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## News Briefs

### Bishops urge humane immigration policy

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Urging Americans to look at their families for stories of immigration, the president and vice president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops called attention to the hardships and contributions of immigrants to American society as the U.S. church observes National Migration Week, through Jan. 14.

Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston and Archbishop Jose H. Gomez of Los Angeles also said that the week is “an opportunity to embrace the important work of continuing to secure the border, to welcome the stranger and serve the most vulnerable” as components of “a humane immigration policy.”

“This year, we are invited to create a culture of encounter where citizens old and new, alongside immigrants recent and long-standing, can share with one another their hopes for a better life,” Cardinal DiNardo and Archbishop Gomez said as they marked the observance, which began 25 years ago as a way to reflect on how immigrants and refugees have contributed to the church.

### Vocations require cooperation, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — While God is the one calling people to a vocation, clergy and religious have to cooperate by being inspirational role models, keeping their doors open and giving restless young people constructive things to do, Pope Francis said.

Praying for vocations and holding meetings to discuss effective strategies are key, he said, but if those things are done “without making sure that the doors are open, it’s useless.” (Story/Page 4)

The pope made his remarks near the end of a January conference on pastoral ministry for vocations, sponsored by the Italian bishops’ conference national office for vocations.

Setting aside his prepared text, the pope told his audience it was too early in the day to make them fall back asleep again by reading aloud something they could read later. Instead he wanted to talk to them about the conference theme of the divine command – “Get up!” The pope recalled how Peter heard this call while he was sleeping, chained in prison awaiting trial. The angel freed him and led him safely to an alley, but then left him there alone, a bit confused at first, but then excited and eager to find his friends.



The Immaculate Heart of Mary statue in parishes in the Diocese of Steubenville during the Year of Reconsecration of the diocese to the Immaculate Heart of Mary at the initiation of diocesan Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton will stand until Jan. 20 in Sts. Peter and Paul Oratory, Lore City. (Photo by DeFrancis)

## Hundreds of responses to survey being tallied

STEUBENVILLE — Hundreds, perhaps as many as 2,000, diocesan parishioners have weighed in on their parishes and the Catholic Church, as part of “With Immense Hope” – a renewal of the Diocese of Steubenville.

Sister Mary Brigid Callan, a Family of Jacopa Association, Steubenville, novice and stewardship and development director for the Steubenville Diocese, and Thomas J. Sonni, president of Greater Mission Development Services, Elkridge, Maryland, are collecting the surveys that asked the parishioners direct questions and gave them space for writing in replies.

The survey, inserted in The Steubenville Register late last year, provided in some parish pews and available online, is part of Mission Advancement Planning, proposed by Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton.

Bishop Monforton introduced “With Immense Hope” in the fall of 2016.

The four main components of the planning are to create a mission advancement planning task force, which met four times in 2016 and will meet again Jan. 30; develop a To Page 5



Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton visits the chancery office of Sister Mary Brigid Callan, diocesan stewardship and development director, to look at some of the hundreds of responses to a survey on parishes and the Catholic Church. (Photo by DeFrancis)

## Longtime Franciscan University leader dies at 85

STEUBENVILLE — Franciscan Father Michael Scanlan of the Third Order Regular of the Province of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus – longtime president of Franciscan University of Steubenville – died Jan. 7, at Garvey Manor, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania, following an extended illness.

Born Dec. 1, 1931, in Far Rockaway, Long Island, New York, he was the son of Vincent and Mary Margaret O’Keefe Scanlan.

After attending grade and high schools in New York and New Hampshire, respectively, he received a bachelor’s degree from Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts, and a law degree from Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

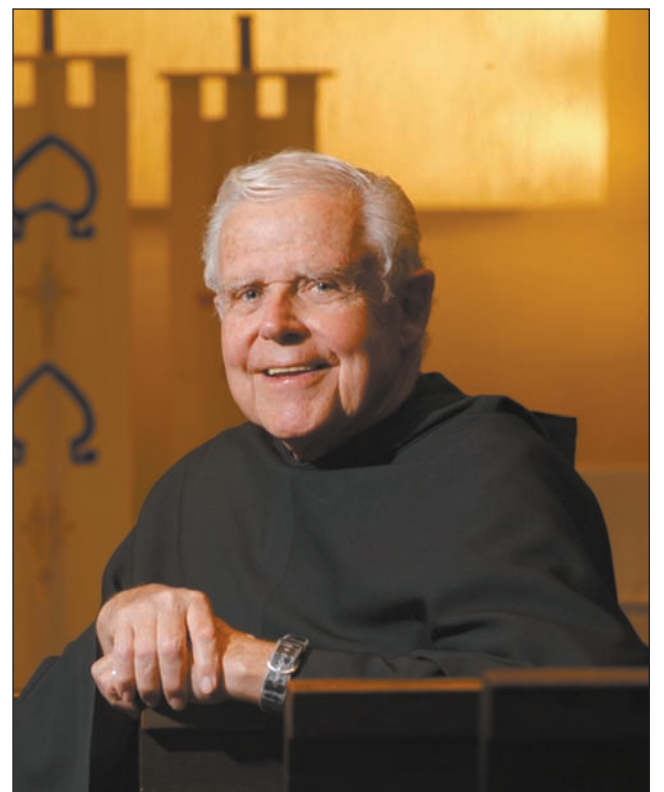
Also, prior to entering religious life, he served in the U.S. Air Force.

In addition, he held a Master of Divinity degree.

He began his Franciscan postulancy in 1957 and professed his final religious order vows in 1962 in Loretto, Pennsylvania. Father Scanlan was ordained to the priesthood May 23, 1964.

After ordination, Father Scanlan’s first assignment was at the then College of Steubenville, which became Franciscan University of Steubenville in 1980, under his leadership. After teaching for four years, Father Scanlan became the college’s academic dean.

In 1969, he became the rector of St. Francis Seminary, To Page 4



(Photo provided)

Father Michael Scanlan



## Students offer Serrans renderings of their promotion for religious vocations

STEUBENVILLE — The Serra Club of Steubenville has declared winning entries in its annual vocations poster contest.

Dubbed as a religious vocations poster and essay contest, the Serra Club competition is open to all parochial grade, junior high and high school students, as well as kindergarten through 12th-graders in the Steubenville Diocese parish schools of religion.

Since the diocese is observing the Year

of Reconsecration of the diocese to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the contest theme centered on showing how Mary can help with vocations in the church — “Asking Mary to Pray That the Holy Spirit Will Bring an Increase of Laborers for the Church” — said Mark Morelli, Serra Club president.

Students in kindergarten through eighth grade could draw, centered on the theme. Hand drawings with pencil, pen, markers,

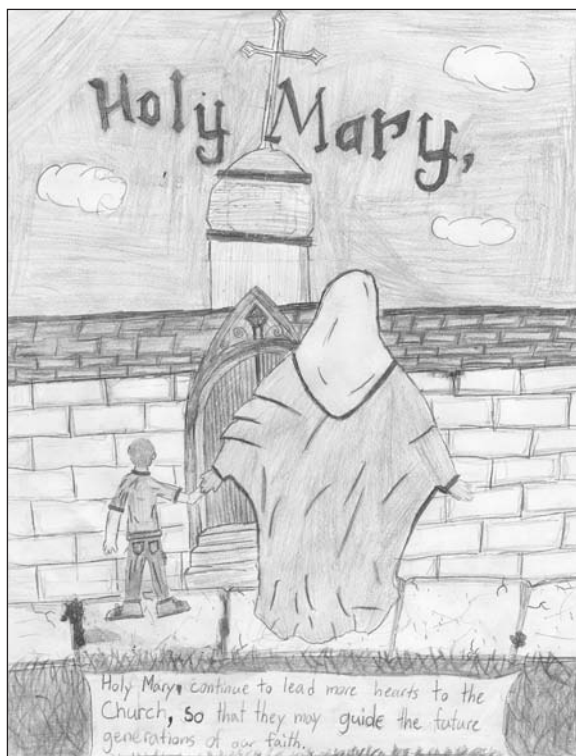
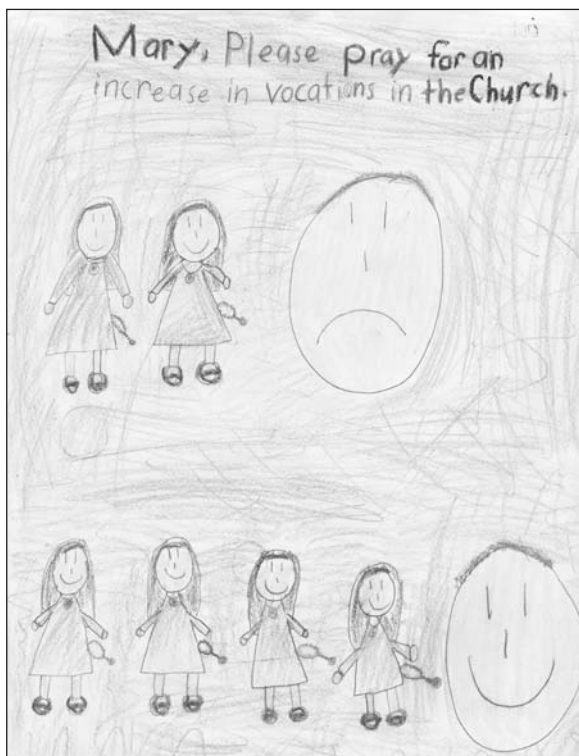
colored pencils and/or paint were permitted. No collage materials, glitter or computer art was allowed. A short phrase about religious vocations could be included on the 8 ½ inches by 11 inches unlined white paper.

Serra Club members judged winning entries, awarded cash prizes.

Top placers were Monica Bolster, Bishop John King Mussio Central Elementary School, Steubenville, and Holy Family Par-

ish, Steubenville, parishioner, kindergarten through third-grade category; Camden Daley, Bishop John King Mussio Central Elementary School and St. Agnes Parish, Mingo Junction, parishioner, fourth through sixth grades; and Luke Terry, Bishop John King Mussio Central Junior High School, Steubenville, and Holy Family Parish, parishioner, seventh and eighth grades.

Other winning entries were submitted by Leah Hutchison, St. Sylvester Central School, Woodsfield; Theresa Kerker, Bishop John King Mussio Central Elementary School; Hannah McManus, Bishop John King Mussio Central Junior High School; Kaitlin Brodegard, St. Sylvester Central School; Ellen Rohde, Bishop John King Mussio Central Elementary School; and Hannah Hough, Bishop John King Mussio Central Junior High School.



Winning entries in the Serra Club of Steubenville annual vocations poster contest include drawings by Monica Bolster, second grade, left, Camden Daley, sixth grade, right, and Luke Terry, eighth grade, center. (Drawings scanned)

## Marietta school sets January open house

MARIETTA — In celebration of and in conjunction with national Catholic Schools Week, Jan. 29-Feb. 4, St. Mary School will host an open house.

Susan T. Rauch, principal, announced the open house will be held from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m., Jan. 29, at the 320 Marion St. parochial school, supported by the Basilica

of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta (Msgr. John Michael Campbell is basilica rector). Open house participants can take a guided tour of the school, meet staff and learn about a Catholic education.

The Diocese of Steubenville Catholic Schools Week will be celebrated April 24-28 at St. Mary School, also, Rauch said.

