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News Briefs

Cardinal beatifies Romanian peasant

WARSAW, Poland (CNS) — A 22-year-old Romanian peasant has taken a step closer to sainthood as a “martyr to chastity,” six decades after she was murdered while resisting rape during the communist-era repression of the Catholic Church.

Cardinal Angelo Becciu, prefect of the Vatican Congregation for Saints’ Causes, said Veronica Antal’s fate was similar to that of persecuted Christians in ancient Rome, who had asked the same question: “Who will separate us from the love of God?”

Antal, a lay Franciscan who died in 1958, was the first Romanian woman to be beatified and first Romanian layperson formally honored as a martyr from the time of communist rule.

Cardinal Becciu beatified her Sept. 23.

Beatification is one of the final steps toward sainthood. A miracle attributed to the intercession of Blessed Antal would be needed before she could be declared a saint.

US bishops urge end to tissue research

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The chairman of the U.S. bishops’ Committee on Pro-Life Activities praised a decision by the U.S. secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to end a Food and Drug Administration contract with a company “whose business is to procure aborted baby parts for research.”

Alex Azar, secretary of HHS, said that his agency was terminating an FDA contract with Advanced Bioscience Resources in California, to provide human fetal tissue to develop testing protocols.

Azar also said the agency will do an audit of “all acquisitions involving human fetal tissue” and “all research involving fetal tissue” to make sure the statutes and regulations governing such research are being followed. Such oversight, it said, also is necessary “in light of the serious regulatory, moral and ethical considerations involved.”

Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan said that “the question is not exclusively what is permitted by law, but what is right and just.”

“For the federal government to create a demand for abortion and use these children’s body parts for research is wrong,” he said.

Cardinal DiNardo ordains Deacon Ginnetti in Rome



Newly ordained Diocese of Steubenville Transitional Deacon Nicholas V. Ginnetti, is pictured with parents, from left, Ron and Christine Ginnetti, and Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton, right, at St. Peter’s Basilica, Rome. (Photo provided)

By Dino Orsatti
Editor

ROME/STEUBENVILLE — “I am eager to give my life completely to Christ.” That’s what Nicholas V. Ginnetti said the night before he was ordained a transitional deacon, at St. Peter’s Basilica, Vatican City, Sept. 27. Ginnetti said he has a strong sense of peaceful confidence, “confidence that God will complete the good work he has begun in me; peace that comes from following Christ and the vocation he has given me.”

Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton, the Ginnetti family and several parishioners from Christ Our Light Parish, Cam-

bridge, traveled to Rome for the ordination. The ceremony took place on the feast of St. Vincent de Paul, one of the deacon’s patron saints.

Ginnetti laid down on the floor of St. Peter’s Basilica, almost directly over the tomb of St. Peter himself, before Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo imposed his hands upon him and invoked the Holy Spirit.

“I am happy to promise that I will live chaste celibacy forever as a sign of my undivided love for Christ and as a way of giving myself wholly to the service of others. It really is a privilege to promise celibacy because I become

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Diocese will release names of priests accused of abuse

By Dino Orsatti
Editor

STEUBENVILLE — In the wake of the Pennsylvania grand jury report, as well as what is happening in many other states, various dioceses are releasing the names of priests who have been credibly accused of child abuse and subsequently removed from active ministry.

For this reason and for the sake of transparency, Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton said the diocese “will release the names of all priests that have been removed from active ministry due to allegations of sex abuse with children.” The list will be available on the diocese’s website by the end of October. The list of names will also be given to prosecuting attorneys in the counties where the allegations occurred.

The list will go back to the beginning of the formation of the diocese in 1944. None of the accusations led to a

criminal conviction.

The list will include between 10 and 20 names.

Bishop Monforton said, “Together, let us pray for our diocese, especially for the victims of abuse within our own diocese.”

Bishop Monforton said, “All children have the right to be safe and protected from harm in any and all environments — church, home, school, religious institutions, neighborhoods and communities. The Catholic Church takes the call to protect all children very seriously.”

Any victim or victims harmed by a priest or anyone serving on behalf of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Steubenville should contact diocesan and civil authorities.

In the diocese, victims are encouraged to contact Father James M. Dunfee, vicar general, Diocese of Steubenville, 422 Washington St., Steubenville; by telephoning (740) 282-3631, or emailing jdunfee@diosteub.org.

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

Diocesan/Parish Share Campaign
Diocese of Steubenville

Diocesan/Parish Share Campaign
parish-by-parish report/Page 12

'Ask the Bishop'

STEUBENVILLE — Students in kindergarten through 12th grade in the Diocese of Steubenville "Ask the Bishop" Jeffrey M. Monforton.

Q: Why are there servers at Mass?

**Anna Mitch
Toronto**

A: When we attend Mass, we recognize that the priest presider is not all by himself in the sanctuary, that is, he has help. Some parishes are blessed with the assistance of a deacon at Mass, but assistance is appreciated in the form of one or more servers.

The servers, which can also be known as acolytes, will assist at Mass by carrying the cross in the procession, as well as the candles or even the thurible (incense), at the opening procession. Many have responsibilities throughout the Mass, as well, especially during the Liturgy of the Eucharist, to assist the priest. The presider of the Mass certainly can use the help and how best but to involve the people of God at the sacrifice of the Mass than to have them assist the priest at the altar?

Furthermore, we even have laypeople who serve as extraordinary ministers of holy Communion. Those people are prepared ahead of time and consequently instituted as extraordinary ministers, for

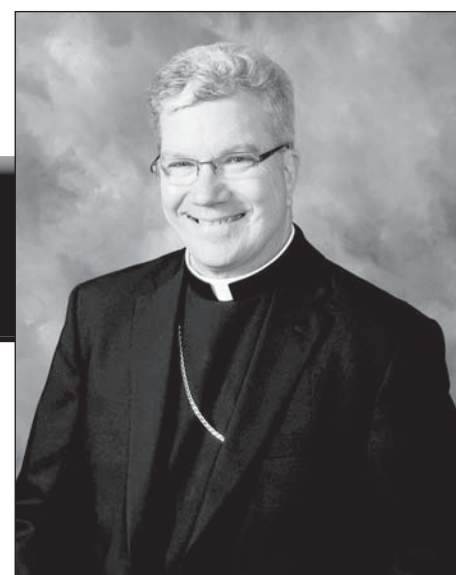
they distribute the body and blood of Christ to the people of God at the Communion rite.

What we have here is the perfect sign of collaboration at the celebration of Mass, for recognize that the people of God are encouraged to be directly involved with the various parts of the Mass such as the acolytes at the altar and in the sanctuary. The celebration of Mass is not intended to be a passive experience.

Q: Why do we have a pope?

**Gury Bucci
Wintersville**

A: The short answer to this question is that Jesus has given us the pope, also known as the vicar of Christ. Pope Francis is the successor of St. Peter among us here in 2018. St. Peter, the first pope, was given the authority by Jesus, as we read in the Gospel. According to Matthew, Chapter 16, Verses 17-19, Jesus said in reply, "Blessed are you Simon, son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in



Bishop Monforton

heaven and whatever you loose on earth, shall be loosed in heaven."

You see, the papacy is not some sort of contrived authority from the Middle Ages, but, in fact, is traced directly back to Jesus, the Son of God himself. Jesus gave us St. Peter to lead the church and to be the vicar of Christ among us. In 2018, we celebrate this unbroken succession of popes for, as the saying goes, where Peter is so is the church. We read in the Catechism of the Catholic Church that the pope is the head of the episcopal college, namely the successors of the apostles, and it is the body of bishops itself that possesses authority when it is united with Peter's successor. In fact, the pope, also known as the bishop of Rome and St. Peter's successor, "is the perpetual and visible source and foundation of the unity both of the bishops and of the whole company of the faithful." The pope is the pastor of the entire church and has full, supreme and universal power over the whole church, "a power you can always exercise unhindered" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, Paragraph 882).

How grateful we are to Our Lord Jesus Christ for the gift of the church and to have the pope as its shepherd leading us through human history as we bear witness to the light of Christ. Please pray for Pope Francis and all church leaders as we endeavor to encourage all to abide in Jesus Christ, the source of all goodness.

Q: How is it possible that the Israelites destroyed the wall of Jericho?

**Amalia Yabs
Steubenville**

A: We refer to the Book of Joshua, Chapter 6, Verses 1-27, in which the wall at Jericho fell in the presence of the chosen

people, namely in the presence of Joshua's Israelite army. Scripture chronicles the Israelites marching around the city, but it was not they who brought the wall down. What we are instructed by the story is that the miraculous power of God was at work in bringing down the Jericho wall. With the bringing down of the wall, the Israelite army was to be victorious at conquering the city.

Ancient cities like Jericho depended on fortified city walls to protect the city from invaders. With the wall coming down, the city was prone to invasion by the Israelite army, and thus, the city was captured.

Remember, it was not the power of the Israelite army that took down the wall, but God himself. Here is another lesson for you and me as we follow Our Lord; we recognize at the end of the day, we must completely rely on God and his miraculous work, for he will never abandon us.

