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News Briefs

World Mission Sunday to be observed

STEUBENVILLE — World Mission Sunday will be observed the weekend of Oct. 21 and Oct. 22.

In his World Mission Sunday message, Pope Francis tells us that “this day invites us to reflect anew on the mission at the heart of the Christian faith.”

In the Diocese of Steubenville, Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton wrote a letter that was read at all Masses this month, “Pope Francis has shown himself to be a great teacher with the heart of a missionary. Like Jesus, he teaches by word and example, keeping the poor, the troubled, and the vulnerable in clear view at all times. ...

“Our Catholic Church, at every level and by its very nature, is missionary. Its origin is the very mission of Jesus Christ and of the Holy Spirit. It is in Christ alone that ‘salvation is offered to all people, as a gift of God’s grace and mercy’ (Eph 2:8; Rom 1:16). ...

“The Society for the Propagation of the Faith is the Holy Father’s chief missionary arm, providing resources for more than 1,100 mission dioceses the world over. No work of the church is more central to her reason for being. Nothing is more important!

“It is the church’s mandate to proclaim the Gospel to all peoples, but most importantly, to proclaim it to the poor, the little ones and sick, those who are often looked down upon or forgotten, those who cannot repay us,” Bishop Monforton explained.

Father Timothy J. Kozak, pastor of St. Bernard Parish, Beverly, and St. James, McConnelsville, is mission director for the Diocese of Steubenville. Father Kozak said names of donors he receives will be mailed a copy of Mission magazine by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

Director of Vatican Publishing House

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Conventual Franciscan Father Giulio Cesareo has been appointed head of the Vatican Publishing House.

The 39-year-old member of the Order of Friars Minor Conventual replaces Salesian Father Giuseppe Costa, who ended his term in June.

Msgr. Dario Vigano, prefect of the Secretariat for Communication, told reporters that Father Cesareo’s appointment was “a new important part in the process of reform requested by Pope Francis.”

Father Cesareo was born in Chivasso, Italy, and studied moral theology at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. He earned his doctorate at the University of Fribourg in Switzerland.

He was ordained to the priesthood in 2005 and has been teaching moral theology at the Pontifical University of St. Bonaventure in Rome. He was named in 2013 director of the university’s “Mulieris Dignitatem” Institute, which studies the anthropological truth, dignity and reciprocity of men and women.

The Vatican Publishing House owns the rights to the pope’s written works and publishes official Vatican documents, but it also offers publications that cover many aspects of Catholic culture.

Youth gather in Marietta for faith-filled event



Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton celebrates Mass with participants at the diocesan youth conference at St. Mary School, Marietta. (Photos by Orsatti)

By Dino Orsatti

MARIETTA — More than 200 students from youth groups and Catholic schools in grades seven through 12 attended the 15th annual faith-filled “Rise Up! Let Your Light Shine” Diocese of Steubenville youth conference on Oct. 15, at St. Mary School, Marietta.

Alyson Radford, Diocese of Steubenville coordinator

of youth and young adult ministry, called the number of youth in attendance “a terrific turnout.” Radford said the theme for this year’s youth ministry in the Diocese of Steubenville is “Put on Courage.” The phrase was inspired by the World Youth Day theme for 2018, the Angel Gabriel’s statement to Mary during the Annunciation, “Do not be afraid Mary, for you have found favor

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St. Lawrence Central School students, Ironton, stand near the front of St. Joseph Church, Ironton, waiting on the balloon rosary liftoff. (Photo provided)

Youth gather

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with God." (Lk 1:30).

Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton echoed that theme in his homily during the Mass that he celebrated for the students and group leaders. The bishop urged the youth to "follow the teachings of Pope St. John Paul II and do not be afraid. Be courageous in the face of adversity." The bishop went on to explain when we experience the love of Christ, our response is to share that love with others.

Radford said when the annual theme was considered, the youth ministry decided to incorporate Pope St. John Paul II as their patron saint, in honor of his love for our Blessed Mother and the youth of the world.

There were several inspirational and thought-provoking speakers covering a wide range of topics at this year's youth conference.

Sean Forrest, nationally known author and musician, was the keynote speaker. Forrest is founder of "Movin' With the Spirit Inc.," a nonprofit Catholic organization that is dedicated to Christian outreach and proclaiming God's eternal truth and love through mission work, talk and music.

Forrest encouraged students "to open their hearts to God's love." And that message came across loud and clear. "I now want to learn more about my Catholic faith," said Ben Anderson, 13, Ironton.

Connor Waller, also 13 from Ironton, said "I have a better understanding of my faith and why we believe in God."

Father Jonas A. Shell, parochial vicar to Father Paul E. Hrezo, pastor of Christ Our Light Parish, Cambridge, and chaplain of St. Benedict School, Cambridge, spoke to a captivating audience about "The Invisible World Around Us," referring to demons and exorcism of demons. Father Shell urged the youth "to not allow demons in their lives."

He said, "Know that Lord is king and he is in charge and having a personal relationship with God is key. Don't be afraid of demons but be cautious."

Father Shell encouraged the youth to stay away from weegie boards and any other means of communicating with the dead.

Liliana Hunt, 12, Bloomingdale, said it was a very enlightening discussion. Hunt said, "I now know how harmful spirits could enter one's life. I need to pray for

those people when it happens." She said that is another reason why it is important to have a strong relationship with God.

Cindy Costello, Steubenville, gave an upbeat motivational speech to a group about "Theology of the Body." Costello explained that "what we do with our bod-

ies matters and there is a difference between love and lust."

Sister Maria Ecclesiae Kline of the Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus and Father Michael W. Gossett, the Diocese of Steubenville vocations director and

chaplain at Catholic Central High School, Steubenville, gave talks to the students about considering religious vocations in the Catholic Church.

The day ended with a Holy Half Hour.

Organizers for the Diocese of Steubenville youth ministry say plans are being made for next year's youth conference. However, a date and place have not been determined.



Students pray during youth conference Mass at St. Mary School, Marietta. (Photo by Orsatti)

Henry named chief financial officer

STEUBENVILLE — Patrick Henry has been named the new chief financial officer for the Diocese of Steubenville, announced Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton.

"Pat Henry is a good fit for our organization as we move forward," said James G. Piazza, executive assistant to the bishop.

Henry worked for the past year at Bayer Heritage Federal Credit Union, Proctor, West Virginia, as accounting manager. Henry also has 15 years experience as chief financial officer and chief operating officer at West Liberty University, West Liberty, West Virginia.

Henry said "this is a great opportunity to work with a great group of people."

Henry has a bachelor's in accounting and computer science from West Liberty University, and a master's of business administration from Wheeling Jesuit University, Wheeling, West Virginia.

Henry's first day on the job was Oct. 16. He replaced David A. Franklin, who retired after 32 years of service with the diocese.



Patrick Henry (Photo by DiCenzo)

Henry and his wife, Laurie, live in Wheeling, West Virginia. They have four children and two grandchildren.

Henry can be reached at the chancery, 422 Washington St., Steubenville; telephone (740) 282-3631 or email phenry@diosteub.org.

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The 100th anniversary of Fatima is celebrated at the diocesan rosary congress at three locations simultaneously in the diocese; Steubenville, Marietta and Ironton. The messages of Our Lady of Fatima and her peace plan for mankind are spread throughout the week.

Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton prays the rosary with parishioners at Triumph of the Cross (Holy Rosary Church) in Steubenville prior to celebrating Mass.

Students at St. Lawrence Central gather outside at the bottom of St. Joseph Church waiting on the balloon rosary liftoff in Ironton.




