?

Lent's second half has a baptismal character. As we prepare to receive the blessing of Easter water, which is baptismal water, at the Easter Vigil or on Easter Sunday, our purified memories enable us to encounter anew, and in greater depth, Christ's thirst for us (as in the Lenten Gospel story of the woman at the well), Christ's enlightenment of us (as in the Lenten Gospel story of the man born blind), and Christ's power over death (as in the Lenten Gospel story of Lazarus).

The Lord purifies our memory so that we can, in due course, "see his face ... and ... reign forever and ever" (Revelation 22:4-5).

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Courageous hope during Lent

The observances of Lent can elicit a range of emotions. Our commitments to more prayer, fasting and almsgiving can feel heavy as the season progresses.

Why did I commit to giving up “_____” this year, as it calls to me from across the dinner table with friends? Have I kept up with that extra prayer hour, as the halfway point of the season brings a crisis of confidence? Maybe I need to hang onto the extra \$20 in my wallet so that I can afford the crazy price of eggs these days!

Regardless, of your emotional state ... breathe ... it will be OK. Lent may be about sacrifice, but it is also very much a season of hope. Our Jubilee Year would not be complete without a courageous “purgation through hope.”

Challenging our memory

Each year during Lent, I select a book or article for reflection. In preparation for a talk later in March, I am re-reading Edith Stein’s *The Science of the Cross*. Edith Stein, or St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, was a philosopher, Jewish convert to Catholicism and Carmelite nun. She was murdered in the gas chambers of Auschwitz in 1942, leaving the manuscript nearly complete in her cell except for the conclusion.

The book is a study of St. John of the Cross’ spiritual dark night and offers profound insights into Christ’s sacrifice for our sins. In one chapter, “Purgation through Hope,” Stein speaks about memory, or what I would call lived experience, as the thing that often gets in the way of our spiritual growth. We ... or at least me ... often measure our confidence and commitment based on what we have done in the past. Our experience operates as a checkpoint against our aspirations. Stein says

On Feb. 18, President Donald Trump issued an executive order entitled “Expanding Access to In Vitro Fertilization” (IVF) in which he stated, “My Administration recognizes the importance of family formation, and as a Nation, our public policy must make it easier for loving and longing mothers and fathers to have children.”

The order sets in motion a review process to obtain policy recommendations for “protecting IVF access and aggressively reducing out-of-pocket and health plan costs for IVF treatment.”

Although it seeks the good end of fostering family building, it embraces a reckless and unethical means of pursuing that goal. By doing so, it champions wrongdoing and cooperates in evil.

The use of IVF to bring new human life into the world always involves a disordered choice on the part of a couple or an individual. By allowing various third parties and employees from the infertility industry to build their children for them, parents commodify, objectify and instrumentalize both their own sexuality and the vulnerable bodies of their embryonic children.

Because of IVF, an industry has arisen that, at its core, produces and markets human beings and treats persons as products. This has had the effect of establishing a subclass and dehumanizing an entire segment of humanity: those who can now be sold, exploited, manipulated or handed over to stem cell researchers for destruction.

Every human being has the right to be conceived under his or her mother’s heart, in the safety of her body, and under the loving embrace of his or her parents. Instead of receiving their offspring as “gift” through their own marital embrace, those who seek IVF pursue a false “right” to manufacture their sons and daughters in lab-

SERVING AS NEIGHBORS |

Kelley Henderson

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to let it go ... all of it ... because we cannot possibly experience God through any effort of our own.

Checking baggage

The commitments we make during Lent to pray, fast and give to the poor are often noble affections for God. We prepare for the Easter miracle, just as Jesus did, in the desert of self-denial.

More time for prayer often means we give up another activity in our lives. Less consumption means we tame our appetites. More almsgiving removes the walls of indifference that may have hardened our hearts.

In effect, we are checking spiritual baggage ... yes, we all have baggage. Our baggage is like a running commentary on the successes and failures of life. If I had only done this or that, or last time I did that it did not go well. These negative experiences hold us back from experiencing the “what if” of a grace-filled season.

Not all baggage is negative, though. Some can be filled with joyful experiences. We celebrate the times in our life when blessings abound or grace was palpable. These good experiences are worth celebrating, but we must not let these high points define our limits of spiritual growth as if God had nothing more to offer us. Lent is a time to check the baggage, all of it.

Executive order on IVF

MAKING SENSE OUT OF

BIOETHICS | Father Tad Pacholczyk

Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, MA, and serves as Senior Ethicist at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See www.ncbcenter.org and www.fathertad.com.



oratory glassware.

This results in collateral damage on multiple levels, including the freezing and destruction of embryonic children, eugenic screening of those children for specific traits or sex selection, heightened rates of birth defects, the taking advantage of surrogate mothers, and the “selective reduction” of multiple pregnancies.

Given the moral objectionability of IVF, what should the administration do when it comes to IVF?

Simply put, the opposite of what it has done thus far. It should seek to forbid the practice through statutory mechanisms, or, if that is not yet politically possible, limit and circumscribe the practice by bringing it under tight regulation and oversight.

Rather than cooperating with the multibillion-dollar infertility industry and playing into its agenda by expanding IVF funding and availability, the Trump administration ought to clamp down on this largely unregulated behemoth.

The golden rule in the IVF industry has long been that if it makes gold, it’s got to be good and ethical. Its unique and much-touted “self-regulation” has made it into something of a laughingstock, so much so that the industry is often branded by the epithet, “the wild west

Making space for God

In the Carmelite tradition, there is a phrase that speaks to the ongoing effort to check our baggage and make space for God. *Vacare Deo* ... this phrase from Latin can be translated several ways. Make space for God, openness to God, or my favorite is waste time with God. This can be done through quiet prayer, replacing a meal with a Holy Hour or having a conversation with a neighbor who is lonely.

We can simply be prepared to receive the grace of a relationship, and in return gain the courage to hope. If we have courage to hope in that which is beyond our experience, then God can begin to fill us with something new.

I am blessed to witness this courage every day in the faces of those we serve at Catholic Social Services. Our neighbors hope courageously: seniors, families, and persons living with disabilities. They hope in a future filled with possibilities!

A Lenten sacrifice is such a small gift in comparison to a lifetime of struggle for many of our neighbors. Finding the courage to hope can begin this Lent for anyone willing to make the commitment of letting go.

Our hope is not based on what we have seen or heard; it is based on the “unseen” as St. Paul reminds us. Letting go of our experiences (both good and bad) is like checking the baggage to make space for God to do something new in our life.

My prayer for you this Lent is that you embrace *Vacare Deo* and “waste time with God,” the One who wants nothing more than our complete love of God and of neighbor.

of infertility.”

Strict regulation of IVF has a strong precedent even in some of the more progressive countries in Europe. If Germany and Italy have been able to regulate IVF by passing laws that restrict the production of embryos to a maximum of three at a time, with the requirement that all three be implanted, why couldn’t the administration, at a minimum, establish similar regulations to limit the collateral damage of IVF in the United States?

In our country, hundreds of thousands of cryopreserved human embryos have been abandoned and condemned to perpetual stasis in liquid nitrogen. The practical effect of the Italian and German laws has been to preclude the production of supernumerary embryos during IVF and to eliminate the humanitarian tragedy of freezing and storage of the youngest human beings by clinics.

For couples facing infertility, the administration could take the ethically upright approach of promoting, and assuring coverage for, restorative reproductive medicine in place of IVF. This medical approach pursues a thorough evaluation of the underlying causes of a couple’s infertility and provides tailored therapies so they can bring new life into the world through the marital embrace. It seeks to address the causal mechanisms of infertility such as an inability to ovulate, low sperm count, endometriosis, blocked fallopian tubes, and/or early miscarriages during pregnancy. Among the better-known examples of this approach are NaPro Technology, FEMM and NeoFertility.

The laudable goal of making it easier for “loving and longing mothers and fathers to have children” could

See IVF, Page 10

Thanking, asking, knowing and loving God more this year

By Father Tesfaye Petros Botachew

People want to be loved by others. In order to be loved, it is necessary to love first because love is expressed in action (John 14:15).

Just as God loved the world so much that He gave His only begotten Son (John 3:16), we can assume that our creator, God, has given us a new year because He loves us. This gift shows His love.

Love is not because we love God but because He loves us (Jn 4:10). God, Who gives us 365 days each year, asked Simon Peter, "do you love Me more than these?" (John 21:15) This year, He asks us, "Do you love Me more than last year?"

The God Who knows that we love Him wants us to love Him more than last year. To respond to His love, it is necessary first to know that He loves us, and we accept His love with humility and gratitude.

Let's take a look at the testimony of the Bible about how much God loves us.

This is how God loves us: He loves us more than a mother loves her children (Is. 49:15). He calls us "My children" (John 21:5). He has chosen us (John 15:16). He knows us (John 13: 18). He will be with us forever (Rev. 3:20). He cares for us until we are old (Is. 46:4).

His love is eternal (Is. 54:10; 55:3; 50:1). His love saves (John 3:16; Is. 50:2; 59:11 43:1-4). His love is forgiving (John 8: 10-11. Matthew 18:27). His love is the love He has planned for us (Jer 29:11).

Our loving Father is a father who expresses His love to each of us (Is. 49:26). His is a love that answers our questions (Mt. 7:7-12). Christ dying for us while we were still sinners explains God's own love for us (Rom. 5:8). He shows His love in that He gave His only Son (John 3:16). Because He loves us, He gives us the Holy Spirit (Luke 11:13; Rom. 5:5). He made us His children in His love (1 John 3:11 Rom. 8:15-16).

Knowing that God loves us helps us to give ourselves more and to love ourselves. If we believe that no one loves us, we do not love ourselves. If we do not love and respect ourselves, it is difficult to love and respect others.

Therefore, while thanking the God Who loves us, let us express our love to Him in the following four ways: giving more time to Him, striving to know Him more, increasing our obedience to him and loving all people without reason. Let us express to Him that we love Him more than last year.

Being with God

IVF, continued from Page 9

also be promoted through other creative strategies, including changing tax structures to incentivize stay-at-home spouses, subsidies for childbirth expenses,

Just as we always find time to be with the people we love, when we love the God Who loves us, we need time to be alone with Him. This year, more than last year, let's arrange a time of prayer to be with Him. When we are with Him, let us thank our God for Who He is, ask for His forgiveness for our sins, thank Him for what He has done for us and ask Him for what we need.

Worshipping

When we are in the presence of God, we should humbly praise Him for who He is without forgetting that we are human beings. We believe that He is our creator and savior, our lord and lover.

God is great. His greatness is beyond what man can perceive (Ps. 145:3). He is a mighty God. He is a great king above all gods. He rules over the whole earth. He controls what He has created.

He is our God, and we are His people. He cares for us, and we are His sheep whom He feeds. (Ps. 95:1-7)

Forgiveness

When we stand to pray, when we kneel or sit on the ground, we can think of God being in front of us, before our smallness, our sinfulness. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not with us.

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins, and He will cleanse us from unrighteousness. We should confess to God that we have committed many sins by thinking, speaking and not doing our duty.

Let us ask God's forgiveness for the evil we have thought, the evil words we have spoken, the evil we have done and the good things we have not done. He does not despise the broken and humbled heart (Ps. 51:19).

When we openly confess our sins to Him, when we tell Him that we are transgressive, He will relieve us of the burden of our sins (Ps. 32:5). In addition, let us forgive those who have wronged us so that our heavenly Father might forgive us our sins (Mark 1: 25). Let's ask for forgiveness from our creator by forgiving more than last year.

Thanksgiving

God accepts our repentance and forgiveness, so we should thank Him for the mercy and unspeakable gift we have received. Let us thank God more than last year for what He has done for us, what He is doing for us and what He will do for us in the future.

Remembering what He did for us yes-

terday, looking at what He is doing for us today and thinking about the good things He plans to do for us in the future, let us give Him the praise He deserves. As He says, "He who gives thanks honors me." (Ps. 50:23)

Let's celebrate Him by giving thanks more than last year. "What can we give back to the Lord except thanking Him for all the good things He has done for us?" (Ps. 116:12) Therefore, let us "give thanks in everything, for this is God's will in Christ Jesus." (1 Thes. 5:18)

Asking

There are many things we need both as individuals and as a society. Jesus says, "Ask and it will be given to you." Therefore, knowing our capacity and accepting our poverty, let us ask our heavenly Father more than ever to give us what we need.

Let us pray for leaders and all those in high authority (1 Tim. 2:1-2), for the sick and the poor, especially for those who need special attention. In everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, we should make our request known to God and not be anxious about anything. (Phil.4:6)

Knowing

When we love someone, we try to know more about that person. Let's read the Holy Bible to know God better because, as St. Jerome said, he who doesn't know the Bible doesn't know Christ. Let's also pray to understand more about the identity of Christ.

Archbishop Fulton Sheen said, if knowledge was the main thing our world needed, God would have sent experts. If the world needed technology, God would have sent a scientist. If it needed money, He would have sent an economist. What our world needs most is the forgiveness of sins and freedom from sin. Jesus removes the sin of the world.

Knowing Jesus, the Lamb of God, but also knowing Him more deeply is appropriate and necessary for all creatures who are sinners. Eternal life means knowing God, Who is the only true God, and Jesus Christ, Who was sent by the Father (John 17:3).

Let us ask Him to give us a spirit of wisdom and revelation so that we may know Him better (Eph. 1:17). He has made us to know and love Him. By doing this, we will be blessed on this earth and enter the kingdom of heaven.

Keeping the commandments

"If you love Me, you will keep My com-

mandments," it is written in John 14:15. Love is defined in practice. We love God by doing His will, by loving what He loves and hating what He hates. Let us keep His commandments more this year than last year.

When we think about the previous year, just as we have reasons to be thankful, our conscience knows that there are many reasons to ask forgiveness for our sins from our creator and people we have wronged. Our excessive selfishness and cruelty, knowingly or unknowingly, the evil deeds we have committed against each other – or the times we spent watching evil happen – are enough for internal brokenness.

We have learned from our past mistakes to repent and condemn our worst deeds in the new year given to us. Let's get ready to be partakers. As it is written, "O man, He has told you what is good: to do justice, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. What does the Lord want from you?" (Mic. 6:8). By loving forgiveness, this year more than last year, and by standing up for truth and justice, let us obey God's will and His word. (Rom. 12:2)

Loving each other

"As I have loved you, I give you a new commandment: love one another. If you have love for one another, all people will know that you are My disciples," our Lord Jesus said. (John 13:34)

Let us testify that we love our creator by loving all people. When we love each other, our will to live increases; our hope blossoms. On the other hand, if our life is without love, even if it is a new year, life will be meaningless. Let us live a life of love.

More than last year, let's love each other by getting out of the attitude of hatred and bigotry. In the new year we received from our God, let's get out of the spirit of "I" and enter into a spirit of "we." Let us love the God who loved us by loving each other more this year than last year.

Let us renew our love by keeping His commandments and loving each other more, strengthening our friendship with Him in the new year that He has given us, and realizing that we are children of the same Father.

Love is the greatest of all.

Father Tesfaye Petros Botachew is the director of the diocese's Office for Multicultural Ministry and a priest of the Apostolic Vicariate of Gambella in Ethiopia.

family.

