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News Briefs

Retired pope's interview turned into book

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Retired Pope Benedict XVI has given another interview to the journalist and author Peter Seewald, and a German publisher announced it would be released worldwide Sept. 9.

Titled "Letzte Gespräche," (which translates as "last conversations"), the book includes an in-depth conversation with the retired pope about the background of his resignation in 2013, said the German publisher, Droemer Knauer.

Chicago archbishop among advisers

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis has named Chicago Archbishop Blase J. Cupich a member of the Congregation for Bishops, the office that advises the pope on the nomination of bishops around the world.

Archbishop Cupich, 67, takes the place left vacant by U.S. Cardinal William J. Levada, who turned 80 in mid-June and automatically ceded his membership.

The congregation is led by Canadian Cardinal Marc Ouellet, its prefect. Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl of Washington also serves as a member.

Nuncios, or Vatican ambassadors, around the world conduct the initial search for priests suitable for the office of bishop and forward their names to the congregation.

The congregation also advises the pope on the establishment of new dioceses or the consolidation of old ones; advises bishops' conferences on their work; coordinates the joint activities of military ordinaries around the world; and organizes the "ad limina" visits that bishops regularly make to the Vatican to report on the status of their dioceses.

The congregation is tasked with supporting the work of bishops in their dioceses and is responsible for organizing apostolic visitations of dioceses where particular tensions or controversies have arisen.



The Immaculate Heart of Mary statue, part of the Year of Reconsecration of the Diocese of Steubenville to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, will leave St. Francis Xavier Church, Malvern, for arrival July 29 at St. Ann Church, Chesapeake, where she will remain through Aug. 5. (Photo by DeFrancis)



Zucchettos worn by Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI and Pope Francis are on display at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption in Marietta. (Photo by DeFrancis)

Marietta basilica doors open as part of Ohio event

MARIETTA — The doors of the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption will be thrown open extra wide in September as the 506 Fourth St. church becomes part of the Ohio Open Doors event.

Ohio Open Doors is a new statewide celebration where building and landmark sponsors open their doors to the public for special tours and programs. Ohio Open Doors is being held during the 50th anniversary of the 1966 National Historic Preservation Act.

St. Mary Basilica will be open from 1-3 p.m., Sept. 9, and 2-4 p.m., Sept. 18, as part of the Ohio Open Doors. In addition to the open house, guided tours will be given.

Participants in the Ohio Open Doors will see new additions to the basilica's collection of memorabilia and to the structure itself.

On a recent morning, Msgr. John Michael Campbell, basilica rector, and Father Thomas A. Nelson, parochial vicar

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First-ever diocesan-led contingent heads to WYD

STEUBENVILLE — Youth and their adult chaperones from the Diocese of Steubenville, as well as Steubenville Diocese Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton, will be among the more than 30,000 fully registered pilgrims and another 10,000 partially registered ones from the United States expected at World Youth Day 2016 in and around Krakow, Poland.

Alyson M. Radford, catechetical consultant, Diocese of Steubenville Office of Christian Formation and Schools, Paul D. Ward, director, will head the contingent from Bellaire, Gallipolis, Mingo Junction, St. Clairsville, Steubenville, Winterville and Yorkville at the July 26-31 World Youth Day.

Catherine Beaulieu, a member of Holy Family Parish, Steubenville; Kylie Falcone, St. John, Bellaire; Isabella M. Gessler, St. Agnes, Mingo Junction; Alyson Orsatti, Blessed Sacrament, Winterville; Bryce Ramsay, St. Mary, St. Clairsville; Rachel Russell, St. Lucy, Yorkville; Mike Stapleton, St. Louis, Gallipolis; Joseph Zinno, Triumph of the Cross, Steubenville; John Beaulieu, chaperone, and Radford will depart the U.S. July 24 from the Pittsburgh (Pennsylvania) International Airport.

The travelers will meet 35 to 40 fellow World Youth Day attendees from the Archdiocese of Detroit in Chicago for an air flight to Warsaw. The pilgrims will be in one locale in Poland July 25-29, Radford said. They have hotel accommodations for those weeknights. Then, they will spend July 30 outside for an overnight vigil in preparation for a July 31 Mass with the pope.

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Alyson M. Radford, catechetical consultant in the Diocese of Steubenville Office of Christian Formation and Schools, displays some of the trinkets she will barter for like items at World Youth Day. (Photo by DeFrancis)



Birong



Craig



Fischer



Fischer



Harrison



Rigaud

(Photos provided)

Six 2016 high school graduates benefit from first bishop's generosity

STEUBENVILLE — Six members of the Class of 2016, who are incoming freshmen at Franciscan University of Steubenville in the fall semester of this year, have benefited from the generosity of the Diocese of Steubenville's first bishop, John King Mussio.

The six — Madeline Birong, James Craig, Anne Fischer, Matthew Fischer, Samantha Harrison and Jacob Rigaud — have been awarded scholarships, established by Bishop Mussio in memory of his parents, John and Blanche Mussio, from the Diocese of Steubenville.