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## Diocese of Steubenville Finance Council passes budget for 2017-18

STEUBENVILLE — When the Diocese of Steubenville Finance Council met at the end of 2016, it approved a diocesan budget for 2017-18, which reflects increases, mostly for additional ministries.

The unanimous acceptance of the approximate \$2.8 million budget came after David A. Franklin, diocesan comptroller, detailed changes reflected from the previous year's budget.

Increased expenditures proposed, Franklin said, include money for such things as Office of Christian Formation and Schools seminars, youth activities and evangelization and Office of Stewardship and Development software and mailing costs.

In addition, more money is needed because of a diocesan audit that deals with child protection and for testing of potential seminarians, along with scanning equipment and staff in archives, he said.

The biggest hike in expenses is necessitated by added staff in the Office of Family and Social Concerns (Catholic Charities). There a coordinator will be hired to deal with post-abortion ministry, a family life director will be moved from part time to full time and a project coordinator will be hired on a contractual basis for a soup kitchen and trauma-counseling center in Cathedral Square in downtown Steubenville.

James G. Piazza, executive assistant to the bishop, told finance council that the Office of Family and Social Concerns (Catholic Charities) is understaffed. The office has a director and a staff person who deals with people who come into the office.

Catholic Charities, Piazza said, will be expanded in a

beneficial way throughout the diocese. "We hope to have satellite offices throughout the diocese, one in each deanery," Piazza said of Catholic Charities.

On the income side, changes show an anticipated \$75,000 from Home Missions for various programs and \$10,000 from the Koch Foundation for seminarian education, Franklin said. As well, a \$1,340,000 goal has been set for the annual Diocesan/Parish Share Campaign.

Meanwhile, Franklin said, the 2016-17 budget is on target for income and expenditures.

Sister Mary Brigid Callan, Family of Jacopa novice, director, diocesan stewardship and development, detailed Mission Advancement Planning underway in the diocese (Survey/Page 1). The procedure, which has included meetings with pastors, parochial vicars and laypeople, evolved as efforts began not only to renew Holy Name Cathedral, Steubenville, but also the diocese, she said. The pastoral, spiritual and financial aspects of parishes and the diocese are being examined.

At the same time, Piazza said estimates have been given for a renovated cathedral. The project is estimated at \$9.5 million. With the idea that work on the building could begin in the spring, efforts are being made presently to get costs compiled for a usable building.

"We have to do it prudently," Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton said of the renovation.

Though the bishop said that he wants the cathedral renovated, he stressed that he is a realist.

And, he added, Jefferson County parishes have to take the lead for the parishes in the other 12 counties of the diocese to get behind the project.

Plus, Bishop Monforton said, "The cathedral has become Chapter 1 of diocesan renewal."

In other business, Msgr. Kurt H. Kemo, diocesan vicar general, said all parochial schools in the diocese will be required to establish guidelines. Some of the schools have finance councils that meet on a regular basis, while some do not.

"There is no evidence of improprieties," Bishop Monforton said, but added that all schools will be mandated to have finance councils and bylaws for transparency.

Further, he said, all parishes will be reminded of the need to show the money that is coming in and going out.

In addition, Msgr. Kemo reported on the 2016 DPSC (Parish-by-Parish report/Page 12). Participation in the annual campaign is down, he said, while the amount of the average pledge is up. Most of the decrease in participation is attributable to deaths, he predicted.

"We have to get younger families interested in the DPSC," Msgr. Kemo said.

At the Dec. 13 meeting, it was decided that finance council will meet for a first time in 2017, at 9:30 a.m., March 15, in the chancery in downtown Steubenville.

### Bishop Monforton's Schedule

#### January

- 13-19 Retreat
- 18 Catholic Conference of Ohio conference call
- 19 WAOB radio segment, 7:40 a.m., 8:40 a.m. and 6:40 p.m.  
Bishops' vespers and dinner, Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Detroit, 5 p.m.
- 23-28 U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops subcommittee meetings, Poland

## Cleveland bishop cites vascular dementia for resignation

CLEVELAND (CNS) — Pope Francis has accepted the resignation of Bishop Richard G. Lennon of Cleveland.

Bishop Lennon, a Boston area native who turns 70 in March, said during a news conference at diocesan offices late last month that he had developed vascular dementia, leading to his decision to submit his resignation for health reasons to the pope in November. "Recently it has come to my awareness that my health has declined to such an extent that I should resign as diocesan bishop," he said.

"Given the progressive nature of this illness," he added, "Pope Francis has accepted my request for an early retirement." Normally, bishops do not turn in their resignation to the pope until they turn 75, as required by canon law.

The pope named Bishop Daniel E. Thomas of Toledo, Ohio, as the apostolic administrator of the diocese until the installation of a new bishop.

Bishop Thomas, 57, called Bishop Lennon's request for an early retirement "both a humble and courageous act, one that speaks volumes to his love for the local church and his desire that the people of God receive the pastoral care they need."

Having to take on the additional responsibilities of overseeing the Cleveland Diocese was unexpected, Bishop Thomas said. He compared his appointment as apostolic administrator to that of an interim coach. "My job is to be the conduit from the past to the future," he said.

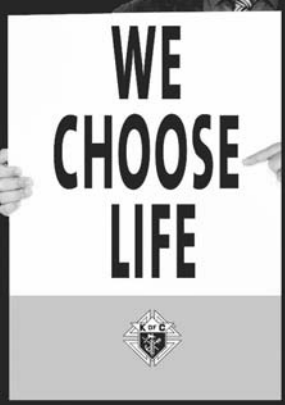
Bishop Thomas admitted during the news conference that he had "limited" knowledge of the diocese and that he would undertake a quick study of the Catholic Church that serves 692,000 Catholics in eight counties.

As apostolic administrator, Bishop Thomas said, he would regularly travel between Toledo and Cleveland, a distance of about 120 miles. "But I hope you know I will do everything in my power to work so well with the good folks here and in the Diocese of Toledo to be able to govern the people entrusted to me by Pope Francis until a successor is named," he said.

Bishop Lennon was a parish priest, seminary rector and auxiliary bishop for Boston before he was named Cleveland's 10th bishop in 2006 by Pope Benedict XVI.


During his decade in Cleveland, he led the revision of the statutes governing the diocese's finance, pastoral and presbyteral councils, established norms governing internal audits of parishes and schools, and carried out a plan to consolidate parishes.

The diocese also completed a capital campaign in 2016 that raised more than \$170 million for parish and diocesan needs.



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## Steubenville Diocese's Bishop Monforton on tour in 2017

STEUBENVILLE — Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton is on tour in 2017.

The bishop will be joined by Father Michael W. Gossett, diocesan director of vocations, and other priests and religious on stops throughout the diocese during March and April.

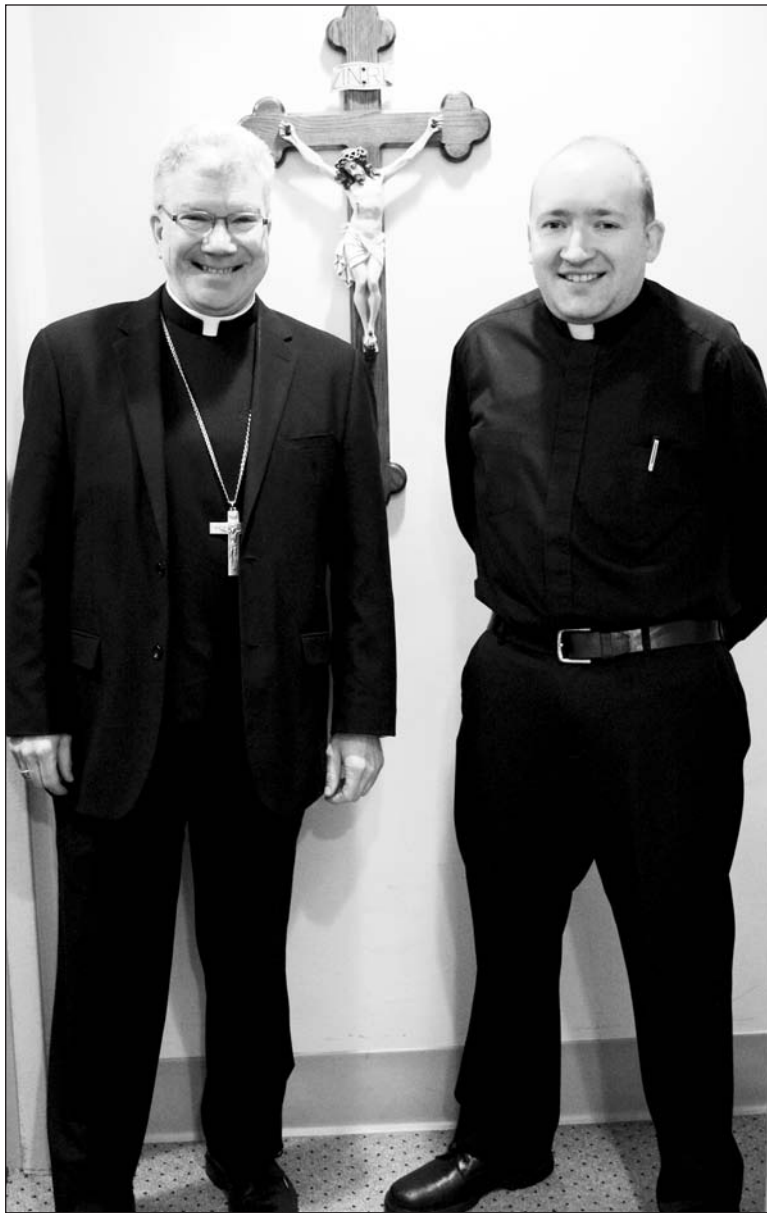
Under the auspices of the Diocese of Steubenville Office of Vocations, parishioners of all ages will be able to sit and listen to Bishop Monforton, priests and other religious talk about discernment and how to pray in order to follow God's will.

Father Gossett announced the presentations, open to everyone, but he said that it will be particularly helpful for parents to attend one of the offerings and bring their children with them to listen.

High school and college-aged men and women are especially welcome, also, Father Gossett said.

Actually, he added, that anyone who wants to hear about what it means to find and live his or her vocation is invited to attend one of the events.

Presentations are planned for March 6 at St. Mary Church, St. Clairsville, where Father Thomas A. Chillog is pastor; March 7, Blessed Sacrament Church, Wintersville, Msgr. Kurt H. Kemo, pastor; March 12, the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, Msgr.



Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton and Father Michael W. Gossett meet to discuss vocations. (Photo by DeFrancis)

John Michael Campbell, rector; March 13, Christ the King University Parish, Athens, Father Mark A. Moore, pastor; March 14, St. Teresa of Avila Church, Cadiz, Father Frederick C. Kihm, pastor; March 19, Our Lady of Mercy Church, Carrollton, Father Anthony R. Batt, pastor; April 2, St. Joseph Church, Ironton, Father David L. Huffman, pastor; and April 5, St. Sylvester Church, Woodsfield, Father David L. Gaydosik, pastor.

Presentations will be held in church halls, beginning at 6 p.m., and then participants will relocate to the church for prayer to end the evenings.

The presentations, Father Gossett added, are "an opportunity for the people of the diocese to gather together and focus on seeking God's will.