Students from St. Mary School, Marietta, and St. Sylvester Central School, Woodsfield, pray the rosary at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta.



Father Jonas A. Shell prays with students from St. Benedict School, Cambridge, at the rosary congress at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta. (Photos provided)

Bishop Monforton's Schedule


- Oct. 22 Mass, Holy Rosary Church, Steubenville, 10 a.m.
- 24 Mass, Holy Rosary Church, Steubenville, 7 a.m. Franciscan University of Steubenville, 6 p.m.
- 27 St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology annual fundraiser dinner, Pittsburgh, 6 p.m.
- 28 Red Mass, St. Mary Church, St. Clairsville, 4:30 p.m.
- 29 Confirmation Mass, St. Louis Church, Gallipolis, 2 p.m.
- 30 Mass, Holy Rosary Church, Steubenville, 8:30 a.m.
- 31 Mass, Holy Rosary Church, Steubenville, 7 a.m. Franciscan University of Steubenville, 6 p.m.
- Nov. 1 All Saints' Day Mass, Catholic Central High School, Berkman Theater, Lanman Hall, Steubenville, 9:30 a.m.
- 2 All Souls' Day Mass, Mount Calvary Cemetery, Steubenville, 10 a.m.
- 4 Knights of Columbus Bishop Watterson Council 1405, Third Ohio District fall exemplification, Ironton, 4 p.m. Mass, wedding anniversaries, St. Lawrence O'Toole Church, Ironton, 5:15 p.m.



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Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton has dinner and evening prayer with Mar-ians of the Immaculate Conception in Steubenville. Front row, from left, include Father John Larson, Brother Juan Arroyo, Brother Christopher Orante, Bishop Monforton, Justin Laporte, Father Angelo Casimiro, house superior, Brother Ruben Veloz, Brother Seamus Kettner. Back row, from left, include, Brother Michael Baker, Brother Keith Andre, Brother Jarryd Lagado, Brother Stephen Camara and Brother Jeff Ryan. (Photo provided)



Father John F. Mucha, pastor of St. Anthony of Padua and St. Joseph parishes, Bridgeport, blesses pets on the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, Oct. 4, at St. Mary Central School, Martins Ferry, after celebrating Mass. Pets were brought to the school playground for the blessing. Standing, from left, include Aiden Giffin, portraying St. Francis; Father Mucha; Keigan Brandon, portraying St. Clair; and Joseph Green, holding Sadie. (Photo provided)

Vocations week is set for Nov. 5-11

WASHINGTON/STEUBENVILLE — The Catholic Church in the United States will celebrate National Vocations Awareness Week Nov. 5-11. This annual event is a special time for parishes in the United States to actively foster and pray for a culture of vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and consecrated life.

Father Michael W. Gossett, the Diocese of Steubenville vocations director, said he is working with Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton on plans for the Diocese of Steubenville for vocations week.

Cardinal Joseph Tobin, the Chair of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations, reminds us that each of us in the church has a key role to play in the witness of our vocation in ordinary circumstances. "As we go about our everyday life and most especially this week, we must keep vocations in our prayers, while at the same time, being a mindful witness with our own vocation. We may never know how our lives may have an impact on someone else's story. Simply living out our call as disciples of Jesus Christ fully and joyfully in the world bears witness to the

love of Christ as he generously bestows on each of us our own personal call."

National Vocations Awareness Week, sponsored by the USCCB Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations, is designed to help promote vocation awareness and to encourage young people to ask the question: "To what vocation in life is God calling me?" Parish and school communities across the nation are encouraged to include, during the first full week in November, prayer and special activities that focus on vocation awareness.

Observance of Vocation Awareness Week began in 1976 when the U.S. bishops designated the 28th Sunday of the year for the celebration. It was later moved to the feast of the Baptism of the Lord in January. The USCCB Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life, and Vocations moved the observance of National Vocation Awareness Week to November to engage Catholic schools and colleges more effectively in this effort.

For additional information, visit the USCCB website at <http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/vocations/national-vocation-awareness-week.cfm>.



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Student winners in diocese announced in rosary congress essay contest

STEUBENVILLE — Students throughout the Diocese of Steubenville submitted essays to the diocesan Office of Christian Formation and Schools.

The essays were written as part of a contest because of the rosary congresses held in Steubenville, Marietta and Ironton, Oct. 7-13.

The 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima were celebrated during these three rosary congresses, which were held simultaneously in the diocese.

The rosary congresses consisted of seven days and six nights of adoration, recitation of the rosary, reflections, the celebration of Mass and reconciliation.

Many of the participants were children in the Catholic schools throughout the diocese. Schools signed up to cover adoration hours, recited the rosary and participated in a special children's Holy Hour.

All Catholic schools throughout the diocese were invited to participate in the essay contest with the chance of the essays appearing in The Steubenville Register.

Students were given a topic and were asked to write an essay answering the question.

The winning essays included:

Q: Is it important to imitate Mary and her Immaculate Heart in our daily lives? How can we live so that our hearts are more like Mary's Immaculate Heart?

I can imitate Mary by being a good person, being quiet,

and not hitting my brother. I can also imitate Mary by being a good member of my family by watching my younger cousins.

Mary was a good member of her family by never sinning. Mary was also a very good listener to God and gave birth to his son, Jesus Christ.

I can also imitate Mary by being a better listener to God, my parents, and my teachers. I think Mary was always ready for what God had planned for her. I can follow her example and look forward to what God has planned for my life.

Paul Stecker
Grade 4
St. Mary Central School
Martins Ferry

Q: Is it important to imitate Mary and her Immaculate Heart in our daily lives? How can we live so that our hearts are more like Mary's Immaculate Heart?

I can imitate Mary by showing a lot of love, obeying, being kind, and not hurting my brother, and to use kind words to my mother, helping my mom, and doing my chores without being reminded.

Mary always obeyed and never sinned. There are ways that we cannot sin.

I can pray every day and night. I can also not say bad words. I can go to church on Sundays.

I can be a good example to younger kids and include

everyone. If they do not have anyone to play with, or if they are sitting by themselves, I can ask them to join me.

Mary always listened to God, and I need to as well.

Anna Padgelek
Grade 5
St. Mary Central School
Martins Ferry

Q: Suppose you have a friend who doesn't know Mary's Immaculate Heart. What would you tell them about the Immaculate Heart of Mary? Why do you think the Immaculate Heart is important to us?

If I had a friend who didn't know about the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I would say that it includes the seven sorrows of Mary. If you see a picture of Mary it has seven piercings in the heart. I would say that she had not sinned. I would talk about her joys and virtues.

I would also say that she was the mother of Jesus and was there for Jesus all the time, even at his death. I would tell my friend that she was asked to be the mother of Jesus and she gave birth in a stable because there was no room for them anywhere.

She was lifted up into heaven and was crowned when she got up to heaven.

I would say that Jesus had a cousin named John the Baptist who baptized people.

I would talk about Jesus' first miracle and about how Mary asked Jesus to perform the miracle at the wedding at Cana. I would tell my friend that if he did not sin, it could help him to go to heaven, because it would please Mary, Jesus and God.

Caleb Bryniarski
Grade 6
St. Mary Central School
Martins Ferry

Annual Oglebay conference set for Nov. 20-21

WHEELING, W.Va.— The 27th annual conference on promoting healthy attachments will be held Nov. 20-21 at Oglebay Resort and Convention Center, Wheeling, West Virginia.

Michele A. Santin, director, Diocese of Steubenville Office of Catholic Charities and Social Concerns, said the two-day event will focus on drug addiction.