Rather than governmental intrusions promoting exploitative technologies like IVF, Americans are entitled to upright

approaches that beckon life into society through loving acts of marital intimacy and nurture and support it within the sanctuary of the family.

Parishes plan special events, prayer services during Lent

The following is an updated list of special events for Lent planned in parishes of the Diocese of Columbus, as supplied to *The Catholic Times*:

Buckeye Lake Our Lady of Mount Carmel – Lenten Encounter with the Sisters of the Children of Mary, based in Newark, Sunday to Wednesday, March 30 to April 3, 6 to 8 p.m. Theme: “Anchored to Two Pillars: Setting Out into Deep Waters.” Topics: Sunday, “Understanding Grace and the Indwelling Trinity”; Monday, “Jesus Eucharistic: Lament of the Sacred Heart”; Tuesday: “The Blessed Virgin Mary – Spouse of the Holy Spirit, Mother of Jesus Eucharistic”; Wednesday, “At Home in Christ’s Church and Redemptive Suffering”

Chillicothe St. Mary – Confessions, Monday, April 14, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Eucharistic Adoration, Thursday, April 17, 8:30 p.m. to midnight (Evening Prayer 11:45 p.m.), church office

Circleville St. Joseph – Simple suppers, Fridays, March 7, 14, 21 and 28 and April 4 and 11, 6 p.m.; penance service, Sunday, March 16, 3 p.m.; Adoration, Wednesday, March 19, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; parish mission on the Eucharist with the Dominican Sisters of Peace, Thursday to Saturday, March 20 to 22, 7 p.m.

Columbus St. Cecilia – “School of Prayer” series with Father Bernard Mulcahy of the Pontifical College Josephinum, Tuesdays, March 11, 18 and 25 and April 1, 7 to 9 p.m.

Columbus St. Christopher – Young Catholic Professionals evening of Adoration and confession, Thursday, March 20, 7 to 8 p.m.

Columbus St. James the Less – Day of recollection in English, Saturday, April 5, noon to 5:30 p.m., retreat in Spanish, Saturday, April 12, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Living Stations of the Cross outdoors, Friday, April 18, 3 p.m.

Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral – Stations with improvised meditations by Dr. Richard Fitzgerald, cathedral organist and music director, Sunday, March 23, 3 p.m.; Tenebrae service with the Cathedral Schola, designed to re-create the sense of betrayal, abandonment and agony related to Good Friday, featuring Thomas Tallis’ Lamentations of Jeremiah and Gregorio Allegri’s Miserere, Friday, April 18, 8 p.m.

Columbus St. Mary German Village – Adoration, Benediction and confessions, Tuesdays, March 11, 18 and 25 and April 1, 8 and 15, 5:15 to 6:15 p.m.

Columbus St. Mary Magdalene and St. Aloysius – Mary’s Way of the Cross, led by women of both parishes, Friday, April 18, 3 p.m., St. Mary Magdalene Church

Columbus St. Patrick – Release of a new “Lenten Light” video series on YouTube and Facebook, with a short reflection for the week by a Dominican friar, Monday mornings, March 10, 17, 24 and 31 and April 7 and 14; parish mission with

Father James Sullivan, OP and Fr. Christopher Daniel, OP, Tuesday to Thursday, March 18 to 20. Subject: “Lent Matters: Growing in Faith, Hope and Charity.” Each day begins with 11:45 a.m. Mass, followed by confessions and all-day Adoration, Rosary at 6:30 p.m., talk at 7 and additional time for confessions, concluding with Benediction at 9 p.m.; Tenebrae service, Friday, April 18, 7 p.m.

Columbus St. Peter and Powell St. Joan of Arc – Penance service, Monday, March 18, 7 p.m., St. Joan of Arc. English- and Spanish-speaking priests available for confession.

Danville St. Luke – Penance service, Wednesday, April 2, 6:30 p.m.

Delaware St. Mary – Women’s Lent By Candlelight dinner, Wednesday, March 19, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare – “Mom to Mom: The Sorrowful Mysteries” series, Wednesdays, March 19 and April 2, 9 and 16, 9:45 a.m.; “Sisters in Christ: A Lent to Remember” series, Wednesdays, March 19 and April 2 and 9, 1:15 p.m.; “Eternal Rest: The Art of Dying Well” series, Wednesdays, March 19 and April 2 and 9, 7 p.m. or Thursdays, March 20 and April 3 and 10, 10:30 a.m.; Parish Rosary, Sundays, March 9, 16, 23 and 30 and April 6 and 13, 8:30 a.m.; Evening Prayer, Sundays, March 9, 16, 23 and 30 and April 6 and 13, 5 p.m.; soup suppers, Tuesdays, March 11, 18 and 25 and April 1 and 8, 6 p.m.; Taize prayer service, Thursday, March 20, 7 p.m.; Penance service and Vespers, Sunday, April 13, 5 p.m.; blessing of Easter food, Saturday, April 19, noon; Easter egg hunt, Saturday, April 19, 1 p.m.

Gahanna St. Matthew – “Restored” parish mission with John Edwards of “Just a Guy in the Pew” podcast. Friday and Saturday, March 14 and 15. Friday, Stations, 6:30 p.m., Edwards’ conversion story, 7; reception, 8. Saturday, Mass, 8:30 a.m., talks on “Restoring Your Identity” and “The Most Important Thing,” 9 a.m. to noon with break between talks; Tenebrae service with Ensemble Una Voce vocal group, Wednesday, April 16, 8 p.m.

Johnstown Church of the Ascension – Vespers, Sundays, March 9, 16, 23 and 30 and April 6 and 13, 4 p.m.

Lancaster Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption – Evening Prayer, Sundays, March 9, 16, 23 and 30 and April 6, 4 p.m.; soup suppers and Psalms, Wednesdays, March 12, 19 and 26 and April 2 and 9, after 6 p.m. Mass; penance service, Thursday, April 3, 6:30 p.m.; Adoration, Sunday, April 6, 11:30 a.m., ending with Vespers at 4 p.m.; Living Stations, Friday, April 11, 7 p.m.; Tenebrae service, Sunday, April 13, 7 p.m.; Morning Prayer, Friday and Saturday, April 18 and 19, 9 a.m.

Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes – “A Biblical Walk Through Christ’s Passion” study, Thursdays, March 6, 13, 20 and 27 and April 3, 7 to 8:30 p.m. or Wednesdays, March 12, 19 and 26 and April 2 and

9, 9 to 10:30 a.m.; Evening Prayer and Vespers, Sundays, March 9, 16, 23 and 30 and April 6 and 13, 5:30 p.m.; musical presentation of Bach’s full St. John Passion, Sunday, March 16, 3 p.m. Stations Through the Eyes of Mary, Friday, April 18, 3 p.m.; Tenebrae service, Friday, April 18, 8 p.m.

Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul – Talk series on “The Desert and the Lantern Waste” with parish faith formation director Jacob McCarthy, Thursdays, March 6, 13, 20, 27 and April 3 and 10, 6 p.m.; penance service, Tuesday April 1, 6:30 p.m.

New Albany Church of the Resurrection – Lenten evening of reflection with texts from Scripture, theologians and poets, together with music by Dan Schutte, Craig Courtney, Dan Forrest and Ola Gjeilo, Friday, March 14, 7 p.m.

New Philadelphia Sacred Heart – Evening Prayer and Benediction, Mondays, March 10, 17, 24 and 31 and April 7 and 14, 6 p.m., followed by Stations at 6:45

Newark Blessed Sacrament – Evening Prayer, Tuesdays, March 11, 18 and 25 and April 1, 8 and 15, 7 p.m.; Divine Mercy Novena and Chaplet, Friday to Sunday, April 18 to 27, 2 p.m.

St. John Paul II Scioto Catholic Community – Confessions, Monday, April 14, 4 to 7 p.m., Portsmouth Holy Redeemer Church; Walking Stations, Friday, April 18, 1:30 p.m., Holy Redeemer to Portsmouth St. Mary Church; Our Lady of Sorrows procession, Friday, April 18, 5:30 p.m., St. Mary

St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus – Seven Sorrows Rosary, Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Friday, April 11, noon

Sunbury St. John Neumann – Shroud of Turin exhibit, Friday, March 7, 4 to 7 p.m.; Saturday to Friday, March 8 to 13, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Reconciliation service, Wednesday, April 9, 6:30 p.m.

West Jefferson Sts. Simon and Jude – Miracles of the Eucharist traveling exhibit, Saturday March 15 after 4 p.m. Mass and Sunday, March 16 after 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. Masses; Lenten Night of Mercy with Adoration and confessions, Tuesday, March 18, 5 to 6 p.m.; Ukrainian Easter egg making workshop, Sunday, March 30, noon to 3 p.m. and 3 to 6 p.m.; Shadow Stations presented by parish youth, Friday, April 11, 6 p.m.; Good Friday outdoor stations, Friday, April 18, 3 p.m., weather permitting.



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	PARISH	LOCATION
3/5	ASH WEDNESDAY - ST. JOSEPH CATHEDRAL	Columbus
3/6	St. Matthew the Apostle	Gahanna
	St. Agnes	Columbus
	Church of the Ascension	Johnstown
3/7	St. Cecilia	Columbus
	Seton	Pickerington
	Holy Spirit	Columbus
	Our Lady of Mt. Carmel	Buckeye Lake
3/8	St. John Neumann	Sunbury
3/9	St. Catharine	Columbus
3/10	Our Lady of Perpetual Help	Grove City
3/11	St. Andrew	Columbus
3/12	St. John Paul II Scioto at St. Mary's	Portsmouth
	Immaculate Conception	Columbus
3/13	St. Francis de Sales	Newark
	Our Lady of Peace	Columbus
3/14	St. Mary	Delaware
3/15	St. Matthew the Apostle	Gahanna
3/16	Church of the Resurrection	New Albany
3/17	St. Peter St. Joan of Arc	Columbus
3/18	St. John Neumann	Sunbury
	St. John the Evangelist	Logan
	St. Joseph	Dover
3/19	St. Joseph Cathedral	Columbus
	Blessed Sacrament	Newark
	St. Joseph	Circleville
	Sacred Heart	Columbus
3/20	St. Christopher	Columbus
3/21	St. Vincent de Paul	Mount Vernon
3/22	Divine Mercy	Wellston
3/23	St. Catharine	Columbus
3/24	Sacred Heart	Coshocton
	St. Peter	Millersburg
3/25	St. Michael	Worthington
	Holy Family	Columbus



40 DAYS OF ADORATION

PLEASE CHECK CHURCH BULLETIN FOR TIMES

PARISH	LOCATION
3/26	St. James the Less Columbus
3/27	St. Thomas Aquinas Zanesville
3/28	St. Margaret of Cortona Columbus
	St. Mary German Village
3/29	St. Patrick Columbus
	St. Patrick Columbus
3/30	St. Rose & St. Patrick Perry County
3/31	St. Thomas More Newman Center Columbus
	Our Lady, Queen of the Apostles at St. Peter Chillicothe
4/1	Christ the King/St. Thomas the Apostle Columbus
	St. Pius X Reynoldsburg
4/2	Immaculate Conception Columbus
	St. Stephen the Martyr Columbus
4/3	Immaculate Heart of The Blessed Virgin Mary Canal Winchester
	Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Buckeye Lake
4/5	Our Lady, the Immaculate Conception Ada
4/6	Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption Lancaster
4/7	St. Leo Oratory Columbus
4/8	St. Colman of Cloyne Washington Court House
4/9	St. Brendan the Navigator Hilliard
4/10	St. Paul the Apostle Westerville
4/11	St. Bernadette Lancaster
4/12	St. Matthew the Apostle Gahanna
4/13	PALM SUNDAY - ST. CATHARINE Columbus

Diocesan parishes list Eucharistic Adoration times for Lent

The following is an updated list of locations throughout the diocese where Eucharistic Adoration is taking place, as supplied by the parishes to The Catholic Times. The list includes special Adoration times during Lent. Adoration does not take place during the Sacred Triduum from the evening of Holy Thursday, April 17 through the Easter Vigil, Saturday, April 19.

Ada Our Lady of Lourdes – Mondays, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; Wednesdays, 6 to 7 p.m. with confessions; Thursdays and Fridays, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.

Bridgettine Sisters (Order of the Most Holy Savior of St. Brigid of Sweden) convent, 40 N. Grubb St., Columbus – Tuesdays and Fridays, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Wednesdays, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 4:30 to 9 p.m.

Buckeye Lake Our Lady of Mount Carmel – First Fridays, 8:30 a.m. to noon

Canal Winchester Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Wednesdays, 6 to 7 p.m., First Fridays, 9 to 10 a.m., both at St. John XXIII Church

Chillicothe St. Mary – Thursday, April 17, 8:30 p.m. to midnight (Evening Prayer 11:45 p.m.), church office; Fridays, 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Chillicothe St. Peter – 6 a.m. Tuesdays to 7 p.m. Thursdays; First Saturdays, 9 to 10 a.m.

Circleville St. Joseph – First Sundays, 2 p.m.; Wednesday, March 19, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Columbus Christ the King – Wednesdays, 6 to 9 p.m.; Fridays, 4 to 6 p.m.

Columbus Holy Cross – Saturdays, following 11:30 a.m. Mass

Columbus Holy Spirit – First Fridays, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Columbus Immaculate Conception – first Wednesdays (except in March, when date will be March 12), 7 to 8:15 a.m., with Mass at 8:30 a.m. and Adoration resuming from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Wednesday, April 2, same schedule, followed by ADORE Lenten evening of Adoration and reflection

Columbus Our Lady of Guadalupe, Star of the New Evangelization (formerly Columbus Holy Name) – 6 p.m. Mondays to 8:30 a.m. Saturdays in chapel

Columbus Our Lady of Peace – Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Columbus Sacred Heart – Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Columbus St. Agatha – Wednesdays, 9:30 to 11 a.m. and 7 to 8 p.m.

Columbus St. Andrew – Tuesdays, 6 to 9 p.m., ending with Compline and Benediction

Columbus St. Catharine – Sundays through Fridays, 6 a.m. Sunday to midnight Friday, church closed Saturday from 12:01 to 6 a.m.; Saturdays, 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursdays at 7 p.m. are ADORE nights featuring candlelit programs and confession

Columbus St. Cecilia – Tuesdays, 5:45 to 6:45 p.m.; First Fridays, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Columbus St. Christopher – Weekdays, 3 to 4 p.m. with Mass at 4; Young Catholic Professionals Advent adoration, Thursday, March 20, 7 to 8 p.m.

Columbus St. James the Less – Wednesdays, noon to 8 p.m. with bilingual Benediction

Columbus St. Josephine Bakhita at St. Elizabeth Church – Tuesdays, 5 to 6 p.m.

Columbus St. Margaret of Cortona – Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to noon

Columbus St. Mary German Village – First Fridays, from after 8:30 a.m. Mass to 1 p.m.; Tuesdays, March 11, 18 and 25 and April 1, 8 and 15, 5:15 to 6:15 p.m.