May God bless you and your family as we have ushered in the autumn season in 2018.

Questions for "Ask the Bishop" are channeled through the Diocese of Steubenville Office of Christian Formation and Schools, Permanent Deacon Paul D. Ward, director.

To "Ask the Bishop," contact Emmanuel C. Ambrose, coordinator of catechetics and youth ministry, Diocese of Steubenville Office of Christian Formation and Schools, P.O. Box 969, Steubenville, OH 43952; 422 Washington St., Steubenville; telephone (740) 282-3631; email eambrose@diosteub.org.

Students from BJKM study the Bible



Daughter of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus Sister Ingrid de Maria Saenz teaches the Bible to students at Bishop John King Mussio Central Elementary School, Steubenville. (Photo provided)

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Local deanery is spreading Christmas cheer early



Catholic Woman's Club members from St. John Fisher Parish, Richmond, are collecting "Boxes of Joy" to send to less fortunate children. Pictured are Arlene Redish, left, and Joelle Bucci, right. (Photo provided)

STEUBENVILLE — Mother of Hope Deanery is spreading Christmas cheer early this year to less fortunate children in Haiti, Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, Guatemala and El Salvador. They are mobilizing the parishioners in their deanery to pack a simple Box of Joy for a child who may have never received a single gift. Their local campaign is part of the Box of Joy program organized nationwide by Catholic schools, parishes and groups and facilitated by Cross Catholic Outreach.

Box of Joy is a win-win for those who have and those who need. It will bring the joyous spirit of Christmas to children whose families are too poor to give them a gift and at the same time give families in the United States the hands-on experience of providing Christmas joy and the story of Jesus Christ to those children. Parishioners, students and community members from across the country are working closely together to pack the Boxes of Joy — "labor of love" shared by all — with the goal of helping at least 60,000 impoverished children.

Joelle Bucci is the project leader for the Box of Joy project for the deanery. Bucci, who serves as the auditor at the deanery level as well as holding the office of president of the Catholic Woman's Club at St. John Fisher Parish, Richmond, decided to lead the campaign when she heard June Lawrence speak at the 2016 Steubenville Diocesan

Council of Catholic Woman conference. "It was such an impactful moment in my life, and I will be forever changed because of being at that conference and hearing June's message," Bucci said.

Mother of Hope Deanery is encouraging others to participate in this outreach. To sign-up as a parish, school or group, logon CrossCatholic.org/BoxOfJoy.org. Families and individuals can obtain their Boxes of Joy at their respective churches. Gift boxes will be collected during Box of Joy week, Nov. 3-11, at the area drop-off center located at St. John Fisher Church, 7457 Ohio Route 152, Richmond. A suggested gift list can be found at CrossCatholic.org/BoxOfJoy.org, but, in general, toys, hygiene items and school supplies are acceptable. Items should be new or like new, and should not include liquids, food or anything war/gun related. A \$9 check, made out to Cross Catholic Outreach, should be included to cover shipping and overseas costs.

Mother of Hope Deanery is one of four deaneries in the Steubenville Diocese and encompasses more than 15 parishes in Jefferson, Harrison and Carroll counties. They are a group of Catholic women who recognize and address the spiritual and temporal needs of the family, the parish, the community and the world. By God's call, they endeavor to foster and encourage the spiritual development of members and support the application of Catholic principles to all areas of social concerns.

This is the second year Mother of Hope Deanery participated in the Box of Joy program. Last year the deanery sent 285 boxes, plus a carton filled with loose items, to the organization's distribution center in Florida. This year, Bucci said their goal is 300 boxes.

Based in Florida, Cross Catholic Outreach is an official Catholic non-profit relief and development organization, that in 12 years of existence, has given more than \$1 billion in aid to help "the poorest of the poor" in more than two dozen developing countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean and other parts of the world. For additional information about Cross Catholic visit www.crosscatholic.org or telephone (800) 914-2420.

Bishop Monforton's Schedule

- Oct. 6 Mass, St. John Vianney Church, Powhatan Point, 6 p.m.
- 7 Mass, Sacred Heart Church, Neffs, 8:30 a.m. Mass and annual religious women celebration, Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, noon
- 8 Rosary congress Mass, Holy Rosary Church, Steubenville, 8:30 a.m.
- 9 Mother of Hope Deanery "Day With the Bishop," St. Francis of Assisi Church, Toronto, 11 a.m. Diocesan Information System Conference planning meeting, conference call, 3:30 p.m. Franciscan University of Steubenville, 6 p.m.
- 10-12 Diocesan Priests' Convocation, Columbus, Ohio
- 13 Mass for seminarian endowment fund founders, Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, 9 a.m.
- 14 White Mass, Christ the King University Parish, Athens, 10 a.m. Town hall meeting with youth, Christ Our Light Parish, Cambridge, 3 p.m. Mass, "Rise Up! Let Your Light Shine," Diocese of Steubenville youth conference, St. Benedict Church, Cambridge, 4 p.m.
- 15-18 2018 mission bishops' conferences, Chicago
- 18 WAOB radio segment, 7:40 a.m., 8:40 a.m. and 6:40 p.m. Diocesan Information System Conference call, 3:30 p.m. Priestly discernment reflection and Holy Half Hour, Franciscan University of Steubenville, 7 p.m.
- 20 Benefit Mass, Franciscan Sisters Third Order Regular of Penance of the Sorrowful Mother, Toronto, 4 p.m.

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FOR YOUR MARRIAGE

Cardinal DiNardo

From Page 1

a living sign that God will provide the Diocese of Steubenville with young men who are willing to give their lives wholly to God and the service of his people. God is faithful to his promise that he made through the Prophet Jeremiah, "I will give you shepherds after my own heart," (Jer 3:15) Ginnetti said.

A May 2015 graduate of the Pontifical College Josephinum, Columbus, Ohio, Ginnetti received a degree in philosophy and humanities in preparation for his study at the Pontifical North American College, where he is currently studying. The pontifical college serves as the American

seminary in Rome.

From Kimbolton, he is one of four children of Ron and Christine Ginnetti. They are members of Christ Our Light Parish. The transitional deacon has an older brother, Michael, a younger brother, Christopher, and a sister, Maria.

Ordination for a transitional deacon is the step before being ordained a priest for Deacon Ginnetti, which is expected to take place in June 2019.

Deacon Ginnetti said he is excited about this important stage in his life and what lies ahead, "I firmly believe that God has good things in store for the Diocese of Steubenville. I am certain that our future

has a bright hope because we are entrusted to the patronage of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, a loving mother always watching

over her children. She will obtain the grace I need in my ministry as deacon, and she will ask her Divine Son to bless our diocese."



Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, celebrates the ordination Mass, lower left, for 40 transitional deacons, including Diocese of Steubenville Transitional Deacon Nicholas V. Ginnetti, at St. Peter's Basilica, Rome, Sept. 27. The deacons are shown prostrating themselves before the altar, upper left. The saints are called to intercede for the elect. Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton, upper right, is pictured with the transitional deacons, other bishops, as well as Cardinal DiNardo. The deacons are shown on the altar, during the Mass, above. (Photos provided)

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Approximately 115 people attend the Diocesan Respect Life Conference

By Matthew A. DiCenzo
Staff writer

STEUBENVILLE — The Diocese of Steubenville Respect Life Conference was held at Holy Family Church, Steubenville, Sept. 22. Approximately 115 people attended.

Joseph A. Schmidt, director, diocesan Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life, said: “It was exciting to see people come together to learn more about the church’s teachings on human life and dignity. Participants at the conference were eager to become better informed about what is happening in our world today, and how they could be a force for building the culture of life.”

Attendees were welcomed by Ron McNamara, who served as master of ceremonies. McNamara introduced the keynote speaker, Father Tad Pacholczyk of the National Catholic Bioethics Center, Philadelphia, who led the conference with a prayer for life through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The prayer was adapted from a prayer from the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington.

Father Pacholczyk, who is also a priest of the Diocese of Fall River, Massachusetts, then began his keynote address – “Navigating Medical Technology from a Catholic Perspective.” He referenced and spoke about the “Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services,” which was created by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. According to the document, the purpose of the text is to “reaffirm the ethical standards of behavior in health care that flow from the church’s teaching about the dignity of the human person” and “to provide authoritative guidance on certain moral issues that face Catholic health care today.” Father Pacholczyk addressed issues and examples within medical technology. In addition, he spoke about the church’s teachings on life and death situations, providing real world examples that related to the topics and explaining how a Catholic should respond.

