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## Official

Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton has announced that **Father Bradley W. Greer** will be appointed chancellor of the Diocese of Steubenville, effective July 27, replacing Linda A. Nichols, who will retire July 26. Father Greer will continue his assignments as parochial vicar to Father Timothy J. Huffman, pastor of St. Peter Parish, Steubenville, and as the bishop's master of ceremonies.

## News Briefs

### Pope says police are like St. Joseph

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis expressed his gratitude to the men and women who work protecting him and millions of pilgrims who visit St. Peter's Basilica each year.

Meeting with Italian state police who work for Public Security at the Vatican, the pope praised their personal sacrifice in protecting others.

Their dedication, he said, reminded him of the example of St. Joseph, who displayed the same personal responsibility in protecting Jesus.

"The word that always comes to mind for these people who sacrifice themselves is 'watch over,'" the pope said. "Not only to watch over the pope, but also the people so that there won't be some crazy person who might cause a massacre and ruin so many families. And reflecting on that word 'watch over' reminded me of Jesus' guardian."

"Sometimes, I am sad when I go out and see that you are working, you should be in your homes, with your loved ones," he said. "But instead you work there to protect the people, to protect me. I don't know how to thank you."

Pope Francis also commended "all those who watch over" pilgrims, and jokingly said those who ride motorcycles "have secured a job after retirement with a circus because of their amazing balance."

### Mary should be celebrated this year

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Reminding bishops, pastors and Catholics around the world that all Latin-rite Catholics should celebrate the feast of Mary, Mother of the Church on the Monday after Pentecost this year, Cardinal Robert Sarah said the celebration should take precedence over any other possible liturgy that day.

The Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments, headed by Cardinal Sarah, had announced Pope Francis' decision to add the feast to the church's calendar as an "obligatory memorial."

The Monday after Pentecost is May 21 this year.

Although there are a few specific cases in which the rector of a church or pastor of a parish could choose to celebrate a different Mass that day, Cardinal Sarah said that "all else being equal, the obligatory memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church is to be preferred."

In addition, he said, the list of Mass readings published with the pope's decree "are to be held as proper because they illuminate the mystery of spiritual motherhood."

In cases where a local or national church calendar has another saint or blessed on the calendar May 21, Cardinal Sarah said, "the memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary is to prevail."



Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton blesses the oils of the sick and the catechumens and consecrates the chrism at the March 26 chrism Mass at St. Peter Church, Steubenville. Father Bradley W. Greer, right of bishop, is master of ceremonies. Also pictured, from left, are Permanent Deacon Richard G. Adams, Father Edward A. Maxfield Jr., Permanent Deacon Thomas F. Maedke, Seminarian Brandon O'Nan, Transitional Deacon Joshua D. Erickson and Seminarian Jeremiah Hahn. Another chrism Mass was celebrated the following day at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta. The oils are used sacramentally throughout the diocese. Bishop Monforton said the oils, "provide priests the opportunity to be healers of the body, mind, and spirit." (Photo by Orsatti)

## Completion of financial investigation expected soon

STEUBENVILLE — Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton hopes "the investigation of the diocesan finance office will be completed by mid-April."

The bishop said, "Auditors with Schneider Downs of Pittsburgh are closely looking into every aspect of the payroll system and accounting processes for more than a decade."

The bishop added, "The process is moving along well and I expect to have answers soon after their thorough investigation. Forensic audits can take months to complete. We

want to resolve this situation and make sure it never happens again."

Bishop Monforton said the forensic auditors are looking into everything from "accounting errors to possible inappropriate use of funds."

The diocese suspended all major financial expenditures, including the Holy Name Cathedral, Steubenville, renovation project, pending completion of the financial investigation.

The bishop thanked every parishioner in the diocese for their patience during the ongoing investigation. He intends to release more information once more details become available.

## Permanent deacon for 40 years is remembered

STEUBENVILLE — Permanent Deacon Lawrence R. Meagher of Steubenville, died March 26 at his home.

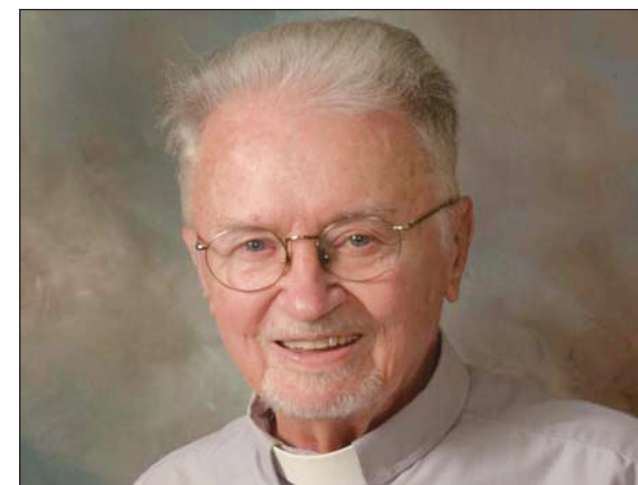
Deacon Meagher was born Nov. 20, 1928, in New York, the son of the late Lawrence Patrick and Teresa Veronica Meagher.

He and his late wife, Marie, had eight children, numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Deacon Meagher was ordained a deacon for the Diocese of Brooklyn, New York, in 1977, and was incardinated in the Diocese of Steubenville in 1991.

He began prison ministry in Steubenville, at the request of the diocese's second bishop, Albert H. Ottenweller, and continued ministering, especially in Belmont County facilities, until 2008.

Deacon Meagher, the longest serving deacon in the diocese, was a member of Triumph of the Cross Parish, Steubenville.



(File photo)

Permanent Deacon Lawrence R. Meagher



Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton, and Father Michael W. Gossett, Diocese of Steubenville vocations director, visit St. Joseph Central High School, Ironton, during "Vocations Tour 2018." Pictured above, Bishop Monforton, Father Michael W. Gossett, right, and Father Matthew W. J. Gossett, parochial vicar to Father David L. Huffman, pastor of St. Lawrence O'Toole and St. Joseph parishes, Ironton, and administrator of St. Mary Mission, Pine Grove, speak to the students at the school. (Photo provided)



Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton plays basketball with students at St. Joseph Central High School, Ironton, during "Vocations Tour 2018." (Photo provided)



Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton discusses "Discipleship" during a session of Theology on Tap at Froehlich's Classic Corner, Steubenville. The program is designed for young adults in the diocese in their 20s and 30s to provide a scene to meet and socialize with like-minded men and women, while learning about their faith. (Photo by Radford)

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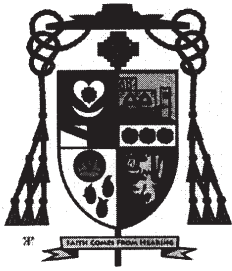
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# Bishop Monforton's letter to parents of priests



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March 19, 2018

Dear Parent(s)

As we quickly approach Holy Week and Holy Thursday, I wish to thank you for your son, (Priest's name). On Holy Thursday we celebrate the birthday of the sacramental priesthood of Jesus Christ. Fittingly, I thank you for enabling the people of God to gaze upon the Kingdom of God as your son celebrates the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

Furthermore, your son stands in the person of Jesus Christ at the Sacrament of Penance, lifting the weight of sin off of those who approach him for God's forgiveness. Jesus Christ has bestowed upon his Church, and specifically his priests, to share his presence in both the Word and in the sacraments, thereby strengthening our brothers and sisters in grace.