Columbus St. Patrick – Fridays, 12:15 to 1:15 p.m.; Fridays, 8 p.m. Friday to 7 a.m. Saturday (church locked; call church office at (614) 224-9522 for access information)

Columbus St. Peter – Mondays through Fridays, 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Columbus St. Stephen the Martyr – Thursdays, 6 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center – Mondays through Fridays, 8:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. when Ohio State University classes are in session

Columbus St. Thomas the Apostle – Tuesdays, 7 to 8 p.m.

Coshocton Sacred Heart – First and third Fridays, 9:30 to 11:15 a.m.

Danville St. Luke – Tuesdays, 11:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.; Wednesdays, 5:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Delaware St. Mary – Thursdays, after 5:30 p.m. Mass to 7:30 p.m.

Dennison Immaculate Conception – Tuesdays, 8:45 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Dover St. Joseph – Tuesdays, 5 to 6 p.m.; Thursdays, 9 to 9:30 a.m.; First Fridays, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare – Wednesdays, 5 to 7 p.m., chapel; First Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., church

Gahanna St. Matthew the Apostle – 24 hours, seven days a week in basement adoration chapel. Open to the public from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays and 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Holy Hour for the reparation, purification and sanctification of the Church, fourth Fridays, 7 to 8 p.m.

Granville St. Edward – Mondays, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help – First Fridays, 9 a.m. Friday to 9 a.m. Saturday; other Fridays, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Groveport St. Mary – First Fridays, 9 to 10 a.m.

Heath St. Leonard – First Fridays, after 9 a.m. Mass until Benediction at 2:30 p.m.

Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator – Mondays, 6 to 10 p.m.; Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Wednesdays, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursdays and Fridays, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

(First Fridays until 1 p.m. Saturday); Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Johnstown Church of the Ascension – Tuesdays, 5 to 6 p.m.; Saturdays, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.

Kenton Immaculate Conception – Tuesdays, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.; Wednesdays, from end of 9 a.m. Mass to Benediction at 1 p.m.

Lancaster Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption – Sunday, April 6, 11:30 a.m., ending with Vespers at 4 p.m.

Lancaster St. Bernadette – Wednesdays, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; 6 p.m. Thursdays to 8 a.m. Fridays

London St. Patrick – Thursdays, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.; First Fridays, noon to 5:15 p.m.

Marion St. Mary – Fridays, 5 to 6 p.m.; First Fridays, 4 to 7 p.m.

Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes – First Fridays, 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.; second Sundays (except April 13), 10 to 11 a.m.

Mattingly Settlement St. Mary – First Fridays, 6 to 7 p.m.

Mount Vernon St. Vincent de Paul – Thursdays, 3 to 10 p.m.; Fridays, 5 a.m. to 5 p.m.

New Albany Church of the Resurrection – Third Sundays, noon

New Lexington St. Rose – Wednesdays, 5:15 to 6:15 p.m., concluding with Benediction and followed by Mass at 6:30

New Philadelphia Sacred Heart – Tuesdays, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Evening Prayer and Benediction, Mondays, March 10, 17, 24 and 31 and April 7, 6 p.m.

Newark Blessed Sacrament – Mondays, noon to 8 p.m.; Wednesdays, 9 to 11 a.m.

Pickerington St. Elizabeth Seton – Perpetual Adoration, except from noon to 1 p.m. Thursdays. Sign up at www.setonparish.com/ministries/adoration

Plain City St. Joseph – Mondays through Thursdays, 6 to 11 a.m. and 6 to 9 p.m.; Fridays, 6 to 8 and 9 to 11 a.m. and 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Portsmouth St. Mary – Perpetual Adoration 24 hours a day, except when there are Masses or special events

Powell St. Joan of Arc – 9 a.m. Mondays to 8 a.m. Saturdays

Reynoldsburg St. Pius X – Wednesdays, 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 9 p.m. in chapel, with Holy Hour from noon to 1 p.m. in church; Sundays, 4 to 5 p.m.; First Fridays, 9 a.m. Friday to 6:30 a.m. Saturday

Somerset Holy Trinity – Tuesdays, March 11, 18 and 25 and April 1 and 8, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., followed by Holy Hour and Benediction from 6 to 7

Sugar Grove St. Joseph – First Thursdays, 9 to 10 a.m.

Sunbury St. John Neumann – 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily in chapel

Washington Court House St. Colman of Cloyne – Sundays, 8 to 8:45 a.m. and 5 to 6 p.m.; Tuesdays, 6 to 7 p.m.; Wednesdays through Fridays, 7:15 to 8:15 a.m.

Waverly St. Mary, Queen of the Missions – Wednesdays, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

West Jefferson Sts. Simon and Jude – Tuesdays, 5 to 6 p.m.; First Fridays, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Westerville St. Paul the Apostle – First and third Wednesdays, 2:30 to 9 p.m. (confessions 7 p.m.); First Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Worthington St. Michael the Archangel – 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. Mondays and 9 a.m. Tuesdays to 9 p.m. Fridays in chapel; Holy Hour with confessions, Wednesdays, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in church

Zanesville St. Nicholas – First Fridays, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Zanesville St. Thomas Aquinas – Wednesdays, 9:30am to 9pm in chapel

Zoar Holy Trinity – Wednesdays, 7 to 8 p.m.

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CONFERENCE, *continued from Page 5*

Hartfiel used the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary, which follow Christ's suffering and death, to define the battle, noting that Jesus had the power to disband the soldiers coming to take him away and to save himself but knew instead that the final battle would be won on Calvary.

Sharing a personal story about the rosary, Hartfiel said he was meditating on the third Sorrowful Mystery one day when he told the Lord while reflecting on Him being mocked, "Enough is enough. Make it stop. They can't do this (to you)." And Hartfiel said he heard Jesus respond by saying, "You still don't understand."

"And He said, 'I'm not fighting against them, I'm fighting for them.'"

The lesson to be learned, Hartfiel said, is that "we're not fighting against our brothers, we're fighting for those most in need of God's mercy."

Hartfiel pointed out that Christ is encouraging men to forgive those who persecute them, to love their enemies and to carry the cross in reparation for sin.

Christ's self-sacrificial love serves as a model for men to come out of their comfort zones, to go on mission and be men of dignity and responsibility. Hartfiel implored the men to pay particular attention to their wives and family.

"Our great commissioning as men is to use this strength that God has given us not to lord over others but to serve," he said. "That primary vocation for those of us who are married is our spouse and our families. ..."

"The family is placed at the center of the great struggle between good and evil, between life and death, between love and all that's opposed to love."

Pray every day by name for the members of your family, Hartfiel said.

"What are we doing spiritually every day to protect our bride, our children?" he asked. "We're called to put food on the table, but we're called to provide that spiritual food and protection. That's our number one mission."

One way to do that, he suggested, is praying a daily rosary – with one decade each day for spouses.

Hartfiel concluded by asking men to reflect on three questions: What are your top three missions in life? How is God calling you personally to become a Terror of Demons on behalf of your family, the Church and society? And, finally, what spiritual weapon will you use to go about crushing the head of the serpent?

Guarendi, a clinical psychologist who lives in North Canton, is well known in the Catholic world as the host of the EWTN radio program "The Doctor is In," offering guidance on parenting, marriage and family. The father of 10 has given countless talks and also hosts the EWTN television series "Living Right with Dr. Ray."



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament was available for quiet prayer time during the Columbus Catholic Men's Conference on Saturday, Feb. 22 in Kasich Hall at the Ohio Expo Center.

Photo courtesy Larry Pishitelli

He mixed humor with family anecdotes and sage advice during a 45-minute talk that at times resembled a stand-up comedy routine.

Addressing the emasculation of men in society today, he said that during his 40 years as a practicing psychologist he has "watched manly authority and discipline become an ugly word, a word of psychological last resort, a word of unsophisticates."

"You older guys, you're the last generation across the board, in my opinion, who knew who the parent was. We've got these young people so skittish now."

Nowadays, fathers and parents have been told that they don't have to discipline their children, he said, but "I am fond of telling folks discipline without love may be harsh; love without discipline is child abuse because, ultimately, your kids, your grandkids are going to be disciplined by a judge, a landlord, an Army sergeant, a police officer, an employer."

Guarendi urged fathers to take their role as heads of the household seriously.

"I am hearing from more and more women (and) they are telling me that they are the authorities in their home," he said. "They set the rules, they set the standards, they set the discipline."

Mothers and grandmothers need support, he said, when a child talks back to them. "Next time you hear her walk into a battle with a kid or a grandkid, don't sit in the BarcaLounger in the other room thinking to yourself, 'I'll close my eyes.' (Instead), I'm going to see what she wants me to do about this."

"I can't tell you how many women come to me and say, 'I wish my husband would back me up or at least help out.'"

"Gentlemen, you want your spouse to say, no matter how difficult you might be to live with, you want her to say he treats me better than he treats anybody else."

Guarendi cautioned men to be aware of the distortion of gender roles (particularly those claiming gender is a social construct) that is increasingly impacting society.

"Research doesn't support this. God doesn't support it. Human history doesn't support it," he said. "Common thought is there are no biological differences between men and women, they're just socialized into different roles. ... But we're wired different. ..."

"Psychological correctness is a quagmire, (but) you have the wisdom of the ages on your side. You have psychological research on your side. The narrative right now tells you that strong manhood is a pathology. It's toxic. (But) you've got to be strong. I'm talking about a quiet strength."

Acknowledging that fathers and mothers lament the mistakes they made while raising their children and the agony that some experience when a child no longer practices the Catholic faith, Guarendi offered some consolation and practical wisdom.

"If you're beating yourself up over your children having left the faith," he said, "I'm going to take that off your shoulders."

"Answer these questions: Is there a God? Is Christ God? Was He sinless? Could He perform miracles? Did He have a perfect understanding of human nature? Could He get most people to follow Him?"

The men in the crowd answered no to the last question, and Guarendi responded, "So, we think we're better than God?"

Guarendi's talk was followed by a presentation on the rosary by Father Jonathan Wilson, pastor of Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church and chaplain of the Catholic Men's Ministry board of directors.



Father James Black elevates the host during Mass at the Columbus Catholic Men's Conference.

Photo courtesy William Keimig

The conference concluded with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass with Father James Black, pastor of Dublin St. Brigid of Kildare Church, as the principal celebrant and Father Thomas Blau, OP of Columbus St. Patrick Priory as the homilist.

Afterward, a personal invitation was issued to the men to continue to go on mission by committing to veneration of the Blessed Mother and the saints, pursuing ongoing formation in the faith, deeper engagement in parish life and other Catholic institutions, uniting to the personal sufferings of Christ, becoming an ambassador of reconciliation and healing to others, and continuing concrete practices of love for neighbor.

St. Brigid of Kildare was designated as the host parish this year and men from the parish volunteered throughout the day at the conference.

Other parishes with the largest attendance included Powell St. Joan of Arc-Columbus St. Peter, Sunbury St. John Neumann, Westerville St. Paul, New Albany Church of the Resurrection, Delaware St. Mary, Columbus St. Patrick, Gahanna St. Matthew the Apostle, Hilliard St. Brendan the Navigator, Worthington St. Michael the Archangel, Columbus St. Catharine of Siena, Columbus Immaculate Conception, Pickerington St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Reynoldsburg St. Pius X, Columbus St. Cecilia, Marysville Our Lady of Lourdes, Columbus Our Lady of Peace, Grove City Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Columbus St. Andrew, Circleville St. Joseph and Buckeye Catholic.

Contingents from the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and the Dioceses of Cleveland and Toledo were also on hand.

The exhibitor hall included 52 faith organizations and six vendors.

Brad Pierron, the conference emcee, announced that next year's event is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 28.

Students attend Guadalupe Youth Summit



Bishop Earl Fernandes speaks to over 500 students attending the sixth annual Guadalupe Youth Summit on Thursday, Feb. 20 in Kasich Hall at the Ohio Expo Center. Attendees attended Mass; listened to talks by seminarians, priests, religious and lay people; participated in activities; visited a resource fair and had lunch. *Photos courtesy William Keimig*



Bishop Earl Fernandes raises the host during the consecration at a Mass celebrated for the Guadalupe Youth Summit on Thursday, Feb. 20 in Kasich Hall at the Ohio Expo Center.



Father David Arroyo, diocesan vicar of Hispanic ministry, distributes Holy Communion to students during the Guadalupe Youth Summit Mass.

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Adult dine-in | \$16

Senior dine-in | \$14

Kids (4-10) dine-in | \$10

Drive-thru:

3-piece fish, fries, coleslaw
OR Veggie Lo Mein | \$14



Knights of
Columbus
Council 10941



FIND *a* FISH FRY *or* LENTEN DINNER

The following is an updated list of fish fries and Lenten dinners compiled by *The Catholic Times* from information supplied by parishes and schools in the diocese. Check parish or school websites for additional information about menus, times, dates and cancellations due to weather or other factors.

COLUMBUS NORTH

OUR LADY OF VICTORY CHURCH

1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus
Fridays, 3/7-4/11, 4:30-7 p.m.

ST. CHRISTOPHER CHURCH

1420 Grandview Ave., Grandview
Heights (Trinity School cafeteria)

Pasta Dinner

Fridays, 3/7, 3/14, 3/21, 4/7, 5-7 p.m.

Hispanic Dinner

Friday, 3/28, 5-7 p.m.

Polish Dinner

Friday, 4-11, 5-7 p.m.

OUR LADY OF VICTORY CHURCH

1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus (Parish

Life Center)

Soup Supper and Bible Study

Wednesdays, 3/12-4-9, 6-7:30 p.m.

ST. JOAN OF ARC CHURCH

10700 Liberty Road, Powell

Fridays, 3/7-4/11, 5-7 p.m.

Stations of the Cross, 7:30 p.m.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH

386 Buttles Ave., Columbus 43215

Pasta Dinner

Saturday, 3/1, noon-7 p.m.

Lenten Soup Suppers

Mondays, 3/10-4/7, 6-8 p.m.

ST. MARGARET OF CORTONA

1600 N. Hague Ave., Columbus

Fridays, 3/7-4/11, 4:30-7:30 p.m.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

414 E. North Broadway,
Columbus (Marian Hall)

Fridays, 3/7-4/11, 5-7:30 p.m.

ST. MICHAEL CHURCH

5750 N. High St., Worthington

Fridays, 3/7-4/11, 5-7:30 p.m.