Participants had the opportunity to participate in various workshops throughout the conference. Father Pacholczyk also presented a workshop titled, “Begotten Not Made: the Ethical Concerns Around In Vitro Fertilization.” Patrick Lee, a professor of bioethics and the director of the Center for Bioethics at Franciscan University of Steubenville, presented, “Church Teaching on Capital Punishment.” Jean-Philippe Rigaud, a special agent for the office of



Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton, center, celebrates Mass during the Respect Life Conference, at Holy Family Church, Steubenville. Concelebrating are, from left, Father Tad Pacholczyk of the National Catholic Bioethics Center, Philadelphia; Father James M. Dunfee, diocesan vicar general and pastor of St. Agnes Parish, Mingo Junction, right of the bishop; and Msgr. Gerald E. Calovini, pastor of Holy Family Parish. Permanent Deacon Stephen F. Miletic, left of the bishop, assisted during Mass. (Photo by DiCenzo)



The Diocese of Steubenville Respect Life Conference was held at Holy Family Church, Steubenville, Sept. 22. Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton, pictured center, celebrated Mass at the conference and gathered with organizers and speakers at the event. Pictured in the front row are, from left, Lynette Hawrot, a licensed professional clinical counselor and a speaker at the event; Rita Marker, executive director of the patients’ rights council and a speaker; Shannon Minch-Hughes, diocesan Office of Human Resources, and a member of the conference planning team; Colleen Mackey, secretary at Holy Family Parish and a conference planning team member; and Ron McNamara, coordinator of student leadership development at Franciscan University of Steubenville, who served as master of ceremonies at the conference. Pictured in the back row, from left, are Patrick Lee, a professor of bioethics and the director of the Center for Bioethics at Franciscan University of Steubenville, and a speaker at the conference; Richard Nielson, a member of the planning team; Father Tad Pacholczyk of the National Catholic Bioethics Center, Philadelphia, keynote speaker; Ginna Dombrowski, coordinator of the diocesan Project Rachel ministry and a planning team member; Gerard McKeegan, a retired pharmacist, speaker and on the planning team; Joseph A. Schmidt, director, diocesan Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life; and Sister Mary Brigid Callan, director, diocesan Office of Stewardship and Development. (Photo by DiCenzo)

Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine, presented, “Human Trafficking: An Investigator’s Perspective.” “Is it Possible to be a Catholic and a Scientist?” was presented by Sister Mary Brigid Callan, director, diocesan Office of Stewardship and Development. “How to be Pro-Life in the Medical Field” was presented by Gerard McKeegan, a retired pharmacist. Rita Marker, executive director of the patients’ rights council, presented, “Health Care Decisions: How to Protect Yourself and Your Loved Ones” and another workshop, titled, “Doctor-Prescribed Suicide is Being Promoted in Ohio: What Can You Do About It?” Ginna Dombrowski, coordinator of the Project Rachel ministry in the Steubenville Diocese, and Lynette Hawrot, a licensed professional clinical counselor, presented a workshop “Healing From Abortion.”

Schmidt said, “Several people approached me during the course of the day to tell me how impressed they were by our various speakers – especially our keynote speaker, Father Tad (Pacholczyk).”

In addition to the workshops, Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton celebrated a Respect Life Mass. Father James M. Dunfee, diocesan vicar general and pastor of St.

Agnes Parish, Mingo Junction; Msgr. Gerald E. Calovini, pastor of Holy Family Parish; and Father Pacholczyk, concelebrated the Mass. Permanent Deacon Stephen F. Miletic assisted during the Mass.

Bishop Monforton said during his homily that “all life is unique” and “deserves respect and love.” The bishop instructed attendees during his homily to “discourage the culture of death and replace it with the culture of life.”

When reflecting on the conference, Schmidt stated: “We were fortunate to receive grant funds from Catholic Home Missions, as well as contributions from 19 local and national sponsors. Recognized in the conference program, our sponsors were a combination of individuals, businesses, ministries and Knights of Columbus councils.” He added: “I’m hoping to enhance participation in the conference in the years ahead. There is a lot of room for growth. We need to do more to inform people about respect life issues and call them to greater participation in building a culture of life. When people become more aware of the great beauty of the church’s teachings, they grow on fire with zeal for their faith. Their lives become deeply enriched and they seek to share Christ’s message with the world!”

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St. John Paul II The Birth of the Church

By Diocese of Steubenville
Bishop Emeritus Gilbert I. Sheldon

In the previous series on the Holy Spirit, we saw the role of the third person throughout history, but especially at Pentecost, when the church founded by Christ was launched for all time, for all people. We sometimes refer to that event as the “First Pentecost,” i.e., “first” with specific reference to the church. Pentecost, itself, was an Israelite celebration of the spring grain harvest since the time of Moses (see, Exodus, Chapter 23, Verse 16). It was later called “Pentecost,” in Greek, as it occurred 50 days after the feast of Passover. It is rightly called the “birthday of the church,” since it was on that day that the church actually came into being. During the 40 days between Our Lord’s ascension and Pentecost, the apostles kept to themselves, as Jesus directed them: “While meeting with them, he enjoined them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father” (Acts 1:4). That promise, of course, was that of the Holy Spirit, who “will guide you to all truth” (Jn 16:13). “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8). This was not the first time the Holy Spirit entered the world of mankind. He was there enlightening and guiding the chosen people through their leaders and prophets. He was arguably active among the pagan Greeks, enlightening their minds and pointing them in a direction that would later be highly useful to the infant church when it came to articulate its doctrine and beliefs. The Spirit could be said to be that “unknown God” that Paul introduced to the Athenians (see, Acts of the Apostles, Chapter 17, Verse 23). We noted, too, the relationship between the account of Pentecost and that of the Tower of Babel (see, Genesis, Chapter 11). In the Babel account, the language of the people became diverse, so that they failed to understand each other. At Pentecost, they still spoke different languages, but all understood Peter and the other apostles in their “own tongues” (see, Acts of the Apostles, Chapter 2, Verses 5-13).

“The pope comments: ‘The entire Acts of the Apostles is a grand description of the Holy Spirit’s work at the beginning of the church. ...’”

We read in the fourth Gospel how Jesus announced to the crowds: “Let everyone who thirsts come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture says, ‘Rivers of living water will flow from within him.’ He said this in reference to the Spirit that those who believe in him would receive. There was, of course, no Spirit yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified” (Jn 7:37-39). We saw in the series on Jesus that his “glorification” took place when he ascended into heaven, thus completing his work as redeemer. It was on Pentecost, then, that the promise of the Spirit was first received. After the apostles received the Spirit, they conveyed it on the people by instilling faith in them through their preaching about Jesus and his resurrection.

Referring to the Second Vatican Council (“Constitution On the Church”), St. John Paul explains that what constitutes the action of the Holy Spirit in the church, beginning on the day of Pentecost, is “an interior, saving work which is expressed externally in the birth of a community as an institution for salvation.” The most obvious manifestation of the Spirit in that community was its mutual charity. It was said of the first Christians, “See how they love one another!” It was and is a community that welcomes all, regardless of nationality, social status, etc. The pope comments: “The entire Acts of the Apostles is a grand description of the Holy Spirit’s work at the beginning of the church. ...”

One might well ask: OK, so faith in Jesus and baptism are one’s entry ticket into the Christian community, to which all are welcome. So, what is the community all about? What does it do? What is its life? Simply put, its life is nothing less than the life of the blessed Trinity itself! The Trinity is at the heart of Christian faith and at the heart of the church’s life. Consider the fact that Christ’s definitive commission to the apostles was to go out and preach the Gospel to the world, and, having done so, to baptize “in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (see, Matthew, Chapter 28, Verses 18-19). Our very entry into the church is in the name of the Trinity! St. Paul greeted his converts in Corinth with the words, “The grace of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, and the love of the God (the Father)



Bishop Sheldon

and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all of you” (2 Cor 13:13).

“Holiness” is an absolute attribute of God in himself, and the source of any holiness that can be attributed to creatures. For mankind, it is a relative quality, depending upon how we stand in relation to God. Since God is triune (three persons sharing the same nature) the Trinity can be said to be the source of holiness in creatures, including this community of human beings that we are calling the “church.” That holiness is shared by the human nature of Jesus Christ, who has the fullness of holiness in his own person because of his two-fold nature as God and man. Christ then communicates it to the church, in which we, as individuals, participate. All holiness, like all grace, comes to individual human beings through the mediatorship of the church, whether or not they are conscious of that fact. This sheds light on the words of the angel Gabriel at his announcement to Mary: “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God” (Lk 1:35).

Scripture says of God: “God is love” (1 Jn 4:8). Since God is one, there is no distinction between his holiness and his love. They are identical. Love, then, or charity, is of the essence of holiness. St. Paul tells us also: “The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us” (Rom 5:5). “Love,” “Holiness,” as well as whatever else that comes from God comes to us by way of a gift. The Latin word for gift is “gratia”: “Grace”!

Tintoretto and the Reform of the Church

By Bishop Robert Barron

I am in Washington, D.C., this week (Sept. 13) for meetings of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Since formal proceedings didn’t begin until the evening, I found myself yesterday morning with a little free time. So I made my way to one of my favorite places in the city, the National Gallery of Art, which I frequented when I was a student at the Catholic University (of America) many years ago.

At the close of a long session of walking and musing, I was drawn by an empty and comfortable looking couch



Bishop Barron

situated at the end of one of the galleries. Plopping down to rest, I looked up at the picture right in front of me. At first glance, given the color scheme and the peculiar modeling of the figures, I thought it was an El Greco, but closer examination revealed that it, in fact, was Tintoretto’s depiction of Christ at the Sea of Galilee. The drama at the center of the composition is the apostles’ boat, buffeted by choppy waves, and St. Peter taking a gingerly, tentative step onto the bounding main at the invitation of the Lord, who beckons to him. My seated posture conduced toward contemplation, and I spent a good deal of time with this painting, first admiring the obvious technical skill of the painter, especially in the rendering of the water, but eventually moving to a deeper perception of its spiritual theme, of particular resonance today.