As the parent of (Priest's name) you have had a direct role in the preparation and formation of your son to be a distributor of God's grace. May your Holy Week be a most blessed one as we gaze upon the face of Jesus and prepare to celebrate his Easter Resurrection. With prayerful best wishes and entrusting you to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, patroness of the Diocese of Steubenville, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Jeffrey M. Monforton  
 Bishop of Steubenville

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## Bishop Monforton's Schedule

### April

- 7 Confirmation Mass, St. Peter Church, Steubenville, 4 p.m.
- 8 Confirmation Mass, St. Francis of Assisi Church, Toronto, 11 a.m.
- 9 Diocesan Liturgical Commission meeting, St. Benedict Church, Cambridge, 11 a.m.
- 10 Mass, Holy Rosary Church, Steubenville, 7 a.m.
- 11 Radio segment WDEO 990 AM, 10:15 a.m.  
 Mass and installation ministry of reader, followed by dinner, St. Vincent Seminary, Latrobe, Pennsylvania, 5 p.m.
- 12 Dinner with Bishop Emeritus Gilbert I. Sheldon and Brothers of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Steubenville, 4:30 p.m.
- 14 Confirmation Mass, St. John the Baptist Church, Churchtown, 11 a.m.  
 Confirmation Mass, St. Ambrose Church, Little Hocking, 5 p.m.
- 15 Mass, St. Ann Church, Chesapeake, 8:30 a.m.  
 Mass, St. Lawrence O'Toole Church, Ironton, noon
- 16 Visit St. Lawrence Central School, Ironton, 7:30 a.m.; celebrate Mass, St. Joseph Church, Ironton, 11 a.m.  
 Visit St. Joseph Central High School, Ironton, 12:30 p.m.
- 17 Visit St. John Central School, Churchtown, 8:10 a.m.  
 Celebrate Mass at Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, 12:05 p.m.  
 Visit St. Mary School, Marietta, 12:45 p.m.
- 18 Catholic Conference of Ohio meeting, Columbus, Ohio, 10 a.m.  
 Pontifical College Josephinum visit with formation faculty and seminarians, Columbus, Ohio, 4 p.m.
- 19 WAOB radio segment, 7:40 a.m., 8:40 a.m. and 6:40 p.m.  
 Visit St. Mary Central School, Martins Ferry, 8 a.m.  
 Visit St. John Central Grade School, Bellaire, 9:15 a.m.; celebrate Mass with Belmont County parochial school students at St. John Church, Bellaire, 10:30 a.m.  
 Visit St. John Central High School, Bellaire, 11:30 a.m.  
 Visit St. Mary Central School, St. Clairsville, 1:30 p.m.
- 20 Visit Bishop John King Mussio Central Elementary School, Bishop John King Mussio Central Junior High School and Catholic Central High School, Steubenville, beginning at 8 a.m., and continuing throughout the school day; celebrate Mass for all Steubenville parochial school students in Catholic Central High School, Berkman Theater, Lanman Hall, 9:30 a.m.; lunch at Catholic Central High School, 11:15 a.m.
- 21 Mass and installation, ministries of lector and acolyte, Holy Family Church, Steubenville, 8:30 a.m.  
 Baron Club dinner, Franciscan University of Steubenville, 6 p.m.

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## Catholic school students join peers in march against gun violence

WASHINGTON (CNS) — In the parish hall of Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Washington, elders handed markers to younger members of the parish as they filled in posters with the Gospel-based message from the Book of Isaiah that they wanted others to see at the March for Our Lives event the next day: “And the children will lead us.”

The young Catholics joined the tens of thousands of students from across the country who participated on March 24 in a massive demonstration along Washington’s Pennsylvania Avenue, the main road that connects the White House to the U.S. Capitol, where both houses of Congress meet – the institutions many of them say are to blame for countless young lives lost over the years to gun violence.

The event was organized by survivors and friends of those who died at Florida’s Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Feb. 14, where 17 died, including an assistant coach and the school’s athletic director. Several more were injured in the latest mass shooting to take place at a school. Those who showed up to the march said they were there to support the march organizers and to applaud their effort.

“They were the spark ... finally someone had to do something about it,” said Sofia Alpizar, a student at George Washington University. She was in the pews at St. Patrick’s Catholic Church watching her younger sister Viviana Alpizar and other Catholic school students who had gathered for reflection and Mass before taking to the streets.

“Don’t let this march be the only thing you do,” Viviana Alpizar implored, as other students shared some of the reasons why they were participating.

A brief encounter with the reality of gun violence prompted students from St. John’s Jesuit High School Academy in Toledo to join the march.

Days before the deadly Parkland shooting, students at St. John’s spotted a threat made by a local teen on Snapchat and they quickly alerted authorities.

Authorities apprehended the minor who made the threat.

“The threat hit home to our student body,” said Phill Skeldon, administrator for pastoral ministries and outreach at St. John’s. He and other faculty joined a group of students from the Jesuit school who participated in the march.

Stephon Wheaton, a 17 year old from Don Bosco Cristo Rey High School in Takoma Park, Maryland, said he was participating because he had lost his best friend, his brother, to gun violence, an event that left him feeling “mad, frustrated and alone.”

J’TA Freeman, a junior at Bishop McNamara High School, told those gathered at St. Patrick’s that she experienced gun violence at age 4, when “somebody brutally murdered my uncle.”

Violence in the streets and violence in schools come from the same source, she said, and something must be done.

“Bullets have no name, they have no race, no gender, they don’t care who you are. They will hit any and everybody,” she said. “We need to take these guns off the streets.”

Referencing the alleged gunman in



People gather near the U.S. Capitol during the March for Our Lives event March 24 in Washington. Hundreds of thousands converged on the nation’s capital demanding gun control after recent school shootings. (CNS photo/ Jonathan Ernst, Reuters)

the Parkland, Florida, school shooting, she said, “It should not be that easy for a 19-year-old male to put a gun into a guitar case, get in a Uber, go to the school” and snuff out lives so easily.

“It is not OK, it should never be OK. After this march, I hope, we will need to take action. The people in charge, they need to hear us,” she said.

Others, such as Diego Garcia, a 16 year old from Chicago’s Brighton Park neighborhood, who organized a group of 50 students from his parish so they would join the Washington march in solidarity with the Parkland students, said he was concerned about the safety of his younger peers.

“I have two brothers and younger friends, I don’t want anything to happen to any of them,” he said.

Though he is not old enough to vote, he wanted lawmakers to hear his voice and his pastor helped him do that.

“I’m not 18, so I thought, what can I do?” he said. “I spoke to my priest and he said, ‘I’ll give you the opportunity to speak.’” By talking to parishioners and making a 34-second video viewed more than 257,000 times, so far, he was able to raise enough donations for all to travel to the march in Washington.

Though older students say they plan to make their voices heard with their votes at the ballot in local and national races, he

who had to practice a drill in case of a school shooting and she hoped for a day when children like her cousin don’t have to be thinking about the violence that could befall them in a place that should be safe.

Though students were the protagonists of the demonstration – which saw sister marches throughout the country – many parents and grandparents joined them.

Younger Catholics had the added support of members of their spiritual communities, including priests, and men and women religious, as well as various social justice organizations that showed up to support them.

A group from a Franciscan parish in Maryland carried signs during the demonstration, including one with the image of Blessed Oscar Romero, whose feast day fell on the day of the march. Like some of the victims of the Parkland shooting, the Salvadoran archbishop, too, was killed by gunfire on March 24, 1980, while celebrating Mass.

Some bishops took to Twitter to express support for the young participants. Chicago’s Cardinal Blase J. Cupich said via Twitter he was blessing local “youth joining the March for Our Lives in Washington, D.C. Let us listen to the voice of our young people and support stronger gun safety measures.”

Also via Twitter, Boston’s Cardinal Sean P. O’Malley spoke about the “extraordinary role” of the Florida students “in focusing the mind of the country on this critical social problem” and said it “should be a sign of hope for all of us.”

Catholic mom Liz Mora of Washington said she found hope in the day. She told Catholic News Service she marched “for my children and for all children to have the right to go to school without being harmed by gun violence.”

She said she wanted people of all races and backgrounds “to drive, walk, ride a bike, play in a playground or to stand in their backyard without being mowed down by bullets.

“I have hope again. Change has already begun,” she said. “Companies are changing their policies and what they sell. Gun owners are speaking up for common sense gun laws. I have faith that our youth will lead us and to show us how to keep this momentum going.”

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# Letters to adopted children's birth mothers draw grateful response

By Tim Puet

COLUMBUS, Ohio (CNS) — A suggestion that started with an Ohio Catholic school student's dream has resulted in a nationwide response of support for the birth mothers of adopted children and gratitude from the mothers themselves.

The student, Olivia Oyster, is an eighth-grader at St. Mary School in Delaware, Ohio. She is the oldest of three sisters — one of whom, 3-year-old Gianna, was adopted by Olivia's parents, Greg and Stacy Oyster, after a local woman gave birth to the child.

"One night in early November, I dreamed that I was in school proofreading a bunch of letters that kids at school had written to birth mothers thanking them for the courage it took to make the decision to allow their child to be adopted," Olivia told the Catholic Times, newspaper of the Columbus (Ohio) Diocese.