"If we want young Catholics to hear God's call, especially to the priesthood or religious life, we need to equip them with the tools to discern and listen."

Fathers Edward A. Maxfield Jr. and Jonas A. Shell are members of the diocesan vocations team.

## Bishop reiterates need

STEUBENVILLE — When Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton ordained five men — Donald Scott Carson, Thomas E. Graham, Edward G. Kovach, Charles J. "Chuck" Schneider and Paul D. Ward — to the permanent diaconate for the diocese in December, he challenged diocesan parishes to include men and women under the age of 30 on their leadership rolls.

In a Jan. 6 letter to parish priests, Bishop Monforton wrote that after four years of evaluating and assessing pastoral outreach in the diocese and obtaining feedback from parishioners, it has become evident to him that more needs to be done to involve all generations in parishes.

Therefore, he instructs all parishes in the diocese to have at least one member of its parish council to be under 30. If the parish has more than 500 families registered, he said there should be two parish council members under that age.

Bishop Monforton wants the people in the positions by Holy Week.

It will be at the discretion of the parish pastor to determine if the person or persons are to be appointed or elected to the parish council, Bishop Monforton wrote.

"Ever since the first Pentecost, we have been a missionary church. This must be reflected in all generations within our communion."

He said that he does not propose an overhaul of parish councils, but simply wants the membership to reflect the diversity in generations. Young adults, he said, have a vested interest in the diocese, too.

## Longtime Franciscan University leader

From Page 1

Loretto. But, in 1974, Father Scanlan returned to the College of Steubenville as its president, a position he held for the next 26 years.

During Father Scanlan's tenure as the fourth president of the university, enrollment increased, new undergraduate and graduate programs were added and buildings constructed on the hilltop campus.

For example, the theology program that Father Scanlan added in 1976 has become the largest undergraduate theology program at any U.S. Catholic university. Currently, nearly 600 students major in either theology or catechetics, which was added in 2003, a university spokesman said. Today, more than 400 Franciscan University graduates serve the church in priesthood.

Also, on campus, Father Scanlan established the household system. These small faith-sharing groups of men or women continue to serve as the cornerstone of the university's student-life experience, with 45 percent of the undergraduate student population participating in 50 households, a spokesman for the university said.

Father Scanlan, too, began summer conferences for youth and adults. Now, youth conferences are held in Steubenville, as well as at dozens of locations throughout the United States and Canada.

Further, in 1992, Father Scanlan expanded Franciscan University's study-abroad program in a restored 14th-century

monastery in Austria. Presently, more than 150 students live and study each semester in Gaming, a university spokesman said.

Franciscan University, in 1989, under Father Scanlan's leadership, became the first U.S. Catholic college or university whose faculty and priests publicly took the oath of fidelity professing their adherence to the teaching authority of the church. Each year since, all new theology faculty, priests and others involved in the spiritual formation of students have taken the oath, administered by the local bishop.

In 2000, Father Scanlan became the chancellor of Franciscan University.

Eleven years later, on his return to the motherhouse in Loretto, he was named the university's president emeritus.

Declining health forced him to move from the motherhouse to Garvey Manor, a Catholic nursing home, in 2013.

While serving the university, Father Scanlan became a well-known speaker — credited as being an early leader in the Catholic charismatic renewal movement and acting as a host on Eternal Word Television Network, a ministry that became an 18-year stint — and prolific writer — including authoring an autobiography, "Let the Fire Fall."

A champion of the pro-life movement, in 1987, he approved construction of a Tomb of the Unborn Child on the university campus. It now contains the remains of seven aborted babies, a university spokesman said.

Too, Father Scanlan received numerous honors, including the Cross "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice" from then Pope John Paul II at the request of then Steubenville Bishop Albert H. Ottenweller. At the time of the 1990 award, Bishop Ottenweller said he could talk about Father Mike forever, "We share our hearts."

The university established the Father Michael Scanlan Scholarship Competition in his honor in 2004 for high-achieving applicants to receive full-tuition scholarships and the Father Michael Scanlan, TOR, Chair of Biblical Theology and the New Evangelization, in 2012.

A memorial Mass was celebrated Jan. 11 in

Finnegan Field House, Franciscan University of Steubenville campus, for the 85-year-old Father Scanlan. Among the concelebrants was Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton (Column/Page 7).

A funeral Mass was celebrated Jan. 12 at Immaculate Conception Chapel, St. Francis University, Loretto. Third Order Regular Franciscan Father Richard L. Davis, minister provincial, was principal celebrant. Burial followed at the Franciscan Friars' Cemetery on the St. Francis University campus.

Father Scanlan is survived by a brother Lon of Atlanta, nephews and nieces and his Franciscan brothers.

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## Marchers from Steubenville Diocese will join the cry for life Jan. 27

STEUBENVILLE and WASHINGTON (compiled by The Steubenville Register from diocesan sources and from Catholic News Service reports) — As busloads of March for Life participants converge on the nation's capital Jan. 27, clergy and laypeople from the Diocese of Steubenville will be among the throng.

And, as has become custom, a March for Life will be held in Carrollton to coincide with the D.C. march, said **Father Anthony R. Batt**, pastor, Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Carrollton, and St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Morges, and **Daniel A. Hitchcock**, Knights of Columbus Our Lady of Carroll County Council 15401 grand Knight.

This year's rally on the Washington Monument grounds, followed by a march up Constitution Avenue to the U.S. Supreme Court, where the march ends, is five days after the 44th anniversary of the Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision, which legalized abortion.

Theme for the march is "The Power of One," said Jeanne Mancini, president of March for Life. She said the theme references both the impact of a single vote and a quote from J.R.R. Tolkien, who wrote in "The Fellowship of the Ring": "Even the smallest person can change the course of the future."

March organizers, who do not announce attendance estimates, but give the number as in the tens of thousands, perhaps as many as 100,000, will see young people and longtime marchers from the Steubenville Diocese. They are expected to come from parishes in many of the diocese's 13 counties — Athens, Belmont, Carroll, Gallia, Guernsey, Harrison, Jefferson, Lawrence, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble and Washington.

**John Spencer, a Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, parishioner**, has arranged for two buses to transport people from the diocese's southern end. The bus stops for pickups this year include ones in Cambridge, Caldwell and Marietta. A second bus will make stops in Gallipolis, Pomeroy and Little Hocking, said Spencer, who has organized the transportation for marchers for more than five years.

**Father Michael W. Gossett**, parochial vicar to Msgr. Kurt H. Kemo, diocesan vicar general and pastor of

Blessed Sacrament and Our Lady of Lourdes parishes, Wintersville, will be on one of two buses leaving from Catholic Central High School, Steubenville, the morning of the march. Father Gossett and **Father Edward A. Maxfield Jr.**, parochial vicar to Father Thomas A. Chillog, diocesan episcopal vicar for pastoral planning and personnel and pastor of St. Mary Parish, St. Clairsville, will lead the marchers from Catholic Central High School, St. John Central High School, Bellaire, and Bishop John King Mussio Central Junior High School, Steubenville. Father Gossett is Catholic Central chaplain, while Father Maxfield is chaplain at St. John Central High School.

Pulling away from St. Peter Church, downtown Steubenville, at 4:30 a.m., Jan. 27, will be a bus filled by **Upper Ohio Valley Right to Life**, said **Kathryn Bender**, organizer. Bender said the marchers will attend Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in D.C., before heading to the mall to march. Riders from the St. Peter-based bus plan to return to Steubenville by midnight Jan. 27. Bender can be reached at (740) 544-6446 or via email, [kathrynbender@yahoo.com](mailto:kathrynbender@yahoo.com). Cost of the bus ride is \$40 for an adult and \$25 for a child, with a \$150 cost cap for a family to travel to the march.

**Franciscan University of Steubenville** students, annually, fill buses and cars to make their way to the annual march. "We are not only exercising our American right to protest, but also our duty as pro-life Catholics," said **Annie Babcock**, coordinator of the university's presence at the Jan. 27 march.

The Students for Life at the university organize participation in the annual event.

This year, nearly 500 students will travel on buses. Hundreds more students, faculty, staff and alumni are expected to travel by car, bringing the total number of Franciscan-affiliated march attendees to 800.

Franciscan University President Third Order Regular Franciscan Father Sean O. Sheridan, along with other Franciscan priests and religious sisters, will march with the students behind the Franciscan's easy-to-spot green banner that reads, "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you. Before you were born, I dedicated you" (Jer 1:5).

Babcock, a senior biology major from Maryland, said Franciscan University students go to the march not only to protest legalized abortion, but also to gather with thousands of other pro-life Americans to become motivated to be actively pro-life on a regular basis.

The students will board buses after an on-campus Holy Hour Jan. 26 and arrive in Washington by 7:30 a.m., in time for Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Principal celebrant and homilist will be Archbishop Gregory M. Aymond of New Orleans.

Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' pro-life committee, is expected to speak at some time during the march.

In Carrollton, the Knights of Columbus Our Lady of Carroll County Council 15401 will sponsor the march, locally, in conjunction with the Washington, D.C., march. In Carrollton, marchers should gather at the Our Lady of Mercy Parish hall, 616 Roswell Road Northwest, beginning at 10:30 a.m. The march will start at 11 a.m., Jan. 27, when marchers proceed down Main Street to Public Square. Marchers will return to Our Lady of Mercy Parish hall for refreshments and to view events in D.C., said Hitchcock.

This will mark the third year for a march in Carrollton, Hitchcock said. "With about 50 marchers in the past, the council organizers are hopeful for an even better turnout this year."

The Knights of Columbus has more than 1.8 million members and is the world's largest Catholic lay organization. It provides members and families with volunteer opportunities in service to the Catholic Church, the community, families and young people. Last year, the Knights at all levels of the organization raised and distributed \$174 million to charitable and benevolent causes and rendered 71.5 million hours of volunteer service. Locally, the Carroll County council has 47 members, presently. Council members raised and distributed \$3,758 to charitable causes and rendered 2,687 hours of volunteerism the past year.

In addition, this year, as in the past, the USCCB has issued a call for prayer and penance for life. From Jan. 21 until Jan. 29, during 9DaysforLife, bishops want prayers to end abortion. A traditional novena is to say a rosary each day, or at least a couple of Our Fathers, a priest advises.

## Hundreds of responses

From Page 1

mission advancement process to focus on the most important pastoral and financial needs throughout the diocese; establish a Catholic Community Foundation of Southeastern Ohio to serve as the development engine for the Steubenville Diocese; and build a comprehensive development plan that creates funding needed for pastoral and financial challenges throughout the diocese.

Wanting to know a parishioner's parish's greatest strengths and greatest concerns, evaluating what will most help the diocese fulfill its mission as a church in the future and determining the churchgoer's willingness to learn more about the faith are the four main queries on the survey, which gives space for specific thoughts or ideas relative to the future church.

A cursory view of responses reveals that respondents see strength in the ministry going on in their parishes, are concerned by a decline in active membership of young people, want to evangelize and have a willingness to learn more about their faith.

Responses, which were due by year's end, are being

tallied, Sister Mary Brigid said.

Preliminary data from the surveys will be available by month's end, she predicted, with a more full report presented by the end of February.