Whenever the Gospels present the disciples of Jesus in a boat, they are, of course, symbolically representing the church. So, Tintoretto is showing the church in its practically permanent condition across the ages: at sea, rocked by waves, in danger of going under. Indeed, with a handful of remarkable exceptions, every age has been, in some way, a perilous one for the mystical body of Christ. The boat is filled with the specially chosen apostles of the Lord, those who spent years with the master, learning his mind, watch-

ing his moves, witnessing his miracles with their own eyes, taking in his spirit. One would think that even if everyone
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Clinging

The 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B

By Father Paul J. Walker

What a great story this is in Mark's Gospel (Oct. 14) (see, Mark, Chapter 10, Verses 17-30)! Like every Gospel story it is not about what happened some 2,000 years ago, but it is a story about us, now, present day. Also, like every Gospel story, it is a mixed bag of blessings and unwanted surprises, feast and famine, comfort and challenge!

Let's examine the story: Mark notes that Jesus was "setting out on a journey ..." this is the context or framework of Mark's Gospel – Jesus is always "on the way." It is, of course, the way to the cross and it is this journey that contextualizes all the encounters Jesus has with all kinds of people – Pharisees, Sadducees, scribes, his own disciples, men and women and children, all kinds of folks. Matthew and Luke paint this journey, as well, but not in so striking a way as does Mark.

He says that a man "ran up, knelt down ... and asked, what must I do to inherit eternal life." We need to be attentive to these verbs. He ran up, indicating there was perhaps an anxious air about his question. He's waited a long time to find the wandering rabbi and has been carrying with him his desire to "inherit eternal life." The way he phrases the question is telling: "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Apparently he thinks the way to qualify for this inheritance is to keep all the rules, to do all that's required. Jesus notes six of the commandments (the ones having to do with this man's relationship to others). So, the man says, yes, he indeed has observed these, even from his youth. We need to recall that the man's question was one of the most problematic in Jewish law, for keeping the law involved not only the decalogue, but the 613 precepts that now, through rabbinic teaching and tradition, accompanied it!

Here, Mark slips in a comment that some would find perplexing: "Jesus, looking at him with love. ..." Jesus'

heart goes out to this man. Many times Jesus was angry at those who claimed they had met all the demands of the Law. Maybe what Jesus saw here was not pride or hypocrisy, but a kind of anxiety, a perfectionism leading him to worry that perhaps there were other rules he hadn't known about. What other requirements are there? What must I do to inherit everlasting life? Jesus' response to the man's question is a perfectionist's nightmare. Here is some new, even stricter requirement worse than all the old rules!

"Go, sell what you have, and give to the poor ... come follow me."

Here is a common dynamic in encounters with Jesus: go, sell, give, follow. The man can't meet what he sees as demands, so "... he went away sad, for he had many possessions." What he should have heard, he did not. Jesus is offering a completely new way of living. The man is unable to follow him, the invitation receives no RSVP – the man's hands are grasping his possessions, so he is unable to catch the new life Jesus offers.

Giving to the poor is not another good deed he must do to qualify for eternal life. Rather, it is, as one spiritual writer notes, "... the flip side of living in grace." Our hearts opening to God must first be open to those in need. The man's relationship to God seems based on knowledge of facts or ideas about God; one based on laws, rules, commands and demands. Jesus extends the invitation to let go of all that and follow him into the mystery and joy of knowing God. One of the possessions to which the man is clinging is his religion, his knowledge of the Torah, teachings about God, rules and commands to obey (all 613 of them).

As the dialogue between the two of them abruptly ends, Jesus suggests it's not just senseless stripping away or letting go for nothing. There is always an intimation that



Father Walker

it will all come back to you in a new and fuller way: "No one who has given up ... for my sake, who will not receive a hundred times more now in this present age. ..."

Thus remains the nagging question for you and me: What part of my baggage will I not strip away? To what do I cling? The answers here don't mean just money or possessions, they also mean those attitudes (anger, suspicion, envy) I "possess" in relationship with others. I cling to my notion regarding who God is and how he acts in the world, I cling to judgmental pictures I paint of others, I cling to relationships I have with others, I cling to the image of a bygone church. I cling. I cling. I cling. Jesus once offered a poignant insight into the attraction of wealth and riches: "Where your treasure is, there is your heart as well" (Mt 6:21; Lk 12:34).

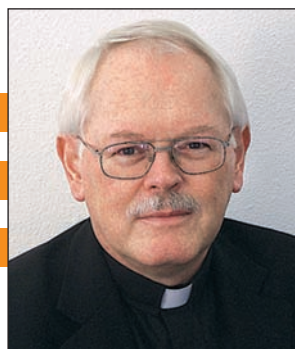
Father Walker is a Diocese of Steubenville priest and a former director of the diocesan Office of Worship. Retired from active parish ministry, he continues to reside in his hometown, McConnellsville, where he often celebrates Mass at St. James Church. He regularly writes a column for The Steubenville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

An Ode to the Church

By Father Ron Rolheiser

Carlo Carretto was an Italian monk who died in 1988. For many years, he lived as a hermit in the Sahara desert, translated the Scriptures into the Tuareg language, and from the solitude of the desert wrote some extraordinary spiritual books. His writings and his faith were special in that they had a rare capacity to combine an almost childlike piety with (when needed) a blistering iconoclasm. He loved the church deeply, but he wasn't blind to its faults and failures, and he wasn't afraid to point out those shortcomings.

Late in life, when his health forced him to leave the desert, he retired to a religious community in his native Italy. While there, late in life, he read a book by an atheist who took Jesus to task for a phrase in the Sermon on the Mount, where he says: "Seek and you shall find," meaning, of course, that if you seek God with an honest heart you will find God. The atheist had entitled his book, "I Sought and I Didn't Find," arguing from his own experience that an honest heart can seek God and come up empty.



Father Rolheiser

Carretto wrote a book in reply called: "I Sought and I Found." For him, Jesus' counsel rang true. In his own search, despite encountering many things that could indicate the absence of God, he found God. But, he admits the difficulties, and one of those difficulties is, at times, the church. The church can, and sometimes does, through its sin, make it difficult for some to believe in God. Carretto admits this with a disarming honesty, but argues that it's not the whole picture.

Hence, his book combines his deep love for his faith and his church with his refusal to not turn a blind eye to the very real faults of Christians and the churches. At one point in the book he gives voice to something which might be described as an "Ode to the Church." It reads this way:

"How much I must criticize you, my church and yet how much I love you!

"How you have made me suffer much and yet owe much to you.

"I should like to see you destroyed and yet I need your presence.

"You have given me much scandal and yet you alone have made me understand holiness.

"Never in this world have I seen anything more obscurantist, more compromised, more false, and yet never in this world have I touched anything more pure, more generous, and more beautiful.

"Many times I have felt like slamming the door of my soul in your face – and yet how often I have prayed that I might die in your sure arms!

"No, I cannot be free of you, for I am one with you, even though not completely you.

Then, too – where would I go? To build another church?

"But, I cannot build another without the same defects,

for they are my own defeats I bear within me.

"And again, if I build one, it will be my church, and no longer Christ's.

"No, I am old enough to know that I am no better than others.

"I shall not leave this church, founded on so frail a rock, because I should be founding another one on an even frailer rock: myself.

"And then, what do rocks matter?

"What matters is Christ's promise, what matters is the cement that binds the rocks into one: the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit alone can build the church with stones as ill-hewn as we."

This is an expression of a mature faith; one which isn't so romantic and idealistic that it needs to be shielded from the darker side of things, and one which is real enough so as not to be so cynical that it blinds itself to the evident goodness that also emanates from the church.

In truth, the church is both horribly compromised and wonderfully grace filled. Honest eyes can see both. A mature heart can accept both. Children and novices need to be shielded from the dark underbelly of things; scandalized adults need to have their eyes opened to the evident goodness that's also there.

Many people have left the church because it has scandalized them through its habitual sins, blind spots, defensiveness, self-serving nature and arrogance. The recent revelations (again) of sexual abuse by priests and the cover-up by church authorities have left many people wondering whether they can ever again trust the church's structure, ministers and authorities. For many, this scandal seems too huge to digest.

Tintoretto

From Page 6
else failed to follow the Lord, these men would hold steady. And, yet, we see them cowering, timorous, obviously at a loss as the storm rages around them. And, the Gospels, in a manner that sets them apart from most other literature dealing with religious founders and their disciples, do consistently portray Jesus' inner circle as deeply flawed. Peter denied the Lord at the moment of truth; James and John succumbed to petty ambition; Thomas refused to believe the report of the resurrection; Judas betrayed his master; all of them, with the exception of John, abandoned him on the cross, protecting their own hides. And, yet, Tintoretto shows Peter tentatively placing his foot upon the sea, commencing to walk toward Jesus. The

great spiritual lesson – shopworn perhaps to the point of being a cliché, but still worth repeating – is that as long as the church keeps its eyes fixed on Christ, it can survive even the worst of storms. It can walk on the water.