"From our own experience with Gianna, I realize it takes great strength to do this," she explained. "I know that birth mothers go through a lot that most people don't realize and deserve active support and the gratitude and reassurance that they did what was best for the child. This dream happened a couple of times and I wasn't sure what to do about it, so I talked to my mother."

"I said it was probably God asking her, and it was her choice whether or not to obey what he was asking," Stacy Oyster said. "She took it upon herself to do the rest, and it's amazing what has happened. It surely was a message from God, and Olivia's making the right choice has resulted in lots of blessings."

Olivia was familiar with an organization known as BraveLove, which her mother had been following on social media.

BraveLove, a Dallas-based nonprofit organization founded six years ago by an adoptive mother, is not an adoption agency or a pregnancy resource center, but is primarily dedicated to advocating through media content and messaging that adoption is a loving option for those in unplanned pregnancies.

"I emailed BraveLove about my dream on Nov. 21," Olivia said. "They emailed back the next day saying that having my classmates write letters to birth mothers was a great idea, and encouraged me to get in touch with my principal, Mrs. (Gina) Stull, about it. I emailed her the next day and she gave her permission for me to do this."

It was decided Olivia would talk to the seventh- and eighth-grade classes at the school Dec. 11 and 12, show them a video from BraveLove, then ask them to write the letters.

She worked with teacher Reilly Polletta on wording that everyone would use and "would be most meaningful" to the mothers, Olivia said.

Polletta said she was thrilled to be involved, because her youngest brother is adopted.

"That made it extremely meaningful for me," she said. "I have so much respect for the way Olivia took action. It's amazing, both on a personal level for her and on how she educated her classmates. All of us have learned more about adoption and gained so much insight about the birth mothers of adopted children and feel tremendous gratitude for them."

More than 50 letters were written and sent in a package to BraveLove just before the school's Christmas break.

Olivia's letter read:

"Dear Birthmother, I want to begin by expressing my absolute gratitude for you and your brave decision. Adoption is



**Olivia Oyster, an eighth-grader at St. Mary School in Delaware, Ohio, holds letters of support to birth mothers of adopted children that she and her classmates wrote. (CNS photo)**

a topic that is very close to my heart, because my little sister was adopted. You are so brave, and selfless. I am praying for you! — Olivia."

Another said: "Dear Birthparent, The most important thing for you to know is that you absolutely made the right decision by making an adoption plan for your child. No matter what anyone says, you did not give up or take an easy way out, you thought from the bottom of your heart about how to give your child the best possible life. Always know you are supported and loved, even if just by me. Sincerely, Adoption Supporter."

BraveLove received the letters Dec. 27, photocopied them, and mailed them Jan. 3 to 260 birth mothers across the nation, who quickly responded to the messages of sup-

port. Here are some of the responses:

"This is one of the most loving, unexpected surprises I have ever received in the mail. Thank you, Olivia, for your beautiful heart and for loving on birth mothers! What a sweet, sweet reminder from BraveLove."

"Just the little oomph of happiness I needed. Thank you to the dear girl who wrote me. And thank you @joinbravelove for including me."

"As a birth mom, I received one of these letters. Honestly, it came at the perfect time. On the 15th my birth son will be one, and it's been a struggle for me. But when this letter came in the mail, it was so wonderful and just made my whole week! Truly appreciated it. Thank you!!!"

Later in January, BraveLove decided to feature several of the letters from Olivia and her classmates on a set of greeting cards it offered for sale as a Valentine's Day promotion, which continue to be available on the website [www.bravelove.org](http://www.bravelove.org).

Each card features one of the letters, plus space for the sender to add words of encouragement for the recipient. Olivia's letter also is featured in an ongoing campaign which encourages people to send messages of encouragement on the BraveLove website so they can be seen by birth mothers and others viewing the site.

BraveLove executive director Laura Bruder said the letters reached not only the birth mothers who were their intended recipients, but more than 20,000 people on Facebook alone. Olivia said she has been periodically receiving postings of 10 to 15 responses from BraveLove for the past two months.

"Not every day do I receive emails from eighth-graders. So when Olivia's message popped in my inbox, I knew this was going to be special," Bruder said. "Since then, I've continued to be amazed by the impact this simple act of kindness has had on birth mothers and families nationwide. It's Olivia, the parents, her classmates, the teachers and principal who have together made this beautiful effort possible."

Principal Stull called the students' outreach "the epitome of what Catholic education is about."

"You couldn't find a better way of teaching children about caring for others and respecting every human life," she said. "It's a great example of how doing small things with great love can make a huge difference."

## POSITION OPENING – CATECHETICAL CONSULTANT

The Diocese of Steubenville is seeking a catechetical consultant to provide leadership in the design and implementation of programs for adults, youth and children, to assist in building a solid foundation for the Catholic faith within the diocese. This position provides comprehensive, well organized and theologically sound catechist formation for the Christian faithful who serve in the diocese's parishes and schools.

**Requirements include:** a master's degree in theology, catechetics or related field; the applicant must understand, support and embrace the mission of the Diocese of Steubenville, be a practicing Catholic and be currently in good standing and participating in a parish.

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## St. John Paul II The Spirit and Spiritual Gifts

By Diocese of Steubenville  
Bishop Emeritus Gilbert I. Sheldon

After speaking of the Holy Spirit's part in the ministerial structure of the church, St. John Paul II goes on to speak of the Spirit as the source of the spiritual, i.e., invisible, gifts in the individual soul. In the sequence for the Mass of Pentecost, we sing or recite the hymn, "Veni, Sancte Spiritus" ("Come, Holy Spirit"). The second line begins: "Come, Giver of gifts. ..." It is those gifts that the pope wishes to speak of now. We find them described in Scripture primarily in the writings of John the Apostle and St. Paul.

St. Paul tells us: "(T)hose who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery ... but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, 'Abba' ('Father'). The Spirit itself bears witness ... that we are children of God, and, if children, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if only we suffer with him, so that we may also be glorified with him" (Rom 8:14-17; also Gal 4:6). This is the heart and essence of those "spiritual gifts" of which the pope speaks: The life of Christ, that includes the life of God in his created human nature, is shared with all who are baptized "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." Sharing the life of God – that's what it's all about. As gifts go, you can't beat it!

John's Gospel puts it this way: "On that day (when the Advocate comes) you will realize that I am in my Father and you are in me and I am in you" (Jn 14:20). We who are baptized lead a "double life," so to speak: our natural life and this other "supernatural" life!

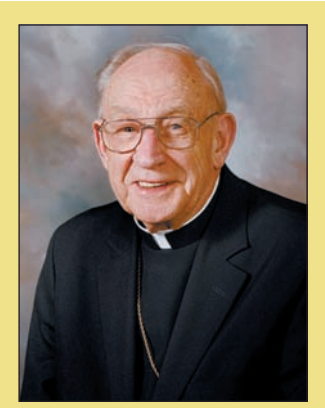
God is one – a unique infinite being encompassing all reality, but yet a single, simple entity. We share that life in a created way that can be analyzed into facets and features. Hence, St. Paul tells us: "There are different works, but the same God who accomplishes all of them in everyone. He then spells them out in the well known 12th

Chapter of 1 Corinthians. Some are for the enhancement of the recipient's own spiritual life, others are intended to enhance that of the rest of our fellow Christians. St. Paul adds another dimension here: "It was in one Spirit that all of us ... were baptized into one body. All of us have been given to drink of the one Spirit" (1 Cor 12:13). Paul goes on to describe some of them, but concludes in another one of his most memorable passages: "If I speak with the tongues of men and angels, but do not have love (charity), I am a resounding gong and a clashing cymbal. And if I have gift of prophecy and comprehend all mysteries and knowledge; if I have faith so as to move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ... But, we know partially and we prophecy partially, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. ... At present, we see indistinctly, as in a mirror, but then, face to face. ... So faith, hope and love remain, but the greatest of these is love" (1 Cor 13: *passim*). (It is used as the second reading for the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time in Cycle C, Luke, of the Lectionary).