ST. BRENDAN CHURCH

4475 Dublin Road, Hilliard (school)

Fridays 3/7-4/4, 5-7 p.m.

www.BESTFISHFRY.com

Baked or Hand Battered Fish, Cole Slaw, Mac n' Cheese, Green Beans, *Fries
*dine in only

Dining Room | Online TO GO
ALL YOU CARE TO EAT OR FOR FASTER PICKUP

KIDS EAT FREE
Visit our website for details and pricing

March 7, 14, 21, 28 April 4, 11

Stations of the Cross
7:00pm St. Joan of Arc
7:30pm Spanish St. Peter

5-7pm | ST. JOAN OF ARC | Powell
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 10765

Our LADY of PERPETUAL HELP
CATHOLIC PARISH

FISH FRY

Fridays during Lent | 4:30-7 pm

March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4, 11

Sponsored by
Perpetual Help Council 4603

ST. CHRISTOPHER LENTEN DINNERS 2025

Trinity School Cafeteria
1440 Grandview Avenue
Columbus, OH 43212

5-7PM

\$15 for ADULTS
\$10 for CHILDREN (12-6)
CHILDREN UNDER 5 eat FREE

Dessert and pop/water included with each meal
Adult beverages available
Carry-out available

PASTA DINNERS	COMIDA LATINA	POLISH DINNER
March 7, 14, 21 & April 4	March 28	April 11
Rigatoni with red sauce, bowtie pasta with alfredo sauce, macaroni & cheese, green beans, salad, bread & butter	Cheese stuffed chiles, rice, and salad OR shrimp tacos, soup, and salad	Pierogi, crepe, coleslaw salad

FISH FRY FRIDAY

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
St Jude Council - 5801

ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 8TH GRADERS ATTENDING A CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

www.kofc5801.Org

ST. MATTHEW THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC PARISH
807 Havens Corners Road, Gahanna, Ohio 43230
Every Friday from March 7th - April 11th | 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm

SOCIAL DINING WITH LIVE ENTERTAINMENT in the HUTTA GYM
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SOCIAL DINING MENU (ALL YOU CAN EAT)

3 - Pieces of Cod (Baked or Deep Fried)
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Coleslaw and Dessert
Lemonade, Punch, and Coffee

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Family of 5 - **\$85.00** / Family of 6 - **\$102.00**
Senior (65 & above) - **\$15.00**
Children 8 under are free

PIZZA DINNER MENU

2 - Pieces Three Cheese Pizza | Choice of two sides: Mac and Cheese, Coleslaw, Green Beans, and French Fries
Lemonade, Punch, or Coffee | **\$10.00**

SOCIAL DINING MENU (ONE PLATE ONLY.)

3 - Pieces of Cod (Baked or Deep Fried) | French Fries or Baked Potato | Arkansas Green Beans or Mac and Cheese
Coleslaw and Dessert
Lemonade, Punch, or Coffee **\$15.00**

BASIC TAKE-OUT ORDERS MENU & DRIVE THRU BASIC MENU (NOT ALL YOU CAN EAT.) PLACE YOUR ORDER, GO TO THE PAC ENTRANCE.

3 - Pieces of Cod (Baked or Deep Fried) (Extra piece of fish will be 1.00/piece.)
French Fries | Coleslaw
\$12.00

Cash, Check, and Credit/Debit Card.
Credit/Debit Card subject to a 1.00 expense charge per transaction.

CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION
6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road, New Albany (Ministry Center)
Fridays, 3/7-4/11, 4:30-7:30 p.m.
Lunch, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA PARISH
6077 Sharon Woods Blvd., Columbus
Fridays, 3/7-4/11, 5-7 p.m.

ST. JOHN NEUMANN CHURCH
9633 E. State Route 37, Sunbury (Faith and Family Center)
Fridays, 3/7-4/11, 4-7 p.m.

ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE CHURCH
313 N. State St., Westerville (Miller Hall)
Fridays, 3/7-4/11, 5-7:30 p.m.

ST. ANDREW CHURCH
1899 McCoy Road, Columbus (Nugent Parish Hall)
Fridays, 3/21, 4/4, 4/11, 4:30-7 p.m.

ST. TIMOTHY CHURCH
1033 Thomas Lane, Columbus
Pasta dinner
Sunday, 3/2, noon-6:30 p.m.

COLUMBUS CENTER
ST. PATRICK CHURCH
280 N. Grant Ave., Columbus
Fridays, 3/7-4/11 5-7 p.m.
Stations of the Cross, 7 p.m.

ST. DOMINIC CHURCH
455 N. 20th St. (Parish Center)
Saturday, 3/29, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

COLUMBUS EAST
HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH
4383 E. Broad St., Columbus
Fridays, 3/14, 3/28, 4/11, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

ST. CATHARINE CHURCH
500 S. Gould Road, Columbus
Fridays, 3/7, 3/21, 4/4, 5-7:30 p.m.

ST. MATTHEW CHURCH
807 Havens Corners Road, Gahanna
Fridays, 3/7-4/11, 4:30-7 p.m.

ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON PARISH
600 Hill Road N., Pickerington (Activity Center)
Fridays, 3-7-4/11, 4:30-7 p.m.

ST. PIUS X CHURCH
1051 S. Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg (Parish Center)
Fridays, 3/7, 3/21, 4/4, 5-7:30 p.m.

COLUMBUS WEST
OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CHURCH
3752 Broadway, Grove City (School Cafeteria)
Fridays, 3/7-4/11, 4:30-7 p.m.

SS. SIMON AND JUDE CHURCH
9350 High Free Pike, West Jefferson
Lenten Pasta Dinners
Fridays, 3/28, 4/4, 4/11, 5-7 p.m.

ST. CECILIA CHURCH
434 Norton Road, Columbus
Fridays, 3/7-4/11, 5-7:30 p.m.

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH
670 W. Main St., Plain City
Fridays, 3/7-4/11, 5:30-8 p.m.

ST. PATRICK CHURCH
226 Elm St., London (School)
Fridays, 3/14, 3/28, 4/11, 4:30-7 p.m.

OUTSIDE METRO COLUMBUS
ST. MARY CHURCH
66 E. William St., Delaware (Commons)
Fridays, 3/7-4/11, 5-7 p.m.

ST. MARY CHURCH
1232 E. Center St., Marion (K of C Hall)
Fridays, 2/28-4/11, 5-7:30 p.m.

ST. PETER CHURCH
379 S. Crawford St., Millersburg
Fridays, 3/7-4/11, 4-7 p.m.

SACRED HEART CHURCH
139 Third St. NE, New Philadelphia
Fridays, 3/7-4/11, 4-7 p.m.

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
555 S. Main St., Johnstown
Fridays, 3/7-4/11, 4:30-7 p.m.

ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR
785 Newark Road, Granville
Fridays, 3/7-4/11, 4-7 p.m.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY
1835 Dover-Zoar Road, Bolivar
Fridays, 3/7-4/11, 4-7 p.m.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL
39 Burt Ave., Coshocton
Friday, 3/7, 5-7 p.m.

ST. JOHN PAUL II SCIOTO CATHOLIC PARISH
1518 Gallia St. Portsmouth (Knights of Columbus Hall)
Fridays, 3/7-4/11, 5-8 p.m.

SACRED HEARTS CHURCH
4680 U.S. Highway 42, Cardington
Friday, 4/4, 5-7 p.m.

HOLY TRINITY SCHOOL
225 S. Columbus St., Somerset
Fridays, 3-7-4-4, 4:30-7 p.m.

ST. COLMAN OF CLOYNE CHURCH
219 S. North St., Washington Court House
Fridays, 3/7-4/11, 4:30-7 p.m.

BISHOP FLAGET SCHOOL
285 W. Water St., Chillicothe (St. Peter Parish Hall)
Fridays, 3/7-4/11, 4-7 p.m.

ST. LUKE CHURCH
7 W. Rambo St., Danville
Fridays, 3/7-4/11, 5-7 p.m.

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES CHURCH
38 Granville St., Newark
Fridays, 3/7-4/11, 4-7 p.m.



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MARCH 7 - APRIL 11 | 4:30 - 7:30 PM

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- \$16.00 Seniors
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- \$4.00 Beer
- Free (3 & under)
- Carry-outs, seconds, & adult beverages available

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1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus 43212
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FISH FRY DINNERS

Fridays, 3/7 through 4/11 | 4:30 - 7:00 pm

Fresh Ocean Perch (fried);

Baked Potatoes, French Fries or Rice;

Salad or Cole Slaw; Complementary Beverages, Dessert included

\$15 Adults, \$8 Kids - Carryout available



FISH FRIES AT ST. PATRICK

Downtown Columbus | 280 N. Grant Ave.
Park east side of church

MARCH 7, 14, 21 & 28 | April 4 & 11
5 pm to 7 pm (Stations of the Cross 7 pm)

Menu (Dine-in or carryout):

- Fried Cod or Baked Fish
- Baked Potato or Sweet Potato, or Fries
- Mac 'n Cheese
- Cole Slaw
- Desserts, Beverages Included

Cost (cash or credit/debit card):

- Senior (65+): \$10
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- Children (5-12): \$6
- (Includes 1 piece of fish and pancakes if desired)
- Family: \$45 | Children 4 and under FREE

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Christy Steffy
The Catholic Foundation

Relay victory sends St. Charles to state swimming championship

By Tim Puet
For The Catholic Times

Things didn't seem to look good for Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School entering the 400-yard freestyle relay, the final event of the Division I state swimming championship meet.

The Cardinals trailed powerhouse Cincinnati St. Xavier by five team points after St. Charles' Austin Carpenter, defending champion in the event, finished second in the 100-yard breaststroke by 0.11 of a second. And St. Xavier's 400 free relay team had four strong swimmers.

But coach Kyle Goodrich said the Cardinals were right where they wanted to be at that point.

"We may have been behind, but Nick McKinley, our assistant coach who's great at figuring out these things, showed us that Austin's performance had cut the lead from 10 points to five," Goodrich said. "Austin was a bit downtrodden, but we told him, 'You're fine. We'd still be trailing even if you had won, and we'll be state champions if we win the relay.' Then he went out and swam the race of

his life."

The Cardinals were trailing by 1.34 seconds entering the fourth and final 100-meter length of the relay, but Carpenter, a junior who will be returning to next year's team, made up the difference and won by 0.05 of a second to take first in the event and pick up 40 points, giving them 311. St. Xavier, with 34 points for their second-place finish in the relay, ended up with 310. The Aquabombers had won 15 of the previous 16 team titles and have a state-record 44 overall.

"I felt two emotions at the same time" after Carpenter's dramatic victory on Saturday, Feb. 22 at the C.T. Branin Natatorium in Canton, Goodrich said. "It was sort of a whirlwind. I felt dumbfounded, yet at the same time, I felt such a sense of clarity, the feeling that things went exactly as I had thought they would."

Also on the winning relay team were junior Alex Wu, senior Andrew Zarick and junior Brad King.

"The team did everything to perfection. They inspire me as a coach in the way I hope I'm inspiring them as swimmers," Goodrich said. "All 15 team members who made it to state scored points.

This was the ultimate example that every swimmer counts. If any one of the 15 had decided for whatever reason to skip the state meet, we're not champions."

He said senior Liam Miller, also a member of the Cardinals' state championship water polo team, was an example of this all-in mentality. "He got hit in the head in a water polo match last month and didn't know if he'd be able to represent us in Canton, but he showed up and scored points in the 200-yard individual medley," Goodrich said. "If he decides to sit out, we don't win. But he wanted to compete because he knew the team needed him. All his teammates are like that."

Goodrich said one of the team's most important contributors was junior Jonathan Malouf. "On his own initiative, he would print Bible verses and hang them in the locker room before each meet," Goodrich said. "He and Andrew Zarick also led the team in prayers at the school grotto before meets – not praying to win but for individuals to do their best."

"As coaches, we had nothing to do with this but let them come to things on their own. The fact they took it upon themselves was really inspirational."

The state championship was the Cardinals' second. Goodrich, a St. Charles graduate, also was coach when they won the crown in 2008 after finishing second to St. Xavier in the two previous years. They were third last year.

Goodrich won a state individual event championship for St. Charles in 1994 and was a runner-up in 1993 and 1995,

his senior year. "We finished, I think, seventh in '94 and eighth in '95 and those were our top two finishes before I began coaching," he said.

He went on to swim for Indiana University, then returned to Columbus to attend law school at Capital University. He received a law degree from there in 2004 but gave up practicing law two years later to become a full-time coach with the Central Ohio Aquatics program, which most of the St. Charles swimmers represent in open meets.

He has coached at St. Charles since 2001, serving as head coach from 2002 to 2009 and from 2021 to the present.

Carpenter's victory in the 100 free was St. Charles' only other individual first-place finish at the meet. Junior Jake Lloyd was second and King fourth in the event, with the Cardinals also winning the 200 medley and 200 free relays.

Lloyd finished second in the 50 free, senior Wyatt Julian third in the 100 backstroke, Wu fourth in the 200 individual medley and Zarick fourth in the 100 butterfly.

Julian, Miller, Zarick and Luke Conway are the team's four seniors. Goodrich anticipates that at least one of them and possibly more will be swimming in college next year.

Other team members are juniors Pierce Bateman, Ayden Fortney and Gabe Nixon, sophomores Dylan Rohyans and Will Liu and freshman Max Gao.

2024-25 ALL-CENTRAL CATHOLIC LEAGUE

BOYS BASKETBALL

First team

Jaden Calloway, Jakhi Calloway, Columbus Bishop Hartley; PJ Noles, Frankie McAllister, Columbus St. Francis DeSales; Dominic Theado, Columbus Bishop Watterson; Charlie Koesters, Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School

Second Team

Marcus Hemphill, Caleb O'Neil, Bishop Hartley; CJ Carter, Daevyn Amankwaah, St. Francis DeSales; Landon Johnson, Bishop Watterson; Marcus Nathan, St. Charles

STANDINGS | BOYS BASKETBALL

V/JV/FR | OVERALL | LEAGUE

Varsity	Junior Varsity	Freshmen
<div>Bishop Hartley</div> <div>16-5 5-1</div>	<div>St. Francis DeSales</div> <div>16-5 6-0</div>	<div>St. Francis DeSales</div> <div>10-10 5-1</div>
<div>St. Francis De Sales</div> <div>15-7 4-2</div>	<div>Bishop Watterson</div> <div>12-9 2-4</div>	<div>St. Charles</div> <div>15-6 4-2</div>
<div>Bishop Watterson</div> <div>15-7 3-3</div>	<div>Bishop Hartley</div> <div>10-6 2-4</div>	<div>Bishop Watterson</div> <div>14-8 2-4</div>
<div>St. Charles</div> <div>8-14 0-6</div>	<div>St. Charles</div> <div>9-12 2-4</div>	<div>Bishop Hartley</div> <div>5-9 1-5</div>

STANDINGS | GIRLS BASKETBALL

First team

Naomie Burnett, Meira Mullins, Zakahri Harrison, Bishop Hartley; Cameron Sparks, Lilly Mulligan, Kat Goehring, Bishop Watterson; Bella Brader, St. Francis DeSales

Second team

Miah Smith, Aniyah Thorne, Bishop Hartley; Clare Feehan, Megan Goehring, Bishop Watterson; Chloe Smith, Charlee Noles, St. Francis DeSales

Varsity

Overall

League

<div>Bishop Hartley</div>	<div>16-5</div>	<div>5-1</div>
<div>St. Francis De Sales</div>	<div>15-7</div>	<div>4-2</div>
<div>Bishop Watterson</div>	<div>15-7</div>	<div>3-3</div>
<div>St. Charles</div>	<div>8-14</div>	<div>0-6</div>



Members of the Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School swimming team stand on the awards platform with the Division I state championship trophy on Feb. 22 at C.T. Branin Natatorium in Canton.
Photo courtesy St. Charles Preparatory School

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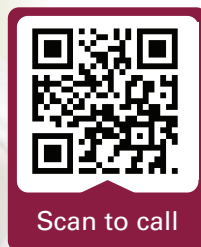
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ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 888-546-2834 (TTY: 711). 注意:如果您使用繁體中文, 您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 888-546-2834 (TTY: 711)

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Lancaster St. Mary honors longtime Fisher Catholic teacher

Individuals gathered at Lancaster St. Mary School on Monday, Jan. 27 to celebrate a member of the community who received the Carlton Rider Distinguished Alumni Award.