The Catholic Church is once more enduring a moment of extreme trial in regard to sexual abuse. This time, the focus of attention is on the failure of some bishops to protect the vulnerable, and in at least one terrible case, the active abuse perpetrated by a cardinal archbishop. The whole world is rightly outraged by these sins, and the church appropriately feels ashamed. Many wonder, understandably, how those specially devoted to Christ could fall into such depravity. But, then we recall that every bishop today is a successor of

the apostles – which is to say of that band that both sat in easy familiarity with Jesus and denied, betrayed and ran from their master. In stormy times, the first apostles cowered, and their successors, we have to admit, often do the same.

But, there are grounds for hope. They are found, however, not in institutional reform (as important as that is), not in psychological analysis (as indispensable as that might be), not in new programs and protocols (as helpful as they might prove), but, rather in a return to Jesus Christ. Eyes fixed on him, hearts attuned to him, minds beguiled by him, action determined by him, the leaders of the church can, even now, walk on the water.

Tintoretto sheds considerable light on this issue of apostolic weakness and strength in the very manner in which he

has arranged the figures in his composition. The painting is foreshortened in such a way that the disciples appear very small, almost doll-like, whereas Jesus, looming in the extreme foreground, looks gigantic. As John the Baptist put the principle: “He must increase and I must decrease.” When our anxieties and egos are placed in the foreground, Christ necessarily recedes. Crucial to the reformation of the church is the reversal of that perspective.

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

Archbishop Lori: Investigative team is working in West Virginia diocese

WHEELING, W.Va. (CNA) — Archbishop William Lori of Baltimore has begun an investigation into the alleged misconduct of Bishop Michael Bransfield, who until recently led the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston.

Archbishop Lori was appointed apostolic administrator of West Virginia's only diocese Sept. 13, and was charged by Pope Francis with undertaking an investigation into allegations of “sexual harassment of adults” against Bishop Bransfield.

Bishop Bransfield's resignation as diocesan bishop was accepted by the pope on the same day as Archbishop Lori's appointment.

Archbishop Lori formed a five-member investigative team “comprised of three men and two women, including one non-Catholic, who bring a breadth of investigative expertise and experience to their work.”

Archbishop Lori said that the team was

already reviewing “more than three dozen calls to the hotline I established on the day of my appointment as administrator.”

“I have asked for a thorough, independent, and expeditious investigation,” he added.

While Archbishop Lori was instructed to investigate charges that Bishop Bransfield had sexually harassed adults, Bishop Bransfield has faced other allegations in the past.

During the 2012 Philadelphia trial of two priests, one charged with sexual abuse and the other with enabling him, witnesses and a prosecutor alleged that Bishop Bransfield “may have known about sexual misconduct by (another priest) or abused minors himself,” the Philadelphia Inquirer reported.

Bishop Bransfield denied those allegations.

Archbishop Lori also announced that Msgr. Fred Annie, formerly vicar general

and moderator of the curia in the diocese, would “step away from his duties in the chancery during the entirety of the investigation into the allegations concerning Bishop Bransfield.”

Archbishop Lori appointed Bryan Minor, until now Wheeling-Charleston's human resources director, to serve as his “Delegate for Administrative Affairs.”

Minor, Archbishop Lori said, “will assist me in overseeing the daily operations of the diocese and will serve as the diocesan

point person for the administrative issues that heretofore were the responsibility of the vicar general.”

Minor has worked for the Catholic Church in West Virginia since 1996, serving in a variety of executive and development positions.

Archbishop Lori expressed his intention to serve as an active leader in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, despite his obligations to his own Archdiocese of Baltimore.

Annual rosary crusade is planned



An annual rosary crusade, part of the nationwide Public Square Rosary Crusade, will be held at noon, Oct. 13, on the Belmont County Courthouse Plaza, St. Clairsville. St. Mary Parish, St. Clairsville, daily Mass attendees, who typically stay after Mass to pray the rosary, gather on a recent morning to promote the crusade. Pictured in the front row are, from left, Janice Frye, Eileen Fasola, Nancy Blacker, Louise Petrozzi, Diana Mazgaj, Mary D'Ambrosia and Charlotte Slavik. Pictured in the back row, from left, are Ron Marshall, Maggie Anderle, JeanAnne O'Malley, John Budinscak, John Jeskey and Gilbert D'Ambrosia. The crusade is prayed for peace in the world and part of the America Needs Fatima campaign. For additional information about the crusade, telephone Mary D'Ambrosia at (740) 695-2746. (Photo by DiCenzo)

Mass of anointing held in Cambridge



Christ Our Light Parish, Cambridge, celebrated an annual Mass of anointing Sept. 22, at St. Benedict Church, Cambridge. More than 150 signed up for the occasion. Father Paul E. Hrezo, pastor of Christ Our Light Parish, pictured left, anoints Bonnie Jones during the Mass. Following Mass, lunch was served. (Photo provided)

An Ode

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Carretto's ode, I believe, can help us all, whether scandalized or pious. To the pious, it can show how one can accept the church despite its sin, and how denial of that sin is not what's called for by love and loyalty. To the scandalized, it can be a challenge to not miss the forest for the trees, to not miss seeing that, in the church, frailty and sin, while real, tragic and scandalous, never

eclipse the superabundant, life-giving grace of God.

Father Rolheiser, a Missionary Oblate of Mary Immaculate priest, is president of the Oblate School of Theology, San Antonio, an author, a retreat master and a newspaper columnist. More information about his ministry is available on his website: www.ronrolheiser.com.

Pope: Pray to protect church from devil, step up fight against abuse

By Cindy Wooden

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Signaling his belief that the Catholic Church is facing a serious crisis, Pope Francis asked every Catholic in the world to pray for the protection of the church from attacks by the devil, but also that the church would be more aware of its sins and stronger in its efforts to combat abuse.

Pope Francis asked Catholics to pray the rosary each day in October, seeking Mary's intercession in protecting the church, and "at the same time making her (the church) more aware of her sins, errors and the abuses committed in the present and the past, and committed to fighting without hesitation so that evil would not prevail," the Vatican said in a statement released Sept. 29, the feast of the Archangels.

United "in communion and penitence as the people of God," the statement said, Catholics should plead for protection against "the devil, who always seeks to divide us from God and from one another."

Pope Francis met earlier in September with Jesuit Father Federic Fornos, international director of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network, formerly known as the Apostleship of Prayer, to ask that the recitation of the rosary in October conclude with "the ancient invocation 'sub tuum praesidium' ('under your protection') and with the prayer to St. Michael the Archangel, who protects us



Pope Francis speaks during his general audience, in St. Peter's Square, at the Vatican. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)

in the battle against evil."

The first prayer, to Mary, has a variety of translations. One reads: "We turn to you for protection, Holy Mother of God. Listen to our prayers and help us in our needs. Save us from every danger, glorious and blessed Virgin."

The prayer to St. Michael reads: "St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of heavenly

hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls."

The Vatican, announcing Pope Francis' prayer request, cited his homily Sept. 11 at morning Mass where he spoke about the devil as the "Great Accuser" who "roams the world looking how to blame" and spread scandal.

Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, the former nuncio of the United States, who has called on Pope Francis to resign, claiming the pope knew about and ignored the sexual misconduct of former Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick, issued another statement Sept. 27 accusing the pope of "subtle slander" with that homily.

As of Sept. 29, neither Pope Francis nor the Vatican had responded to Archbishop Vigano's original allegations.

In addition to the case of Archbishop McCarrick, the Catholic Church in the United States is still coming to grips with the mid-August release of the Pennsylvania grand jury report covering decades of alleged abuse by more than 300 priests; the report identified more than 1,000 victims.

A widespread abuse scandal and broad police investigation is ongoing in Chile; Cardinal George Pell, Vatican secretary for the economy, is on trial for abuse in Australia; and the bishops of Germany in late September released a report on thousands of cases of abuse in their country, some going back to 1946, but some as recent as 2000.

Former Washington Cardinal McCarrick is now living in a Kansas friary

By Rhina Guidos

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Archdiocese of Washington announced Sept. 28 that former Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick, who was removed from ministry earlier this year after abuse allegations came to light, is now living in Kansas in a friary for Capuchin Franciscan friars.

Archbishop McCarrick resides at St. Fidelis Friary in the city of Victoria, the archdiocese said in a statement, adding that "respect for the privacy of this arrangement is requested" out of consideration for the peace of the community of the friars who live there.

Victoria is in a rural area of Kansas and has a population of about 1,200. The website for the friary, which is in the Diocese of Salina, lists its residents as five priests and one religious brother.

Salina Bishop Gerald L. Vincke issued a statement Sept. 28 saying Washington Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl called him on Sept. 13, to ask for his permission to allow Archbishop McCarrick to live there after the provincial, or superior, of the Capuchin religious community in Denver consented to the arrangement.