The keynote speaker will be Sam Quinones, journalist and author, who will share the insights he gained while writing his book "Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic."

The book was awarded the National Book Critics Circle Award, and describes all the reasons why we ended up with a national epidemic of opiate addiction.

Participants will be able to understand the role of doctors, the role of pharmaceutical companies, changes in our heroin market, and in the American culture, which contribute to this epidemic. Quinones is a veteran public speaker on immigration, gangs, drug trafficking, and the border.

Timothy E. Schaffner is the executive director of Trumbull County Children Services in Warren, Ohio. Schaffner has extensive experience in the field of child welfare.

Schaffner will discuss "The Impact of the Opiate Crisis on Families and How to Help."

He will address the short and long-term trauma effects on children, and therapeutic and family management of addiction and family trauma.

Participants will be able to examine family impact and one community's response. They will also identify treat-

ment and management strategies in response to addiction and exposure to the trauma of addiction.

Schaffner began his career as a child care worker and then he was a supervisor in a children's psychiatric hospital. He was also president and CEO of a counseling agency.

Another topic of importance in the conference is "The Effects of Heroin on Society," with Maureen Dee. This workshop provides an understanding of the extent of the heroin epidemic locally and nationally and describes the dynamics of addiction.

Dr. Ira J. Chasnoff will discuss "Drugs, Alcohol, Pregnancy and Parenting" and "The Mystery of Risk: The Impact of Prenatal Substance Exposure on the Growing Child."

Dr. Chasnoff is one of the nation's leading researchers in the field of child development and effects of maternal alcohol and drug use on the newborn infant and child. Dr. Chasnoff will offer guidance, wisdom, and hope for families of "at-risk" children.

For additional information concerning the conference, contact Santin, director, or DeDe Kidder, conference secretary, at the chancery office, by telephoning (740) 282-3631, or visit www.diosteub.org/offices/catholic-charities.

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St. John Paul II The Spirit in St. Paul

By Diocese of Steubenville
Bishop Emeritus Gilbert I. Sheldon

“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.” With these words, St. Paul concludes his Second Letter to the Corinthians. Thus far, we have been probing into the personhood of the Holy Spirit as found in the Gospels. With Pope St. John Paul we now turn to the writings of his namesake, St. Paul, to learn what the apostle of the Gentiles has to tell us.

For openers, that quotations from 2 Corinthians tells us something very important: In the words of the late pope: “The Holy Spirit is the person who brings about the *communion* of human beings – and of the church – with God” (emphasis added). “Communion” means that or those who are brought together. In the sacrament of the Eucharist or “holy Communion” we are brought together – made one – with the glorified Jesus Christ. That, too, is by the work of the Holy Spirit. But the quotation indicates that we are united also with the Trinity itself by his action. The pope sees in it a parallel between the three persons of the Trinity, similar to that in the formula for baptism as found in Matthew (see, Matthew, Chapter 28, Verses 18-19). The three persons are placed on the same plane, so to speak. The basis of communion is *love*. Love, as has been mentioned before, is not used in the sense of emotional attraction, as between a man and a woman. In this context it means *giving*: giving of self to another or to others. This, also, is one of the works attributed to the Holy Spirit. After all, as we have seen, his essential identity is as the mutual love of the Father and the Son, which is a total giving of themselves to each other. As man, the Son of God participated in that mutual love. The Spirit gives us a share in that love of Jesus and is the source of our own sanctification: identity with Jesus Christ!

St. Paul writes also: “There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit,” and goes on to enumerate some of

them, and concludes: “But one and the same Spirit produces all of them individually to each person as he wishes” (1 Cor 12:4-11). Some of these gifts are called “charisms,” some, “ministries,” depending on their nature. Paul illustrates this choice of the Spirit, applying it to his Thessalonians converts, and expressing thanks to God for the Spirit’s choosing them as imitators of Christ, to share not only in his rejection and sufferings, but also in his resurrection and glory (see, 2 Thessalonians, Chapter 2, Verses 13-16). But the gifts of the Spirit are not confined to the charisms. In fact they are *extraordinary* gifts from the Spirit and are for the few – not for the many. The rest of us receive his ordinary gifts, those of love and communion. St. Paul puts it this way: “But in the fullness of time, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law ... so that we might receive adoption. As proof that we are (his) children, God sent the spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying out, ‘Abba (Father)!’ So we are no longer a slave, but a child, and if a child, then also an heir...” (Gal 4: 4-7). The pope explains: “The apostle attributes to him the work of sanctification in a particular manner. He is the direct author of holiness in souls. He is the font of love and prayer in which the gift of adoption is expressed. His presence in souls is the pledge and the beginning of eternal life.”

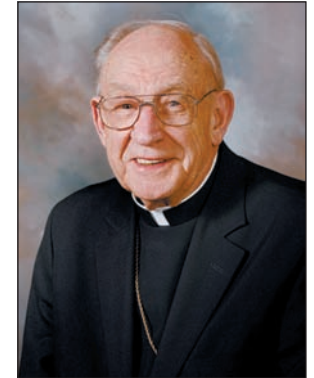
St. Paul asks the Christian community of Corinth: “Do you not know that the Spirit of God dwells in you?” (1 Cor 3:16). In doing so, he reiterates what Our Lord said to the apostles: “I will ask the Father and he will give you another advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth” (Jn 14:16-17). And, again: “Whoever loves me will keep my words and my Father will love him, and we will make our dwelling with him” (Jn 14:23). The soul in the state of grace shares in the love of Jesus for the Father and therefore in the Father’s love for Jesus that includes all

who share that love with him. This has its implications. For one thing, it was the Holy Spirit that was the agent of Jesus’ resurrection from the dead. Those in the state of grace then share in that action of the Spirit as well. It is their pledge to the resurrection and transformation of their own

bodies at the general judgment. To others in the state of grace it makes the idea of “loving one’s neighbor as oneself” more than a metaphor: Who would want to abuse the Holy Spirit? As John Paul points out: “The influence of the divine indwelling in a person is extended to his or her whole being.”

“The Holy Spirit is also a Spirit of light, a teacher of truth ... as Jesus promised” (see, John, Chapter 14, Verse 26). He teaches the things of God, a divine view of reality unknown to us as mere mortals. “The Spirit of light gives people, especially the apostles and the church, the ability to teach the things of God. ...” St. Paul writes of “God’s hidden mysterious wisdom, which God predetermined before the ages for our glory. ... We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the things freely given us by God ...” (1 Cor 2: 6-13). Here, again, is an allusion to the *magisterium*, the teaching office of the church.

St. Paul goes on: “The Spirit comes also to the aid of our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words” (Rom 8:26). John Paul explains: “For (St.) Paul, therefore, the Spirit is the author of authentic prayer. Through his divine influence, he penetrates human prayer from within and brings it into the depths of God.” Do you feel dry and ineffective in prayer? Not to worry! The Holy Spirit is “sighing” along with you! We might summarize with another familiar quotation from St. Paul: “The love of God is poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us” (Rom 5:5). “From ... the apostle to the Gentiles, we are able to understand better the Holy Spirit’s activity and the person of the one who acts in a divine way in human beings.”



Bishop Sheldon

The Spirit gives us a share in that love of Jesus and is the source of our own sanctification: identity with Jesus Christ!