These gifts or "charisms" come from the Greek word, "charis" ("gift") – from which we also get words like grace, grateful, gratitude, gracious, as well as charity and charismatic. They have drawn a great deal of attention in the charismatic movement of recent years. The Second Vatican Council had these words to say: "These charisms ... are to be received with thanksgiving ... for they are perfectly suited to, and useful for the needs of the church. Extraordinary gifts are not to be sought after, nor are the fruits of apostolic labor to be presumptuously expected from their use; but judgment as to their genuinity and proper use belongs to those who are appointed leaders in the church to whose special competence it belongs, 'not to extinguish the Spirit, but to test all things and hold fast to that which is good'" (1 Thes 5:12; 19:21). (Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, "Lumen Gentium, Paragraph 12). The council goes on to point out that the church, in keeping with a long tradition beginning from apostolic times and continued by the Fathers of the Church,

has always held in high regard those charisms that are part and parcel of the religious life: poverty, chastity and obedience. "The religious state ... clearly shows all men ... the infinite power of the Holy Spirit marvelously working in the church" ("Lumen Gentium," Paragraph 43).

John Paul comments that equally important, though less dramatic, is the presence of the Holy Spirit in all those who hold offices in the church, both clergy and lay, men and women. Those who hold a teaching responsibility, whether bishops or priests in the pulpit, professors in colleges or seminaries, religion and parish school of religion teachers in parish classrooms – all exercise the gift of *prophecy*, i.e., they speak in the name of and on behalf of God himself (the essential meaning of prophecy). He includes also those who labor in the many areas of human care and welfare: assistance to the sick, the poor, the disadvantaged. After all, "the greatest of these is love." He goes on to say: "These charisms are not in contrast with the hierarchical nature of the ministries and, in general, with the 'offices' which were also established for the unity, proper functioning and beauty of the church. The hierarchical order and the entire ministerial structure of the church are also under the action of the charisms, as Paul pointed out in his letter to Timothy: 'Do not neglect the gift that you received when, as a result of prophecy, the presbyters laid hands on you'" (1 Tim 4:14); "I remind you to stir into flames the gift of God bestowed when my hands were laid on you" (2 Tim 1:6). He refers here specifically to ordained offices, but the term, "charism," can be applied to anyone who is called to assume a ministry in the church. The profession of faith itself, if genuine, is also an act made possible by the grace of the Holy Spirit!



Bishop Sheldon

**"God is one – a unique infinite being encompassing all reality, but yet a single, simple entity."**

## 'My Lord and My God!' Second Sunday of Easter

By Father Paul J. Walker

Anyone who has undertaken a new way of life knows how challenging it is to leave behind old ways. It doesn't matter if a person is a recovering alcoholic, a new set of parents, a recent retiree. Beginners everywhere learn how many of their behaviors result from deeply conditioned habits. After a lifetime, these patterns can be difficult to change, much less eradicate. Living out the resurrection requires such a transformation. The first reading today, April

8, (from Acts) gives a great example of this. The early Christians in Jerusalem shared a life that was starkly different from communities outside the church. In their prayer and care for each other, they gave the world an example of radically changed thinking.

The Gospel reading today shows how hard

such changes can be at first. Christ shared his victory over death with his disciples not with displays of power, but with greetings of peace. He sent them out with the Spirit not to do battle, but to forgive sins and preach repentance.

Thomas, too, had to overcome his habits of thought. He first responds exactly as the world had conditioned him to respond. He refused to believe their wild story without the proof of his own senses. That Jesus returned a week later to give Thomas that very proof, shows how much Our Lord loved him and how important it was for them to understand and believe in his resurrection.

Disciples in every age must overcome the same conditioning in order to live out the resurrection. We do not have the opportunity that Thomas had to put our hands on the physical wounds of Christ, but images like this can help us transform our minds without having seen. Thomas saw, but he believed what cannot be seen. He arrived at this faith, not through the power of the preached word, but through the weakness of Christ's wounds.

It is the crucified Christ that reveals a saving God. It could be said that it is through the wounds in the body of Christ that we come to Easter faith. But, it is not the wounds as some object of pious devotion, adorning some holy card – that isolates them to the past and domesticates them. No,

these are wounds that violate the body of Christ today: war, violence, prejudice, envy, neglect, abuse; wounds in

To Page 8

### The Steubenville Register

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Father Walker

## Bishop Monforton Reflects on Bishop Mussio, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

By Diocese of Steubenville  
Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton

**“Caritas Urget Nos”  
(Charity Impels Us)**

These words grace the episcopal motto of the late Bishop John King Mussio, first bishop of the Diocese of Steubenville. While we approach the 40th anniversary of the bishop’s death (April 15), I would like to mention that there is a longer version of his motto in St. Paul’s Second Letter to the Corinthians: “For the love of Christ impels us, once we have come to the conviction that one died for all; therefore, all have died. He indeed died for all, so that those who live might no longer live for themselves, but for him who for their sake died and was raised” (2 Cor 5:14-15). These are both Easter words and words charged with the call to evangelization.

Much has changed in the diocese these 73 years since Bishop Mussio’s episcopal ordination and installation (May 23, 1945), from population shifts to a fractured economy, both results of the manufacturing sector. Still, what has not changed is the Easter message of eternal hope and the call for us to share the good news of Jesus Christ, to evangelize with hearts filled with the Easter Alleluia.

An interview published in The Steubenville Register (Sept. 24, 1970) illustrated the challenges of the newly minted 42-year-old bishop, from finding his way in a diocese of 5,910 square miles in the

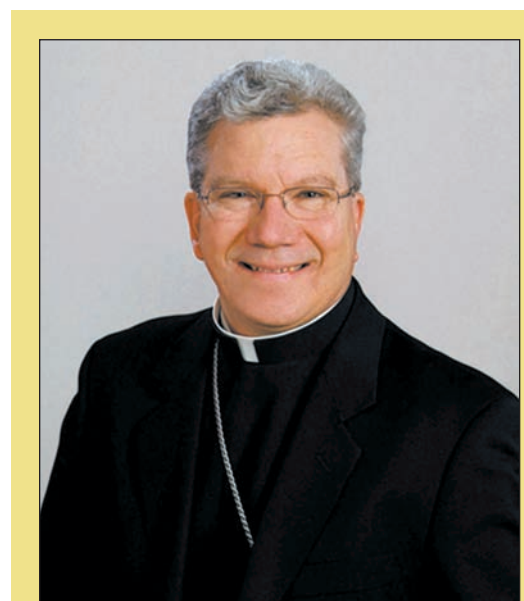
Ohio River Valley to the sharpening of his ministry the next quarter century. People I have had the pleasure to speak with, who knew the bishop, described his love for the church and how it translated in his tireless energy. This energy was greatly needed, since he was extremely short of priests upon his arrival in 1945. The diocese was established in 1944, so it was even short one bishop.

At the conclusion of the interview, the bishop indicated how he could not imagine retirement. This has a prophetic tone, for he died just six months after he began retirement. As a diocese, we carry on the bishop’s Easter and evangelization motto in our work as fellow Christians, with eyes fixed on Jesus Christ and his enduring love. We do so through our four priorities of our youth and young adults, our Catholic schools, our clergy and the health of our parishes, all necessary for our resolve to be missionary disciples. Charity impels us.

### 50th Anniversary of the Assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

This past Easter Wednesday marked the 50th anniversary of the Rev. Dr. King’s assassination in Memphis, Tennessee (April 4, 1968). Like other moments in our nation’s history, many can remember where they were when they heard the terrible news of this courageous man’s death. Furthermore, the Rev. Dr. King’s focus on solidarity with others in need through nonviolent resistance is a lesson in fortitude and charity, even in the presence of extreme resistance.

As fellow Christians, we are invited each day by our Lord to deepen our commitment to mercy and justice, both



Bishop Monforton

which require the virtue of fortitude. Jesus Christ is quite explicit in how you and I should treat our neighbor. May we make our Christian motto Jesus Christ’s words to love both God and neighbor as we love ourselves. Charity impels us.

**May you and your family have a blessed Easter season filled with hope and joy. Jesus gave his life in order that you and I may have eternal life, an eternal life of joy with him.**

## The Ups And Downs of Faith

By Father Ron Rolheiser

The poet, Rumi, suggests that we live with a deep secret that sometimes we know, then not, and then know again. That’s a good description of faith. Faith isn’t something you nail down and possess once and for all. It goes this way: Sometimes you walk on water and sometimes you sink like a stone.