Lancaster Fisher Catholic (FC) High School teacher Cathy Henry was this year's recipient.

The Carlton Rider Distinguished Alumni Award was established to recognize St. Mary School alumni who make a positive impact in their communities. Award recipients are recognized for unselfishly offering their talents and gifts to their local communities and parishes through their profession, volunteer efforts and service to the Church and Catholic education. They are also honored for their love and practice of the Catholic faith by drawing others into the Church through example and invitation.

In a nomination for the award, it was written that "Miss Henry has devoted her entire life to supporting Catholic education in our community. She began as a first grader at St. Mary in 1957, graduating eighth grade in 1969. She attended Bishop Fenwick (now St. Mary) prior to moving to Fisher Catholic High School during the middle of her junior year at Bishop Fenwick in the winter of 1971. She was a part of the second class to graduate from the new Fisher Catholic High School in 1973.

"She went off to college at Ohio University, where she majored in mathematics. After graduation she was offered a job at FC and returned to begin her teaching career at FC in 1977. During her tenure at FC, she has taught everything from Geometry, Algebra I to Advanced Calculus.

"In addition to her classroom work, she began coaching girls' athletics in 1977 when she coached the Lady Irish basketball team. She went on to coach not only girls JV (junior varsity) and varsity basketball but also coached track and softball. Miss Henry doesn't stop



Lancaster Fisher Catholic High School teacher Cathy Henry (center) receives the Carlton Rider Distinguished Alumni Award that goes to a St. Mary School graduate from Fisher Catholic principal Dr. Sally Lozada (left) and St. Mary principal Kayla Elrich. Photo courtesy Fisher Catholic

there; she is always around the building helping tutor, collect ticket money at sporting events, work concessions, and I have even seen her sweeping floors.

"In addition, she can always be found helping pass out lunches at the annual Alumni Golf Outing, too. Miss Cathy Henry has truly devoted her life to our Catholic community and has been a positive role model, mentor and friend to so many young people that have passed through both St. Mary and Fisher Catholic."

She was recognized by the school's principal, Dr. Sally Lozada.

"Though I've never been a student in her classroom, I have certainly been a student of and witness to Cathy's servant leadership, pure devotion to this beloved school and commitment to its students, alumni and success for decades to come.

"If you have ever stacked chairs under Cathy's direction following an event in the Main Gym, it doesn't take but a few minutes to learn that those chairs better be stacked in piles of 15, never dragged

rules for simple chair removal.

"It took a 40-year-old graduate from another high school for me to truly understand the meaning behind those chairs and Cathy's expectations. Our helper that evening explained that if only his old high school had cared enough about their new gym and new furniture to think beyond hiring a bunch of teenagers to take care of things (like putting away chairs after an event), that gym would still look as good as ours at FC," Lozada said.

One of Henry's lessons noted was how she sets an expectation of care for Fisher Catholic through investing, loving and nurturing.

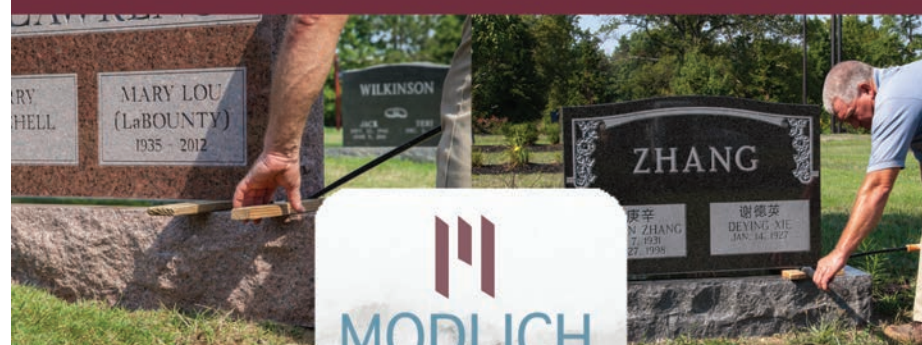
"As a former student of Miss Henry, I can personally attest to the incredible teacher and role model she is. She has devoted countless hours to helping the students in her care, and she is truly deserving of this award," said Kayla Elrich, principal at St. Mary.

Staff, students, alumni, families and friends extended their gratitude to Henry. They were grateful to be part of her legacy, established through how she models, teaches and lives.



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First Sunday of Lent, Year C

Call on Holy Spirit to resist temptations

Deuteronomy 26:4-10
Ps. 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15
Romans 10:8-13
Luke 4:1-13

The First Sunday of Lent always confronts us with the Temptation of Jesus by Satan in the desert. Luke's account spells out three temptations, each temptation addressing a fundamental reality of human nature: bread, worship of power and presumption of God's will. We have a need for physical sustenance. We have desires that lead us to reach out to control our environment. We have an innate realization that there is a power beyond us that has a claim on us and to which we must surrender ourselves. We are tempted to believe that we have fully understood God's mind. Putting Him to the test by our own shaping of the world around us will not lead us to fulfillment.

Human beings are the unity of body, mind, and spirit. When we cry out to be fed and nourished, we are stretched beyond ourselves to lay claim to something outside of the world around us. Jesus meets these temptations in emptiness, revealing that our humanity has a capacity to resist, when, like He does, we rely not on ourselves but on the Spirit.

Luke makes clear that the temptation is orchestrated not by the devil, but by God's own Spirit: "Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil." Temptation happens to Jesus, like everything else He experiences among us, as a revelation to us about Who God Is and who we are. Jesus' human nature is a

Second Sunday of Lent, Year C

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Father Timothy Hayes

Father Timothy M. Hayes is pastor of St. Edward The Confessor, Granville.



bridge to the divine. God wants to share His very life with us, so Jesus lives our life with all that is part of it, including our temptation to give up due to human limitations and weakness.

We are God's creatures. So is the devil. The pride of the devil led that most beautiful of God's creatures (in the beginning) to think that no human being can resist what is offered. Yet what is offered is the nothingness of a distortion of creation itself. Jesus reveals that our humanity can resist temptation with the aid of God's Spirit.

Stones are not bread. The devil cannot change them. Nothing earthly can truly satisfy even earthly hunger, which is a hint that we are made for more. Jesus understands that "One does not live on bread alone." Political power, even over all the kingdoms of the earth, is not worth sacrificing to one who has only the power of illusion, earthly dominion over something that one day will cease to be. Jesus declares with Scripture: "You shall worship the Lord, your God, and him alone shall you serve."

God shapes the world according to His own design. We fool ourselves when we think we have figured Him out. Jesus will not tempt His Father: "You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test." The devil departs (to return later), having for the moment exhausted all the possible temptations at their root.

God's promise to Abraham is ours too

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18
Psalm 27: 1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14
Philippians 3:17-4:1
Luke 9:28b-36

Summoned from the far-flung city of Ur, Abram slaughtered and dismembered animals in grisly sacrifice to seal his covenant with God. The stark implication is that, if he should violate his end of the deal, the same thing would justly happen to him. It's an ominous scene: "As the sun was about to set, a trance fell upon Abram and a deep, terrifying darkness enveloped him."

The monumental act of entering into such a defining relationship happened in a semi-conscious state after having made his assent of faith. It is recorded that Abram put his faith in the Lord, and God credited it to him as an act of righteousness. It was ratified in the offering

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Father Tyron Tomson

Father Tyron Tomson is a priest of the Diocese of Columbus pursuing a Licentiate in Sacred Scripture in Rome.



appointed by God after the terms of the agreement were clarified.

As Abram remained fixed in a kind of ecstatic vision, God manifested His presence dramatically in more than words: "When the sun had set and it was dark, there appeared a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch."

The whole episode patterns for us the fundamental mechanism of grace. God initiates the process with a calling, invites our response of faith, guarantees the results and asks both token and substance from us in cooperative union before powerfully revealing Himself.

The great patriarch Abram represents

a people yet to come and forges this exclusive arrangement with the Lord on their behalf. He is promised both progeny and land: "Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can, just so shall your descendants be" and "to your descendants I give this land."

We, his remote spiritual offspring, were already included in that oath sworn by God Himself. Although made in history, its effects transcended boundaries of space and time once they were taken up into the sacrifice of Christ in the New Covenant.

We need not wait until the ultimate promised land of heaven for the pledge of His blessings to be fulfilled. With the psalmist, we can pray, "I believe that I shall see the bounty of the Lord in the land of the living." We live these realities ourselves, here and now.

After the transformed Abram-become-Abraham, Moses arises as the be-

THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS

3-10/3-15
MONDAYLeviticus 19:1-2,11-18
Psalm 19:8-10,15
Matthew 25:31-46

TUESDAY

Isaiah 55:10-11
Psalm 34:4-7,16-19
Matthew 6:7-15

WEDNESDAY

Jonah 3:1-10
Psalm 51:3-4,12-13,18-19
Luke 11:29-32

THURSDAY

Esther C:12,14-16,23-25
Psalm 138:1-3,7c-8
Matthew 7:7-12

FRIDAY

Ezekiel 18:21-28
Psalm 130:1-8
Matthew 5:20-26

SATURDAY

Deuteronomy 26:16-19
Psalm 119:1-2,4-5,7-8
Matthew 5:43-483-17/3-22
MONDAYDaniel 9:4b-10
Psalm 79:8-9,11,13
Luke 6:36-48

TUESDAY

Isaiah 1:10,16-20
Psalm 50:8-9,16bc,17,21,23
Matthew 23:1-12

WEDNESDAY

2 Samuel 7:4-5a,12-14a,16
Psalm 89:2-5,27,29
Romans 4:13,16-18,22
Matthew 1:16,18-21,24a

or Luke 2:41-51a

THURSDAY

Jeremiah 17:5-10
Psalm 1:1-4,6
Luke 16:29-31

FRIDAY

Genesis 37:3-4,12-13a,17b-28a
Psalm 105:16-21
Matthew 21:33-43,45-46

SATURDAY

Micah 7:14-15,18-20
Psalm 103:1-4,9-12
Luke 15:1-3,11-32

DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION: Mass Schedule: Weeks of March 10 and March 17

SUNDAY MASS

10:30am Mass from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on St. Gabriel Radio AM820, Columbus, FM88.3, Portsmouth, and FM106.7, Athens., and at www.stgabrielradio.com and diocesan website, www.columbuscatholic.org.

Mass from St. Francis de Sales Seminary, Milwaukee, at 7:30 and 10 a.m. on WWHO-TV (the CW), Channel 53, Columbus. Mass with the Passionist Fathers at 10:30 a.m. on WHIZ-TV, Channel 18, Zanesville. Check local cable system for cable channel listing.

Mass from Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, Birmingham, Ala., at 8 a.m. on EWTN (Spectrum Channel 385, Insight Channel 382, or Breeze-line 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 WILB 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). See EWTN above; and on I-Lifetv (Channel 113, Ada, Logan, Millersburg, Murray City, Washington C.H.; Channel 125, Marion, Newark, Newcomerstown and New Philadelphia; Channel 207, Zanesville); 8 p.m., St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com. 12:05 p.m. weekdays, 8 a.m. Satur-

days, Mass from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com and diocesan website, www.columbuscatholic.org. (Saturdays on radio only).

Videos of Masses are available at any time on the internet at these and many other parish websites: Mattingly Settlement St. Mary (www.stannstmary.org); Columbus St. Patrick (www.stpatrickcolumbus.org); Delaware St. Mary (www.delawarestmary.org); Sunbury St. John Neumann (www.saintjohnsunbury.org); and Columbus Immaculate Conception (www.iccols.org). Check your parish website for additional information.

We pray the seasonal propers for Weeks I and II of the Liturgy of the Hours

The Scriptures give us a reminder that we can meet every temptation through trust in the power and mercy of God. With the Lord Himself, we can overcome the limits imposed on us by our fallen nature and by our own sinfulness. "What does Scripture say? The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart — that is, the word of faith that we preach — for, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

Lent reminds us that we need to dis-

cipline ourselves and to purify our intentions if we are to be disciples of Jesus. Prayer, fasting and almsgiving help us to renew our zeal for the things of God and to separate ourselves from the foolish desires that attach us to this world as if it were our final goal. We are beginning a journey. The invitation of Lent is to allow the Spirit to accompany us into the desert and to set our hearts on the Paschal Mystery that we will celebrate at Easter. We will arrive at the Promised Land if we put our trust in the Provident God.

loved hero of the Old Testament. He underwent a metamorphosis of his own from peasant to prince under pharaoh, and then from murderer to mediator for God.

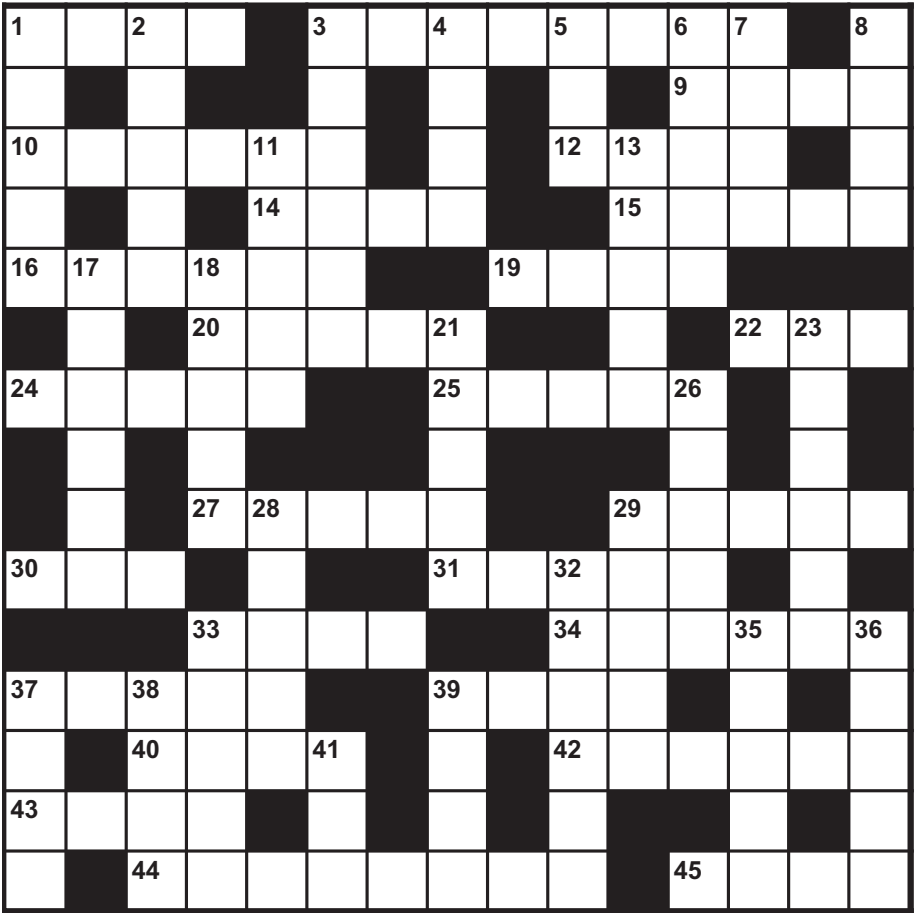
Moses foreshadowed Christ as the savior when he cinematically led the Hebrews through the Red Sea from Egyptian slavery to approach the Promised Land — an event memorialized in the yearly Passover ritual called "Pascha." It is known to us in its Christian form as Easter, for which Lent prepares us.