Surveys, some of which continue to trickle in to the chancery, have come from people between the ages of 9 to 97, she said, and from those in parishes in all parts of the 13-county diocese — Athens, Belmont, Carroll, Gallia, Guernsey, Harrison, Jefferson, Lawrence, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble and Washington.

Each response will be totaled and written responses summarized. Details from the surveys will be returned to parishes, as well as viewed at the diocesan level. Responses, too, Sister Mary Brigid said, will be given to the advisory task force, which will use the results from the surveys in conjunction with diocesan data to prioritize the needs of parishes and the diocese, financially and pastorally.

Previously, she added, there has not been a good in-depth view of the needs throughout the diocese.


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## St. John Paul II The Holy Spirit and Baptism

By Diocese of Steubenville  
Bishop Emeritus Gilbert I. Sheldon

St. John Paul II next discusses the relationship between the Holy Spirit and baptism. Baptism is a sacrament, what the catechism calls “an effective sign,” i.e., a sign that not only tells us something, but also accomplishes what it tells us. John Paul points out that, “In collaboration with the Spirit, the church realizes the sacramentality which the Second Vatican Council attributes to her when it teaches: ‘The church is in Christ like a sacrament or as a sign and instrument of a closely knit union with God and of unity of the whole human race’” (Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, “Lumen Gentium,” Paragraph 1). It is the church that we will see later as the “mystical body of Christ” through which this effective power comes.

The “sign” of any sacrament is the external feature or features that are detectable by the senses, i.e., something that we can see, hear, feel, touch and even taste and smell. In the case of baptism, that sign is washing with water, an action quite familiar in everyday life, and also well-known in ancient religious ritual. It was practiced also among the Jews at the time of Christ and regarded as a feature of the imminent coming of the Messiah. Hence, the baptisms done by John the Baptist were understood immediately by the Jews in that connection. It is understandable that Jesus should choose that same gesture when introducing what we now know as the sacrament of baptism.

John the Baptist admitted, when asked, that he was not himself the Messiah, but that one would come after him who “would baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire” (Mt 3:11). Fire, i.e., heat, is universally used as a means of purification in the smelting of metals. By analogy, it is used to signify moral purification. Because of the tongues of fire that manifested the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, fire is also a symbol of the Holy Spirit himself. Modern physics tells us that all forms of energy are reducible to heat. It is an apt symbol, then, of the ultimate source of power itself: God as Creator!

John Paul offers a definition of “baptism in the Holy Spirit.” He says: “It means regenerating humanity with the power of God’s Spirit. That is what the Messiah does.” He

refers to the prophet Isaiah: “The spirit of the Lord will rest upon him: a spirit of wisdom and understanding, a spirit of counsel and strength, a spirit of knowledge and fear of the Lord” (Is 11:2). We recognize there the names of traditional “gifts of the Holy Spirit.” The expression “baptism in the Spirit” has become somewhat confused in recent years by its popularization. Several concepts have become entangled in this connection: the sacrament of baptism, the role of one’s own dispositions and the role of the Holy Spirit. Different people have somewhat different ideas about its meaning and how those three concepts are related. In any such discussion, we can do best by referring to what Revelation itself has to say and we look for that to what Jesus himself has to say.

In his discussion with Nicodemus, the friendly

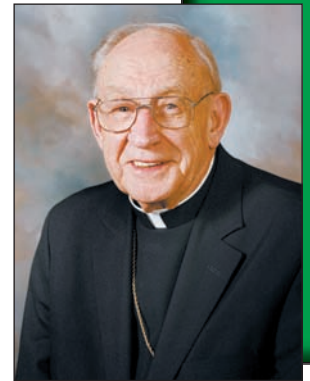
Pharisee, Jesus said: “Amen, amen I say to you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and the spirit.” When Nicodemus questioned how a person could be reborn, Jesus explained: “What is born of flesh is flesh, and what is born of spirit is spirit” (Jn 3:5-6). In other words, he was talking about a new life, the life of the spirit: a supernatural life bestowed in addition to the natural, bodily life that we know. That life comes, not by any effort on our own part, but by the work of the Holy Spirit. We are able to resist it, and even to refuse it outright, but we cannot in any way create it for ourselves. The Holy Spirit normally works through the instrumentality of “water and the spirit,” i.e., the sacrament of baptism. The Catechism of the Catholic Church tells us: “The church does not know of any means other than (the sacrament of) baptism that assures entry into eternal beatitude. ... *God has bound salvation to the sacrament of baptism, but he himself is not bound by his sacraments*” (catechism, Paragraph 1257; emphasis in original). As pointed out previously, God is able to act “outside the box,” if he so chooses. We believe he does so for those who, not having access to sacramental baptism for whatever reason, but try to live as they believe God intendeds man to live. That has traditionally been called “baptism of desire.” Again, however, it must be pointed out that it is still the Holy Spirit that brings about this effect, not the person’s own will or effort.

In speaking of the work of the Spirit, we should not forget the role of Christ in the sacraments. It was by his death and resurrection that man has access to the new life of the Spirit (that we will later call that of sanctifying grace).

“Without me, you can do nothing,” he told the disciples (see, John, Chapter 15, Verse 5). It was Christ who commissioned the apostles to: “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit ...” (Mt 28:19). It was Christ who, after the resurrection, entered the locked room where the apostles were in hiding and told them: “Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you shall forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain, are retained” (Jn 20:22-23).

There is an “intrinsic link between the Eucharist and the gift of the Holy Spirit,” Pope John Paul tells us. We see that link, among other places, in the reaction to Jesus when he promised his body and blood as food and drink. Many of his disciples walked out on him at this point. Jesus told the apostles: “This is why I said to you: ‘No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draw him’” (Jn 6:44). It is by the prompting of the Holy Spirit that this “drawing” takes place, as in all movements of the soul toward God.

Our Lord said many things to the apostles and disciples, as the evangelist took pains to point out: “There are also many things that Jesus did, but if these were to be described individually, I do not think the whole world would contain the books that would be written” (Jn 21: 25). How could they remember it all? That’s where the Holy Spirit came in and that’s where Pentecost came in: “I have much more to tell you,” Jesus told them at the Last Supper, “but you cannot bear it now. But when he comes, the Spirit of truth, he will guide you to all truth. He will not speak on his own, but he will speak what he hears and will declare to you the things that are coming” (Jn 16:12-13).



Bishop Sheldon

*Baptism is ... “an effective sign,” i.e., a sign that not only tells us something, but also accomplishes what it tells us.*

## Go In Haste! Be Amazed! Treasure!

By Bishop Robert Barron

By now most of you are probably aware of the depressing statistics regarding the “nones,” that is to say, those in this country who claim no religious affiliation. The most recent survey showed that now fully one-fourth of Americans belong to no religion at all – that’s approximately 80,000,000 people. And among those in the 18-29 age group, the percentage of nones goes up to 40! This increase has been alarmingly precipitous. Fifty years ago, only a fraction of the country would have identified as unreligious, and even a decade ago, the number was only at 14 percent. What makes this situation even more distressing is that fully 64 percent of young adult nones were indeed raised religious but have taken the conscious and active decision to abandon their churches. Houston, we definitely have a problem.

I have written frequently regarding practical steps that religious leaders ought to be taking to confront this rising tide of secularist ideology, and I will continue to do so. But for the moment, I would like to reflect on a passage from the Gospel of Luke, which was featured on the solemnity

of Mary the Mother of God, and which sheds considerable light on this issue. It has to do with the visit of the shepherds to Mary and the Christ child in the stable at Bethlehem, and it hinges on three words: haste, astonished and treasured.

We hear that, upon receiving the angel’s message, the shepherds “went in haste” to visit the holy family. This echoes a passage from a bit earlier in Luke’s Gospel: having heard the news of her own pregnancy and that of Elizabeth, Mary, we are told, “went in haste” to the hill country of Judah to help her cousin. The spiritual truth that both of these pericopes disclose is that energy, verve, enthusiasm, and a sense of mission come precisely from a good that is perceived to be both objective and transcendent to the ego. If



Bishop Barron

I might borrow the language of Dietrich von Hildebrand, it is only the objectively valuable – as opposed to the merely subjectively satisfying – that fills the mind and

To Page 8

### The Steubenville Register

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## Bishop Looks to Extraordinary Time, Poverty, Death, Hope

By Diocese of Steubenville  
Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton

*“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased” (Mt 3:17).*

### Extraordinary Time

The words above, from God the Father, are a reminder that Jesus Christ should be the center of our lives, and not just at Christmas. When I was a seminarian, the seminary’s spiritual director frequently called Ordinary Time *Extraordinary Time*. This was an invitation for us to take more seriously our baptismal calling to share Jesus.

The Evangelists penned much about Jesus’ earthly ministry following his baptism in the Jordan River by St. John the Baptist. The Gospels are our spiritual GPS as together we embark into Ordinary Time. We do more than imitate. We share.

I am profoundly grateful and edified by the responses of our fellow Catholics to the recent diocesan questionnaire. Much promise and hope is shared, but the comments are also a reminder that there is no cruise control in our faith, nor can we settle simply for daily maintenance when vision is needed. Vision requires both fortitude and patience. Ministry in the Church is no different. As we continue to delve into the hundreds and hundreds of pages of questionnaire material, please keep all in prayer that we are ever attentive to direction and need.

### Poverty Awareness Month

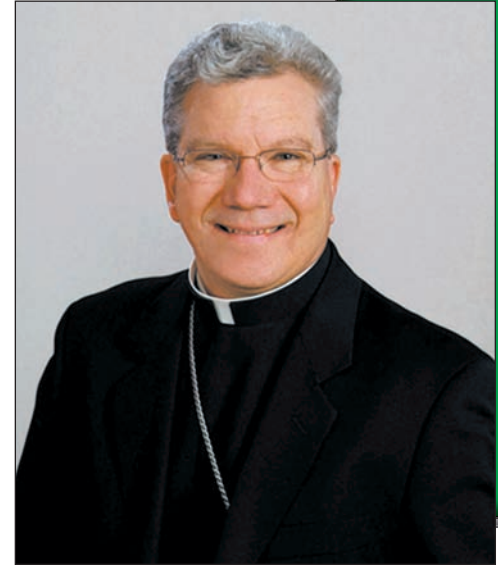
The month of January is Poverty Awareness Month. Time and time again Pope Francis instructs us that the true Christian attitude is one in solidarity with the poor. We are quite familiar with poverty in the Ohio Valley, from Carroll to Lawrence counties. While poverty is an everyday reality, not addressing poverty is unacceptable. As a diocese, we are exploring new avenues by which we can help our neighbor, from the creation of Cathedral Square in Steubenville to extending the outreach of our Catholic Charities in the effort to maximize impact in all 13 counties of our diocese.

From families to schools to parish communities, we possess the infrastructure to assist our brothers and sisters in need. We do not need the Lenten Season to make sacrifices for others. To help others, to be in solidarity with the poor, is one of countless ways we can make Ordinary Time *Extraordinary Time*.

### Rest in Peace, Father Michael Scanlan

This weekend (Jan. 7), we received word that Father Scanlan, former president of Franciscan University, had died. I am grateful that I had the opportunity to visit him, and his eyes would brighten when we discussed happenings at Franciscan University. He told me the story how when he first arrived at Franciscan University, there was a “For Sale” sign on campus. With his unmatched enthusiasm, he quickly removed the sign and began the long and arduous process of changing minds and hearts. As the saying goes, whining is not a virtue, fortitude is.