"Please know that I agreed to this arrangement with the understanding that Archbishop McCarrick is excluded from any public appearances and ministry," as church officials investigate the accusations and they're examined in a canonical trial, Bishop Vincke said in the statement. "Our diocese is not incurring any cost in this arrangement."

Bishop Vincke said that he realizes the decision "will be offensive and hurtful to many people," especially since Archbishop McCarrick "is, in many ways, at the forefront

of the recent firestorm in the church."

While allowing Archbishop McCarrick to live in the diocese, Bishop Vincke said he had to reconcile his feelings of "disappointment, anger and even resentment" toward him.

"Many of us are confused and angry by what Archbishop McCarrick is alleged to have done several decades ago," he said, while also apologizing to all victims of abuse.

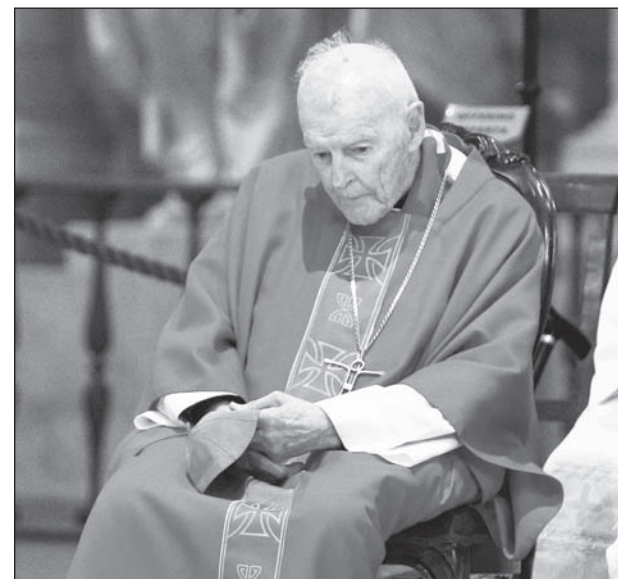
On July 28, Pope Francis accepted then-Cardinal McCarrick's resignation from the College of Cardinals and ordered him to "a life of prayer and penance until the accusations made against him are examined in a regular canonical trial."

In June, the pope had removed him from public ministry after allegations the then-cardinal had abused a minor 47 years ago in New York was deemed credible. A second accusation that he had abused a minor followed, along with other revelations from seminarians who alleged various abuses by the prelate in a New Jersey beach house. Archbishop McCarrick denies the accusations.

In July, The New York Times wrote about past financial settlements with two men who had accused the cardinal of abusing them.

Since then, the 88-year-old archbishop had been in seclusion in Washington. The statement from the diocese did not disclose when the move to Kansas took place.

Leadership from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops met with Pope Francis Sept. 13 about carrying out an investigation of the archbishop and the allegations that surround him, but have not publicly disclosed what it will entail.



Then-Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick attends a Mass in Rome April 11, 2018. The Archdiocese of Washington announced Sept. 28 that Archbishop McCarrick, who was removed from ministry earlier this year after abuse allegations came to light, is now living in Kansas in a friary for Capuchin Franciscan friars. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)

In a statement Sept. 19, the USCCB Administrative Committee said it supported "a full investigation into the situation surrounding Archbishop McCarrick, including his alleged assaults on minors, priests and seminarians, as well any responses made to those allegations."

Vocation awareness week encourages youth to encounter Christ's call

WASHINGTON — The Catholic Church in the United States will celebrate National Vocation Awareness Week, Nov. 4-10.

Pope Francis, in his message for the 2018 World Day of Vocations, said: "Even amid these troubled times, the mystery of the incarnation reminds us that God continually comes to encounter us. He is God-with-us, who walks along the often dusty paths of our lives. He knows our anxious longing for love and he calls us to joy. In the diversity and the uniqueness of each and every vocation, personal and ecclesial, there is a need to listen, discern and live this word that calls to us from on high and, while enabling us to develop our talents, makes us instruments of salvation in the world and guides us to full happiness."

National Vocation Awareness Week, sponsored by the

U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' 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 week in November, special activities that focus on vocation awareness and provide opportunities for prayerful discernment.

Results of studies conducted by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA), notes that 72 percent of those ordained to the priesthood or solemnly professed within the last year cited participation in eucharistic adoration as a prayer experience that proved influential in their discernment. Cardinal Joseph Tobin, chairman of the USCCB's Committee on Clergy, Con-

secrated Life and Vocations echoes this finding, stating: "Quiet reflection and prayer are essential elements for vocational discernment. It is in the interior depths of our heart where we hear the voice of Christ, where he speaks to us, and where he reveals his will for our lives."

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.

Information and resources are available online on the U.S. bishops website, www.usccb.org.

Adena — St. Casimir Parish CWC will sell “Enjoy” coupon books. Cost is \$40. For additional information, telephone (740) 546-3463.

Adena/Dillonvale — Pets will be blessed, to celebrate the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, at 2:30 p.m., Oct. 7, at St. Casimir Church festival field, Adena, and at 3:30 p.m., Oct. 7, at St. Adalbert Church parking lot, Dillonvale, by Msgr. John C. Kolesar, pastor of St. Casimir and St. Adalbert parishes. Pets must be on a leash or in a pet carrier. Participants can bring a can or bag of pet food, which will be donated to Hounds Haven animal shelter, Smithfield.

Athens — Anyone interested in learning more about the Catholic faith can email Nancy Sand at nsand@athenscatholic.org. Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults sessions are held from 7-9 p.m., Mondays, in the Holy Family Center at Christ the King University Parish.

Father Mark A. Moore, pastor of Christ the King University Parish and St. Paul Parish, Athens, and Sacred Heart Parish, Pomeroy, will bless pets at 12:45 p.m., Oct. 7, at Christ the King University Parish; bring pets on a leash.

Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton will celebrate a White Mass, to honor workers in the health care profession, at 10 a.m., Oct. 14, at Christ the King University Parish.

Throughout the month of October, the rosary will be prayed 20 minutes before the celebration of Mass at Christ the King University Parish and following the celebration of Mass at St. Paul Church, Sundays.

Barnesville — The Diocesan Council of Catholic Women fall biannual meeting will be held at 10 a.m., Oct. 10, at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, 306 W. Main St. Lunch costs \$6. For additional information or to make reservations, telephone DeDe Kidder at (740) 544-5925 or (740) 632-3018. Kidder can also be reached by email at dede.kidder@gmail.com.

Bellaire/Shadyside — Beginning the weekend of Oct. 13-14, Mass will be celebrated at 4 p.m., Saturdays, at St. Mary Church, Shadyside, and at 5:30 p.m., Saturdays, at St. John Church, Bellaire. Mass will be celebrated at 9:30 a.m., Sundays, at St. John Church, and at 11 a.m., Sundays, at St. Mary Church. Daily Mass at St. John Church will be celebrated at 6 p.m., Mondays, and at 8 a.m., Wednesdays and Fridays. Daily Mass at St. Mary Church will be celebrated at 8 a.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Caldwell — An annual rosary crusade will be held at noon, Oct. 13, at the Noble County Courthouse, 260 Courthouse.

Cambridge/Lore City — Throughout the month of October, the rosary will be prayed before the celebration of weekend Masses at St. Benedict Church, Cambridge, and Sts. Peter and Paul Oratory, Lore City.

Carrollton/Morges — The rosary will be prayed a half-hour before the celebration of Masses, throughout October, at Our Lady of Mercy Church, Carrollton, and St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Church, Morges.

Colerain — A blessing of pets by Father Timothy P. McGuire, pastor of St. Frances Cabrini Parish, will be held at 11 a.m., Oct. 6, at the church, to celebrate the feast of St. Francis of Assisi.

Glouster — Holy Cross Parish CWC will hold a bake sale following the 6:30 p.m. celebration of Mass, Oct. 6, and the 11 a.m. celebration of Mass, Oct. 7.

Ironton — The Ironton Catholic community CWC will sponsor a rummage sale from 9 a.m.-noon, Oct. 6 and Oct. 8, at St. Joseph Church hall. For additional information, telephone (740) 532-0712.

Lowell — A blessing of pets will be held at 11 a.m., Oct. 6, at Our Lady of Mercy Church, to commemorate the feast of St. Francis, in the parking lot. Father Timothy J. Shannon, pastor of Our Lady of Mercy Parish and St. Henry Parish, Harriettsville, will bless pets. Pets must be under control and leashed or in a pet carrier. In the case of inclement weather, the blessings will be held in the hall.