Bishop Mussio set up the nonrenewable scholarship for graduating high school seniors who would attend Franciscan University of Steubenville, had a certain grade point average and college test score, demonstrated a financial need, received a written recommendation from a parish pastor, and were approved by a scholarship selection committee.

Awards to the 2016 graduating high school seniors ranged from \$1,000 to \$4,000 each, Paul D. Ward, diocesan director, Office of Christian Formation and Schools, announced.

Madeline Birong is one of five children of Dr. Thomas and Jennifer Birong of Carrollton. They are members of Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Carrollton, where Father Anthony R. Batt is pastor. Madeline is a graduate of Carrollton High School and the

community's elementary school. While in school, Madeline was not only active in her parish, especially its youth group, but also participated in a number of sports, such as volleyball, track and swimming. She, too, was a member of the school's French Club and National Honor Society.

A resident of Steubenville with his parents Stephen and Ann Craig, James Craig was home-schooled. He and his family are members of St. Peter Parish, Steubenville. Father Timothy J. Huffman is that parish's pastor. One of seven children, James is active in 4-H, a volunteer guide at Fort Steuben in Steubenville, as well as a participant in local theater. In his parish, James is a choir member. For Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton, James is a pontifical server.

Anne Fischer is one of five children of John and Susan Fischer of Steubenville. Anne attended Holy Rosary Central School, Steubenville, and graduated from Catholic Central High School, Steubenville. During high school, she was a member of the Student Council and Pep Club, both which she served as secretary, also, as well as a member of Students Against Destructive Decisions, the Catholic Daughters and Drama Club. Anne, too, was involved in music and youth ministry and volleyball. The Fischers are members of St. Peter Parish.

Also, a Steubenville resident, Matthew

Fischer is one of three children of Mark and Susan Fisher. They are members of Holy Family Parish, Steubenville. Msgr. Gerald E. Calovini is pastor. Matthew Fischer attended Holy Rosary Central School and Catholic Central High School. During high school, Matthew played golf, basketball and soccer. At his church, he served as an altar server and usher, as well as participated in youth ministry. Matthew, also, has received university-level music instruction.

Samantha Harrison is one of four children of Ron and Sharon Harrison of St. Clairsville. They are members of St. Mary Parish, St. Clairsville, Father Thomas A. Chillog, pastor. Samantha attended St. Mary Central School, St. Clairsville, and St. Clairsville High School. While in high school, Samantha was a member of the Drug Free Club of America, National Honor Society and Rotary Interact Club.

She participated in cross-country and track and was part of the high school's prom planning committee and Student Actions Committee, while also taking college-level courses, working part time and maintaining a 4.0 scholastic grade point average. For her church, Samantha was an altar server.

Steubenville resident Jacob Rigaud is one of six children of Jean-Philippe and Maria Rigaud of Steubenville. Jacob attended All Saints Central School, Steubenville, Bishop John King Mussio Central Junior High School, Steubenville, and Catholic Central High School. The Rigauds are members of Triumph of the Cross Parish, Steubenville. Father Thomas R. Nau is their pastor. At Catholic Central High School, Jacob has been a member of Student Council, the National Honor Society, Students Against Destructive Decisions and the band. He, too, has played basketball and soccer.

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At Aug. 9-11 seminar, parish, school teachers are able to earn credits

STEUBENVILLE — Catechists and Catholic school-teachers can earn credit toward their initial and ongoing certification during an Aug. 9-11 formation seminar, Paul D. Ward, director, Diocese of Steubenville Office of Christian Formation and Schools, announced.

The instruction will occur at Bishop John King Mussio Central Elementary School, 100 Etta Ave., Steubenville.

On the first day of the seminar, Aug. 9, Christian morality will be the focus from 9-11 a.m. It will be followed by "Answering Tough Questions," from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Both seminars will be presented by Ron Bolster, director of the Office of Catechetics at Franciscan University of Steubenville. The first presentation provides more about the fundamentals of what Christians must do and how that knowledge can be passed to students, a course description reads, while the late morning-early afternoon session will give participants a chance to ask questions.

Father Daniel Heusel, pastor of St. John Parish, Bellaire, and Sacred Heart Parish, Neffs, as well as an assistant vocations director and member of the Office of Church Law for the Steubenville Diocese, will present "Raising Spiritually Healthy Children for Discipleship" from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m., Aug. 10.

From 11 a.m. until 1 p.m., Aug. 10, Eugene Gan, professor of communication arts at Franciscan University of Steubenville, will present "Healthy Integration of Media Technologies."

John Bergsma, professor of theology at Franciscan University of Steubenville, is the Aug. 11 presenter. His 9-11 a.m. presentation will focus on "Understanding the Old Testament," while his 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. topic centers on "Understanding the New Testament."

To register for the free seminar, contact Ward in his downtown Steubenville chancery office by telephone (740) 282-3631 or email pward@diosteub.org by July 31.

Registration deadline looms

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Parents have until July 31 to apply for an EdChoice or Income-Based Scholarship.