“Mother!” and the God of the Bible

By Bishop Robert Barron

Darren Aronofsky’s latest film “Mother!” has certainly stirred up a storm, and no wonder. It features murder, point-blank executions, incinerations and the killing and devouring of a child. I know: pleasant evening at the movies. “Mother!” will seem just deeply weird unless you see it as a fairly straightforward allegory. Once you crack the code, it will make a certain sense, though the message it is trying to convey is, at best, pretty ambiguous.

The film opens with a couple, played by Jennifer Lawrence and Javier Bardem, living in isolation and security, in a beautiful country home that they are in the process of renovating. There seems to

be a symbiotic connection between the Lawrence character and the house itself: pressing her hands against a wall, she senses the presence of a beating heart within. Their bucolic serenity is suddenly interrupted by the arrival of another couple – played by Ed Harris and Michelle Pfeiffer – who are seeking a place to stay. Though Bardem’s character is more than open to their staying, his wife is deeply suspicious. In time, the intruding pair become more and more disturbing and annoying, upsetting the rhythm and peace of the house. Then, to the infinite surprise of Lawrence’s character, their two grown sons arrive and commence immediately to quarrel. In short order, their fight turns murderous, as the older brother kills the younger. In his angst, the murderer cuts himself on the forehead with a shard of glass and staggers away from the house. Filled with sympathy, Bardem’s character’s invites friends and family of the troubled couple to come to the home and mourn. Quickly, things turn chaotic, as more and more people invade the private rooms of the house. The husband finally loses patience when the original visitors break a precious heirloom in his room, and, in a thundering voice, he expels them from the place.

So the allegory is fairly clear: Bardem’s character is the God of the Old Testament, his wife (and by extension the

house) is Mother Nature, the mysterious visitors are Adam and Eve, and their warring sons are Cain (who bears a mark

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Bishop Barron

Prayer: An Open Heart

By Diocese of Steubenville
Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton

“Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God” (Mt 5:8).

Prayer: An Open Heart

St. John Vianney once said that prayer is nothing else but union with God. Sounds simple, right? Think about it. Prayer taken seriously is anything but simple. Prayer is hard work. Think about the challenges and demands that we have in our lives each and every day. Prayer requires precious time each day. Could we not ask the question: “How many hours a day do you and I spend in prayer, whether it is in church with our brothers and sisters or alone with God? We also know that prayer does not always provide the returns we expect.

Prayer is *not* another app for our spiritual smartphone. Of course, using the phrase, “smartphone” to describe our prayer life on certain days may be a misnomer, for we do not always pay attention to God’s instruction. God wants the good for us, but he also expects for us to hear the goodness he intends.

Jesus wants our happiness. To communicate a clean or pure heart to those desirous of a loving God, we must move beyond all surface cares and instead be grounded in real, authentic concerns. As fellow Christians we see with God’s perspective toward ourselves and toward others. In other words, to be clean of heart is to embrace the singleness of the heart of God, for no one can serve

two masters. This beatitude places emphasis on a specific action which is a habitual condition of the spirit that will never pass away. Unlike poverty, mourning, hunger and thirst, we have a quality here which participates in a life of one united to God. You and I are familiar with the Old Testament quote, “No one can see God and live.” As long as each one of us lives primarily for ourselves, relegating our relationship with God to an unobtainable pursuit, we cannot see him. Only a heart full of adoration, one purified by the life of Jesus, possesses the ability to see God.

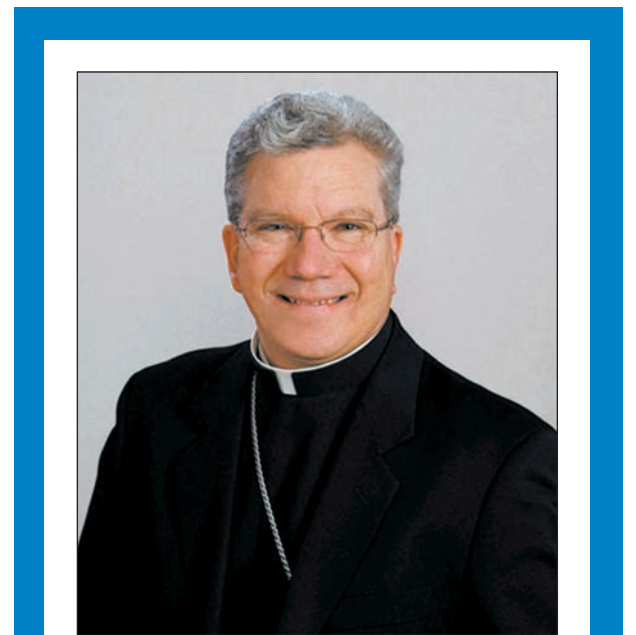
And so we ask ourselves, the next time you and I recite the rosary, meditate on the Scriptures, spend time in the presence of Our Lord’s Body at Adoration, are we present in the single-mindedness of heart free of distraction? Is our heart open to whatever response God shares with you and me?

Remember, as with anything in our lives with Our Lord God, he invites and we respond. In prayer we are to respond with complete focus on God’s presence in our hearts, free of distraction.

October is Respect Life Month

The theme of the *Respect Life* month of October is, “*Be Not Afraid*.” These words were spoken by St. John Paul II in 1978 at the beginning of his pontificate. I shared these very words with our young at the recent youth conference on Sunday, Oct. 15.

This is the right attitude to confront a culture which has devalued human life from conception to natural death. As fellow Christians we are called to address the mistaken



Bishop Monforton

assertions of our day which place a utilitarian value on human life instead of one’s dignity as one created in the image and likeness of God.

While we celebrate this *Respect Life* month, may we continue to practice the truth of the dignity of each human being and *be not afraid* to confront attitudes which devalue human life to a social commodity.

Celebrate life!

Whose Image? (29th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A)

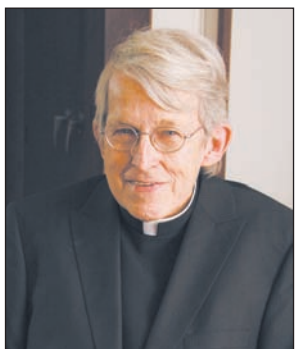
By Father Paul J. Walker

If you want to win friends and influence people avoid two subjects, politics and religion. This Sunday’s Gospel (Oct. 22) places Jesus in such a trap. He has already upset people on both politics and religion so he must be aware of the trap that is being set up here. His response to the question has been twisted by just about every conceivable group for every conceivable purpose since.

As always, Jesus is concerned with truth, so he is not trying to break lives or loyalties down into definable groups that would be independent of each other. So, what is Caesar’s? It’s the tax coin! What is God’s? Everything else – heart, soul, moral judgments, values, ultimate allegiance. All belongs to God.

The first reading (see, Isaiah, Chapter 45, Verses 1-4-6) could not be clearer:

I grasp the pagan king’s hand, I open doors ... leave gates unbarred ... I have called you by name ... I am the Lord and there is no other ... It is I who am ... There



Father Walker

is none beside me ... I am the Lord, there is no other.

Wow! Can he be any clearer? Here in these two readings is a key to the church’s role in the political world where very sincere Christians may find themselves on different sides of political ideologies. It is quite clear here that there can be no absolute allegiance to anything but the Gospel and to anyone but Jesus Christ.

Look at the Gospel story. Mark and Luke also relate their version of this encounter and all attest to the rather evident bad faith and hypocrisy of those who question Jesus. Both the Pharisees and Herodians (Sadducees), normally opposed to one another, are plotting against him. However, the leaders of the Pharisees “... sent their disciples to him ...” assuming, I guess, that Jesus would trust the disciples more than their leaders.