At Christ's Transfiguration, Moses and Elijah suddenly and unexpectedly "appeared in glory and spoke of His exodus that He was going to accomplish in Jerusalem."

A similar ambiance to Abram's sacrifice is described with the handful of Apostles invited up Mt. Sinai who "had

See PROMISE, Page 23

CATHOLIC CROSSWORD



- ACROSS
- 1 "Look to yourselves that you do not ____ what we worked for." (2 Jn 1:8)
- 3 James's father (Mt 10:3)
- 9 "But his father ordered his servants, 'Quickly bring the finest ____' (Lk 15:22)
- 10 Jeremiah was put in these
- 12 There were 40 days and nights of this
- 14 Land of Sts. Brendan and Brigid
- 15 First Mass in Canada was celebrated on this peninsula
- 16 Breaks the seventh commandment
- 19 Captain for 40 days and nights
- 20 Catholic United States Supreme Court justice
- 22 Mary ____ Killop, saintly founder of the Sisters of St. Joseph
- 24 Niche for storing consecrated oils
- 25 Patron saint of young girls
- 27 She renamed herself Mara
- 29 Biblical instruments
- 30 Commandment number
- 31 Magician who wanted to buy the gift of God's power
- 33 Evil king of Israel
- 34 ____ for the poor
- 37 Word of God
- 39 Number of choirs of angels
- 40 The Wise Men came from here
- 42 Longest of the prophetic books of the Old Testament
- 43 First of all
- 44 "Mater ____"
- 45 NT book
- DOWN
- 1 Commits a capital sin
- 2 A deacon wears this over his left shoulder
- 3 Francis' hometown
- 4 His Holiness
- 5 "...the fish of the sea, the birds of the ____." (Gen 1:26)
- 6 King David sent him into battle to be killed
- 7 Esau and Jacob, to Rebekah
- 8 Sydney's first archbishop, John ____ Polding
- 11 Catholic Oscar-winning actress of "The Country Girl" fame
- 13 ____ Meal
- 17 Worship place in Jerusalem
- 18 The Lord said he was a good speaker
- 21 Patriarch respite, perhaps
- 23 First name of John XXIII
- 26 Peter or Paul, for example
- 28 Lent markers
- 29 John, Paul and John Paul
- 32 Mother of Augustine
- 33 Mission to remember
- 35 Notre Dame nickname, "The Fighting ____"
- 36 Book of the Bible
- 37 Husband of Ruth
- 38 Rosary part
- 39 He blamed the Christians for burning Rome
- 41 Number of each animal Noah took in the ark

PROMISE, continued from Page 22

been overcome by sleep." They were dumbfounded as "a cloud came and cast a shadow over them, and they became frightened when they entered the cloud." These men participated in the ongoing chronicle of salvation history.

Christ claims as His own a supreme exodus, leading us partakers in His covenant from the tyranny of sin into our eternal dwelling place. St. Paul says, "but our citizenship is in heaven." The Scriptural vision encompasses it as one continuous piece.

St. Paul understood this phenomenon. He asks his early Christian readers, and us, to trust his example in the midst of the Church. He says, "join with others in being imitators of me, brothers and sisters, and observe those who thus conduct themselves according to the model you have in us."

God intends not only for the patriarchs and saints of old to share in the transformative operation of grace, but "He will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified body." Each Biblical figure and holy exemplar attests to God's paradigm of grace intended for every member of the Church.

Christ willingly took our punishment for transgressing the sacred pact upon Himself. He was brutally butchered on the cross like an animal upon the altar.

The Old Covenant in all its iterations, the divine beckoning unto conversion, the famed Exodus event, the foretold multitude of descendants, the storied Promised Land, the revolutionized identities, the glorified destinies – it is all ours because it is all Christ's.

He desires to share it with us all most intimately. Every detail gets superabundantly perfected in the everlasting New Covenant.

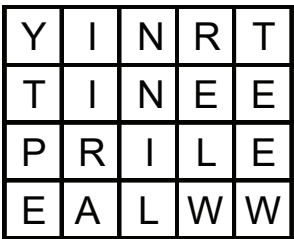
Words of Wisdom

by Pat Battaglia, aka Dr. Fun

Draw a path from letter to letter to spell the words given in capital letters that completes the wisdom statement.

Move one square at a time, up, down, right, left or diagonally until all letters are used once. Ignore any black squares.

What we sow in time ...



WE WILL REAP IN ETERNITY

FINANCE ASSISTANT

Fulltime position where efforts will be focused primarily on administrative tasks and data entry associated with the annual Appeal. Position will also assist with the Finance Department, Catholic Times subscriptions, as well as reporting and donor relations support.

A full description can be found on the diocesan website.

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PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

BUBLITZ, Richard “Dick,” 92, Feb. 15
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

CARP, Arthur, 77, Feb. 11
St. Mary Church, Marion

CRUMLEY, Richard, 83, Feb. 16
Holy Family Church, Columbus

CONIE, Louise J. (DeSantis), 90, Feb. 23
St. John the Baptist Church, Columbus

DePALMA, E. Maria, 69, formerly of Columbus, Feb. 14
St. Mary of the Woods Church, Russells Point

DiPIETRO, Mary A., 93, Feb. 12
Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

DURANEY, William E. Jr., 69, Feb. 23
St. Paul the Apostle Church, Westerville

EVISTON, Norma, 91, Feb. 15
St. Christopher Church, Columbus

GALLAGHER, Patricia (Lucas), 96, Feb. 14
St. Mary Church, Delaware

GIBBS, Anne M. (Pelini), 60, Jan. 25
St. Mary, Mother of God Church, Columbus

GILLILAN, Joseph T., 63, Feb. 23
St. Joseph Cathedral, Columbus

HAUS, Jerome John, 88, Feb. 7
St. Mary Mattingly Settlement, Dresden

HIGDON, Mark, 74, Feb. 16
St. Patrick Church, Columbus

KASTLE, Andrew Patrick, 95, Feb. 7
Holy Spirit Church, Columbus

KELLER, Susan (Tornabene), 72, Feb. 19
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

KING, Helen F. (Hart), 97, Feb. 23
St. Brendan the Navigator Church, Hilliard

LAZZARO, Julia, 87, Feb. 21
St. Bernadette Church, Lancaster

MAUL, Nicholas, 81, Jan. 27
St. Bernadette Church, Lancaster

MATTHEWS, Anthony J., 56, Feb. 13
St. Agatha Church, Columbus

McGUIRE, Denise, 64, Feb. 12
St. Bernadette Church, Lancaster

MERK, Dr. James, 93, Feb. 5
St. Bernadette Church, Lancaster

MEYER, Carl F., 94, Feb. 13
St. Andrew Church, Columbus

MILLER, Theodore G. Jr. “Ted,” 93, Feb. 19
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Buckeye Lake

MITSCH, William J., 77, Feb. 12
St. Agatha Church, Columbus

MUSCARELLO, Forest Montgomery, 17, Feb. 10
St. Joseph Church, Circleville

O'DONNELL, Katherine (Arsenault), 73, Feb. 17
St. Joseph Church, Dover

PAGE, Jeffrey L., 80, Feb. 15
St. Agatha Church, Columbus

PENROD, Eugene A., 69, Feb. 21
Sacred Heart Church, New Philadelphia

ROSSI, Susan C., 86, Feb. 17
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Zanesville

ROZICH, William R. “Bill,” 77, Feb. 12
St. Brigid of Kildare Church, Dublin

RUSHMAN, George F. Jr., 65, Feb. 14
St. Catharine Church, Columbus

SABOLEY, Sandra A. “Sandy,” 81, Feb. 14
St. Michael the Archangel Church, Worthington

SAMARGYA, Linda, 90, Jan. 16
St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

SHALOSKY, Seltzer A. “Sonny,” 83, Feb. 10
St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

SHEPHERD, Theresa E., 69, Jan. 28
Holy Spirit Church, Columbus

WESTFALL, H. Martin, 90, of Powell, Feb. 18
St. Vincent Basilica, Latrobe, Pa.

WILLIAMS, Gilbert “Gil,” 84, Feb. 9
St. Joan of Arc, Powell/St. Peter, Columbus

Brother Michael F. Brinkman

Funeral Masses for Brother Michael F. Brinkman, 92, who served at the former Salesian Boys and Girls Club in Columbus, were celebrated in Tampa, Florida, on Wednesday, Feb. 26 and in Haverstraw, New York on Friday, Feb. 28. He was buried in the Salesian Cemetery in Goshen, New York. He died on Tuesday, Feb. 18 in Temple Terrace, Florida.

He was born to Urban and Florentine (Rentz) Brinkman on May 4, 1932 in Dayton, Ohio. Before entering the Salesians, he served in the U.S. Air Force and worked as a draftsman.

He came to Don Bosco Seminary in Newton, New Jersey in September 1958 and was admitted to St. Joseph's Novitiate in Newton as a coadjutor brother novice one year later. He made his first religious profession on September 8, 1960, in Newton and perpetual profession on July 1, 1967, at Ellenville, New York.

He was program director at the Salesian Boys and Girls Club in 1991 and 1992. He returned there in 2001 as a staff member until the club closed in 2008. He also served at Salesian schools in Paterson, New Jersey; Rosemead, California; Boston and New York City; the Salesian publishing house in New Rochelle, New York and a house of formation in Orange, New Jersey.

He had been a member of the Mary Help of Christians Salesian community in Tampa since 2012.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister. Survivors include his brother Fred and sisters Lois Kenkare and Ann Oberer, a nephew and other family members.

By Children of Mary

It was a cold, snowy morning, but in the church were many gathered to attend this extraordinary event. It was a funeral fit for a king!

The organist was one of the best in the United States. There were many altar servers dressed in cassocks and surplices, two seminarians and several other young men and boys. The deacon was quietly preparing the altar as beautiful music filled our souls with reverence and awe.

Then the moment came to begin: “O Come, All Ye Faithful, Joyful and Triumphant ...” The pastor welcomed all present, including those who were not Catholic. As he reverently offered the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, tears rolled down my cheeks as grace flooded my soul. I knew I was witnessing something that was very rare, a funeral that was a lesson in itself of what it means to be Catholic, what it means to love Jesus and serve Him.

During the homily, it was evident that the pastor had known the deceased quite well and loved him. When the time came to receive Our Lord in Holy Communion, we sang our love for Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament with “O Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrifice Divine, all praise and all thanksgiving be every moment Thine. ... Make us love you more and more.” Reverently, we approached the living God that would come into our soul to unite us with God in the most intimate union possible with God on

Earth.

John, whose body lay lifeless in the casket, loved the Holy Catholic Church; he loved receiving Jesus in Holy Communion. Finally, we sang to the angels to commend his soul to God, Whom he continues to love even now, and now more than ever.

Whether in heaven or purgatory, his love is greater than it had been on earth. Even in purgatory, the souls can no longer sin; they love God and are loved by God, and their greatest suffering is the profound longing they are experiencing to be purified and enter into the glory of heaven and so to be united with God in a manner so wonderful that we can only try to imagine what it is like.

I knew the deceased well. His friend had brought him to our convent many times. What a privilege to be here at the funeral for John Victor Stewart, 80, on Friday, Jan. 3 at Newark Church of the Blessed Sacrament with Father Anthony Lonzo as the celebrant.

Stewart, 80, died on Dec. 28. He was born in Bucyrus and his family moved to Columbus in the early 1960s. He not only loved God's creatures and creation but his fellow man. He enjoyed engaging in conversation and had a phenomenal memory.

In 2013 after the death of his mother, he relocated to Newark and spent time homeless and at St. Vincent Haven before finding a permanent home at Arlington Care Center. He became a parishioner at Blessed Sacrament, attending Mass and participating in faith

formation classes.

His obituary said his life was marked by hardship, but he never lost faith in people, remaining generous and kind-hearted while finding Christ in everyone he met. His life was a testament to perseverance, hope and the power of compassion. He left behind a lasting example of friendship and love, reminding all to remain hopeful and generous even in life's most difficult times. He was deeply devoted to his Catholic faith and in his later years on many occasions would walk 3-4 miles to attend Mass.

His burial took place at Holy Trinity Cemetery in Bucyrus.

Thank you to the wonderful man and his wonderful son who planned this funeral liturgy and provided all that was needed to manifest in a concrete manner the teaching of our Catholic faith of our preferential love for the poor. We do not reveal their names; they would not want that. They are living icons of men who love as Christ commanded us to love. They are holy, and they provided a lesson that touched the depths of our hearts more profoundly than any textbook or sermon could ever convey.

What will change the world? When our actions and words are congruent, when we love the teachings that the Church professes. As St. Anthony of Padua said, “Actions speak louder than words. Let our actions speak and our words teach.” When we love God, who is with us in the Most Blessed Sacrament, and love our neighbor as ourself, the world will be transformed.

Church at its best: an extraordinary funeral

LOCAL NEWS AND EVENTS

Bishops make Scripture videos available

In 2019, Pope Francis established the Sunday of the Word of God on the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time. In an apostolic letter instituting the yearly observance, he wrote, "Devoting a specific Sunday of the liturgical year to the word of God can enable the Church to experience anew how the risen Lord opens up for us the treasury of his word and enables us to proclaim its unfathomable riches before the world."

On Jan. 26, in observance of the Sunday of the Word of God, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, through a grant from the American Bible Society, released a Sunday seminar series of six videos about Sacred Scripture in the life of the Church. The videos, available in English and Spanish, feature bishops and biblical scholars and are accompanied by discussion/reflection questions.

Their topics and presenters (English presenter listed first) are:

— "Understanding the Pentateuch: Its Importance in Scripture," Dr. Bradley Gregory, Catholic University of America and Father Rafael Ramirez, University of Dallas

— "Voices of the Prophets: Messages for Today," Dr. Deirdre Dempsey, Marquette University and Dr. Jose Enrique Aguilar, St. Joseph's Seminary and College

— "Spreading the Gospel: The Church's Mission in Acts," Los Angeles Auxiliary Bishop Slawomir Szcredka (both languages)

— "Letters from a Missionary: Paul's Epistles Explained," Dr. Timothy Milinovich, Dominican University and Dr. Felipe Leggareta, Loyola University of Chicago

— "Unveiling the Future: Insights from Apocalyptic Scripture," Dr. Kelley Coblenz Bauch, St. Edward's University and Father Jose Antonio Caballero, St. John Vianney Seminary, Denver

— "Challenging Misconceptions: Understanding Disability and Illness in Scripture," Dr. Thomas Bolin, St. Norbert College and Sister Nelida Naveros Cordova, CDP

The videos are available at <https://catholic.bible/sunday-of-the-word-of-god>.