EdChoice Scholarships are worth up to \$4,650 per year for students in kindergarten through grade eight and up to \$6,000 for high school students. EdChoice Scholarships can be used toward tuition at a participating private school through high school graduation.

Income-Based Scholarships are for students entering kindergarten, first, second or third grade in the 2016-17 school year. The \$4,650 per year scholarships are renewable through high school graduation to those with family income at or below 200 percent of federal poverty guidelines, or \$48,600 or less for a family of four.

For more information on the scholarships, telephone (800) 673-5876 or visit www.scoho.org.



Father Thomas R. Nau, pastor of Triumph of the Cross Parish and rector of Holy Name Cathedral, Steubenville, blesses the newly renovated hospice center on the seventh floor of Trinity Health System West, Steubenville. Joe Tasse, interim CEO of Trinity Health System, left, joins Cynthia Bougher, chief executive officer of Valley Hospice, for the July 7 blessing at the Valley Hospice Mary Jane Brooks Care Center North. (Photo by DeFrancis)

Bishop Monforton's Schedule

July

- 21 WAOB radio segment, 7:40 a.m., 8:40 a.m. and 6:40 p.m.
Mass, Holy Rosary Church, Steubenville, 8:30 a.m.
- 25-30 World Youth Day, Krakow, Poland

CATECHETICAL CONSULTANT

The Diocese of Steubenville is seeking a full-time catechetical consultant for the Office of Christian Formation and Schools.

Primary tasks will include coordination of the diocesan catechist formation program, with teaching responsibilities; diocesan-sponsored efforts for evangelization and adult/young adult faith formation.

The **applicant must be** a practicing Catholic, have a master's in theology or catechetics, and be willing to undergo FBI/BCI background checks.

Applicants should submit a resume, three references, transcripts for graduate work and a cover letter to:

Paul D. Ward, director, Office of Christian Formation and Schools, Diocese of Steubenville, 422 Washington St., P.O. Box 969, Steubenville, OH 43952, or email pward@diosteub.org.

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From Page 1

World Youth Day is expected to bring more than 2 million people from 187 countries to the southern Polish city. They will be accompanied by 47 cardinals, 800 bishops – including an estimated 85 from the United States – and 20,000 priests. U.S. participants will travel from every state and from more than 1,000 dioceses, parishes and apostolic movements, Catholic News Service reported.

Paul Jarzembowski, World Youth Day USA national coordinator for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, said this year's pilgrims continue to come from several large metropolitan areas – including New York, Chicago, Denver, Dallas-Fort Worth, Seattle, Portland and Miami – along with rural areas in Wyoming, Texas, Minnesota, Pennsylvania and throughout the Midwest, as well as the Ohio Valley.

Participants represent a good cross-section of U.S. Catholics who are moderately to highly involved in church life at home, Jarzembowski said.

The July 30-31 vigil and Mass, on the fourth and fifth days of Pope Francis' visit, will require nearly all of the participants to make a nine-mile journey to Campus Misericordiae, near Poland's Wieliczka salt mine, Anna Chmura, World Youth Day communications coordinator, told CNS. Buses will be available only for the 2,000 handicapped people registered for the event, elderly pilgrims and those with special needs, Chmura said. "All registered groups from the various sectors will have their paths precisely indicated, to keep people moving and avoid logjams or safety hazards," she said.

Radford said she and the other travelers from the Steubenville Diocese will have their walking shoes, along with other necessities. During an informational meeting, held earlier, a list of to-take items ticked off by Radford, included a money belt, rosary, Bible, watch, water bottle, journal and pen, umbrella, hat and a small radio. The radio, Radford explained, will enable pilgrims to tune in a station that will provide an English translation of the events going on around them at World Youth Day.

Along with other normal travel items in their backpacks, pilgrims from Steubenville Diocese, and elsewhere, will have items to trade. "It's a way to meet people," Radford explained of the trinkets, representative of a traveler's state or diocese.

She came home from the 2008 World Youth Day she attended in Australia with

the Diocese of Syracuse (New York), with not only a lanyard full of buttons, but also the knowledge that she wanted to work for the church, she said.

Youth who attend World Youth Day sign a covenant, Radford explained, because World Youth Day is not a vacation, it is a pilgrimage. The pilgrims are representing their family, parish, school, diocese and country, she said. "They are there to have a good time, great experience and keep safe."

"It will be a life-changing experience," Radford said of World Youth Day – "a once-in-a-lifetime experience."

To prepare for World Youth Day, organizers said seven new bridges have been constructed. There will be 20 giant "eucharistic tents" and computer links enabling people worldwide to follow activities, Chmura said.

Wieliczka Mayor Artur Koziol said roads and highways have been widened, and irrigation ditches and dikes strengthened on the 450-acre site. "We're effectively building a city of 2 million here, so there must be an appropriate infrastructure," he told Jonathan Luxmoore for Catholic News Service and other journalists.