The question proposed was a problem of conscience for many: Does the law order us to refuse obedience to the occupying Romans or is there a place for compromising? Unlike the Zealots, who proposed armed rebellion, should we at least be tax resisters? This is one of those “damned if you do, damned if you don’t” traps. He says “yes,” then he sides with the detested collaborators. He says “no,” then the Herodians denounce his revolt against the established Roman power. With his answer Jesus avoids what appeared to be an inescapable trap.

What might Jesus’ response say to us? It proposes a need to discern from the point of view of faith how the use of present political power relates to the sovereign authority of God in creation and history. This is a challenge for all responsible members of a democracy.

In our time, in our political and economic lives, it is not pagan deities, but modern idolatries that threaten us. Sometimes we seem to think that political affairs and the economic structures and interests which our political actions protect, promote or challenge are separated somehow from the choices and actions to which our Christian faith calls us. The whole prophetic tradition of Israel insists there is but one God, one Lord of all to whom all powers in heaven and earth are answerable: a God of the orphaned and widowed, the poor and the powerless, the alien and the stranger, the enslaved and the oppressed, the outcast and the marginalized.

In answering the question about the tax, Jesus takes a coin and asks whose image is imprinted there. When the Romans conquered a country, one of the first things they did was change the currency by stamping the emperor’s image on it. This made it clear that everything in these peoples’ lives, down to the coins in purses and pockets, belonged to imperial Rome. But God’s image is stamped on the human heart “... in the image of God he created him, male and female he created them ...” (Gn 1:27).

By raising Cyrus, a pagan king, to fulfill his plan, God showed there is nothing outside himself. How, then, can we possibly conceive obedience to his will in the same terms as obedience to kings, emperors, presidents, governors or any earthly leader or nation or political ideology? We should be very, very careful in putting words “God” and “country” together as though they both lay equal claim to

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“Mother!” and the God of the Bible

From Page 6

on his forehead) and Abel. The message – at this point, biblical enough – seems to be that sin has produced not only a conflict among human beings, but also a conflict between human beings and the natural world. In their selfishness and violence, sinful people indeed ride roughshod over nature, ruining her beauty and offending her integrity.

After the intruders have all been dismissed from the house, a period of peace prevails. Lawrence’s character becomes pregnant and Bardem’s character finds his muse and recommences his writing career. As the child gestates in his mother’s womb, a work of literature emerges through the energies of the father. When the book is finished, it is met with immediate and universal acclaim. Soon, armies of admirers descend upon the lovely house, once again muddying it, then doing damage to it. They want to commune with the author, to take a piece of his life home with them, and in the process they overwhelm the place that he

and his wife have striven to restore. They cover the walls with images of their hero; they chant and mark themselves in ritual ceremonies. They eventually come in such numbers and with such fervor that conflicts break out, and these escalate into outright war. All hell then breaks loose: gunshots, missile attacks, fires, executions. Though the woman shrieks in horror, Bardem’s character only revels in the attention he is receiving.

If the first part of the story allegorizes the Old Testament, this second part allegorizes the New. The husband emerges here as a sort of Christ-figure, and his devotees are exhibiting all of the fanaticism, conflict and violence that have sometimes dogged Christianity across the ages. Then things get truly weird. During a lull in the chaos, the woman gives birth to a beautiful baby boy, and she holds him tight, refusing to allow his father even to hold him. But while she sleeps, the Bardem character steals the child and shows him to the crowds who then take him, kill him, rip him to pieces,

and proceed to eat his body. Beside herself with rage, the mother retreats to the basement and sets off an explosion that brings the whole place down.

The filmmaker seems to be gesturing toward the sacrificial death of Jesus and the sacrament of the Eucharist. Now if the Old Testament associations were at least in the ballpark, these are just off the farm. First, the true God does not need the adulation of his followers and does not remain indifferent to their moral outrages. Moreover, Jesus is not taken and sacrificed by the people in the manner of a pagan offering; rather, he gives himself away as a free act of love. Finally, the dying and rising of Jesus is construed by the New Testament as not simply beneficial to human beings, but indeed as the salvation of nature itself, as a healing of the wounds of creation. Thus to set the Bardem character and the sacrificed child over and against the good of Mother Earth is just not biblical.

Though it rather clearly reflects the anti-scriptural prejudice of the cultural elite

today, “Mother!” might actually serve to prompt a re-examination of the deeply ecological themes that run right through the biblical narrative and the great theological tradition. The God of the Bible does indeed love the human race and does indeed act as an indulgent father in the face of humanity’s sins. But at the same time, the God of the Bible loves Mother Earth. As the book of Genesis tells us with an almost obsessive insistence, he found everything he had made – from the stars and planets to the animals and insects that creep upon the earth – very good. In the minds of the authors of the Scriptures, there is no tension between these two great loves.

Bishop Barron is an auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. He is the founder of Word on Fire Catholic Ministries, which is headquartered in Des Plaines, Illinois. A nonprofit global media apostolate, additional information is available on it at www.wordonfire.org.

Whose Image?

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our allegiance. It is to God alone we must give our very self because we are stamped with his image. Faith has been put in our hearts by the power of his Spirit. No earthly person, power or country can ever hold such a claim.

Cardinal Schonborn, the Archbishop of Vienna, Austria, sums up the core of Jesus’ response to this entrapment in his reflections on Matthew’s Gospel:

The coins bear the image and inscription of the emperor, so give them to him because they belong to him. You, however, bear in yourselves the image of God, for man was

created in God’s image. Therefore, give yourselves, your hearts, your lives to the One to whom you belong.

(Schonborn, “My Jesus, Encountering, Christ in the Gospel,” 2002, Page 135)

Father Walker is a Diocese of Steubenville priest, retired from active parish ministry. A former director of the diocesan Office of Worship, Father Walker is a resident of McConnellsville, where he often celebrates Mass at St. James Church. Father Walker, also, continues to write a regular column for The Steubenville Register.

Pope says that the death penalty is contrary to the Gospel teachings

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The death penalty, no matter how it is carried out, “is, in itself, contrary to the Gospel,” Pope Francis said.

Marking the 25th anniversary of the Catechism of the Catholic Church at the Vatican Oct. 11, Pope Francis said the catechism’s discussion of the death penalty, already formally amended by St. John Paul II, needs to be even more explicitly against capital punishment.

Capital punishment, he said, “heavily wounds human dignity” and is an “inhuman measure.”

“It is, in itself, contrary to the Gospel, because a decision is voluntarily made to suppress a human life, which is always sacred in the eyes of the Creator and of whom, in the last analysis, only God can be the true judge and guarantor,” the pope said.

The death penalty, he said, not only extinguishes a human life, it extinguishes the possibility that the person, recognizing his or her errors, will request forgiveness and begin a new life.

The church’s position on the death penalty, he said, is one example of how church teaching is not static, but grows and deepens along with a growth in faith and in response to modern questions and concerns.

In the past, when people did not see any other way for society to defend itself against serious crime and when “social maturity” was lacking, he said, people accepted the death penalty as “a logical consequence of the application of justice.”

In fact, he said, the church itself believed that, and the death penalty was a possible punishment in the Papal States. It was only in 1969 that Pope Paul VI formally banned the death penalty, even though it had not been imposed since 1870.

“Let us take responsibility for the past and recognize” that use of the death penalty

was “dictated by a mentality that was more legalistic than Christian,” Pope Francis said. “Remaining neutral today when there is a new need to reaffirm personal dignity would make us even more guilty.”

The first edition of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, published by St. John Paul II in 1992, recognized “as well-founded the right and duty of legitimate public authority to punish malefactors by means of penalties commensurate with the gravity of the crime, not excluding, in cases of extreme gravity, the death penalty.”