St. Agnes Parish CWC pumpkin roll sale



St. Agnes Parish, Mingo Junction, Catholic Women's Club are selling pumpkin rolls; cost is \$9 each. Announcing the sale are, seated from left, Barbara Crugnale, Pat Cramblett, president; Theresa Madden and Jackie Parks. Standing, from left, are Bernadette Carpico, Rose Anne Sacco, Lorraine Golec, Jeannette Panebianco, Kathy Flipp and Patty Kosikowski. To place an order or for additional information, telephone St. Agnes Church hall, Mondays through Thursdays, 9 a.m. to noon, or 5-7 p.m., at (740) 535-0098; Crugnale at (740) 535-0174 or Cramblett at (740) 535-0780. The last day to place an order is Oct. 29. Orders can be picked up at the church hall, 204 St. Clair Ave. (Photo provided)

Lowell/Harriettsville — Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Lowell, and St. Henry Parish, Harriettsville, will hold a parish mission Oct. 21-23, with the Franciscan Sisters Third Order Regular of Penance of the Sorrowful Mother. On Oct. 21, a potluck dinner will be held at 5:30 p.m., in Our Lady of Mercy social hall, followed by a 7 p.m. talk and prayer in the church. On Oct. 22 and Oct. 23, at 6:30 p.m., Mass will be celebrated, followed by a talk and adoration at Our Lady of Mercy Church. Admission is free. For additional information, telephone (740) 896-2207.

Martins Ferry — St. Mary Central School will sponsor a fifth annual “Tiger Trot Walk -A-Thon,” Oct. 14, at Mazerowski Park, Rayland. Mass will be celebrated at 11:30 a.m. The event will also include food and music. Chicken dinners will be sold the day of the event; cost is \$10 for a roasted half a chicken, scalloped potatoes and green beans. Dinners will be

served at the park at 12:45 p.m.; carry out dinners are available at 11 a.m. For additional information, telephone (740) 633-5424.

Steubenville — Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton will celebrate a Red Mass, to honor those who work in the legal profession, at 10 a.m., Oct. 21, at Holy Rosary Church.

Steubenville — An annual rosary crusade will be held at noon, Oct. 13, in front of the Jefferson County Courthouse, Market St.

Steubenville — St. Peter Parish CWC will sponsor a bake sale after the celebration of the 4 p.m. Mass, Oct. 6, and following the celebration of the 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and noon Masses, Oct. 7, in the church vestibule. Proceeds benefit the Diocese of Steubenville seminarian fund.

Steubenville — The fourth annual “Crusader 5K Run/Walk and Fall Fest with Little Saints Sprint”

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Around and About

Huntington, W.Va. — An annual rosary rally, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, will be held at 3:30 p.m., Oct. 7, at St. Joseph Church, 1304 Sixth Ave. A reception will follow the rally, and will be held at the Knights of Columbus hall, 1429 Sixth Ave.

Martins Ferry — Knights of Columbus Mother of God Council 1421 will sponsor a fish fry from 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Oct. 5, at the council home, 25 N. Fourth St. Eat in or takeout is available. To order, telephone (740) 633-0528.

Martins Ferry — A cabbage roll dinner will be held at Grace Presbyterian Church, located at Fourth and Hanover streets, from noon-5 p.m., Oct. 14, at the fellowship hall. A dinner includes cabbage roll, mashed potatoes, corn, roll, dessert and beverage. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under the age of 12.

Steubenville — Knights of Columbus St. John Neumann Council 11828 will sponsor a pancake breakfast from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Oct. 7, at St. Peter Church, in the church basement. The meal costs \$7 for adults and \$5 for children; \$35 per family. Proceeds from the breakfast support Diocese of Steubenville seminarians.

Steubenville — Franciscan University of Steubenville will hold a blessing of animals at 2:45 p.m., Oct. 6, outside the Portiuncula Chapel. Third Order Regular Franciscan Father Shawn Roberson, chaplain at Franciscan University, will bless animals on leashes or in carriers. The blessing commemorates the feast of St. Francis of Assisi.

An “October Lecture Series” will be held in the Tony and Nina Gentile Gallery, J.C. Williams Center, on the campus of Franciscan University of

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Up and Down the Diocese

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will be held Oct. 13, at Catholic Central High School's athletic complex, 2103 St. Charles Drive, Steubenville. The 5K and fall fest begins at 9 a.m., with registration at 8 a.m. The "Little Saints Sprint" starts at 10:15 a.m. Cost of admission is \$5 to the fall fest, which includes registration for the "Little Saints Sprint," games, face painting and crafts. The 5K run/walk preregistration is \$20 for adults and \$10 for students. On-site registration is \$25 for adults and \$15 for students. Anyone registered by Oct. 5 for the 5K will receive a free T-shirt. Registration can be done online until Oct. 12, at runtheday.com (keyword: Crusader 5K), or a registration form can be picked up at Bishop John King Mussio Central Elementary or Junior High schools, 320 West View, Steubenville. Proceeds benefit Steubenville Catholic schools. For additional information, telephone (740) 346-0028 or visit facebook.com/crusader5K.

Tiltonsville — A rummage sale, sponsored by St. Joseph Parish St. Francis

Society, will be held from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Oct. 20, at St. Joseph Church hall. Items can be dropped off at the church Oct. 15 through Oct. 19. For additional information, telephone the parish office at (740) 859-4018.

Toronto — Mother of Hope Deanery Council of Catholic Women will sponsor a "Day With the Bishop" Oct. 9, at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 601 Loretta Ave. Recitation of the rosary will begin at 10:30 a.m. Mass will be celebrated by Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton at 11 a.m. Lunch and a visit with Bishop Monforton will follow the celebration of Mass.

Yorkville — St. Lucy Parish will hold a pasta dinner, from 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Oct. 7, at St. Lucy Church hall. A dinner costs \$10, which includes penne pasta with a meat/tomato sauce, salad, Italian bread and cake. Dine in or carry out is available. A 50/50 raffle will be held; tickets cost \$1 each or 6 for \$5. For additional information, telephone the parish office at (740) 859-4018.

Around and About

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Steubenville, Fridays. On Oct. 12, "From Sexual Revolution to the Theology of the Body: Rethinking 'Humanae Vitae' ('of human life') in 2018," will be presented by Deborah Savage, a professor of philosophy and theology, at St. Paul Seminary School of Divinity, St. Paul, Minnesota. On Oct. 19, "Current Issues in Biblical Archaeology," will be presented by Ron E. Tappy, a professor of the Bible and archaeology at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, Pittsburgh. On Oct. 26, "An Afternoon with Chesterton and Wiker," will be presented by Benjamin Wiker, a political science professor at Franciscan University, and John Walker as G.K. Chesterton, Franciscan University theater professor. The lectures begin at 3 p.m.; admission is free.

Torch — An annual "Sister's on the River 2" retreat for women, themed "The Apostles," will be held Oct. 20-21, at Sacred Heart Retreat House, 28246 Torch Road, Coolville.

Wheeling, W.Va. — A spaghetti dinner will be held from 11:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Oct. 14, at Our Lady of Lebanon Church, 2216 Eoff St. The meal includes Italian-style spaghetti with meatballs or marinara sauce, tossed salad, Italian bread, dessert and beverage. Dine in or takeout is available. Tickets cost \$7 for adults and \$4 for children under the age of 12, if purchased by Oct. 7; tickets cost \$8 for adults and \$5 for children under the age of 12, at the door. A bake sale, 50/50 raffle and a gift basket will be available. For additional information, telephone (304) 233-1688.

Bishop will celebrate Mass Nov. 2

STEUBENVILLE — An All Souls' Day Mass for the commemoration of all the faithful departed will be celebrated by Steubenville 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.

Bishop Monforton will celebrate Masses for marriage anniversaries

STEUBENVILLE — Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton will celebrate Masses to recognize significant marriage anniversaries in the Diocese of Steubenville.

Masses will be celebrated for couples celebrating their 10th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th, 55th, 60th and every anniversary after 60 years.

Masses are scheduled at 5:15 p.m., Nov. 17, at St. Lawrence O'Toole Church, Ironton; at noon, Nov. 18, at the Basilica

of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta; and at 5:30 p.m., at Holy Family Church, Steubenville. An informal reception will follow the Masses at all three locations in the diocese.

To register, couples can contact their parish pastor. Participants should register by Oct. 26.

For additional information, contact Joseph A. Schmidt, director, diocesan Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life, at (740) 373-3643 or jschmidt@diosteub.org.

Organizers prepare for Oktoberfest



St. John Fisher Parish, Richmond, will hold an annual Oktoberfest celebration from noon-4 p.m., Oct. 14, at the church, 7457 Ohio Route 152. The menu includes roasted turkey and pork loin, haluski, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, stuffing, applesauce, salad, bread and desserts. Coffee, tea, punch and water will also be available. Cost for the dinner is \$10 for adults; \$5 for children ages 3-11; children under the age of 3 eat for free. Takeout is available by telephoning (740) 765-4142. Live music, 50/50 raffle, basket raffle and country kitchen, with homemade crafts and treats, will be part of the event. Announcing the event with Father John J. "Jack" McCoy, pastor of St. John Fisher Parish and St. Joseph Parish, Amsterdam, pictured at left, are Dylan Bucci, seated; and Guy Bucci and Jillian Bucci. (Photo provided)

Mary's House benefit is planned

CHURCHTOWN — A benefit dinner for Mary's House, a home to serve pregnant women, 18 years of age and older, will be held Oct. 13, at the Knights of Columbus Council 4617 hall, 17784 Ohio Route 676.

Doors open at 5 p.m., and dinner will be served at 6 p.m. The benefit will include a baked steak or chicken dinner, raffles and auctions.