Jarzembowski pointed to an increased number of young adults among the World Youth Day pilgrims. The most recent international World Youth Day, in 2013, took place in Rio de Janeiro, just a few months after Pope Francis' election. Poland's St. John Paul II initiated World Youth Day as a Vatican-sponsored tradition in the late 1980s.

The general age range for World Youth Day pilgrims is between 16 and 35, but many diocesan delegations to Poland are comprised primarily of young adults, over the age of 18, mostly in their 20s and older, Jarzembowski said. "WYD does not provide exact numbers, but by the communication we have had with diocesan leaders and bishops we have learned about the increased number of young adults," he told Catholic News Service. "In our dialogue with the international organizers, we learned that there is an increased amount of pilgrims over age 30 this year."

Pilgrims, except for chaperones, from the Diocese of Steubenville are mostly in their teens, 16, 17 and 19, and one 24 year old.

A considerable emphasis is being placed, also, on engaging youth and young adults who will attend various stateside World Youth Day celebrations, as well as maximizing the experience after the delegations



The World Youth Day logo symbolizes Christ (the cross), youth (circle), the borders of Poland and the theme of the 31st World Youth Day, "God's Mercy" (the flame). It is colored red, blue and yellow, official colors of Krakow.

return from Poland, Jarzembowski said.

Indeed, Radford said the Diocese of Steubenville sees the pilgrimage as part of an initiative to grow youth ministry in the 13 counties.

The USCCB has developed tools to help leaders accompany their pilgrims down the mountain from World Youth Day and help them to put what they learned and were inspired to do into real action through the follow-up and aftereffects, Jarzembowski said.

"This has been a dream of St. John Paul II, and Popes Benedict and Francis after him: that World Youth Day does not end at the closing Mass, but becomes a catalyst for building up missionary disciples and agents of mercy and faith in the everyday lives of young adults today," Jarzembowski said.

After World Youth Day, the travelers from the Diocese of Steubenville and Archdiocese of Detroit will continue their

journey, Radford said. Their travels will continue from Aug. 1 until Aug. 7. The group will visit Wieliczka salt mines, the shrine of St. Faustina, a saint to whom Radford said she has a huge devotion, and Auschwitz, among other places.

Prayer World Youth Day 2016

God, merciful Father, in your Son, Jesus Christ, you have revealed your love and poured it out upon us in the Holy Spirit, the Comforter.

We entrust to you today the destiny of the world and of every man and woman.

We entrust to you in a special way young people of every language, people and nation: guide and protect them as they walk the complex paths of the world today and give them the grace to reap abundant fruits from their experience of the Krakow World Youth Day.

Heavenly Father, grant that we may bear witness to your mercy.

Teach us how to convey the faith to those in doubt, hope to those who are discouraged, love to those who feel indifferent, forgiveness to those who have done wrong and joy to those who are unhappy.


Allow the spark of merciful love that you have enkindled within us (to) become a fire that can transform hearts and renew the face of the earth.

Mary, Mother of Mercy, pray for us.

St. John Paul II, pray for us.

St. Faustina, pray for us.

And, Radford said, "Prosze, modlcie sie za nami!" (Please pray for us) in Polish.



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At closing Mass, people encouraged to pray, act for religious freedom

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The theme for the 2016 Fortnight for Freedom, “Witnesses to Freedom,” unfolded as 1,500 people spent part of their July 4 holiday in Washington attending the observance’s closing Mass and venerating the relics of two English saints martyred in 1535 for their Catholic faith.

The Mass and veneration took place at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. After the Mass, people waited in a long line to kneel and pray before the relics of St. John Fisher and St. Thomas More displayed near the altar.

Welcoming the congregation, Msgr. Walter Rossi, the shrine’s rector, said those filling what is the largest Catholic church in North America offered “testimony that the freedom to live our lives according to our faith is fundamental to the life of believers.”

The U.S. Catholic Church’s fifth annual Fortnight for Freedom closing Mass included the participation of three of the petitioners in a recent Supreme Court case challenging the federal contraceptive mandate. They contended that the requirement violated their religious freedom by forcing Catholic institutions to provide employee health insurance coverage for abortion-inducing drugs, contraceptives and sterilization procedures, which are prohibited by church teaching.

Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl of Washington, whose archdiocese and affiliated agencies challenged the mandate, was the main celebrant at the Mass. The homilist was Pittsburgh Bishop David A. Zubik, whose diocese also opposed the Health and Human Services contraceptive coverage provision of the Affordable Care Act.

The consolidated case that was before the Supreme Court, *Zubik v. Burwell*, is named for the bishop and for Sylvia Burwell, who is HHS secretary. A group of Little Sisters of the Poor – whose religious order also challenged the mandate – sat in a pew near the front of the congregation and received a long standing ovation at the end of the Mass.

On May 16, the Supreme Court in a unanimous ruling sent the case back to lower courts, vacated earlier judgments against those parties opposing the mandate and encouraged the plaintiffs and the federal government to resolve their differences.