As we entrust the repose of the soul of Father Scanlan to God’s all merciful and loving presence, we can learn a



Bishop Monforton

valuable lesson that in order to succeed we cannot fear failure. Not everything we do in service to the Church will be overwhelmingly successful, but that is no excuse for lack of effort.

*Together, as fellow believers, we embark into the year 2017 as ambassadors of hope, immense hope.*

*Share Jesus daily and enthusiastically.*

## Following His Call (Third Ordinary Sunday)

By Father Paul J. Walker

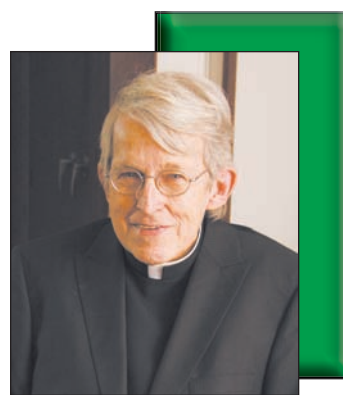
This Sunday’s (Jan. 22) first reading from Isaiah is a rerun from Christmas midnight: “The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.” They are rerun twice, as Matthew offers them as a description of Jesus; life and ministry, not merely of his birth, which was only witnessed by a few. Now, as an adult, his public ministry begins. Matthew quotes Isaiah reporting this inauguration as a fulfillment of Scripture – a move by Jesus from private citizen to public servant has now been completed.

The first reading and the Gospel share a connection that is helpful in understanding something of the world into which Jesus was about to announce the arrival of a long-awaited promise that would reshape the world and the lives of all within it. About 700 years before Jesus was born, two territories on the northernmost part of the kingdom of Israel – Zebulun and Naphtali – were destroyed in a war by the Assyrians. The land was devastated, and many people were killed. The Israelites who remained did what they needed to do in order to survive. Some of them married Assyrians. Israelite law, however, prohibited intermarriage, so these survivors were seen as traitors. They were looked on as people that had abandoned God and compromised their faith in order to survive. The children of these unions were known as Samaritans, and the bad reputation lasted in Jesus’ day and beyond. These territories of Zebulun and Naphtali could easily have been described as a land of darkness. But it is to these very people that God’s promise is made: There will be no gloom or darkness for those who

now sit in anguish – “the people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone” (Is 9:2), Jesus will take himself and his message to *all* who dwell in darkness. This is good news and pure amazing grace.

As the Gospel narratives unfold before us, we need to remember that we are not hearing history lessons. The stories in the Gospels are not just about people who lived a really long time ago. They have a perennial value, as they are stories about you and me. When we encounter stories telling how someone comes to faith in Jesus Christ, we uncover a story about ourselves – every person – all who come to faith in Jesus and how we respond, or do not respond, to his call to follow. A perennial and timeless quality of the biblical narrative reveals that no dynamic between Jesus and his contemporaries that unfolded then does not also now unfold between ourselves and the risen Christ. Nothing was going on then that does not continue to occur today in these relationships.

We catch the scene that Matthew brings to us in this Sunday’s (Third Ordinary Sunday) Gospel: Jesus comes onto the scene of Peter and Andrew’s lives. No doubt they



Father Walker

would have continued with business as usual, remaining fisherman, had Jesus not invaded their territory. Who were they? – not men of great scholarship or influence, wealth or social background. Also, neither were they poor. They were simple working men with no illustrious background, certainly, anyone would have said, with no outstanding future. It was ordinary people, whom Jesus chose – folks who would give him themselves. He could do most anything with people like that!

The story could be much the same with any of us. Jesus walks onto the stage of our life (regardless of our age) – a stage that most times we have pretty well set. We know where all the props are, and we are well-accustomed to the entrances and exits. His invitation is much the same: some version of “follow me.” That *does not* necessarily mean we are being asked to change our profession or state in life. What it usually does mean is we are being asked to change our perspective or shift our center of gravity, taking ourselves off the throne at life’s center – out of the cockpit or driver’s seat, and welcoming Jesus Christ to occupy that place, whether we be 14, or 18, 28, 58 or 88!

Both sets of brothers were tending to their nets when Jesus calls them. Tending nets could serve as a metaphor. Exploring the image, we can imagine nets as things that, while perfectly necessary to one’s occupation, can also entangle and confine. What “nets” in my world so confine me that I need to castoff and leave behind in order to hear and have the freedom to respond to a call that may present itself many times over on life’s journey? A question that can

To Page 8

## Doctrinal chief dismisses idea of ‘fraternal correction’ of Pope Francis

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Catholic Church is “very far” from a situation in which the pope is in need of “fraternal correction” because he has not put the faith and church teaching in danger, said Cardinal Gerhard Muller, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

Interviewed Jan. 9 on the Italian all-news channel, TGCom24, Cardinal Muller said Pope Francis’ document on the family, “Amoris Laetitia,” was “very clear” in its teaching.

In the document, the cardinal said, Pope Francis asks priests “to discern the situation of these persons living in an irregular union — that is, not in accordance with the doctrine of the church on marriage — and asks for help for these people to find a path for a new integration into the church according to the condition of the sacraments (and) the Christian message on matrimony.”

In the papal document, he said, “I do not see any opposition: On one side we have

the clear doctrine on matrimony, and on the other the obligation of the church to care for these people in difficulty.”

The cardinal was interviewed about a formal request to Pope Francis for clarification about “Amoris Laetitia” and particularly its call for the pastoral accompaniment of people who are divorced and civilly remarried or who are living together without marriage. The request, called a “dubia,” was written in September by U.S. Cardinal Raymond L. Burke, patron of the Knights of Malta, and three other cardinals. They published the letter in November after Pope Francis did not respond.

In an interview later, Cardinal Burke said the pope must respond to the “dubia” because they directly impact the faith and the teaching of the church. If there is no response, he said, a formal “correction of the pope” would be in order.

Cardinal Muller told the Italian television that “a possible fraternal correction

of the pope seems very remote at this time because it does not concern a danger for the faith,” which is the situation St. Thomas

Aquinas described for fraternal correction. “It harms the church” for cardinals to so publicly challenge the pope, he said.

In his letter on the family, Pope Francis affirmed church teaching on the indissolubility of marriage, but he also urged pastors to provide spiritual guidance and assistance with discernment to Catholics who have married civilly without an annulment of their church marriage. A process of discernment, he has said, might eventually lead to a determination that access to the sacraments is possible.

The possibility reflects a change in church teaching on the indissolubility

of marriage and the sinfulness of sexual relations outside a valid marriage, in the view of the document written by Cardinals

Burke; Walter Brandmuller, a German and former president of the Pontifical Commission for Historical Sciences; Carlo Caffarra, retired archbishop of Bologna, Italy; and Joachim Meisner, retired archbishop of Cologne, Germany.

In the TGCom24 interview, Cardinal Muller said, “everyone, especially cardinals of the Roman church, have the right to write a letter to the pope. However, I was astonished that this became public, almost forcing the pope to say ‘yes’ or ‘no’” to the cardinals’ questions about what exactly the pope meant in “Amoris Laetitia.”

“This, I don’t like,” Cardinal Muller said.



Cardinal Muller  
(CNS photo/Paul Haring)

## New Year calls for courage, hope; no more hatred, selfishness, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Whether the new year will be good or not depends on us choosing to do good each day, Pope Francis said.

“That is how one builds peace, saying ‘no’ to hatred and violence — with action — and ‘yes’ to fraternity and reconciliation,” he said Jan. 1, which the church marks as the feast of Mary, Mother of

God and as World Peace Day.

Speaking to the some 50,000 pilgrims gathered in St. Peter’s Square for the first noon Angelus of 2017, the pope referred to his peace day message in which he asked people to adopt the “style” of nonviolence for building a politics for peace.

Lamenting the brutal act of terrorism that struck during a night of “well-wishes

and hope” in Istanbul, the pope offered his prayers for the entire nation of Turkey, as well as those hurt and killed. A gunman opened fire during a New Year’s Eve celebration at a popular nightclub early Jan. 1, killing at least 39 people and wounding at least 70 more.

“I ask the Lord to support all people of good will who courageously roll up their

sleeves in order to confront the scourge of terrorism and this bloodstain that is enveloping the world with the shadow of fear and confusion,” he said.

Earlier in the day, the pope spoke of how maternal tenderness, hope and self-sacrifice were the “strongest antidote” to the selfishness, indifference and “lack of openness” in the world today.

## Go In Haste

From Page 6

soul with passion and purpose. When the sense of objective and transcendent value is attenuated — as it necessarily is within the context of a secularist worldview — passion and mission fade away. John Henry Newman said that what gives a river verve and movement is precisely the firmness of its banks. When those banks are broken down, in the interest of a supposed freedom, the once energetic body of water spreads out into a great lazy lake. What we have in our secularist culture, which denies the transcendent good, is a subjectivism that gives rise to the “whatever” attitude. Toleration and self-assertion reign supreme; but no one goes anywhere in haste. Rather, we all rest on our individual air mattresses in the midst of the placid but tedious lake.

The second word I want to emphasize is “astonished.” Luke tells us that those who heard the shepherds’ testimony were “astonished” at the news. The King James Version renders this as “they wondered at”

the message. Wonder, amazement and astonishment happen when the properly transcendent power breaks into our ordinary experience. The findings of the sciences delight and inform us, but they don’t astonish us, and the reason for this is that we are finally in control of the deliverances of the scientific method. We observe, we form hypotheses, we make experiments and we draw conclusions. Again, this is all to the good, but it doesn’t produce amazement. Dorothy Day witnessed to the astonishing when she said, upon the birth of her first child, that she felt a gratitude so enormous that it would correspond to nothing or no one in this world. Mother Teresa was properly amazed when, on a lengthy train journey to Darjeeling, she heard a voice calling her to minister to the poorest of the poor. The apostles of Jesus fell into wonder when they saw, alive again, their master who had been crucified and buried. These are the most precious kinds of experiences that we can have, and if St. Augustine is

right, they alone can satisfy the deepest longing of the heart. A secularist ideology — the worldview embraced by the “nones” — produces the clean, well-lighted space of what we can know and control. But it precludes true astonishment, and this leaves the soul impoverished.

The final word from Luke upon which I’d like to reflect is “treasured.” The evangelist tells us that Mary “treasured these things, pondering upon them in her heart.” Newman said that Mary, precisely in this contemplative, ruminative frame of mind, is the model of all theology. I’d press it further. She is the real symbol of the church in its entire function as the custodian of revelation. What is the Sistine Chapel? What is Notre Dame Cathedral? What is “The Divine Comedy” of Dante? What is the “Summa contra Gentiles” of Thomas Aquinas? What are the sermons of John Chrysostom? What are the teachings of the great ecumenical councils? What is the liturgy in all of its complexity and beauty?

These are all means by which the church stubbornly, century in and century out, treasures the astonishing events of God’s self-manifestation. Up and down the ages, the church ponders what God has done so that the memory of these mighty deeds might never be lost. As such, she performs an indispensable service on behalf of the world — though the world might not have any sense of it. She keeps holding up the light against the darkness.

So to the “nones,” and to those who are tempted to move into secularism, I say, don’t float on the lazy lake; rather, go in haste! Don’t settle for something less than astonishment; be amazed! Don’t fall into spiritual amnesia; treasure!