The Gospels testify to this, most graphically, in the story of Peter walking on the water: Jesus asks Peter to step out of a boat and walk across the water to him. At first it works, Peter, unthinking, walks on the water, then becoming more conscious of what he is doing, he sinks like a stone. We see this, too, in the massive fluctuations in belief that Jesus’ disciples experience during the “40 days” after the resurrection. Jesus would appear to them, they would trust he was alive, then he would disappear again, and they would lose their trust and go back to the lives they’d led before they met him, fishing and the sea. The post-Resurrection narratives illustrate the dynamics of faith pretty clearly:

You believe it. Then you distrust. Then you believe it again. At least, so it seems on the surface.

We see another example of this in the story of Peter betraying Jesus. In Mark’s Gospel, Jesus tells us that there is a secret which separates those who have faith from those who don’t: *To*

*you is given the secret of the kingdom, but to those outside everything exists in parables.* That sounds like gnosticism, that is, the idea that there’s a secret code somewhere (e.g., the Da Vinci Code) that some know and some don’t and you are in or out depending upon whether you know it or not. But, that’s not what Jesus is saying here. His secret is an open one, accessible to all: the meaning of the cross. Anyone who understands this will understand the rest of what Jesus means, and vice versa. We are in or out, depending upon whether or not we can grasp and accept the meaning of Jesus’ death.

But, being in or out isn’t a once and for all thing. Rather, we move in and out! After Peter denied Jesus, we’re told: *“he went outside.”* This is intended both literally and metaphorically. After his denial, Peter stepped outside a gate into the night to be away from the crowd, but he also stepped outside the meaning of his faith.

Our faith also bounces up and down for another reason, we misunderstand how it works. Take for example the rich young man who approaches Jesus with this question: “Good master, what must I do *to possess* eternal life?” That’s an interesting choice of a verb: *to possess*. Eternal life as a possession? Jesus’ gentle correction of the young man’s verb teaches us something vital about faith. Jesus says to him: “Now if you wish *to receive* eternal life,” meaning that faith and eternal life are not something you possess so that they can be stored and guarded like grain in a barn, money in a bank, or jewelry in a box. They can only be received, like the air we breathe. Air is free, is everywhere, and our health doesn’t depend upon its presence, for it’s always there, but rather upon the state of our lungs (and mood) at any given moment. Sometimes we breathe deeply and appreciatively; but, sometimes, for various reasons, we breathe badly, gasp for breath, are

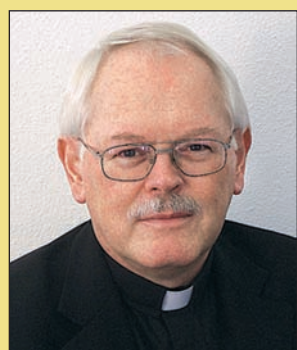
out of breath, or are choking for air. Like breathing, faith, too, has its modalities.

And so, we need to understand our faith not as a possession or as something we achieve once and for all, which can be lost only by some huge, dramatic, life-changing shift inside of us, where we move from belief to atheism. “Faith isn’t some constant state of belief,” suggests Abraham Heschel, “but rather a sort of faithfulness, a loyalty to the moments when we’ve had faith.”

And that teases out something else: To be real, faith need not be explicitly religious, but can express itself simply in faithfulness, loyalty and trust. For example, in a powerful memoir written as she was dying of cancer, “The Bright Hour,” Nina Riggs shares her strong, but implicit faith, as she calmly faces her death. Not given to explicit religious faith, she is challenged at one point by a nurse who says to her: “Faith, you gotta have it, and you’re gonna need it!” The comment triggers a reflection on her part about what she does or doesn’t believe in. She comes to peace with the question and her own stake in it with these words: “For me, faith involves staring into the abyss, seeing that it is dark and full of the unknown – and being okay with that.”

We need to trust the unknown, knowing that we will be OK, no matter that on a given day we might feel like we are walking on water or sinking like a stone. Faith is deeper than our feelings.

**Father Rolheiser, a Missionary Oblate of Mary Immaculate priest, is president of the Oblate School of Theology, San Antonio. Additional information about Father Rolheiser’s ministry is available on his website at [www.ronrolheiser.com](http://www.ronrolheiser.com).**



Father Rolheiser

## Young Columbus, Ohio boy's wish to meet Pope Francis comes true



**Pope Francis greets Peter Lombardi, 12, of Columbus, Ohio, after the boy rode in the popemobile during his general audience in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican March 28. Receiving a kiss from the pope was a wish come true for Peter, who has Down syndrome and has survived leukemia. (CNS photo/Vatican Media)**

By Junno Arocho Esteves

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — While many people hope to catch a glimpse of Pope Francis and greet him, 12-year-old Peter Lombardi got something even better than he imagined.

“Not only did Pope Francis kiss Peter, he asked Peter to ride in the popemobile with him,” Brenda Lombardi, Peter’s mother, told Catholic News Service.

Peter and his family were in St. Peter’s Square March 28 for the pope’s weekly general audience, hoping like most pilgrims to get close to Pope Francis.

First, a security guard lifted Peter over the railing of the popemobile so he could get a kiss from the pope.

Then Pope Francis told his security detail to give the boy a seat behind him and, together, they circled the square.

“He was gone for like 20 minutes riding with the pope, and the pope kissed him and blessed him,” Lombardi said.

Peter, who has Down syndrome, and his family had been hoping to see the pope in 2015 during the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia. However, those dreams were dashed when the young boy became ill with leukemia.

While receiving chemotherapy treatment, Peter was watching the papal visit from his hospital room with his family when a representative from the Make-A-Wish Foundation arrived.

His mother said the representative asked, “So, Peter, what is your make-a-wish?” And Peter said, “I want to be kissed by that man who is kissing all those children on TV,” Lombardi told CNS.

Cured from leukemia, the Lombardi family embarked on a pilgrimage to Rome, Assisi and Medjugorje to thank God for Peter’s healing.

After hearing their story, Mountain Butorac, an American tour guide based in Rome, was able to arrange for the family to stand in the front row to make Peter’s dream come true.

While riding in the popemobile with the boy, Pope Francis was given a balloon shaped into a crown.

Peter said he made one more request in the popemobile.

“(I said), ‘Thank you, pope, give me a balloon,’” Peter told CNS. The pope immediately placed the balloon crown on Peter’s head.

For Peter and his family, the significance of Pope Francis’ gesture wasn’t just a dream come true, but a sign that God had bigger and better plans in store for them.

“That’s how God works, right? We weren’t supposed to see Pope Francis in Philly, we were supposed to see him in the square and Peter was supposed to ride in the popemobile with him. You can’t make this stuff up,” Lombardi told CNS. “So, we thank the Lord for his graces and his mercy.”

## Omaha group educates students, parents, teachers about online perils

By Mike May

OMAHA, Neb. (CNS) — More than 83 percent of U.S. children ages 12 to 17 use a popular online social media application, Snapchat, at least monthly. But it’s one of the most unsafe apps they use.

That is according to an Omaha organization helping young girls navigate the perils of the digital world – and making a difference for families in the Omaha Archdiocese.

Smart Girl Society teaches students how to be safe online while also helping their teachers and parents guide and protect them, said Amie Konwinski, the organization’s CEO and founder, who previously served in the military and worked in the technology industry.

For Christie and David Huggins, members of Christ the King Parish in Omaha, the organization’s presentation for parents at their parish school was eye-opening.

“It’s kind of a scary topic,” Christie Huggins told the Catholic Voice, Omaha’s archdiocesan newspaper. “Even when you’re vigilant about what your kids are seeing, things change so quickly.”

Konwinski, a member of St. Stephen the Martyr Parish in Omaha, founded the organization three years ago with a goal of reducing objectification and sexualization of girls and women by encouraging smart online practices.

“What we’ve seen is that through social media and kids having smartphones in their pockets – ‘the peer in the pocket’ – their number-one influencer is in their pocket and in their face all the time,” she said. “Kids have an average of 10 hours and 45

minutes of screen time per day, including social media, TV and schoolwork.”

“We’ve seen a rise in the last five to 10 years, since social media has become prevalent, to the highest rates of suicide and self-harm,” she said. “One in five girls will have a major depression disorder every year.”

Through its presentations to fourth-through 12th-grade students, Smart Girl Society teaches children how to be savvy and responsible in the use of social media, establishing their “digital branding” to represent themselves authentically online, and focusing on safety, privacy and content so their online presence doesn’t become something they will regret later.