Archbishop Christophe Pierre, apostolic nuncio to the United States, was a concelebrant at the Mass. Along with Bishop Zubik, other concelebrants included Baltimore Archbishop William E. Lori, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty; Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio and Auxiliary Bishop Richard B. Higgins of the U.S. Archdiocese for the Military Services; Auxiliary Bishop Barry C. Knestout of Washington; and Msgr. J. Brian Bransfield, the USCCB’s general secretary.

In his homily, Bishop Zubik commended the congregation for standing together and praying for religious freedom “on this 240th anniversary of our freedom in our United States,” dating back to the Declaration of Independence July 4, 1776.

He noted that just as footnotes in a term paper solidify the accuracy and strengthen the message of a point being made, “you and I are called to be footnotes, footnotes to the truth who is Jesus Christ himself.”

Catholics are called to be witnesses to Jesus and to be a living sign of his truth, the bishop said, adding that for some, that witness takes the form of martyrdom.



Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton, flanked by Msgr. William R. Cornelius, a Diocese of Steubenville priest retired from active parish ministry, second from left, and Permanent Deacons Ralph Poyo, left, and Stephen F. Miletic, right, closes the 2016 Fortnight for Freedom during a July 4 morning Mass at Holy Family Church, Steubenville. The Fortnight for Freedom opened June 21. Bishop Monforton centered his homily on peace, which he admitted takes work, but said flows from the cross of Jesus Christ. “The work of a true peacemaker requires carrying the cross with a heart full of mercy,” Bishop Monforton said. “The two go together, the cross and mercy.” As the Fortnight for Freedom ended, Bishop Monforton suggested people pick up their crosses, as St. John Fisher and St. Thomas More did. “True nobility comes from peacemakers. ... Without religious liberty in this country, we cannot truly be free.” The bishop, who last month opened the Year of Reconsecration of the Diocese of Steubenville to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, called on churchgoers to look to Mary, the Queen of Peace, to guide them as peacemakers – children of God. (Photo by DeFrancis)

Bishop Zubik said “our ancestors in the faith” demonstrate what it means to be a footnote to Jesus’ truth, and then be witnesses and sometimes martyrs. He pointed to St. John the Baptist, who was beheaded when he refused to give in to political power.

Pittsburgh’s bishop praised the example of Sts. Thomas More and John Fisher, a layman and a bishop, respectively, as witnesses and martyrs who “would not yield supremacy of power over faith, even to the king.”

Both men refused to accept Parliament’s Act of Supremacy, which had declared that King Henry VIII was head of the Church of England. Both were imprisoned for treason in the Tower of London for months. They were beheaded 14 days apart in 1535; Bishop Fisher was 65, More was 57.

The relic of St. John Fisher was a ring that had belonged to him. The relics of St. Thomas More were a piece of his jawbone and one half of a tooth. The national shrine was the last stop of the tour for the relics, which earlier were displayed in Miami, Baltimore, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Minnesota, Denver, Phoenix and Los Angeles.

In his homily, Bishop Zubik also highlighted the heroic example of other martyrs, including St. Maximilian Kolbe, the Polish Franciscan friar who gave up his life for another man in 1941 at the Auschwitz concentration camp, and Blessed Oscar Romero, the Salvadoran archbishop and

champion of the poor who was shot in the heart while celebrating Mass in 1980. Bishop Zubik also praised the witness of the 21 Egyptian Coptic Christians beheaded by Islamic State militants on a beach in Libya in 2015.

Bishop Zubik noted that the Little Sisters of the Poor in their service to the elderly poor and in their stand for religious freedom “are carrying the banner that we will not back off the truth that is Jesus Christ.”

He noted that the nation’s forefathers put forth religious liberty as the first freedom in the Constitution’s Bill of Rights, giving people the freedom to worship our God as the source of our strength, and also to live our faith outside our churches, synagogues and mosques.

Opponents to the HHS mandate have charged that it offered exemptions to religious groups in houses of worship, but not to educational, health care and charitable ministries operated by churches, which they said are as essential to the practice of faith as prayer is.

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St. John Paul II Resurrection: High Point of Revelation

By Diocese of Steubenville
Bishop Emeritus Gilbert I. Sheldon

"If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain" (1 Cor 15:14). St. John Paul here quotes what he considers the essence of Paul's teaching and the very basis of our Christian faith: "He (St. Paul) saw it as the keystone of the entire edifice of doctrine and life built up on revelation, inasmuch as is the definitive confirmation of the whole ensemble of truth taught by Christ." The hope and promise of our own resurrection is the whole point of the Christian way of life. It is why we, as Christians, believe what we believe, do what we do and are what we are. Without it, none of it makes sense. It was on this that St. Paul and the other apostles based their appeal to the people of their time to join in that faith; it is the same appeal that the church has been making to the world ever since.