At the same time, it said, “bloodless means” that could protect human life should be used when possible.

But the language was formally changed in 1997 after St. John Paul II issued his pro-life encyclical, “*Evangelium Vitae*.” Since then, the catechism has specified that the use of the death penalty is permissible only when the identity and responsibility of the condemned is certain and when capital punishment “is the only possible way of effectively defending human lives against the unjust aggressor.”

The development of church teaching, Pope Francis insisted, is not the same as contradicting or changing church teaching. “Tradition is a living reality and only a partial vision would lead to thinking of ‘the deposit of faith’ as something static.”

The Christian faith, he said, always has insisted on the dignity of human life from the moment of conception to natural death. So, the church has a continuing obligation to speak out when it realizes something that was accepted in the past actually contradicts church teaching.

“Therefore, it is necessary to reiterate that, no matter how serious the crime committed, the death penalty is inadmissible, because it attacks the inviolability and dignity of the person,” Pope Francis said.



Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton at the annual celebration honoring all the religious women and consecrated virgins serving in the Diocese of Steubenville. The day began with Mass celebrated by Bishop Monforton at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption in Marietta. Singled out for 50 years as a religious sister were: School Sister of Notre Dame (Coolville) Joan Marie VanBeek; Sisters of St. Francis of the Congregation of Our Lady of Lourdes (Steubenville) Jan Villemure and Nancy Ferguson (not shown); Sister of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd (Carrollton) M. Joseph Eck (not shown). (Photo provided)

'Love Saves Lives' theme for 2018 March for Life marking Roe decision

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The theme for the 45th annual March for Life will be "Love Saves Lives: Life Is the Loving, Empowering and Self-Sacrificial Option."

The March for Life Education and Defense Fund announced the theme for the 2018 rally and march at a briefing on Capitol Hill Oct. 3 with Jeanne Mancini, president of the March for Life organization and other pro-life leaders in Washington.

"We march for life because abortion is a horrific human rights travesty," said Mancini.

She moderated a panel discussion on "how the pro-life movement continues to empower women" with Susan Gallucci, executive director of the Northwest Center, which offers a range of services to pregnant women and new mothers; Chuck Donovan, president of Charlotte Lozier Institute, the research and education institute of the Su-

san B. Anthony List; and Alison Howard Centofante, director of alliance relations at Alliance Defending Freedom, a nonprofit legal group that supports pro-life, religious freedom and other issues.

The March for Life will take place Jan. 19, which is a Friday and comes ahead of the

Jan. 22 anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's 1973 ruling

in *Roe v. Wade* and its companion case, *Doe v. Bolton*, that invalidated state and federal restrictions on abortions, legalizing abortion virtually on demand.

Pro-lifers from around the country will gather for a rally at noon on the grounds of the Washington Monument. After the rally, pro-lifers will march up Constitution Avenue to the court.

Centofante remarked that love saved

her father's life "through adoption and therefore love saved my life."

"Planned Parenthood pushes the message that you should just eliminate the child to eliminate the problem," she said.

"This world has too much violence, and this shows that we are loving at our core," Centofante said about the 2018 theme.

The Northwest Center serves hundreds of women every year, said Gallucci. "We offer love and support to women and their families, no matter their circumstances."

"At the early stages of the pro-life movement, providing alternatives to abortion was at the heart of the movement," noted Donovan, adding that pregnancy centers are leading the movement all over the U.S.

Mancini ended the briefing with a challenge for all: "What will you sacrifice to build a culture of life?"



Students from the Diocese of Lansing, Mich., hold signs during the annual March for Life in Washington Jan. 27. (CNS photo)

Devotion to Padre Pio evident in thousands who turn out to venerate relics

By Joyce Duriga

CHICAGO (CNS) — When the relics of St. Pio of Pietrelcina — commonly known as Padre Pio — stopped at two Chicago churches, more than 19,000 people turned out to venerate them, organizers said.

The relics, which included a lock of Padre Pio's hair, blood from his wounds, a glove used to cover his stigmatized hands and part of his religious habit, visited St. Francis Borgia Church, Sept. 25, and St. Ita Church, Sept. 26.

They were part of a national tour Sept. 16-Oct. 8 sponsored by the Saint Pio Foundation to mark the 130th anniversary of Padre Pio's birth and the 15th anniversary of his canonization. Almost a dozen U.S. dioceses and archdioceses hosted the relics.

Born in Pietrelcina in southern Italy in 1887, Padre Pio was a Capuchin priest who, in 1918, received the stigmata — an occurrence where the five wounds of Jesus' passion appear on a person's body. Those wounds stayed until his death.

People flocked to Mass and confession with Padre Pio during his lifetime. He was known to have the gifts of bilocation (ability to appear in two places at once), healing and levitation.

In 1956, he established Casa Sollievo della Sofferenza (Home for the Relief of Suffering), a hospital that today is considered one of the best in Italy. Padre Pio died in 1968 and was canonized by St. John Paul II in 2002.

The tour of his relics began at St. Joseph Seminary in the Archdiocese of New York, and ended at Blessed Trinity Catholic

Church in the Diocese of St. Augustine, Florida. The relics also traveled to the Diocese of La Crosse and the Archdiocese of Milwaukee in Wisconsin; the Diocese of Bridgeport, Connecticut; the Archdiocese of St. Louis; the Diocese of Saginaw, Michigan; the Diocese of Providence, Rhode Island; the Archdiocese of Atlanta; and the Archdiocese of New Orleans.

In Chicago, those who turned out to venerate Padre Pio's relics Sept. 25 and 26 all had a story to tell. Some saw him in person. Others knew someone who met the saint. Still others came across his story along their spiritual journey and pray to him fervently.

For Carole Klein, it was a book belonging to her parents that was passed on to her after they died. Not a practicing Catholic, Klein read about the relics' visit in the Chicago Tribune and stopped by St. Ita to see them.

"Padre Pio — just sort of been an object of conversation in our house," she said. "It

(the book) was an object of fascination for me. I was young. There were pictures in it."

Her family talked often about the book while Klein's parents were alive.

"My daughter who's 30 even knows about it," she told the Chicago Catholic, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

The devotion to Padre Pio was evident in those who visited the relics along with her.

"I'm not surprised by it," Klein said.

Ronald Wiese learned about the saint through a biography he purchased around 1999 and said Padre Pio is a "modern-day saint."

"You can see a part of him in this church

in regard to his relics, whether it was a part of his person or something that he wore, something that he had," Wiese said.

St. Francis Borgia and St. Ita reported a steady stream of visitors from the time veneration started at 9 a.m. through the start of Mass each evening. They counted the number of people as they came in and priests blessed religious objects and heard confessions.

During Masses each evening, the faithful filled all available space in the churches. They were in the pews but also in the aisles, the vestibule, on the street outside and, in the case of St. Ita, sitting on the steps of the sanctuary.

Organizers expected large crowds but not quite the more than 19,000 who turned out. It shows the love people have for Padre Pio.

"He's truly a unique saint in the sense that he cuts across cultures, boundaries, ages and somehow resonates with such a wide group of people," said Conventual Franciscan Father Bob Cook,

pastor of St. Ita.

However, the interest in relics doesn't surprise him.

"Relics are a reminder that the saints were human beings at one point. They're still human beings but they are in heaven. With that comes everything that is human — temptation, forgiveness," Cook said.

Padre Pio was known to be short-tempered and, like many people, probably brought that up in his own confessions, Cook said.