Irish tenor returns to Gahanna

Irish tenor Emmet Cahiil, who performed at Gahanna St. Matthew the Apostle Church last year, is returning there for an evening of songs, hymns and Broadway tunes on Saturday, March 8.

A meet-and-greet at the church, 807 Havens Corners Road, will begin at 6:30 p.m., with doors opening at 6:15, followed by the concert at 7:30, with doors opening at 7.

Cahill, 34, is acclaimed for his solo work and for being part of the group Celtic Thunder, seen on Public Broad-

casting Service specials.

He has performed several times in Columbus and at locations including Carnegie Hall and St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York and with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. He is from Mullingar in Westmeath County, Ireland, where he lives when not touring and singing at his home church, Christ the King Cathedral.

The diocesan honor choir has been invited to perform a song with him at the concert.

Tickets (\$40 for the concert, \$60 including the meet-and-greet) are available at the church office or emmetcahill.com.

Josephinum lecture to examine 'Beauty in Science'

The Pontifical College Josephinum's 2025 Pio Cardinal Laghi Chair lecture will feature a presentation by Dr. Peter K. Kilpatrick, president of The Catholic University of America, on "Beauty in Science."

The program will take place at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 12 in the college's Jessing Center, 7625 N. High St., Admission and parking are free. Reservations are not required. For more information, call (614) 985-2274.

The lecture series was inaugurated at the Josephinum in 1992 in honor of Cardinal Laghi, who at the time was prefect of the Congregation for Catholic Education.

American cardinals and presidents of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops promoted the funding of the Laghi chair in recognition of his service to the Church in the United States, where he served as the Vatican's apostolic delegate and apostolic pro-nuncio from 1980 to 1990.

In that position, he also was chancellor of the Josephinum, a post automatically assigned to the nuncio because the institution is the only papal seminary in the United States.

Diocesan honor choir to perform at ODU

The Diocese of Columbus Catholic Schools Honor Choir will present its 16th annual concert, "Let All Nations Sing," at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 26 in the Matesich Theater at Ohio Dominican University, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus.

The concert is the conclusion of an annual one-day event for selected students from all diocesan parochial schools, led by artistic director and clinician Sheila Cafmeyer.

This year, students from 12 schools will perform, with special appearances by choirs from Columbus Our Lady of Peace, Dover Tuscarawas Central Cath-

olic Elementary and Dennison Immaculate Conception schools and Ohio Dominican.

Singers prepare the music over several weeks under the guidance of their music teachers. This year, the event will include Mass, a campus tour, a question-and-answer session with student ambassadors, small group games and rehearsals.

Immaculate Conception Adoration schedule corrected

The Eucharistic Adoration schedule for Columbus Immaculate Conception Church listed in the Feb. 23 Catholic Times was incorrect.

Adoration at the parish takes place on the first Wednesday of each month from 7 to 8:15 a.m., with Mass at 8:30 a.m. and Adoration resuming from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. March is an exception this year because Ash Wednesday was on March 5, so the church's monthly Adoration will be Wednesday, March 12 on the same schedule.

On Wednesday, April 2, the regular Adoration schedule will be followed at 6 p.m. by an ADORE Lenten evening of Adoration and reflection

Steubenville diocese sponsors men's renewal day

The Diocese of Steubenville's 14th annual Lenten men's day of renewal will take place Saturday, March 22 at St. Stephen's Church, 1036 Belford St., Caldwell, off Exit 25 on Interstate 77 between Cambridge and Marietta.

The topic will be "The Eucharist and the Biblical Vision of Men." The featured speaker will be Michael Gormley, a missionary evangelist for Paradisus Dei, a Catholic ministry dedicated to marriage and family life.

Gormley has a Master's degree in theology and Christian ministry from Franciscan University of Steubenville. Before joining Paradisus Dei, he worked for 17 years as a full-time parish staff member and later as a retreat leader and consultant for parishes, dioceses and campus ministries.

Doors open at 9 a.m. The main program, which will include a penance service, will begin with a welcome at 9:45 a.m. and conclude with Mass at 4 p.m. Lunch will be provided.

Admission is \$25, with no charge for anyone 18 and younger. Those interested in attending are asked to mail a check payable to the Diocese of Steubenville to Brett Martz; 75 Stewart St., Athens, OH 45701. Registration online also is available for an additional \$3 surcharge at <https://athenscatholic.org/steubenville-mens-day>.



Catholic Diocese of Columbus

DECREE

CONSENT TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BRANCH OF THE PUBLIC ASSOCIATION OF THE FAITHFUL LAY SERVANTS OF THE WORD (LSP) IN THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS ACCORDING TO C. 312 §2

The presence of the Lay Servants of the Word (LSP) in the Diocese of Columbus since 2010 has served as a great spiritual benefit for those in the Spanish-speaking community. Since their arrival in the Diocese of Columbus at the parish of St. Stephen the Martyr (Columbus), the LSP have grown to serve in five additional parishes: Christ the King (Columbus), St. Peter/ St. Joan (Columbus), St. Mary (Delaware), St. Mary (Marion), and St. James the Less (Columbus).

The erecting of the LSP as a Public Association of the Faithful by the Mexican Episcopal Conference is a welcomed recognition. By means of this decree, in accordance with canon 312 §2, I grant my written consent for the establishment of a branch of the Public Association of the Lay Servants of the Word in the Diocese of Columbus, which includes their current work in the six aforementioned parishes. Any future expansion of the LSP in the Diocese of Columbus would take place with my permission in collaboration with the Chancery Office, the Office of Hispanic Ministry and parish leadership in order to meet the pastoral needs of the faithful of the Diocese.

This written consent grants permission for the presence and exercise of the apostolate by LSP according to their statutes. With their status as a public juridic person, any appeals to the faithful in the Diocese of Columbus for financial support beyond the normal support from the faithful whom they directly serve are subject to the necessary permissions as determined in the USCCB complimentary norms for canon 1262.

Given at the Chancery Office of the Diocese of Columbus this 18th day of February 2025.

+ Earl U. Fernandez Most

Rev. Earl K. Fernandez
Bishop of Columbus

Michael R. Hertz

Notary

Father-son's novel recounts Christ's passion, resurrection

By Elizabeth Pardi

Michael Haverkamp Jr., a grant request writer for Columbus Catholic Social Services, has co-authored a novel based on Christ's passion and resurrection with his father, Michael Haverkamp Sr.

Titled "From the Last Days of Darkness through the First Day of Light," the book consists of 114 pages divided into nine chapters. The story begins the morning of Holy Thursday and concludes with the risen Jesus revealing Himself to His disciples in Emmaus.

"(The) book views the events of those days from the eyes and ears of St. John the Apostle as the events were actually unfolding," Haverkamp Jr. said. "(It) tells of the fear, anxiety, confusion and, ultimately, the wonder and joy the apostles were experiencing on those four days."

The idea for the novel came to Haverkamp Sr., of Cincinnati, five years ago. He was 72 at the time and began researching and writing the story during the peak of the COVID pandemic.

"I would love to think that it was divine inspiration," he said, "but that might be presumptuous of me."

Despite his excitement, Haverkamp Sr. had doubts about his ability to produce enough content for a book or make it through the publication process. He neglected to discuss it with anyone, in-



Michael Haverkamp Sr.

Michael Haverkamp Jr.

cluding his wife, Mary Jo, despite getting up during the night to jot down new ideas for the story before returning to bed.

Once the first draft was finished, Haverkamp Sr. invited his son, Haverkamp Jr., to add content to the story.

"(I) had been writing (for) a religious blog (www.Catholic365.com) for several years," Haverkamp Jr. said of his father's motivation to recruit him.

Once both men were satisfied with a final draft, Haverkamp Sr. asked his sister, Janice Huber, to edit the story. He also requested that Josie Wallbrown, his granddaughter, a senior at Cincinnati Mount Notre Dame High School, design a cover.

In September 2024, the book was granted a nihil obstat, a certification from the Roman Catholic Church declaring that the book's content does not oppose Catholic teaching. It was later published by Covenant Books, a Christian book publisher.

The book could be considered an easy read, providing vivid details of characters and scenes, many of which are fact-based. In the book's footnotes, the Haverkamps noted that their physical descriptions of the Apostles are based largely on Leonardo DaVinci's painting "The Last Supper" (1495-98).

The book's portrayal of Jesus' appearance came from evidence based on the Shroud of Turin, a garment believed to be the burial shroud of Jesus.

"Jesus is taller than any of the apostles," the authors wrote from St. John the Apostle's perspective. "Indeed, He is taller than almost any of the Jewish people in our time. He is lean and muscular, befitting his years working as a carpenter, His meager diet and His frequent fasting. His nose is straight and narrow. His hair is long, down to His shoulders, slightly curly. His beard goes down to His chin. His eyebrows are full, and His forehead is high."

One memorable scene in the story perhaps is the depiction of the Blessed Mother standing beside the cross before Jesus

died.

"She would not move. She remained there, at the foot of His cross, and as she did, His breath and hers continued to grow weaker and weaker with each passing moment. ... I thought it was only going to be a short while until they were both dead," the book recounted from St. John's perspective. "I felt so helpless. Much as I tried to do so, I found myself unable to hold back the tears that rolled gently and uncomfortably down my cheeks."

In addition to writing for Catholic365.com, Haverkamp Jr., who lives in Dublin with his wife and three sons, writes a blog, www.buildonrock.org.

"I've written commentaries on the Gospel of Luke, articles on apologetics, thoughts on papal encyclicals - anything that I think will encourage others to grow in their faith," he said.

Haverkamp Sr., a father of five and grandfather of 12, said he is "hoping to write another book or two ... (and has) started to put ideas together for a second book."

"From the Last Days of Darkness through the First Day of Light" is sold on Amazon, Barnes & Noble Booksellers and Joseph-Beth Booksellers, based in Cincinnati. To purchase bulk orders of the book, email mfhaverkampsr@gmail.com for a discounted rate.

Companion program provides lifeline for seniors

Charlotte's life had been filled with love, family and meaningful work.

She and her husband were married for 54 years, sharing a life full of memories. They met in college and built careers as educators in central Ohio, with Charlotte's husband also coaching high school football. Together they raised two sons who had successful careers.

When Charlotte's husband died, she felt that the world as she knew it came crashing down.

"When my husband died, I felt like my life ended too," she said.

She experienced profound grief, and she found herself struggling with feelings of loneliness and depression. Charlotte did not know where to turn.

A few months after her husband's death, Charlotte suffered a mild stroke and spent three months recovering in a rehabilitation facility. As her release date drew near, a health care worker suggested that she might benefit from the Senior Companion program, a service offered by Catholic Social Services (CSS).

The suggestion marked the beginning of a new chapter in Charlotte's life. It reconnected her to the world around her in a way she did not expect.

The Senior Companion program is designed to help seniors maintain independence while forming connections with others. Social isolation and loneliness are major concerns for many elderly in-

dividuals, and the impact can be more detrimental to their health than physical ailments. The program provides a lifeline, offering seniors regular companionship and non-medical assistance so they can remain independent in their homes.

Through the Senior Companion program, seniors are encouraged to participate in community activities, ensuring they stay socially engaged. The program provides emotional support and helps seniors stay connected to others, preventing isolation and fostering a sense of belonging.

When Charlotte was introduced to Margie, her senior companion, she did not know what to expect.

Margie had been a senior companion for nearly 20 years, and she had made a positive impact on the lives of more than 100 seniors. Her approach was to show up with a smile, offer a listening ear and share in life's small joys.

"Being a companion helps everyone involved," Margie shared. "It helps you as much as the person you see, and it may even help you more. It's very rewarding and gives me the feeling that I have accomplished something by helping someone."

Margie's visits brought a sense of lightness into Charlotte's life. The weekly check-in turned into a friendship.

The pair shared meals together, often enjoying lunch at the Bob Evans around



Charlotte and Margie have forged a friendship through Catholic Social Services' Senior Companion program.
Photo courtesy Catholic Social Services

the corner from Charlotte's house. Their conversations ranged from books to life stories, and Charlotte relished the opportunity to talk about her favorite novels.

"We have so much in common, and we can talk about anything," she said. "The time we spend together goes by so quickly."

The bond between Charlotte and Margie became a vital source of emotional support for Charlotte, especially after the

loss of her husband.

"My doctor said that the loneliness is actually even worse for me than my physical problems. That's one of the reasons Margie is such a blessing," she explained.

In addition to bringing joy to Charlotte, Margie finds fulfillment in her role as a senior companion.

"Being a companion helps everyone

See COMPANION, Page 27

Black and Indian collection brings Christian solidarity

Sr. Zephрина Mary, FIH
Director, Diocesan Missions Office

As we embark on another year of evangelization in the African American, Native American and Alaska Native communities, everyone is encouraged to make a difference by offering their prayers for the fruitful support of the missions in the United States and to consider expressing concretely their Christian solidarity through sacrificial offerings.

The Black and Indian Missions collection on the weekend of March 8-9 supports evangelization efforts among the African American and Native American communities. May they live in dignity and peace by liberation from all forms of oppression. Working together, groups of priests, religious and laymen and women have the full scope to follow the call to the missions in the manifold missionary task.

In this Jubilee year, as we reflect upon our earthly life as a "Pilgrimage," its hallmark is hoping to live in eternity. How can we be the most effective advocates of Christ to bring faith to so many people? This world will pass away and everything in it will pass away. However, eternity is waiting for us!

We live in a world in which millions of people do not believe in Christ, who is the Savior of the world. Be generous to the needy and be eager to serve them by providing financial and spiritual support in their life journey. Let us walk with others in a sense knowing their pain as our own because there is no such thing as finding Christ while avoid-

ing our neighbor. As we are pilgrims in this world, our daily goal should be being in the kingdom of God. "Our life and our death is with our neighbor," said St. Anthony the Great, founder of Christian monasticism. We have to be compassionate with the poor, strangers, orphans and those who are less fortunate who need our support. As we meet them in our life journey, we can make them happier by our encounters with generosity.

The Decree on the Missionary Activity of the Church teaches us that "The whole Church of Christ is missionary, and the work of evangelization is a basic duty of the people of God" (DMA, 1:35). The Church, wherever it is at work, is continuing the mission to mankind by the Christ, our teacher and healer.

Jesus spent all of his time and effort teaching men and women that God loves them unceasingly and healing them from their infirmities. Your partnership places Bibles and catechetical materials in the hands of priests, consecrated men and women, and lay leaders.

Pope Francis reminds us that everyone is meant to evangelize and this collection so clearly authenticates his call to us to work as a family to help all of our brothers and sisters and to share hope of Jesus Christ.

As Pope Francis advocates in one of his encyclicals *Evangelii Gaudium*, "Any missionary impulse, if derived from the Holy Spirit, manifests predilection for the poor and vulnerable." Your generous support assists the many and varied evangelization programs in archdioceses and di-

oceses of the United States from Maine to California and all parts of Alaska.

Church teaching urges that giving alms to the poor is one of the chief witnesses to fraternal charity. It is also a work of justice pleasing to God (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2447). Thus, we can do this by sharing our littleness with our fellow men and become living witnesses of Christ's presence in our midst.