The resurrection was the confirmation of the truth of all that Jesus himself preached, as is recorded in the Gospels. "He has risen as he said," the angel told the women at the tomb on the first Easter morning (Mt 28:6). All else that he said is also true and can be believed. "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away" (Mt 24:35). Among those words was Our Lord's claim to divinity – identifying himself with God – as he did before the Sanhedrin. It was that claim that brought on their charge of blasphemy against him and the death sentence: "'Are you the Son of God?' they asked. He replied to them: 'You say that I am' (i.e., 'You said it!'). Then they said, 'What further need have we for testimony? We have heard it from his own mouth'" (Lk 22:70-71). In so doing, the Jewish leadership put everything in place that was needed for Jesus to prove his true identity, which he did by the incontrovertible demonstration of dying and returning from the dead – something no one would have expected or even thought of! However, it is not that Jesus himself had not predicted it. He told the apostles several times, as we have already seen, that he would be put to death and rise again. At his

The hope and promise of our own resurrection is the whole point of the Christian way of life.

first visit to Jerusalem during the Passover celebration, Jesus told the crowds, somewhat mysteriously, "Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up." The Gospel of John adds, editorially, "But he was speaking of the temple of his body. Therefore, when he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and came to believe the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken" (Jn 2:21-22). The pope points out that, for St. Paul, there is an essential connection between Christ's resurrection and his identity as Son of God. For Paul, the resurrection also shows both the purpose and the successful conclusion of Christ's mission.

The term "paschal mystery" is often used in John Paul's discussion of the creed. "Paschal" refers to the Jewish feast of Passover, which was the setting for the death and resurrection of Christ. "Mystery" refers to the significance of those events for the redemption of mankind and its redirection toward the original goal for which it was created: eternal life in that glorified state that Jesus

manifested after his resurrection.

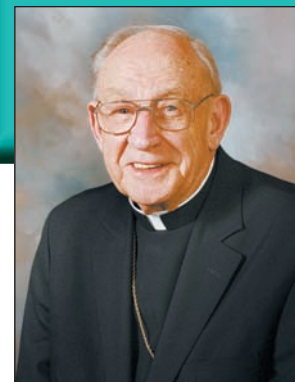
We can look deeper into this reality and distinguish its various aspects for us. For one thing, it shows, in Pope John Paul's words, that "Christ is the principle and source of new life for *everyone*." In his prayer at the Last Supper, Jesus prayed: "I do not pray for these only, but also for those who believe in me through their word" (Jn 17:20). It is through Christ that mankind is to be "saved," that is, redirected on the path to his eternal, God-given destiny. While we can respect whatever elements of truth might exist in other religions than Christianity, e.g., Buddhism, Hinduism, Islamic, etc., it is only through Jesus Christ that salvation comes. In pursuing truth, other faiths are implicitly seeking what is to be found in its fullness only in the Gospels, i.e., in the story of Jesus Christ and his mission.

For another thing, this new life promised us is victory over sin, and over the chief effect of sin: death. The Letter of St. Peter puts it: "Praised be the God and Father

of Our Lord, Jesus Christ. ... By his great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead" (1 Pt 1:9). Implied in this new life is a new status for mankind: "adoption" as sons and daughters of God. "God sent forth his Son ... to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons" (Gal 4:4-5). (The "law" refers to the Jewish law according to which Paul's immediate audience, the Jews, lived. In a wider sense it can refer to the biological law of life and death that all mankind knows in its fallen nature.)

As another aspect of the resurrection, John Paul points to the Eucharist. Our Lord himself indicated this relationship in his Discourse on the Bread of Life: "My father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world. ... For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day. I am the bread of life. ... I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever, and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world. ... Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died; whoever eats this bread will live forever" (Jn 6:32-49). (The Discourse is best read in its complete context, that is, the entire Chapter 6 of the Fourth Gospel.)

The Eucharist, then, after baptism, is the means that connect us to Christ and his resurrection. (We will see much more about the sacraments later.)



Bishop Sheldon

Struggling with Grandiosity

By Father Ron Rolheiser

We live in a world wherein most everything overstimulates our grandiosity, even as we are handed less and less tools to deal with that.

Several years ago, Robert L. Moore wrote a very significant book entitled "Facing the Dragon." The dragon that most threatens us, he believes, is the dragon of our own grandiosity – that sense inside us that has us believe that we are singularly special and destined for greatness. This condition besets us all. Simply put, each of us, all 7 billion of us on this planet, cannot help but feel that we are the center of the universe. And, given that this is mostly unacknowledged and we are generally ill-equipped to deal with it, this makes for a scary situation. This isn't a recipe for peace and harmony, but for jealousy and conflict.

And, yet, this condition isn't our fault, nor is it itself a moral flaw in our nature. Our grandiosity comes from the way God made us. We are made in the



Father Rolheiser

image and likeness of God. This is the most fundamental, dogmatic truth inside the Jewish and Christian understanding of the human person. However it is not to be conceived of simplistically, as some beautiful icon stamped inside our souls. Rather, it needs to be conceived of in this way: God is fire, infinite fire, an energy that is relentlessly seeking to embrace and infuse all of creation. And that fire is inside of us, creating in us a feeling of godliness, an intuition that we too have divine energies, and a pressure to be singularly special and to achieve some form of greatness.