**Bishop Barron is an auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, as well as an author, a speaker and theologian and the founder of Word on Fire Catholic Ministries, Skokie, Illinois, a nonprofit global media apostolate.**

## Following

From Page 7

“entangle” me and impede a response is one that inquires about the cost: What will the call to reform cost me? What familiar lakes and nets will I have to leave behind? I’ll probably need to leave more than just material possessions — things like attitudes, biases, prejudices, fears, angers, etc.

In Galilee, the call to self-surrender begins as fishing partner brothers leave their past for new-found service. That kindly light is now shining and grace flows in the world’s veins. We can live out lives in the

service of that light and grace, or we can actually impede its flow.

Jesus’ invitation is still the same: The call to be “fishers of men” is a call given to the church, not just to the ordained and professed religious. Like the fishermen, we are called as we are from where we are. The response requires faith and courage to answer the one whom we do not see and who often seems distant. This Christmas season just past strove to remind us, casting both light and shadow on our path, that the Word made flesh came into our night and

turns that path toward dawn.

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, in a book-length interview with journalist, Peter Seewald, responded to a final question regarding the reason why Jesus came into the world:

*... That we become capable of God and so are enabled to enter into eternal life ..., so that we might come to know the truth. So that we might touch God. So that the door might be open. So that*

*we may find life, the real life, that is no longer subject to death.*

*(Light of the World, Page 185)*

**Father Walker is a Diocese of Steubenville priest, retired from active parish ministry, who continues to reside in his hometown of McConnellsville. He is a former director of the diocesan Office of Worship. He continues to celebrate Masses in his home parish, St. James, and write a regular column for The Steubenville Register.**



# Ohio think tank gives people a much-needed voice in overcoming poverty

By Dennis Sadowski

NEWARK, Ohio (CNS) — For Tonya and Chuck Cooper, family isn't just those who share their last name.

When it comes to helping people in need, the couple often sets an extra plate at the dinner table for someone without food, offers a night's rest to someone without a bed or readily provides a lift to the doctor's office for a neighbor whose car broke down.

"We share a community. We share a town," Chuck told Catholic News Service in late December.

Life became more of a struggle though for the Coopers as 2017 dawned.

Chuck, 59, lost his job in the fall at a mail marketing company down the road in Hebron that paid \$9.59 an hour, because he needed surgery on both of his knees and received no guarantee he could return once fully recovered. He had one surgery in November and is doing well. A second surgery is set for early 2017.

During his three years on the job, Chuck had no health insurance, however. His share of the cost through the company was too expensive, he says. So Medicaid is footing the bill.

Tonya, 57, is unable to work because of a disability. The family's only income is her monthly Supplemental Security Income stipend. The couple also receives a limited benefit under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, formerly known as food stamps.

Without Chuck's income, the Coopers have fallen two months behind on the rent. They live in a \$495 a month two-bedroom, first-floor apartment in a duplex they share with their daughter Samantha, 27, and her 7-month-old son, Benjamin. Another daughter lives upstairs in a separate unit.

"Are we impoverished? From my standpoint, no. But are we under the bar or the (poverty) line? Yes, we are, and we're sinking farther under it as we go," Chuck says.

Situations like that facing the Coopers have become more common in places such as Newark, a formerly bustling Midwestern town of 48,000 located 35 miles east of Columbus, Ohio, that once earned the nickname "Little Chicago." Since the 1980s Newark, like similar communities, has seen well-paying jobs leave town. In 2015, the city's poverty rate stood at 23.2 percent, according to U.S. Census Bureau statistics.

In response, a group of concerned citizens set in motion an effort to give struggling people a voice in changing how government and nonprofit agencies respond to their needs. They envision a venue to share stories — and expertise — about how difficult it is for many families to live day-in and day-out deciding whether it's best to pay the rent, keep the heat on, visit a doctor or feed the kids.

What emerged was the Newark Think Tank on Poverty, a nonsectarian project funded in part by the U.S. bishops' Catholic Campaign for Human Development through the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the Columbus Diocese. It brings about 40 people together monthly to discuss workable ideas on how to shape the community's response to people in need.

The Coopers are founding members of the think tank. Tonya holds a seat on its leadership team.

"The think tank is important to me because over the years there's been times when we've had to reach out for assistance to other people just to make it," she explained.

"So this is my way of giving back. I can listen to these people and say, 'I understand where you're coming from.'"

Lesha Farias helped establish the think tank. A former president of the St. Vincent de Paul conference at St. Francis de Sales Parish in Newark as well as the society's Columbus district council, Farias calls the think tank's low-income participants "poverty experts."

More than half of the leadership team are people experiencing poverty and appreciate having an opportunity to be heard especially because they have rarely been heard before, Farias explains.

Another aspect of the think tank involves ensuring people who are facing challenges from being in poverty — car repossession, eviction, lack of food — will not be forgotten or abandoned, that they will be connected with the services they need.

"We are in relationship with them," Farias said.

The think tank also promotes the importance of having its members represented on committees and boards of local government and social service agencies. To the think tank's credit, its members serve on the Licking County Jobs and Family Services Planning Board, an Adult Court Services committee and the board of the Pat and Herb Murphy St.

Vincent de Paul Center. Four Newark area parishes established the center in response to the vision of accompanying people in need as expressed by Frederic Ozanam, founder of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

After its first meetings, think tank participants settled on three issues to address: discrimination against people convicted of felonies who are attempting to rebuild their lives but have difficulty finding work; the lack of jobs that pay a living wage; and inadequate mental health and addiction recovery services.

Convincing the Newark City Council to pass an ordinance that removes a question about felony convictions from city employment applications gave the think tank an early victory. Think tank leader Eric Lee applauds the move.

At 60 and having spent a third of his life in prison, Lee knows the challenges of trying to find gainful employment. He told CNS that people returning to Newark after time in prison struggle to find a job because employers often are fearful of hiring someone convicted of a serious crime.

Since his release Lee has graduated from college and is working on a master's degree in management. He works side-by-side with people released from prison to help them re-enter the community and leave behind the habits that got them into trouble in the first place.

"The biggest success (of the think tank) is the relationships we form and the relationships we build in different areas of life," Lee said. "Just making a difference in individuals' lives is something I'm starting to take on and be

uplifted by."

The think tank can trace its roots to the work of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in town more than two decades ago. Bill Hammond, a St. Francis de Sales Church parishioner, became involved in the society in the early 1990s and helped guide it from an organization that simply raised funds for charitable works to one that advocated for needy people.

Downplaying his role, Hammond, 84, told CNS he simply followed the directives that Ozanam established in founding the Vincentians in 1833. Among the precepts was that Vincentians were to visit families in need rather than simply provide charity and move on with life.

Under Hammond's leadership, the society's presence grew in Newark and the home visits became integral to its ministry. Hammond then became president of the society's diocesan council. For six years, he embraced the same philosophy.

"When I started reading and studying the manual and history, they emphasized that we didn't become a Vincentian really to give the poor money. It was first of all about us getting the opportunity to grow spiritually by serving and living out our faith," Hammond says.

"When we go on a home visit, it's a personal connection, not a monetary," he continues. "The money is not as important as a connection spiritually with the people we are going to visit."

Hammond's efforts made the think tank possible, said Allen Schwartz, a retired community organizer who offers his insight from years of grass-roots experience to its leadership team.

"Bill's insistence on the visits can't be minimized as social justice work because people who don't do social justice work objectify the needy," Schwartz explains. "They just write the check (and say) 'Don't bother me.' It's the visits that hold back that process of objectification and created the situation where we could then take it to the next step of the think tank.

"We not only need to stop objectifying these people who are in need, but we need to act on their behalf," he says.

The think tank has one staff person. Wendy Tarr is director and lead organizer of the Vincentian Ohio Action Network, which the diocesan society established. She spends part of her time in Newark identifying people who are ready to lend their voices to changing public policy.

Her understanding of the Vincentian vision runs through her work as she addresses the need for society to broach the gulf that keeps poor people outside of society's mainstream.

"In order for our democracy to work and for our agencies and organizations to be meeting real needs in the community, there has to be participation and leadership from people who are not in the middle class, but from people who are in the working class and poor," Tarr explained.

The think tank helps people understand how power is structured in U.S. society and how the problems poor people in particular face are connected to ineffective social policies, she says.

"People (in need) have voice and answers to problems. They have solutions and insight that are really needed in

**More information on the Newark Think Tank on Poverty is online —**  
**[www.newarkthinktank.org](http://www.newarkthinktank.org)**

order to create a working system and create new ways in society to address poverty," Tarr explained.

The Coopers said that having a voice in decisions affecting their lives is what they seek. Chuck Cooper said he hopes the think tank can help bridge the distance between "the haves and the have-nots" in Newark.

"If you're, unfortunately, in that thin line that differentiates the two you can get lost real quick. I know. We've been there. We're still there. We make too much for (public) assistance, but we don't make enough to feel comfortable. It becomes a limbo," he said.

"Will they get better? I sure hope so. I'd love to live long enough to see a little bit of comfort. To be able to maybe go to bed some night and not worry about the next day. It's been a long time, and I don't remember what it was like."

(Follow Sadowski on Twitter: @DennisSadowski.)



**Bill Hammond and his wife Gennoah are seen in their Newark, Ohio, home Dec. 20. Hammond, a past president of the Diocese of Columbus' Society of St. Vincent de Paul district council, helped reshape the organization to build relationships with poor people. His work was a forerunner to the Newark Think Tank on Poverty, which brings citizens together to discuss workable ideas on how to shape the response to people in need. (CNS photo/Dennis Sadowski)**



**Athens** — An Endow study titled “Aquinas for Beginners, Part 2,” will meet Wednesdays, beginning Jan. 25, from 9:15-10:45 a.m., in the Holy Family Center, which is located at Christ the King University Parish. According to the Athens Catholic community bulletin, Endow is a Catholic educational program that brings women together to discover their God-given dignity and to understand their role in humanizing and transforming society.

**Caldwell** — “God’s Not Dead” will be shown at 6 p.m., Jan. 15, at St. Stephen Church hall. Pizza and popcorn will be provided.

**Cambridge** — Registration for preschool at St. Benedict School will begin Feb. 1. For more information, telephone the school office at (740) 432-6751.

**Cambridge** — Christ Our Light parishioners will participate in sponsoring a soup luncheon from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m., Jan. 13, at the First Presbyterian Church hall, 725 Steubenville Ave. Homemade soups, breads, desserts and beverages will be sold. To order, telephone (740) 995-0605.

**Glouster** — A free community meal will be served from 5-7 p.m., Jan. 14, at Holy Cross Church hall. Anyone attending can bring a dish to share.

**Ironton** — Fall and Christmas decorations are being accepted by the Ironton Catholic community CWC for a future craft sale. Donations can be taken to St. Joseph Church undercroft.

**Marietta** — The 25th annual St. Mary School Foundation benefit drawing will be held Feb. 4, at 7 p.m., in St. Mary School Msgr. Edward Kakascik Parish Center. The \$125 ticket, available at St. Mary School office, 320 Marion St., entitles two people admission into the event, and provides an opportunity to win a portion of \$6,000 in prizes. For additional information, telephone the school office at (740) 374-8181.