Tickets cost \$50 and include one chance into a raffle and dinner. There will also be a live auction, silent auction, chance auction and 50/50 raffles drawn during the event.

For additional information or to purchase tickets, telephone Teresa Coleman at (740) 350-1676; Janice Schaad at (740) 336-1523 or Lorri Murphy at (740) 624-1159.

Obituaries

Ora D. Babel, 72, Triumph of the Cross, Steubenville, Sept. 21.

Paul J. Compliment, 71, Coal Grove, St. Joseph, Ironton, Aug. 7.

Elizabeth "Betty" Kachur, 84, St. Lucy, Yorkville, Sept. 14.

Esther Kovach, 93, St. Peter, Steubenville, Sept. 26.

Helen Matuska, 89, Triumph of the Cross, Steubenville, Sept. 12.

Helen Smithoffer Milan, 86, Martins Ferry, St. Mary, Sept. 20.

Martin "Marty" Motto, 62, Toronto, St. Joseph, Sept. 19.

Mark A. Pratt, 60, Flatwoods, Ken-

tucky, St. Lawrence O'Toole, Ironton, Sept. 11.

Charles S. Rogers, 86, Toronto, St. Francis of Assisi, Sept. 19.

Jeanette M. Huck Schwendeman, 80, Our Lady of Mercy, Lowell, Sept. 9.

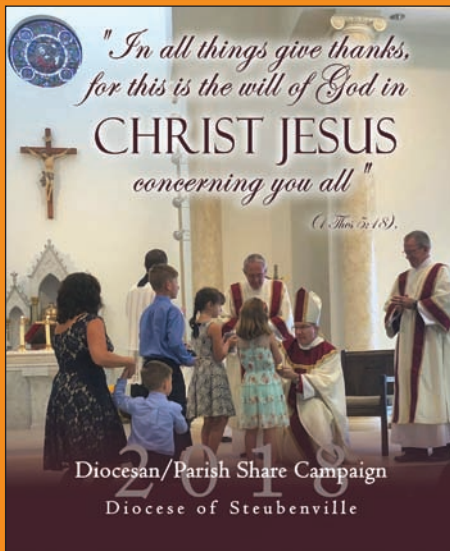
Joyce A. Langdon Skinner, 80, Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, Sept. 14.

Darlene Sloan, 76, Ironton, St. Joseph, July 21.

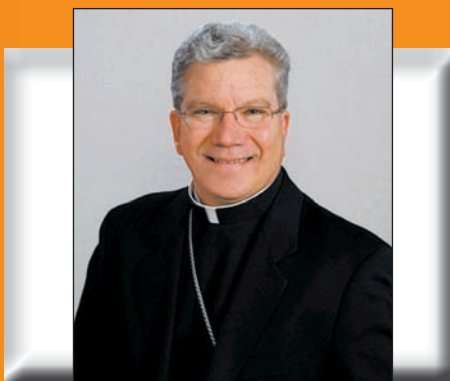
Mary E. "Sis" Smith, 97, Coal Grove, St. Joseph, Ironton, Sept. 13.

Susan Travis, 69, St. John, Bellaire, Sept. 5.

DPSC tops \$2 million for seventh consecutive year; pledges can still be made



**DPSC Goal:
\$1,340,000**



Bishop Monforton

Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton said to the people on their support of the Diocesan/Parish Share Campaign: "We are blessed with your generosity alongside your faith. True generosity does not come from 'following the rules,' nor does it come simply as the fulfillment of some obligation. True generosity comes from a heart full of thanks to God. Even more, thankfulness emanates from a profound relationship with Christ Jesus Our Lord."



Father James M. Dunfee, diocesan vicar general, said: "The support of the 'local church' – the diocese – is the call of every Catholic. The DPSC allows us to fulfill this important way of 'giving thanks' in Christ Jesus."

Martin B. Thompson, DPSC associate director, said that it is not too late to make a pledge or one-time gift to the DPSC; contact your parish pastor; pay with a personal check made payable to the Diocese of Steubenville DPSC, cash or a credit card or automatic fund transfer at diosteub.org/giveonline.

	GOAL	AMOUNT	% OF PLEDGED GOAL
MOTHER OF HOPE DEANERY			
ST JOSEPH AMSTERDAM	16,744.00	18,370.00	110%
ST TERESA CADIZ	15,535.00	27,955.00	180%
OUR LADY OF MERCY CARROLLTON	17,158.00	29,770.00	174%
ST MATTHIAS FREEPORT	5,702.00	10,450.00	183%
SACRED HEART HOPEDALE	8,709.00	45,843.03	526%
ST FRANCIS XAVIER MALVERN	24,706.00	20,630.00	84%
ST GABRIEL MINERVA	25,153.00	32,195.00	128%
ST AGNES MINGO JUNCTION	35,854.00	38,018.00	106%
ST MARY MORGES	8,718.00	10,560.00	121%
ST JOHN FISHER RICHMOND	11,779.00	13,860.00	118%
HOLY FAMILY STEUBENVILLE	50,864.00	86,705.00	170%
TRIUMPH OF THE CROSS STEUBENVILLE	65,100.00	123,487.00	190%
ST PETER STEUBENVILLE	50,409.00	56,058.00	111%
ST FRANCIS TORONTO	23,661.00	35,200.00	149%
ST JOSEPH TORONTO	14,198.00	20,017.00	141%
BLESSED SACRAMENT WINTERSVILLE	51,996.00	126,822.00	244%
OUR LADY OF LOURDES WINTERSVILLE	10,849.00	16,600.00	153%
MOTHER OF HOPE DEANERY TOTALS	437,135.00	712,540.03	163%
NATIVITY OF MARY DEANERY			
CHRIST THE KING ATHENS	41,030.00	66,247.00	161%
ST PAUL ATHENS	35,294.00	59,220.00	168%
ST ANN CHESAPEAKE	21,711.00	28,220.00	130%
ST LOUIS GALLIPOLIS	35,739.00	22,350.00	63%
HOLY CROSS GLOUSTER	11,390.00	12,038.00	106%
ST JOSEPH/ST LAWRENCE IRONTON	37,665.00	167,120.00	444%
ST MARY NELSONVILLE	7,739.00	10,105.00	131%
ST MARY PINE GROVE	3,289.00	6,925.00	211%
SACRED HEART POMEROY	19,029.00	30,772.00	162%
NATIVITY OF MARY DEANERY TOTALS	212,886.00	402,997.00	189%
PRESENTATION DEANERY			
ST CASIMIR ADENA	13,596.00	23,575.00	173%
ASSUMPTION BARNESVILLE	25,463.00	52,377.00	206%
ST JOHN BELLAIRE	26,144.00	28,145.00	108%
ST ANTHONY BRIDGEPORT	11,831.00	17,875.00	151%
ST JOSEPH BRIDGEPORT	18,002.00	27,217.00	151%
ST FRANCES CABRINI COLERAIN	19,426.00	31,770.00	164%
ST ADALBERT DILLONVALE	19,041.00	28,255.00	148%
ST MARY MARTINS FERRY	18,954.00	39,500.00	208%
SACRED HEART NEFFS	12,900.00	13,870.00	108%
ST JOHN VIANNEY POWHATAN POINT	4,098.00	5,850.00	143%
ST MARY SHADYSIDE	11,593.00	20,685.00	178%
ST MARY ST CLAIRSVILLE	89,658.00	154,917.00	173%
ST MARY TEMPERANCEVILLE	6,983.00	3,989.00	57%
ST JOSEPH TILTONSVILLE	15,896.00	26,810.00	169%
ST LUCY YORKVILLE	4,802.00	7,660.00	160%
PRESENTATION DEANERY TOTALS	298,387.00	482,495.00	162%
VISITATION DEANERY			
CORPUS CHRISTI BELLE VALLEY	10,071.00	15,245.00	151%
ST BERNARD BEVERLY	25,522.00	48,675.00	191%
ST STEPHEN CALDWELL	33,397.00	47,692.07	143%
CHRIST OUR LIGHT CAMBRIDGE	73,468.00	63,839.00	87%
ST MICHAEL CARLISLE	10,034.00	10,395.00	104%
ST JOHN CHURCHTOWN	20,339.00	56,010.00	275%
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION FULDA	21,522.00	30,660.00	142%
ST HENRY HARRIETTSVILLE	8,367.00	14,620.00	175%
ST AMBROSE LITTLE HOCKING	40,809.00	69,457.00	170%
OUR LADY OF MERCY LOWELL	19,748.00	37,835.00	192%
ST MARY MARIETTA	90,073.00	146,589.00	163%
ST JAMES MCCONNELSVILLE	10,684.00	14,260.00	133%
ST JOHN MILTONSBURG	6,939.00	10,110.00	146%
ST JOHN BOSCO SARDIS	1,911.00	3,925.00	205%
ST SYLVESTER WOODSFIELD	18,708.00	24,305.00	130%
VISITATION DEANERY TOTALS	391,592.00	593,617.07	152%
GRAND TOTAL ALL DEANERIES	1,340,000.00	2,191,649.10	164%