The support of generous hearts can fulfill dreams of many unfortunates to pursue a college education and to have a better future. Let us follow the legacy of Venerable Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, who is the greatest evangelizer in the history of the Catholic Church in the United States. He used his media presence to promote the missions among Catholics across the country and to spread the Gospel. Sheen captivated millions, leaving a lasting impact on the Church's outreach efforts.

Your sacrifice impacts pastoral work across the country and addresses the need to train catechists, permanent deacons and seminarians for future generations in many of our neighborhoods and backyards. It is only through the constant generosity of everyone that evangelization efforts are multiplied a thousand-fold. Sheen revolutionized Catholic evangelization through his pioneering use of media.

Your generous contribution can be a successful vehicle for sharing the resources of the Church's members to provide for the needs of our African American, Native American and Alaska Native brothers and sisters.

COMPANION, continued from Page 26

involved. It helps you as much as the person you see, and it may even help you more," she said, echoing a sentiment that she has lived by for years.

The program is a way for Margie to help and give back to a community that has given much to her. In helping others, Margie found purpose, connection and an outlet for compassion.

"I've always been happy with what I do (in the Senior Companion program)," she added. "The program saved my sanity."

Charlotte's story can be considered a testament to the power of companionship.

The Senior Companion program provided her with support that she needed to recover from her stroke and heal emotionally from the loss of her husband. It showed her that, even in times of profound grief and loneli-

ness, it is possible to find connection, purpose and a renewed sense of joy.

Charlotte and Margie demonstrated that friendship is ageless and showing up for someone can change lives in unexpected ways.

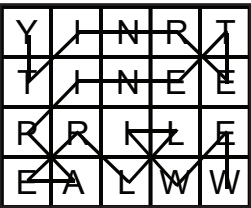
The Senior Companion program can reignite a sense of purpose, dignity and connection in individuals struggling with loneliness or social isolation. It is an example of work being done to support seniors in local communities.

To get involved as a par-

ticipant or a volunteer, visit CSS at colscss.org, or reach out to Pam Ware at pware@colscss.org or 614-857-1237.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

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WORDS OF WISDOM SOLUTION



Catholic Diocese of Columbus

DECRETO

CONSENTIMIENTO PARA EL ESTABLECIMIENTO DE UNA RAMA DE LA ASOCIACIÓN PÚBLICA DE FIELES LAICOS SERVIDORES DE LA PALABRA (LSP) EN LA DIÓCESIS DE COLUMBUS DE ACUERDO AL CANON 312 §2

La presencia de los Laicos Servidores de la Palabra (LSP) en la Diócesis de Columbus desde el año 2010 ha servido de gran beneficio espiritual para aquellos en la comunidad hispano hablante. Desde su llegada a la Diócesis de Columbus en la Parroquia de San Esteban Mártir (Columbus), los LSP han crecido y han llegado a servir cinco parroquias adicionales: Cristo Rey (Columbus), San Pedro (Columbus), Santa María Magdalena (Delaware), Santa María (Marion), y Santiago el Menor (Columbus).

El reconocimiento de los LSP como una Asociación Pública de Fieles por parte de la Conferencia del Episcopado Mexicano es un reconocimiento bienvenido. Por medio del presente decreto, y de acuerdo al canon 312 §2, otorgo mi consentimiento por escrito para el establecimiento de una rama de la Asociación Laicos Servidores de la Palabra en la Diócesis de Columbus, el cual incluye el trabajo actual en las seis parroquias mencionadas anteriormente. Cualquier futura expansión de los LSP en la Diócesis de Columbus deberá tener mi aprobación en conjunta colaboración con la Cancillería, la oficina del Ministerio Hispano, así como con líderes parroquiales, a fin de cubrir las necesidades pastorales de los fieles de la Diócesis.

Este consentimiento escrito otorga permiso para la presencia y ejercicio del apostolado de los LSP de acuerdo a sus estatutos. Con su estatus como persona jurídica pública, cualquier solicitud a los fieles en la Diócesis de Columbus para apoyo financiero más allá del apoyo normal de los fieles a quienes sirven directamente, estará sujeto al permiso necesario como está determinado en las normas complementarias del canon 1262 de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos (USCCB).

Dado en la Cancillería de la Diócesis de Columbus este día 18 de febrero del 2025.

+ Earl K. Fernandes

Excelentísimo Monseñor Earl K. Fernandes
Obispo de Columbus

Michael R. Harty

Notario



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Local content creator receives national recognition for video

By Hannah Heil

Catholic Times Reporter

Fifty seconds.

That was the approximate duration of Jayden Remias' video titled "Hey Mom."

Remias said the video took roughly 36 hours to create. It paid off, however, when Remias received news last month that he was one of four winners chosen for Ascension's "Truth and Beauty Awards."

Ascension, a multimedia network and leader in Catholic faith formation and digital content, established the awards to celebrate excellence among individual Catholic content creators. The awards recognize Catholic video creators who share the transformative power of the Gospel online.

Remias, 24, a Westerville St. Paul the Apostle Church parishioner, left his job as a missionary about a year ago to pursue full-time Catholic content creation on social media. He and his wife and newborn son reside in Sunbury and attend daily Mass and Adoration at Sunbury St. John Neumann Church.

The video, "Hey Mom," which is featured on his YouTube and Instagram pages @JaydenRemias, shows Remias getting out of a car, walking across a bridge and then kneeling in front of a statue of the Blessed Mother. The video

is accompanied with instrumental music.

As a prize for the award-winning video, Remias will receive \$500 to invest in media equipment, a commemorative plaque and have his YouTube channel honored in Ascension media coverage.

Remias said he wanted to catch the attention of individuals scrolling through photo and video feeds on Instagram or YouTube.

Before creating the video, Remias said he contemplated a good filming location. He decided to shoot in the Marian grotto outside St. John Neumann Church. The newly built grotto was dedicated last spring.

"I was just trying to think of places where I could film, where I wouldn't be interrupted or I wouldn't interrupt someone praying. I knew that that grotto exists – I go to Adoration here," he said of the church – "and I was like, 'That's a beautiful spot.'"

In the video, Remias can be heard asking for Mary's intercession, referring to her simply as "Mom." Kneeling before a Marian statue in the grotto, he says, "Hey Mom, the past couple of days have been pretty hard, and I'm not sure what's happening. I don't know if it's something in my head or something in my heart. Could you pass the message? Dear Jesus ..."



Jayden Remias, a Westerville St. Paul the Apostle parishioner, produced a video that was one of four winners of Ascension's Truth and Beauty Awards.

Photo courtesy Jayden Remias

Remias was among thousands of applicants for the "Truth and Beauty Awards." He recalled first hearing about the contest last October.

The awards mark Ascension reaching 1 million subscribers on the Ascension Presents YouTube channel. During the past 25 years, Ascension has reached more than 20 million Catholics through

its books, podcasts, programs and media platforms.

Remias decided to enter his "Hey Mom" video in the contest.

"I just ultimately sent that one in because I felt like it was something that would resonate with people and was inspired of prayer and calling upon the intercession of Mary," he said.

"I turned it into an internal prayer, and I was like, 'God, I just want to display what it would be like if I was naturally talking to you,' and that was my process of revealing to the world that prayer isn't just like these words that we recite, it's actually speaking from our heart."

"In this case, I was asking upon Mary's intercession, and I was just speaking from the heart to her about how I felt at that moment. I felt like things were pretty hard, and I was like, 'How can I actually turn this feeling into art?'"

With "Hey Mom," Remias is not surprised the video won.

"I think it resonated with Ascension a lot ... like, 'Whoa, this guy is putting so much effort into a video,'" he said, "and not only that, he's literally left everything behind to do this for a living, and someone's willing to do that for the Church – give their life away to share their gifts with the world – and show

See VIDEO, Page 31

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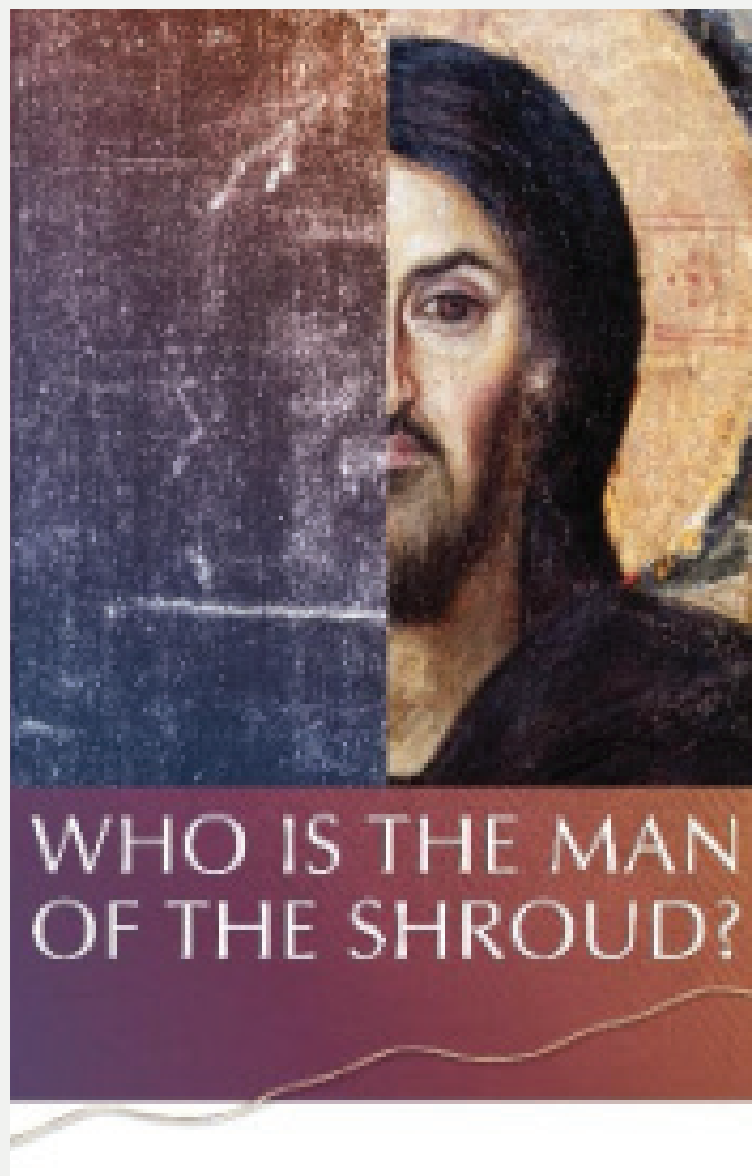
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Date & Time

March 7-13, 2025

The exhibit will be open from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm on March 7, and March 8-13, 7:00 am to 7:00 pm

Presentation & Discussion:

March 12 at 11:30 am and March 13 at 6:45 pm
(Same presentation on both days)

Location

St. John Neumann Catholic Church

The Faith and Family Center
9633 E State Route 37 Sunbury, OH 43074

The exhibit was developed by Othonia, a part of the Institute of Science and Faith at the Regina Apostolorum Pontifical University located in Rome, Italy.



saintjohnsunbury.org/shroud-of-turin-exhibit



740-965-1358

VIDEO, continued from Page 29

that Jesus isn't just a person in a building but someone that is alive and someone that is worth giving everything up for."

When he received word last month that his video was selected as a winner, it came at a nearly perfect time. In January, Remias hit the one-year mark working as a social media content creator.

The anniversary marked a time for celebration, but it also presented uncertainty.

"By the time February rolled around, I just was like, 'God, I'm doubting that this is what you're calling me to,'" he recalled. "'The work's getting hard. I'm not seeing any fruit,' and then, the next thing I know, I get an email from Ascension saying that I won the contest, and that was big confirmation for me of like, God wants me to keep doing this."

As of mid-February, Remias shared that he had reached 1 million people on social media in the past 30 days. His Instagram boasts more than 26,000 followers plus nearly a thousand subscribers on YouTube.

Remias works to point millions of Catholic and secular-world social media users to Christ's Church.

"You can't just tell them, 'Come into this building,'" he said of a Catholic church. "We have to have evangelists go out and tell them, 'This is why it's so good.'"

As a social media content creator, Remias said his weekly and monthly work schedule revolves around sharing the "Good News," which is the meaning of the word "Gospel." He attempts to share a dose of truth, beauty and goodness with those on social media.

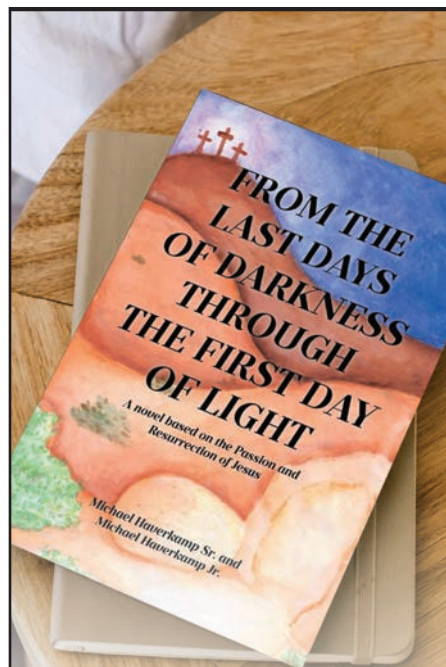
Remias said he wants to create content that resonates with people. He also desires to create videos that are unique and not simply "another video on someone's screen."

He shared hopes that his work will prevent social media users from "mindlessly scrolling" through meaningless content online. He desires that his videos strike a chord in the viewer, making them pause and reflect, unlike "other videos that don't produce fruit or meaning," he explained.

As with any type of work, there can be difficulties.

He acknowledged that, while his work is different from a typical 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. job, it comes with struggles behind the scenes that do not always meet the eye of the social media user.

"People see the need to do God's work, but they don't know that there's a cost to doing that," Remias shared. "I saw the need, and the Lord showed me the cost, but just like how Jesus gave His life up on the cross, if I can give my life in that same way – just so that people would know His name and somehow have a conversion or reversion back to Him – I did my duty."



FROM THE LAST DAYS OF DARKNESS THROUGH THE FIRST DAY OF LIGHT

A Novel

by Michael Haverkamp,
Sr. and Michael
Haverkamp, Jr.

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OUR CATHOLIC RESPONSE TO MENTAL HEALTH

As we face a growing mental health crisis in our society, what should we do?



As Catholics, we are called to respond to the signs of the times. Join in a public conversation on the topic and together create our local response.

Friday, March 28, 2025

9:00 am – 2:00 pm

(8:00 am Daily Mass available in the main church)

St. Brendan the Navigator Church

4475 Dublin Rd. Hilliard, OH 43026

A Light Breakfast and Lunch will be provided.

Our Moderator:

Fr. Bob Penhallurick, Vicar for Catholic Social Doctrine and Pastor of St. Catherine Church

Our Panelists:

Dr. Andrew Sodergren, Ruah Woods
Mary Ann Jepsen, Covenant Integrated Counseling
Susan Lewis-Kaylor, St. Vincent Family Services
Dcn. Phil Paulucci, Retired, Pastoral Care



Space is limited, please register at:
onecau.se/mentalhealthsummit

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