"He lived like we did and aspired to become a saint and did. That's the route for all of us," Cook said.

Relics are also a way to keep in touch with heaven.

"In the church we have canonized saints and uncanonized saints. My mother is an uncanonized saint. I have things of her that I hold on to, that remind me of her, that bring me into communion with her," the friar said. "The saints are our relatives in heaven and this is a tangible way to be in communion with those relatives."



Worshippers venerate the relics of St. Padre Pio at St. Francis Borgia Church in Chicago. His relics were on a nationwide tour Sept. 16-Oct. 8 marking the 130th anniversary of his birth and the 15th anniversary of his canonization. (CNS photo/Karen Callaway, Chicago Catholic)

Mother's Pilgrims Pilgrimage to Medjugorje



April 25 - May 4, 2018
Trip with Fellow Pilgrim
Rev. Michael R. Ackerman

"Thank you for responding to My call. If you knew how much I love you, you'd cry of joy."

Hostesses: Cathy Howe &
Medjugorje Visionary Mirjana Soldo

Our Lady is Waiting just for you.
If you Hear Her Call, let Nothing stand in Your way.

For more information

412-278-4673 or 412-366-7200

www.mothershope.org

U P and D O W N the D I O C E S E

Adena/Dillonvale — A wristband fundraiser for Michael Shank, nephew of Mary Ann Dudzik, a parishioner of St. Casimir Parish, Adena, is being held at St. Casimir Church, and St. Adalbert Church, Dillonvale. Michael was involved in a recent accident. Wristbands will be sold following the celebration of Masses at both churches.

Cambridge — St. Benedict School will sponsor a turkey trot 5K walk/run at 9 a.m., Nov. 23, beginning at the Lore City end of the Great Guernsey Trail, 63500 Corduroy Road. Registration fee is \$25; early registrants, prior to Nov. 1, receive a T-shirt. For more information, telephone (740) 680-2876.

Carlisle — Turkey bingo will be played at St. Michael Church hall from 1:30-4 p.m., Nov. 12. A light lunch, with dessert, will be available.

Carrollton — A Polish fest, sponsored by Our Lady of Mercy Parish, will be held from 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Nov. 5, in the parish social hall. Cost for the event is \$12 for adults, \$4 for youth ages 5 to 12, children 4 years of age and under get free admission. The event will include a buffet with cabbage rolls, sauerkraut and kielbasa, sauerkraut and pork, pierogi, haluski, mashed potatoes and gravy, homemade applesauce, desserts, bread and beverages. Takeout dinners will be available. A dance, with live music provided by “Jim Bebesi and his Polka Pals,” a 50/50 raffle and a silent auction will also be part of the event. All proceeds benefit the efforts of the Ladies of Mercy. For additional information, telephone (330) 627-4664.

Churchtown — “St. John Cash Bash 2017,” sponsored by St. John Central School, will be held Nov. 18 at the Knights of Columbus Council 4617 hall, 17784 Ohio 676. Spaghetti dinners will be served from 5:30-7:30 p.m.; a square dance, featuring the Buckeye Travelers, will begin at 7:30 p.m.; and cash drawings, with a grand prize of \$2,500 and additional \$1,500 in cash prizes, will begin at 8 p.m. A country store will also be featured that evening. To purchase a \$25 ticket or for additional information, telephone the school office at (740) 896-2697.

Fulda — St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish will sponsor an annual “Pork and Sauerkraut Bohnen Brie Dinner” from 10:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m., Nov. 5, at the church. The menu will include pork, sauerkraut, bohnen brie, mashed potatoes, homemade noodles, applesauce, roll, dessert and beverage. Bingo will be played from 1-3 p.m.; a raffle drawing will be held at 3 p.m.

Harriettsville — St. Henry CWC will sponsor a health fair from 8-10 a.m., Oct. 28, at the Lower Salem community building, located on Ohio 821. Blood screenings, flu and pneumonia shots will be available.

St. Henry CWC will sponsor a masquerade Halloween square dance from 8-11 p.m., Oct. 28, in the church hall. Music will be provided by the Buckeye Travelers Band. Prizes, food, raffle and a country store will be part of the event.

Hopedale — The Harrison County CWC will sponsor a 16th annual used Christmas items sale Nov. 3, from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m.; Nov. 4, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; Nov. 10, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Nov. 11, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m., at Sacred Heart Church hall. A bake sale and lunch will also be featured at the event.

Lowell — A blessing of animals, leashed or in pet carriers, will take place at 11 a.m., Oct. 21, in Our Lady of Mercy Church parking lot. In case of inclement weather, the event will take place inside the church hall.

Our Lady of Mercy CWC is taking orders for chicken pies and noddles. To place an order, by Nov. 6, telephone Betty Strahler at (740) 896-2576 or Marilyn Peters at (740) 350-1751. The CWC annual craft show will be held Nov. 11.

Marietta — A poinsettia and wreath sale is being sponsored by St. Mary Home and School through Oct. 20. Orders will be ready for pickup Nov. 29 in the school parish center, 320 Marion St. For additional information or to place an order, telephone



The Catholic Woman's Club of Toronto – St. Francis and St. Joseph parishes – will sponsor its annual fall festival. The festival will be held from noon-3:30 p.m., Nov. 5, at St. Joseph Church hall, 1225 N. River Ave., Toronto. The dinner will feature cabbage rolls, mashed potatoes, green beans, applesauce, rolls, desserts and beverages. The meal costs \$8 for adults and \$4 for children under 10 years of age. Bake and white elephant sales and raffles will be part of the festival, also. Announcing the festival, from the front left, include Betty Waggoner, Anita Montgomery, Judy Sabol, Rita Batcho and Barbara Handzus. From the back left, include Father Thomas A. Vennitti, pastor of St. Francis and St. Joseph parishes, Ginny Popson, Mary Ann Volsky, Barbara Carter and Beth DiGarmo. (Photo provided)

(740) 336-1624.

A “Wild West – Saddle Up and Read” book fair will be held Oct. 30 through Nov. 3, at St. Mary School, in the parish center, 320 Marion St. For additional information, telephone the school office at (740) 374-8181.

St. Mary School Irish Boosters Organization will sponsor a “Fall Back 5K Run/Walk” Nov. 5, at 2 p.m., at East Muskingum Park, Front Street. Preregistration, by Oct. 20, is \$20; after that day or the day of the race, it will be \$25. Students, ages 18 and under, can register for \$12. Race applications are available at the school office, 320 Marion St. Telephone (740) 374-8181, for additional information.

A flag demonstration assembly/Veterans Day recognition will be held Nov. 7, at 10 a.m., in St. Mary School new gymnasium, 320 Marion St. Sgt. Bob O'Malley Detachment 1436 Marine Corps League will present a flag folding ceremony with the meanings and script behind each fold.

St. Clairsville — A fall bereavement program will be held at St. Mary Parish offices at 5:30 p.m., Oct. 22, Nov. 5 and Dec. 3. Topics that will be discussed include “The Journey of Grief” and “Handling Our Grief Through the Holidays.” To register, telephone Debbi Shutler at (740) 695-9580.

Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton will celebrate an annual Red Mass at 4:30 p.m., Oct. 28, at St. Mary Church. The Mass is to pray for judges, lawyers and those in the legal profession.

Steubenville — The Diocese of Steubenville has launched Project Rachel, a ministry that offers paths of healing for women and men wounded by abortion. The confidential telephone line is (740) 275-7038. For additional information, visit the Diocese of Steubenville website

at www.diosteub.org/project-rachel.