In a manner of speaking, to be made in the image and likeness of God is to have a microchip of divinity inside us. This constitutes our greatest dignity, but also creates our biggest problems. The infinite does not sit calmly inside the finite. Because we have divine energy inside us, we do not make easy peace with this world, our longings and desires are too grandiose. Not only do we live in that perpetual disquiet that Augustine highlighted in his famous dictum: "You have made us for yourself, Lord, and our hearts are

restless until they rest in you!", but this innate grandiosity has us forever nursing the belief that we are special, uniquely destined, and born to somehow stand out and be recognized and acknowledged for our specialness.

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'Our Catholic Faith Instructs ... There Always is Hope. ...'

By Diocese of Steubenville
Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton

*Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD;
cry out to the rock of our salvation*
(Ps 95: 1).

World Youth Day Ambassadors

A week from this article's publication Catholic youth from all over the world will begin to descend on Krakow, Poland, for the 2016 World Youth Day. How appropriate to celebrate WYD in the very diocese where Pope St. John Paul II grew up and later was chief shepherd as Archbishop of Krakow.

St. John Paul celebrated the very first WYD in 1986. When our youth from the Diocese of Steubenville arrive, they will witness a royal city steeped in faith and tradition. Building-wise, fortunately, Krakow was mostly spared the devastating physical reminders of the Second World War.

World Youth Day enables the youth of our world to interact with Pope Francis and to engage in dialogue with fellow brothers and sisters from different cultures. In fact, our diocesan youth become ambassadors and will have an opportunity to exchange gifts. This pilgrimage of sorts will entail daily Mass, other liturgical services such as the Way of the Cross, catechetical programs

and visits to Czestachowa, as well as the birth places of St. John Paul and St. Faustina.

Krakow, the City of Saints, is a fitting place for our youth to strengthen their spiritual character among brothers and sisters from all across the globe, in the presence of our Holy Father, the successor of St. Peter.

Please pray for our ambassadors as they encounter Jesus Christ in this Universal Church setting.

Religious Freedom, or not

Near the end of last month, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services undermined current federal law when it refused to take any action against the state of California and its mandate that all health plans cover abortion.

This shocking action to force Church organizations to fund and facilitate elective abortions in their health insurance plans is not unique to California, though. The state of New York has followed California's lead. One can only imagine which states are contemplating similar action.

Our recent celebration of the Fortnight for Freedom was a sign of gratitude for the religious freedom enjoyed by our nation's citizenry, but it also provided us pause to acknowledge the precarious situation of that very freedom in 2016. As Cardinal Dolan and Archbishop Lori, chairmen of the U. S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities and Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty, respectively, state: "This administrative ruling fails to respect not only the rights to life and religious freedom, but also the will of Congress and the rule of law."



Bishop Monforton

We prayed that our nation's Congress would prevent further harassment and discrimination against people of faith by passing the Conscience Protection Act.

This recent Independence Day reminded us we live in a country where voices of reason can be heard, even in a time of disagreement and polarization.

May this summertime be a season of prayer, relaxation and reflection, as well as one of gratitude for the plentiful gifts Our Lord and Savior graciously provides us. We must always remember our Catholic faith instructs that in the Holy Name of Jesus there always is hope in the future.

Jubilee of Mercy Part 8

By Msgr. Thomas C. Petronek

Jesus' story of the rich man and Lazarus in Luke, Chapter 16, Verses 19-31 might be subtitled "Too Late for Mercy."

Luke alone tells this story which accordingly we hear only once in the three-year cycle of Sunday Mass readings. But because of the masterful way it is told, it is well known and well remembered.

The story plays out in two scenes – the first and shorter scene happens in time and the second and longer scene plays out in eternity. In the first scene, there are two people (the rich man and Lazarus) and in the second scene there are three (Abraham makes three). In the first scene there is no dialogue – only narration. Most of the second scene is comprised of dialogue. Let's look at some of the facets of the first scene.

The rich man's well being is described in terms of his being very well dressed – "clothed in purple and fine linen" – and well fed – "feasted sumptuously every day." The rich man is known only as the "rich man." He is obviously very wealthy. We can guess that his wealth is his identity.

The poor man has a name – Lazarus – "God has helped." He belongs to a class of people – the poor. But by having a name in the story, he has a personal identity – a real flesh and blood individual human being. His poverty is described in four ways: He is homeless, camped out at the rich man's gate; he is covered with sores, barely clothed and sickly;

he would gladly have eaten the scraps from the rich man's feasting; street dogs are his companions and caregivers.

Both men die and go to very different places for their "afterlife" – the bosom of Abraham and Hades. Lazarus is carried by angels to the comforting embrace of Father Abraham. The rich man is buried (likely in a fine tomb) and is in the flames of Hades.

Let's look at some of the other facets of the second scene. The rich man starts the dialogue with a prayer of petition to Abraham. He asks for *mercy* – that Abraham send Lazarus to quench his thirst with a drop of water. He is tormented by the anguish of the flames of Hades. Abraham does not acquiesce. He is prevented from sending Lazarus on the requested mission of mercy.