The biggest emerging issue is self-made child pornography, with 25 to 40 percent of children sending such photos – a practice called “sexting” – Konwinski said. “So, when we talk to students, we tell them, ‘Only share pictures you would want your mom to see.’ But if they make a mistake, we try to give them hope and show them how to hit the ‘reset button.’”

She reminds parents that they have a right and responsibility to monitor their children’s use of social media.

In addition to holding about 20 educational workshops at elementary and high schools per month in the Omaha area, Smart Girl Society also conducts research into developments in social media and provides online resources for parents at smartgirlsociety.org.

The organization allows boys to hear their presentations, Konwinski said. “The boys seem to get it,” she said, and show an appreciation for respecting their female counterparts.

For the Huggins family, with two daughters at Christ the King School, and one at Mercy High School in Omaha, learning about the many social media apps young people use helped them set appropriate restrictions on their daughters’ devices and remove some apps.

“What we learned about Snapchat surprised us,” Huggins said. “We learned that there are not a lot of restrictions on that app, and it is not well monitored.”

The app, which facilitates sharing of photos, claims that images only appear for a few seconds and then disappear, giving users a “false sense of security,” Huggins said.

“But if you receive that picture, you can take a quick screenshot and it now exists permanently and can be forwarded anywhere,” she said. “It can be abused very easily.”

They also learned that Snapchat, along

with Roblox, an online multiplayer game, are three of the most unsafe apps with potential for inappropriate content. So they removed them from their children’s devices.

Two of the Huggins’ daughters – fifth-grader Lucinda and eighth-grader Elizabeth – attended a Smart Girl Society presentation during the school day at Christ the King School in early February.

Helping children and families has become a ministry for Konwinski.

Through a turbulent childhood, growing up with no religious background and subjected to mental abuse by her stepfather, Konwinski said the Holy Spirit protected her heart and led her to become Catholic at age 24.

Now with a husband and five daughters, she said: “I’ve received so many blessing in my life, I wanted to give something back to the community.”

## ‘My Lord and My God!’

From Page 6

people you know and have wounded; your wounds, my wounds. To believe does not mean merely to assent with the mind to propositions or doctrinal statements in the creed.

Real belief – the kind Thomas comes to, and we are called to, has to do with insight, with vision, with seeing each other and the world through the prism of the death and resurrection of Jesus.

This Second Sunday of Easter was celebrated and established by St. John Paul II as “Divine Mercy” Sunday. Perhaps the greatest challenge to us believers is that of being able to believe in God’s mercy, a

mercy greater than any failures or fault of ours. It is indeed a challenge to trust completely in Jesus’ life-giving resurrection crying out with Thomas, “my Lord and my God” and to find refuge in his inexhaustible mercy.

**Father Walker is a Diocese of Steubenville priest and a former director of the diocesan Office of Worship. Retired from active parish ministry, he continues to reside in his hometown, McConnellsville, where he often celebrates Mass at St. James Church. Father Walker writes a regular column for The Steubenville Register.**



# Pope Francis says Easter shows the power of love, which renews the world

By Cindy Wooden

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Easter makes it clear that in the life of Jesus, but also in the lives of modern men and women, “death, solitude and fear” do not have the last word, Pope Francis said before giving his Easter blessing.

“The words heard by the women at the tomb are also addressed to us: ‘Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen,’” the pope said as he prepared April 1 to give his Easter blessing “urbi et orbi” (to the city and the world).

“By the power of God’s love,” Jesus’ victory over death “dispels wickedness, washes faults away, restores innocence to the fallen and joy to mourners, drives out hatred, fosters concord and brings down the mighty,” the pope said, quoting the formal Easter proclamation.

Standing on the central balcony of St. Peter’s Basilica after having celebrated a morning Mass in the square, Pope Francis focused on how Jesus foretold his death and resurrection using the image of the grain of wheat, which bears no fruit unless it is put into the ground.

“This is precisely what happened: Jesus, the grain of wheat sowed by God in the furrows of the earth, died, killed by the sin of the world,” the pope said. “He remained two days in the tomb; but his death contained God’s love in all its power, released and made manifest on the third day, the day we celebrate today: the Easter of Christ the Lord.”

After a stormy Holy Saturday with rain beating down throughout the night, Easter morning dawned bright and sunny at the Vatican, highlighting the thousands of flowers, trees and bushes donated by flower growers in the Netherlands.

The garden created on the steps of St. Peter’s Square included 20,000 tulips in yellow, red, pink, white and orange. Some 13,500 daffodils and more than 3,500 roses also were part of the scene, but the flower-growers association drew special attention to close to 1,000 cymbidium, also known as boat orchids. The orchids closest to the altar were green, the color of hope. Others were yellow, speckled



**Pope Francis arrives to celebrate Easter Mass in St. Peter’s Square at the Vatican April 1. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)**

with red, reminiscent of drops of Christ’s blood, according to the press release from the flower growers.

Pope Francis gave a brief homily during the Mass, speaking without a prepared text about how God’s actions throughout history to save his people have been acts that surprised them, touched their hearts and prompted them to rush to share the news with others.

“The women who had gone to anoint the Lord’s body found themselves before a surprise” when they reached the empty tomb, he said. “God’s announcements are always a surprise, because our God is a God of surprises.”

That surprise caused the women to rush back to the other disciples to share the news, he said, just like the shepherds rushed when they heard the angels announce Jesus’ birth and like Peter and John ran to tell others when they found the teacher and master they had been seeking.

“Those people left what they were doing; housewives left their potatoes in the pan – they would find them burned later – but what is important is to go, run to see the surprise” that was announced, Pope Francis said.

On Easter, he said, Christians should

ask themselves if they have hearts open to being surprised by God and if they feel a need to rush to share with others the good news of God’s saving acts.

After the Mass and after greeting each of the cardinals and many of the bishops and monsignors present near the altar, Pope Francis climbed into the popemobile for a quick trip around St. Peter’s Square and part of the way down the main boulevard leading to the square. He then went up to the balcony to give

his formal Easter blessing.

In his remarks to the tens of thousands of people in St. Peter’s Square, Pope Francis insisted Jesus’ power over death continues today and can bring peace to the world’s most serious situations of conflict, including in Syria, the Holy Land, Yemen, Congo, South Sudan, Ukraine, the Korean peninsula and Venezuela.

“We Christians believe and know that Christ’s resurrection is the true hope of the world, the hope that does not disappoint,” the pope said. “It is the power of the grain of wheat, the power of that love which humbles itself and gives itself to the very end, and thus truly renews the world.”

In all the “furrows of our history, marked by so many acts of injustice and violence,” he said, the power of the Resurrection and the acts it inspires in believers “bears fruits of hope and dignity where there are deprivation and exclusion, hunger and unemployment, where there are migrants and refugees – so often rejected by today’s culture of waste – and victims of the drug trade, human trafficking and contemporary forms of slavery.”

Pope Francis included special prayers for “those children who, as a result of wars and hunger, grow up without hope, lacking education and health care; and to those elderly persons who are cast off by a selfish culture that ostracizes those who are not ‘productive.’”

**My MERCY  
is GREATER  
than Your Sins  
and those of the  
Whole World**

**Sunday of the Divine Mercy  
April 8, 2018 • 2 - 4 p.m.**

**Holy Family Church  
Steubenville**

- Eucharistic Adoration
- Readings from St. Faustina’s Diary
- Talk: What is Divine Mercy?
- 3 p.m. Chanting of Divine Mercy Chaplet
- Confession 2-4 p.m.
- Blessing with St. Faustina Relic

## Project Rachel Ministry of the Diocese of Steubenville presents a Rachel’s Vineyard Retreat April 27-29

“The church is aware of the many factors which may have influenced an abortion decision and does not doubt that in many cases it was a painful and even shattering decision. Certainly what happened was and remains terribly wrong, however the wound in the heart may not yet have healed” (Pope St. John Paul, “Evangelium Vitae,” Section 99).

Come experience spiritual and emotional healing in a confidential setting with the trained Rachel’s Vineyard team. There is hope and healing after abortion!



project rachel  
Peace starts here

For additional information, contact Sharon, via confidential call or text, at (740) 632-5512 or email at [steubenvillerv@gmail.com](mailto:steubenvillerv@gmail.com); or Ginna at (740) 275-7038 or [projectrachel@diosteub.org](mailto:projectrachel@diosteub.org).