Steubenville — Bishop John King Mussio Central Elementary and Junior High School will sponsor a 10th annual pasta dinner fundraiser from noon-5 p.m., Nov. 5, at Holy Rosary Church auditorium. Eat in or takeout orders will be available. For additional information, telephone the school office at (740) 264-2550.

Tiltonsville/Yorkville — The parishes of St. Joseph, Tiltonsville, and St. Lucy, Yorkville, will sponsor a 12th annual reverse raffle Nov. 4 in St. Joseph Hall. A donation of \$50 includes an entry into the reverse raffle, cash prizes and two complimentary dinners, for attendees only. Themed baskets and a 50/50 raffle will also be part of the event. Doors open at 6 p.m.; dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m.; the drawings will begin at 7:30 p.m. Participants must be 18 years of age to attend. To purchase a ticket or for additional information, telephone (740) 859-4492 or (740) 298-0048.

Wintersville — A candle lighting vigil will take place at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 4, at Blessed Sacrament Church Sargus Hall, 852 Main St. A keepsake candle costs \$10. A photo of a loved one will be used in a memorial presentation during the ceremony and will be returned following the event. For reservations, by Oct. 25, email crpcf5599@gmail.com. For questions or additional information, telephone (740) 264-1359.

Woodfield — A Christmas bazaar will be held Nov. 12 at St. Sylvester Central School, 119 Wayne St. A turkey dinner, country store and crafts will be part of the event. The turkey dinner, which will be served from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., costs \$9 for adults and \$5 for children. Takeout dinners are available. For additional information, telephone (740) 472-0321.

Around and About

Athens — The Faith Build Coalition Habitat for Humanity of Southeast Ohio will hold a fall rummage sale Oct. 21, from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., at Holy Family Center, located at Christ the King University Parish.

Caldwell — The First Presbyterian Church, 532

North St., is the drop-off location for those in Noble County who wish to participate in the “Operation Christmas Child” shoe boxes program. Shoe boxes will be filled and sent to less fortunate children worldwide. Donations will be accepted Nov. 13 through

Around and About

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Nov. 20 at the church. For additional information, telephone Maureen Schultice at (740) 732-7235.

Cambridge — “Discernment Day: Doing the Impossible” will be held by the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity, 319 N. Seventh St., Oct. 28, from 9:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. To register, visit fscc-calledtobe.org. For additional information, telephone (920) 323-9632 or (740) 432-5853.

Hudson, Ohio — A Marriage Encounter weekend will be held Nov. 10-12 at the Clarion Inn. For additional information, visit GreatMarriagesOhio.org or telephone (330) 305-9963.

Martins Ferry — Knights of Columbus Mother of God Council 1421 will sponsor a fish fry from 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Oct. 20, at the council hall, 25 N. Fourth St. Takeout orders will be available by telephoning (740) 633-0528.

Martins Ferry — A soup and sandwich luncheon, to benefit the Daily Bread Center, will be held at St. John Lutheran Church, North Fourth Street, from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. The menu will consist of vegetable, chicken noodle or cream of

broccoli soup, Sloppy Joe or hot dog, dessert and beverage, for \$6.

Steubenville — Franciscan University of Steubenville Fine Arts Society will present Eric Genius in concert Nov. 5, at 2 p.m., in the Tony and Nina Gentile Gallery, J.C. Williams Center.

Franciscan University of Steubenville Schola Cantorum Franciscana and guest instrumentalists will sing at the celebration of the 7 p.m. Mass, Nov. 10, at St. Peter Church.

“Merry Christmas, George Bailey!” will be presented by the Franciscan University of Steubenville Theater Department Nov. 10, Nov. 11, Nov. 17 and Nov. 18 at 7 p.m., and Nov. 12 and Nov. 19, at 2 p.m., in Anathan Theater.

Stockport, Ohio — Mary’s House, which serves pregnant women 18 years of age and older, will sponsor a bag bingo Oct. 22 at St. Bernard Church hall. Beverly. Doors will open at 1 p.m.; games will begin at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. Concessions will also be available, a 50/50 drawing will be held and door prizes awarded. For more information, telephone Linda Schaad, (740) 525-3532 or Janice Schaad, (740) 336-1523.

Bishop will celebrate Mass Nov. 2

STEUBENVILLE — An All Souls’ Day Mass for the commemoration of all the faithful departed will be celebrated by Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton at 10 a.m., Nov. 2, at Mount Calvary Cemetery, in the Coronation Mausoleum Chapel.

The cemetery, located at 94 Mount Calvary Lane, is situated in the city’s West End.

Concelebrating priests, parishioners and people throughout the diocese and in surrounding areas are invited to attend.



St. Gabriel Parish, Minerva, Catholic Woman’s Club will hold an annual boutique and craft show from 9:30 a.m.-7 p.m., Nov. 2-3, at the church. Fish dinners, cabbage roll dinners, sandwiches and homemade soups will be served. Takeout dinners will be available. Crafters and vendors will have merchandise available for sale. Also, the St. Gabriel CWC will sponsor a bake sale and will be selling homemade candy. Raffles will be part of the event. For additional information, telephone (330) 418-1067. Pictured, from left, are Karen Dinarda, Bonnie Parrish, Ida Carver, Martha Zwick, Ardell Bolanz, Carilyn Michel and Father Victor P. Cinson, pastor of St. Gabriel and St. Francis Xavier Parish, Malvern. (Photo provided)

Obituaries

Fred Call, 89, Blessed Sacrament, Wintersville, Oct. 7.

Dominic J. “Mimi” DeLaurentis, 94, Wintersville, Holy Family, Steubenville, Sept. 24.

Marie Schumacher Dobranetski, 90, St. Joseph, Tiltonsville, Sept. 15.

Eugene Finney, 96, St. Joseph, Tiltonsville, Sept. 22.

Mitchell E. Humienny, 55, Triumph of the Cross, Steubenville, Oct. 9.

Julius Koles, 89, St. Joseph, Tiltonsville, Sept. 2.

Caroline Lollini, 102, St. Joseph, Tiltonsville, Oct. 4.

Joshua Merriman, 21, Blessed Sacrament, Wintersville, Sept. 16.

Henry Portocarrero, 86, Holy Family, Steubenville, Sept. 29.

Sandra Rawson, 70, Blessed Sacrament, Wintersville, Oct. 4.

Christian P. “Butters” Robinson, 21, Akron, Ohio, St. Sylvester, Woodsfield, Sept. 29.

Sally Whitaker, 76, Blessed Sacrament, Wintersville, Sept. 1.

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AFTER MY OWN HEART.”*

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Diocese of Steubenville 'Rise Up! Let Your Light Shine' Youth Conference



Cindy Costello discusses "Theology of the Body" with participants, left, and Kris Frank, master of ceremonies, gets students involved in his talks, center. (Photos by Orsatti)



Father Michael W. Gossett, director of vocations for the Diocese of Steubenville, with monstrance during the Holy Half Hour after Mass, above. Hearts of Fire, a Steubenville youth group, gather around a cutout of Pope Francis, left, with their leaders. (Photos by Orsatti)

Sister Maria Ecclesiae Kline, Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus, speaks to youth about religious vocations. (Photo by Orsatti)



Father Jonas A. Shell discusses "The Invisible World Around Us," center. Alyson Radford, Diocese of Steubenville coordinator of youth and young adult ministry, talks to participants prior to Mass, right. (Photos by Orsatti)



Youth from throughout the diocese participate in games on the playground at St. Mary School, Marietta, during the youth conference. (Photos provided)