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

Engaged couples planning to marry in a Catholic church in the Diocese of Steubenville are invited to a marriage preparation workshop from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., March 18, at St. Mary Church Marian Hall. At the close of the workshop, the couple’s engagement will be blessed. The workshop fulfills the diocesan marriage preparation. For additional information or to register for the day, telephone Michael Zabrecky, director of religious education at St. Mary Parish, at (740) 695-9993.

**Steubenville** — An entrance placement test for eighth-grade students not attending Bishop John King Mussio Central Junior High School will be given Jan. 25 at Catholic Central High School, 320 West View Ave. Students should report to the main lobby of the high school at 7:45 a.m. To register or for additional information, telephone the high school office (740) 264-5538.

**Steubenville** — Pre-Cana classes will be held March 17, from 7:30-9:30 p.m. and March 18, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., in Holy Rosary Church Marian Room, 202 Rosemont Ave. A special blessing will be available for engaged couples at the 4 p.m., March 18 Mass. Deadline for registration is March 9. The class fulfills the diocesan requirements for marriage preparation. For more information, telephone (740) 264-6177.

**Wintersville** — Blessed Sacrament and Our Lady of Lourdes parishes will hold an eighth annual “St. Vincent de Paul Valentine’s Craft Extravaganza” from noon until 3 p.m., Feb. 12, at Blessed Sacrament Church Sargus Hall, 852 Main St. For information on becoming a vendor, or to receive an application, telephone Linda Freed at (740) 264-6539, or email dolcepizzelles@aol.com. Interested vendors can make \$25 money orders for table fees payable to the St. Vincent de Paul Ministry. Proceeds from the event will be used to purchase food for the St. Vincent de Paul Ministry, which provides meals for the less fortunate. For additional information on the ministry, telephone (740) 264-9547.



**Tom Miller, left, faithful comptroller, and Jeff Turner, middle, faithful navigator, of the Fourth-degree Knights of the Commodore Jack Berry Assembly 802, Bridgeport, present a \$500 check to Thomas Jones, representing Light of Life Radio Ministry. The money for the radio station was raised through donations, Miller said. Light of Life can be heard in portions of Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. In the Upper Ohio Valley, the signal is located at 90.7 FM on the radio dial, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Started by West Virginia resident Bob Carubia, the radio station is a nonprofit operated by all volunteers and is listener supported. Its programming, which includes Masses, call ins and comments from priests, also can be heard on-line. (Photo by DeFrancis)**

## Around and About

**Cambridge** — A monthly breakfast, sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 1641, will be held from 9 a.m.-noon, Jan. 15, in St. Benedict Church social hall.

**Canton, Ohio** — Natural family planning classes will be offered at Mercy Medical Center, 1320 Mercy Drive NW, from 2-4 p.m., Jan. 15, Jan. 29 and Feb. 26, in Conference Room C. The service is offered in cooperation and under the guidance of the Office of Marriage and Family Ministry of the Diocese of Youngstown, Ohio. For additional information, telephone Mercy Family Education at (330) 489-1329 or (800) 223-8662.

**Frederick, Md.** — Knights of Columbus Charles Carroll Council 15985 will host a spaghetti dinner Jan. 27, from 5-7:30 p.m., for travelers to the Washington, D.C., March for Life, at St. Joseph-on-Carrollton Manor Parish hall, 5843 Manor Woods Road. Suggested donation of \$5 per person includes spaghetti, homemade sauce, salad, bread, dessert and beverage.

**Minerva** — Knights of Columbus Council 11380 will sponsor a pancake breakfast Jan. 15, from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at St. Gabriel Church hall. Breakfast will include pancakes, sausage, home fries, scrambled eggs and beverage. Adults eat for \$5; children, ages 6-12, eat for \$2; children, ages 5 and under, eat for free.

**North Canton, Ohio** — Mary, Queen of Heaven and Earth Chapter of Magnificat, a women’s ministry modeled after the Visitation, will sponsor a breakfast Feb. 18, at Walsh University, Barrette Center, 2020 E. Maple St. Doors open at 8:30 a.m.; breakfast will be served at 9 a.m.; cost is \$18. Make checks payable to Magnificat of Stark County and mail to Debby Bentivegna, 5575 East Blvd. NW, Canton, OH 44718. Seating is limited. No reservations will be accepted after Feb. 11. For additional information, telephone

Shirley DeOrio at (614) 620-3169.

**Steubenville** — A natural family planning class will be held by NFP International Jan. 28 at St. Peter Church. For additional information or to register, telephone Steve or Ann Craig at (740) 457-9663. An online course is available at [www.nfpandmore.org](http://www.nfpandmore.org).

**Steubenville** — Knights of Columbus St. John Neumann Council 11828 will sponsor a pancake breakfast, for the benefit of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Montessori School, from 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Jan. 15, at St. Peter Church hall. The menu will include pancakes, eggs, ham, potatoes, fruit and beverage. Adults eat for \$7; children, \$5; \$35, family maximum charge.

**Steubenville** — A veterans breakfast and open house will be held Jan. 18, from 9-10 a.m., at 500 Market St., suite 310. Donuts and coffee will be served. For reservations or additional information, telephone (740) 283-8571.

**Toronto** — A charismatic Mass will be celebrated Feb. 2, at 7 p.m., in the Father of Mercy Chapel at the motherhouse of the Franciscan Sisters Third Order Regular of Penance of the Sorrowful Mother, 369 Little Church Road. Franciscan Father Dave Pivonka, internationally known speaker and author, will be the celebrant. Prayer for healing or other needs will be offered following Mass. Refreshments will also follow.

**Weirton, W.Va.** — St. Paul Church, 140 Walnut St., will present international Christian artist Kathy Troccoli Feb. 2, at 7 p.m. Doors for the free concert will open at 6:15 p.m.; a freewill offering will be taken that evening. Attendees must preregister and receive an advance ticket for admittance. Tickets can be reserved online at [www.iTickets.com/kathy-troccoli](http://www.iTickets.com/kathy-troccoli); by email, [ktsaintpauls@gmail.com](mailto:ktsaintpauls@gmail.com); or by telephoning (304) 748-4118. Free child care will be provided during the concert.



## Steubenville woman honored for service dies

STEUBENVILLE — Mary G. Barber — twice honored for her service to the Diocese of Steubenville — has died.

The 93-year-old Barber, a resident of Steubenville, died Jan. 7.

Born Dec. 5, 1923, one of six children of Costanzo and Concetta Almonte Grossi, Barber was a member of Triumph of the Cross Parish, Steubenville, merged from Holy Name Cathedral and Holy Rosary Parish, Steubenville.

In 1977, Barber was awarded the “Caritas” and in 2001 the Cross “Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice.”

Initiated by the Diocese of Steubenville’s first bishop, John King Mussio, the “Caritas” (charity) medal was awarded for the first time in 1955. Bishop Mussio said then that the medal would be given to people who exhibit exceptional Catholic action. Qualifications for recipients include an exemplary public and private Catholic life, distinguished service to the diocese, contributions toward diocesan enterprises and promotions of the faith by some medium, such as writing or public speaking. When the Holy Name Grade School, Steubenville, and Catholic Central High School, Steubenville, graduate was given



(Photo provided)  
**Mary Barber**

the “Caritas,” it was pointed out that she was active and devoted to the Catholic Woman’s Club on the unit, deanery and diocesan level; instrumental in fundraising for various Catholic charities and a member of the advisory council for the Catholic Conference of Ohio.

Bishop Emeritus Gilbert I. Sheldon awarded Barber the Cross “Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice,” a papal award. At the request of Bishop Sheldon, the award was granted to Barber by then Pope John Paul II. It translates to “For the Church and the Pontiff” and is given to individuals who demonstrate outstanding service to the church. At the time she received the award, Bishop Sheldon said Barber was very generous to Holy Name Cathedral and the Steubenville Diocese with her time and resources.

Barber, too, was recognized by Franciscan University of Steubenville, with a Founder’s Award.

Preceded in death by her husband Michael “Mickey” Barber, she is survived by her four children, Dolores, Patricia, Mary Michele and Michael, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Jan. 13 at Holy Rosary Church.

Burial followed in Mount Calvary Cemetery, Steubenville.

## Religious, who ministered in diocese, dies

DELHI TOWNSHIP, Ohio — Sister of Charity of Cincinnati Jeannine Selzer — recipient of the Cross “Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice,” a papal award, while ministering in the Diocese of Steubenville — has died.

Sister Jeannine died Dec. 26 at the age of 87 in Mother Margaret Hall, the nursing facility of the Sisters of Charity.

Born June 28, 1929, she was one of five children of George and Mary Stagge Selzer.

After graduating from high school in 1947, Sister Jeannine entered the Sisters of Charity.

She earned a Bachelor of Music degree and later completed degrees in administration at Xavier University, Cincinnati, and theology at Trinity College, Washington, D.C.

Sister Jeannine began her ministry as a music teacher in a Springfield, Ohio, parochial school and continued teaching or serving as a school administrator in schools in Ohio and Michigan until the 1970s.

She served her religious order, also, as a novice director and a director of services at the motherhouse.

In the Diocese of Steubenville from 1986 until 1990, Sister Jeannine served as the diocesan director of the Alliance of Priests.

Upon the request of then Steubenville

Bishop Albert H. Ottenweller, Pope (now saint) John Paul II bestowed the Cross “Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice” on Sister Jeannine and seven other people, including Third Order Regular Franciscan Father Michael Scanlan, president of Franciscan University of Steubenville at the time; Immaculate Heart of Mary Brother Dominic Carroll, superior general of his religious order in Steubenville, and Charity Sister Mary Ann Corr, who was the superintendent of schools, then, for the diocese.

At the time of the 1990 award, Bishop Ottenweller praised Sister Jeannine for her unflagging support and encouragement as they went on uncharted waters together, sharing setbacks and successes as they worked with the priests of the diocese.

Sister Jeannine worked, too, in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

In her retirement, among other things, she played the organ for daily Mass in Mother Margaret Hall.

In addition to her religious sisters, Sister Jeannine is survived by her sister Martha, nieces and nephews.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Jan. 3 in the motherhouse chapel in Delhi Township. Burial followed in the Charity Sisters cemetery, in a Cincinnati suburb.



(Photo provided)  
**Sister Jeannine**

## Obituaries

**Lisa A. Adams** — a Catholic Central High School, Steubenville, staff member — died Dec. 28.

The 62-year-old was born in New Bedford, Massachusetts, a daughter of Leonard and Audrey Spearwold Thompsen.

Preceded in death by her husband George, Adams is survived by a brother Eric and sisters Laura and Leslie, nephews and a niece.