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**Athens** — Eucharistic adoration and reconciliation will be offered from 2-3 p.m., April 8, at St. Paul Church. The Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction will be prayed at 3 p.m.

**Barnesville** — The rosary will be prayed at 7:30 a.m., April 9, at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church. The rosary will be prayed on the first Monday of the month, thereafter, at the church.

**Butchel** — Eucharistic adoration and reconciliation will be offered at 3 p.m., April 8, which is Divine Mercy Sunday, at St. Mary of the Hills Church.

**Caldwell** — A “Holy Hour for Vocations” will be prayed at St. Stephen Church, 1036 Belford St., April 6, following the celebration of the 8 a.m. Mass.

**Carrollton** — Eucharistic adoration will be held from 9 a.m.-8 p.m., April 6, at Our Lady of Mercy Church. The Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be prayed at 3 p.m.

**Fulda** — A “Holy Hour for Vocations” will be prayed at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Church, 43700 Fulda Road, April 6, following the celebration of the 8:30 a.m. Mass.

**Ironton** — St. Joseph Central High School, 912 S. Sixth St., is selling chocolates and candies. Items for sale include chocolate covered cashews and pecans, granola snack mixes, candy fruit slices, mint chocolate, dark chocolate, chocolate covered pretzels and caramel whirls. To place an order, telephone the school office at (740) 532-0485.

**Lore City** — “How to be a Contagious Catholic” will be presented at 1:30 p.m., April 22, at Sts. Peter and Paul Oratory social hall. The presenter will be Kimberly Hahn, an author and speaker. Refreshments will be provided.

**Marietta** — The Diocesan Council of Catholic Women will hold a spring biannual meeting April 11 at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, 506 Fourth St. Cost of lunch is \$6. To make reservations for the meeting or for additional information, telephone DeDe Kidder at (740) 544-5925 or (740) 632-3018, or email dede.kidder@gmail.com.

**Marietta** — St. Mary School will hold an open house from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., April 17, 320 Marion St. Information will be available for all classes, including the new “Preschool 3” and “Preschool 4” programs, as well as prekindergarten and kindergarten through eighth grade. For additional information for the event, telephone the school office at (740) 374-8181.

St. Mary School Irish Boosters will sponsor a “Spring Forward 5K Walk/Run” at 9 a.m., April 21, at the gazebo in Muskingum Park, Front Street. For applications to participate in the 5K walk/run, visit <https://stmarys.k12.oh.us/>, <https://www.rivercityrunners.com> or visit the school’s Facebook page. To be a sponsor, telephone Ann Kerényi at (740) 376-0338 or email kerenyi@suddenlink.net.

**Martins Ferry** — St. Mary Central School will sponsor an annual flower sale. Hanging baskets, flats and ferns will be available for sale. Orders must be placed by April 9, and will be available for pickup May 9, from 4-6 p.m., in the school parking lot, 24 N. Fourth St. For additional information or to place an order, telephone the school office at (740) 633-5424.

**St. Clairsville** — Mass will be celebrated in Spanish at 2:30 p.m., April 15, at St. Mary Church, 212 W. Main St. The sacrament of reconciliation will precede Mass at 2 p.m.

Eucharistic adoration and prayer will be offered the first Thursday of each month at St. Mary Church, following the celebration of Mass at 7:45 a.m., with Benediction at 6:30 p.m. The Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be prayed at 3 p.m., followed by reconciliation.



**St. Agnes Parish, Mingo Junction, Catholic Woman’s Club will hold an annual card party themed “Red, White and Blue: The Colors of America,” at the parish hall, 204 St. Clair Ave., April 15. Announcing the event are, seated from left, Clara Sue Milewsky, Barbara Crugnale, Pat Cramblett, CWC president; Theresa Madden and Jackie Parks. Standing, from left, are Dorothy Mazik, Patty Kosikowski, Jeannette Panebianco, Bernadette Carpico, Lorraine Golec and Pat Giuliani. A luncheon will be served at 2 p.m. Cards, bunco and bingo will be played at the event. Raffles will be available, as well as a surprise gift. Admission for the card party is \$5. For additional information, telephone the parish office at (740) 535-1491. (Photo provided)**

## Around and About

**Adena** — The Adena American Legion Auxiliary, 79 Hanna Ave., will sponsor a card party April 24. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.; the event will begin at 6 p.m., with lunch; door prizes will be awarded. Admission for the event costs \$6.

**Carrollton** — “Cash Bonanza” tickets are being sold by Knights of Columbus Our Lady of Carroll County Council 15401. There will be 25 prizes, ranging from \$49,680 (payable at \$414 per month for 10 years) to four prizes of \$500. Tickets cost \$5. For additional information, telephone Dan Hitchcock at (330) 324-7635.

**Parkersburg, W.Va.** — A Parkersburg Catholic schools “Spring Gala” will be held from 7-11 p.m., May 4, at Parkersburg Country Club, 4910 First Ave., Vienna, West Virginia. The event will include dinners, auctions, raffles and dances. Tickets are \$85 per person. All proceeds benefit the schools. For tickets, telephone the Parkersburg Catholic High School office at (304) 428-7528.

**Steubenville** — The Knights of Columbus St. John Neumann Council 11828 will hold a pancake breakfast for “Una Voce” from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., April 8, at St. Peter Church hall. “Una Voce” promotes the use of Latin, Gregorian chant and sacred polyphony in Catholic liturgy. The breakfast will include bacon, pancakes, eggs, potatoes, fruit and beverages. Donations for adults are \$7; students, \$6; children, \$5. The donation rate for a family is \$30.

**Steubenville** — Franciscan University of Steubenville will present “The Crucible.” The play, directed by Monica Anderson, chair of the university’s Fine Arts department, will be presented at 7 p.m., April 6, April 7, April 13 and April 14; and April 8 and April 15, at 2 p.m., in Anathan Theater, ground floor of Egan Hall, on the campus. Tickets cost \$4 for adults and \$2 for students and seniors. Admission is free for the clergy, religious and children 12 years of age and under. Tickets can be purchased at the door or by

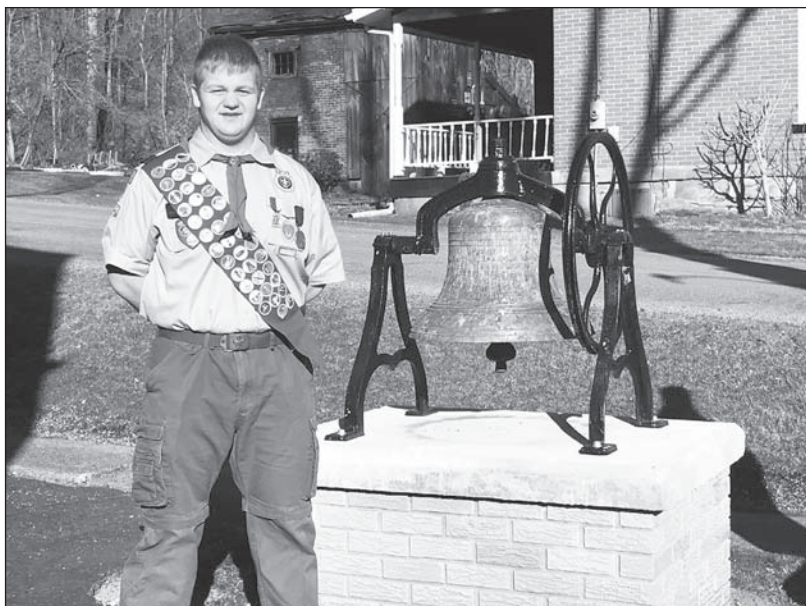
telephoning (740) 283-6245.

Franciscan University of Steubenville’s Schola Cantorum Franciscana will perform “Christ, My Hope, Is Risen!” with the Pittsburgh-based Academy Chamber Orchestra. Sponsored by the university’s Fine Arts Society, the concert will be held at 7:30 p.m., April 13, in Christ the King Chapel, and will be directed by Nicholas Will, Franciscan University of Steubenville assistant professor of sacred music. Two encore performances will be held at 7 p.m., April 14, at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, 330 Third Ave., Carnegie, Pennsylvania, and at 6 p.m., April 21, at Mary Queen of Peace Church, 4423 Pearl Road, Cleveland.

A second annual “Brownson/Scanlan Lecture in Political Science and Law” will be presented at Franciscan University of Steubenville, April 25, at 7:30 p.m., in the Tony and Nina Gentile Gallery, in the J.C. Williams Center at the university. Paul Kengor, author of more than 12 books and professor of political science at Grove City College, Grove City, Pennsylvania, will lead a lecture, “How the Catholic Church Confronted and Defeated Communism: From Pius XI to John Paul II.” For additional information on the event, telephone Benjamin Wiker at (740) 284-5376 or email bwiker@franciscan.edu.

**Tiltsville** — Tiltsville United Methodist Church, 106 Grandview Ave., is sponsoring a retreat themed “Be Still and Know I Am God,” April 28. Registration begins at 8:15 a.m. with a light breakfast being offered at that time. Cost is \$20, which includes lunch. Reservations can be made before April 13 by telephoning (740) 769-7291.

**Waynesburg, Ohio** — St. James School, 400 W. Lisbon St., is accepting applications for the 2018-19 school year and free tuition to new students, kindergarten through sixth grade, who apply by April 15. For additional information, visit [www.sjswaynesburg.org](http://www.sjswaynesburg.org) or telephone (330) 866-9556.



Zachary Kolenich, a parishioner of Sacred Heart Church, Neffs, recently was recognized for earning the highest award a Boy Scout of America can receive, becoming an Eagle Scout. In the left photo, Zachary is pictured with his Eagle Scout project, which was completed at Sacred Heart Church. Zachary restored and placed the original church bell on a pedestal outside the church entrance. A junior at Bellaire High School, Bellaire, Zachary is an active member at Sacred Heart Parish, where he assists as an altar server and with maintenance projects. In scouting, he was a member of Pack 212, earning his Arrow of Light. As an active member of Troop 212, he has held the position of den chief, chaplain's aid, quartermaster, patrol leader, assistant senior patrol leader and senior patrol leader. Zachary also earned the Troop 212 Scout Spirit Award three times. At right, Zachary is pictured with his family, Dr. Vincent Kolenich, his father, who also is an Eagle Scout; Andrew Kolenich, Life Scout, and his mother, Lynne Gray Kolenich. His Eagle Scout ceremony was held at Sacred Heart Church March 18. (Photos provided)

## US Conference of Catholic Bishops remember the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. April 4

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops joined in solidarity with the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, April 4, at 7:05 p.m., to remember the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The bells tolled at the shrine 39 times to honor the number of years Dr. King lived on earth.

April 4 marks 50 years since the

Rev. Dr. King was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee.

In addition to the USCCB, The King Center in Atlanta, has planned a series of events, marking this year with the theme "MLK50 Forward: Together We Win with Love for Humanity."

For additional information on The King Center's events, visit [www.MLK50Forward.org](http://www.MLK50Forward.org).

## Obituaries

**Martin F. Lang**, 71, Vincent, St. Ambrose, Little Hocking, March 15.

**Verna McLean**, 79, Malvern, St. Francis Xavier, March 19.

**Dr. R.A. Raimonde**, 94, Martins Ferry, St. Mary, March 20.

**Edward J. Spisich**, 85, Shadyside, St. Mary, March 24.

**Charles T. Stoll Jr.**, 74, St. Peter, Steubenville, March 19.

**Mary Tharp Tankovits**, 95, St. Mary, Martins Ferry, March 18.

**Kathleen Spence Tucker**, 75, Monroe, Ohio, former employee of the Diocese of Steubenville, The Steubenville Register, Holy Family, Steubenville, March 17.

**Dianne M. Tyler**, 60, Shadyside, St. Mary, March 11.

**Helen Williams**, 95, Belpre, St. Ambrose, Little Hocking, March 23.

## 'Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice' honoree, diocesan finance council member dies

ST. CLAIRSVILLE — Richard "Dick" E. Dolan, St. Clairsville, died March 28, at his home, at the age of 85. Dolan was born in McKeesport, Pennsylvania, a son of the late Philip Francis and Kathryn Martin Dolan. He was preceded in death by his brother, Philip, and daughter, Kelly.

A member of St. Mary Parish, St. Clairsville, a lector and long-standing member of the church's finance council, Dolan also served as a member of the Diocese of Steubenville Finance Council since 1984. In recognition of this service, he received the Cross "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice" award in 2001, granted by St. John Paul II, given to individuals who demonstrate outstanding service to the church.

Dolan graduated from Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, in 1955 and Villanova Law School, Philadelphia, in 1958. He began his career as a bank trust officer with two Pittsburgh banks. In 1978, Dolan became vice president and manager of the trust department of Belmont National Bank. After retirement in 1996, he practiced law for a number of years, including being a



(Photo provided)

**Richard E. Dolan**

counselor of the Supreme Court of the United States in 2004.

He was a fourth-degree member of the Knights of Columbus, a longtime member of the St. Clairsville Rotary Club, and served on the boards of the Belmont County Animal Rescue League and Belco Works.

Dolan is survived by his wife, Alice, whom he married in 1967; a son Patrick, of Lewis Center, Ohio; and three grandsons.

A funeral Mass for Dolan was celebrated April 4 at St. Mary Church.



St. Mary School, Marietta, seventh- and eighth-grade students competed in the Regional PenOhio Competition and received the overall grand champion award of the day, as well as first place eighth-grade team and second place seventh-grade team. Nine students have qualified to compete in the State PenOhio Competition in May. Pictured in the front row, from left, are Rowen Baker, Elena Cisar, Grace Brockmeier, Henry Porter, Slyvia Erdelyi, Anna Marting and Addy Betz. In the second row, from left, are Shelby Anderson, Morgan Green, Abby Anderson, Claire Schenkel and Grayson Linnell. (Photo provided)

# 2018 Diocesan/Parish Share Campaign

*Since it began in 1988, the DPSC has returned \$24.7 million back to diocesan parishes for their individual needs. This is how some of the money was used last year:*



St. Stephen Church, Caldwell, renovates church hall

*"In all things give thanks, for this is the will of God in*  
**CHRIST JESUS**  
*concerning you all"*  
*(1 Thes 5:18).*

Diocesan/Parish Share Campaign  
 Diocese of Steubenville

Goal: \$ 1,340,000 Drive weekend: April 7-8, 2018



New roof on Blessed Sacrament Church, Wintersville



A complete rewiring of St. Louis Church, Gallipolis



New concrete, heated ramp installed at St. Agnes Church, Mingo Junction



New Our Lady of Mercy Church, Carrollton



Ironton Catholic community builds Parish Life Center



St. Vincent of Barnesville builds a thrift store on property behind Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Barnesville


## Make a pledge on Drive Weekend April 7 - 8

*To make a pledge or one-time gift to the 2018 DPSC, complete the DPSC pledge card mailed to you, available at the parish or clip and use the one to the right.*

- Return pledge cards to your parish office;
- Pay pledge by cash, check or by visiting the diocesan website, [diosteub.org/giveonline](http://diosteub.org/giveonline);
- Contact Msgr. Kurt H. Kemo, vicar general and DPSC director, or Martin B. Thompson, DPSC associate director, with questions (740) 282-3631 or [kkemo@diosteub.org](mailto:kkemo@diosteub.org) or [mthompson@diosteub.org](mailto:mthompson@diosteub.org).

NAME _____	PHONE _____
ADDRESS _____	PARISH _____

 Diocesan/Parish Share Campaign Return this pledge card to your parish. Please pray for the success of the DPSC	DIOCESE OF STEUBENVILLE	SUGGESTED PLEDGES			TOTAL AMOUNT PLEDGED: \$ _____
		<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> \$3500.00 <input type="checkbox"/> \$3000.00 <input type="checkbox"/> \$2500.00 <input type="checkbox"/> \$2000.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1500.00 <input type="checkbox"/> \$1000.00 <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 500.00 <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 400.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$300.00 <input type="checkbox"/> \$250.00 <input type="checkbox"/> \$200.00 <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER \$ _____	PAYING NOW <input type="checkbox"/> CASH <input type="checkbox"/> CHECK \$ _____  UNPAID BALANCE \$ _____  BALANCE TO BE PAID IN 6 PAYMENTS OF \$ _____

MY COMPANY HAS MATCHING GIFT PROGRAM  
 \_\_\_\_\_ COMPANY NAME  
 MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Diocesan/Parish Share Campaign

Payments can be made by credit/debit card by visiting [diosteub.org/giveonline](http://diosteub.org/giveonline)