**Jim Cook**, 80, Barnesville, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Dec. 30.

**Amelia DiLorenzo**, 96, Steubenville, Holy Family, Dec. 6.

**Helen F. Edwards**, 91, Hollywood, Florida, St. Gabriel, Minerva, Dec. 30.

**Daniel M. Granitir**, 77, Blessed Sacrament, Wintersville, Dec. 24.

**Lucy C. Kaluger**, 92, 4360 Highland Ave., Shadyside, St. Mary, Dec. 21.

**Victoria J. Kramer**, 87, Blessed Sacrament, Wintersville, Dec. 25.

**Erma C. Linn**, 95, Steubenville, St. Peter, Dec. 30.

**Francis Lopresto**, 75, Steubenville, Holy Family, Dec. 25.

**Robert Maus**, 68, Steubenville, Holy Family, Dec. 23.

**Angelina “Angie” Mayle**, 78, Mingo Junction, St. Agnes, Jan. 3.

**Thomas V. McGough Jr.**, 69, Bethesda, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Barnesville, Dec. 17.

**Louise Swartz Motto**, 89, Toronto, St. Joseph, Dec. 25.

**Nial M. Pashke Sr.**, 80, Mingo Junction, St. Agnes, Dec. 31.

**Mildred Rennie**, 101, Malvern, St. Francis Xavier, Dec. 22.

**Jack D. Rose**, 94, the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, Dec. 30.

**Charles S. Schlicher**, 69, the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, Dec. 9.

**Loretta M. Wilk**, 83, Bridgeport, St. Joseph, Dec. 31.

**Mary A. Zeik**, 100, Bridgeport, St. Anthony of Padua, Dec. 29.



**Knights of Columbus Council 1641, Cambridge, has received the Star Council Award. John Spencer, left, an insurance agent for the Knights, presents the award to Ed Alexonshk, council membership director. The council received the award, which it has been given previously, for having excelled in membership, insurance and service. (Photo provided)**

## Youngstown Diocese opens sainthood cause for woman known for healing gifts

CANTON, Ohio (CNS) — In the fall when the Diocese of Youngstown formally opened the sainthood cause for an Ohio woman known for her life of prayer and spiritual gifts, more than 1,000 people filled St. Peter Church in Canton.

It was standing-room-only at the Mass to officially open the cause for Canton’s Rhoda Wise, known for her healing gifts and the stigmata, wounds that resemble

those of Christ on the cross.

Though raised a Protestant, Wise (1888-1948) later embraced Catholicism and was devoted to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the rosary and St. Therese of Lisieux, known as the “Little Flower.”

With her cause officially opened, Youngstown Bishop George V. Murry declared her a “servant of God.”

A postulator has been named, and a lo-

cal tribunal will open an inquiry into her life. Tribunal members will examine any writings Wise left, any historical records about her and any testimony from people who knew her and make a recommendation to Bishop Murry. The diocese in turn will make a recommendation to Congregation for Saints’ Causes at the Vatican, which then reviews the gathered information. If the congregation finds she led a heroic life

of Christian virtues, the church bestows the title “Venerable.”

The next steps would be beatification and canonization. In general, two miracles are needed for sainthood — one for beatification and the second for canonization.

Wise reportedly experienced her first apparition of Jesus May 28, 1939, and about a month later had an apparition of Jesus with St. Therese.

**Life Line Screening — Jan. 31 —**  
**St. Mark Lutheran Church, 133 Lovers Lane, Steubenville**  
**telephone (877) 237-1287 to preregister**



# More than \$950,000 rebated to diocesan parishes from annual DPSC



**"Give to the Most High  
as he has given to you"**  
(Sir 1:12).

2016 Diocesan/Parish Share Campaign  
theme



**Bishop Monforton**

**"On behalf of the  
Diocese of Steubenville,  
our diocese, thank you  
for your support  
of the  
2016 Diocesan/Parish Share  
Campaign.**

**Your contribution  
made a difference.  
Together, we stood up  
for our faith to let it shine  
for all to see."**

**– Bishop Monforton**

*Msgr. Kurt H. Kemo,  
Diocese of Steubenville  
vicar general and DPSC  
director, said as the 2016  
annual appeal drew to a  
close, "The DPSC was once  
again a success due to the  
generosity and participa-  
tion of the people.*

*"Looking forward with  
hope it is significant that  
the average pledge has  
increased by approximately  
\$10.*

*"In these difficult eco-  
nomic times that is a mark  
of faith on the part of the  
people and their commit-  
ment to the diocese and  
their parishes."*

Questions on the DPSC, contact  
Msgr. Kurt H. Kemo or  
Martin B. Thompson,  
DPSC associate director, chancery,  
P.O. Box 969, Steubenville, OH  
43952; telephone (740) 282-3631;  
email [kkemo@diosteub.org](mailto:kkemo@diosteub.org) or  
[mthompson@diosteub.org](mailto:mthompson@diosteub.org).

## Parishes

	GOAL	AMOUNT PLEGGED	PAID AMOUNT	PERCENT PAID	REBATES
<b>MOTHER OF HOPE DEANERY</b>					
ST JOSEPH AMSTERDAM	14,756.00	16,395.00	16,115.00	98%	1,359.00
ST TERESA CADIZ	17,732.00	56,242.75	56,242.75	100%	38,510.75
OUR LADY OF MERCY CARROLLTON	16,244.00	20,708.00	20,708.00	100%	4,464.00
ST MATTHIAS FREEPORT	4,588.00	13,960.00	13,960.00	100%	9,372.00
SACRED HEART HOPEDALE	9,424.00	26,821.75	26,328.08	98%	16,904.08
ST FRANCIS XAVIER MALVERN	21,452.00	22,490.00	22,010.00	98%	558.00
ST GABRIEL MINERVA	22,568.00	39,190.00	36,840.00	94%	14,272.00
ST AGNES MINGO JUNCTION	33,356.00	45,343.00	45,043.00	99%	11,687.00
ST MARY MORGES	8,556.00	12,020.00	12,019.99	100%	3,463.99
ST JOHN FISHER RICHMOND	12,772.00	16,415.00	16,415.00	100%	3,643.00
HOLY FAMILY STEUBENVILLE	46,252.00	81,317.79	78,505.43	97%	32,253.43
TRIUMPH OF THE CROSS STEUBENVILLE	64,976.00	147,362.00	144,613.64	98%	79,637.64
ST PETER STEUBENVILLE	48,608.00	64,387.20	63,777.20	99%	15,169.20
ST FRANCIS TORONTO	20,460.00	36,692.00	36,530.89	100%	16,070.89
ST JOSEPH TORONTO	15,872.00	30,150.00	29,650.00	98%	13,778.00
BLESSED SACRAMENT WINTERSVILLE	47,988.00	111,032.00	109,208.68	98%	61,220.68
OUR LADY OF LOURDES WINTERSVILLE	12,028.00	16,230.00	16,180.00	99%	4,152.00
<b>MOTHER OF HOPE DEANERY TOTALS</b>	<b>417,632.00</b>	<b>756,756.49</b>	<b>744,147.66</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>326,515.66</b>
<b>NATIVITY OF MARY DEANERY</b>					
CHRIST THE KING ATHENS	36,332.00	52,336.00	52,336.00	100%	16,004.00
ST PAUL ATHENS	36,952.00	54,162.00	53,912.00	99%	16,960.00
ST ANN CHESAPEAKE	17,236.00	13,900.00	13,900.00	100%	
ST LOUIS GALLIPOLIS	30,504.00	40,186.00	40,186.00	100%	9,682.00
HOLY CROSS GLOUSTER	9,672.00	11,870.00	11,410.00	96%	1,738.00
ST JOSEPH/ST LAWRENCE IRONTON	46,376.00	233,155.00	231,393.33	99%	185,017.33
ST MARY NELSONVILLE	7,812.00	12,111.90	12,111.90	100%	4,299.90
ST MARY PINE GROVE	3,100.00	9,850.00	9,850.00	100%	6,750.00
SACRED HEART POMEROY	18,104.00	20,416.76	19,761.76	97%	1,657.76
<b>NATIVITY OF MARY DEANERY TOTALS</b>	<b>206,088.00</b>	<b>447,987.66</b>	<b>444,860.99</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>242,108.99</b>
<b>PRESENTATION DEANERY</b>					
ASSUMPTION BARNESVILLE	24,552.00	34,609.27	34,534.27	99%	9,982.27
SACRED HEART NEFFS	10,292.00	12,250.00	11,450.00	93%	1,158.00
ST ADALBERT DILLONVALE	15,252.00	26,320.00	24,175.00	92%	8,923.00
ST ANTHONY BRIDGEPORT	10,788.00	18,907.00	18,697.00	99%	7,909.00
ST CASIMIR ADENA	12,276.00	24,160.00	22,560.00	93%	10,284.00
ST FRANCES CABRINI COLERAIN	18,104.00	38,603.33	38,413.33	99%	20,309.33
ST JOHN BELLAIRE	22,444.00	31,728.00	29,978.00	94%	7,534.00
ST JOHN VIANNEY POWHATAN POINT	3,472.00	5,550.00	5,550.00	100%	2,078.00
ST JOSEPH BRIDGEPORT	17,980.00	31,130.00	30,760.00	99%	12,780.00
ST JOSEPH TILTONSVILLE	14,260.00	26,915.00	26,465.00	98%	12,205.00
ST LUCY YORKVILLE	5,704.00	9,605.00	9,485.00	99%	3,781.00
ST MARY MARTINS FERRY	20,088.00	36,945.00	36,895.00	99%	16,807.00
ST MARY SHADYSIDE	11,284.00	21,340.00	21,180.00	99%	9,896.00
ST MARY ST CLAIRSVILLE	67,952.00	158,367.50	153,452.50	97%	85,500.50
ST MARY TEMPERANCEVILLE	6,200.00	6,652.00	6,652.00	100%	452.00
<b>PRESENTATION DEANERY TOTALS</b>	<b>260,648.00</b>	<b>483,082.10</b>	<b>470,247.10</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>209,599.10</b>
<b>VISITATION DEANERY</b>					
CORPUS CHRISTI BELLE VALLEY	8,680.00	14,120.00	14,120.00	100%	5,440.00
ST BERNARD BEVERLY	24,924.00	50,785.00	49,985.00	98%	25,061.00
ST STEPHEN CALDWELL	31,372.00	39,615.00	39,246.00	99%	7,874.00
CHRIST OUR LIGHT CAMBRIDGE	67,084.00	66,745.50	66,110.50	99%	
ST MICHAEL CARLISLE	8,184.00	11,450.00	11,450.00	100%	3,266.00
ST JOHN CHURCHTOWN	18,352.00	21,820.00	21,820.00	100%	3,468.00
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION FULDA	18,476.00	26,585.00	26,435.00	99%	7,959.00
ST HENRY HARRIETTSVILLE	8,060.00	11,915.00	11,915.00	100%	3,855.00
ST AMBROSE LITTLE HOCKING	36,580.00	68,636.25	68,319.59	99%	31,739.59
OUR LADY OF MERCY LOWELL	19,592.00	30,435.00	29,985.00	99%	10,393.00
ST MARY MARIETTA	83,824.00	142,406.02	140,823.35	99%	56,999.35
ST JAMES MCCONNELSVILLE	10,044.00	18,807.36	18,407.36	98%	8,363.36
ST JOHN MILTONSBURG	2,728.00	11,210.00	11,210.00	100%	8,482.00
ST JOHN BOSCO SARDIS	1,984.00	3,925.00	3,825.00	97%	1,841.00
ST SYLVESTER WOODSFIELD	15,748.00	17,635.00	17,135.00	97%	1,387.00
<b>VISITATION DEANERY TOTALS</b>	<b>355,632.00</b>	<b>536,090.13</b>	<b>530,786.80</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>176,128.30</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL ALL DEANERIES</b>	<b>1,240,000.00</b>	<b>2,223,916.38</b>	<b>2,190,042.55</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>954,352.05</b>