We notice that the rich man calls Lazarus by name. So, now we know that he did see Lazarus camped out by his front gate and even knew his name, but was not moved by mercy

to help him in any way.

What is the reason for the quite different afterlife situations of the rich man and Lazarus? Abraham explains! The rich man had received "good things" during his life, while Lazarus had received "evil things."

The role reversal is described in terms of "comfort" and "anguish." It is left to the hearer of the story to surmise that if the rich man had shared his "good things" with Lazarus,

he could likewise have been living in "comfort" after his death. Are we also to surmise that by enduring the sufferings of his poverty, Lazarus did not have to endure further "anguish" in the afterlife?

But Abraham goes on to explain another reason why he cannot send Lazarus to alleviate the rich man's sufferings. "... between us and you a great chasm *has been fixed*, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us." The passive voice (*has been fixed*) tells us that God has fixed the great chasm. No further explanation! That is just the way it is.

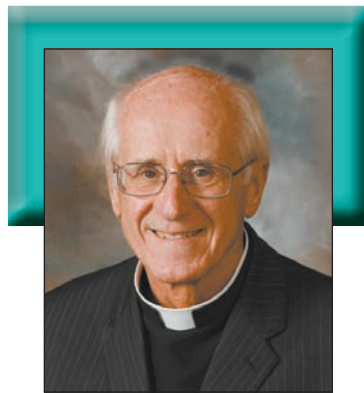
We note that in the first scene time passes. In the second scene time stands still – an eternal present.

The rich man asks a further mercy – this time for his five brothers – lest they end up in Hades. Abraham again refuses the request. His reason is that the five brothers – just like the rich man – have Moses and the prophets to guide their lives.

Just as the great chasm has been fixed by God, so the way God's children are to live their lives has been revealed by God.

Today is the time for mercy. The comfort of an eternally present afterlife is for those who have heard God's word and kept it.

Msgr. Petronek is a Diocese of Steubenville priest, retired from active parish ministry, who resides in Wheeling, West Virginia. A former two-time director of the diocesan Office of Worship and one-time missionary priest, he is a regular columnist for The Steubenville Register.



Msgr. Petronek

Cardinal Sarah's Mass comments encourage what canon law permits

By Colleen Dulle

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Recent comments by a high-ranking Vatican official have sparked questions about the direction priests should face while celebrating Mass, but the Vatican spokesman said Pope Francis has made it clear no changes are foreseen.

Cardinal Robert Sarah, prefect of the Vatican's Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments, urged priests and bishops at the Sacra Liturgia conference in London July 5 to start celebrating Masses "ad orientem," or facing away from the congregation, beginning the first Sunday of Advent this year.

However, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman, issued a statement July 11 indicating that Pope Francis met with Cardinal Sarah July 9 to indicate no liturgical directives will begin in Advent.

"Cardinal Sarah is always rightly concerned with the dignity of the celebration of Mass, that it might adequately express an attachment of respect and adoration for the eucharistic mystery," Father Lombardi's statement said.

"Some of his phrasing has been badly interpreted, as if he had announced new, different indications from those now given in liturgical norms and the words of the popes on celebration toward the people and the ordinary rite of the Mass," the spokesman added.

He recalled that the General Instruction on the Roman Missal, which "remains fully in force," indicated that the altar should be built away from the wall so "that Mass can be celebrated at it facing the people, which is desirable wherever possible."

The statement also reminded people that when Pope Francis visited the offices of the congregation for divine worship,

"he expressly recalled that the 'ordinary' form of the celebration of Mass is that foreseen by the missal promulgated by Paul VI," and that the extraordinary form permitted by retired Pope Benedict XVI "should not take the place of that 'ordinary' form."

Father Lombardi also said it would be better "to avoid the use of the expression 'reform of the reform,' referring to the liturgy, given that it's sometimes the sources of misunderstandings."

At the conference in London, Cardinal Sarah had asked that "wherever possible, with prudence and with the necessary catechesis, certainly, but also with a pastor's confidence that this is something good for the church," priests face east when celebrating the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

Several liturgical experts said Cardinal Sarah does not have the authority to impose a change but is simply encouraging a prac-

tice that liturgical law already permits.

"I think he's just encouraging as anyone can encourage, but because of his position, his encouragement carries more weight. He's not changing the legislation at all; he's just giving his opinion that he thinks this would help people to pray better," Father Andrew Menke, associate director of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' divine worship office, told Catholic News Service July 6.

Father Menke also said that as new editions of the Roman Missal are released, liturgical law is bound to shift, but he doubts anything would happen regarding the direction the priest faces, except perhaps more encouragement of "ad orientem" Masses in future missal editions.

Others agreed, saying neither bishops nor Cardinal Sarah have the right to force priests to celebrate Mass "facing East" until there is an official change to the missal, the official liturgical law.

Pope Francis says critics won't stop him from pursuing vision for church

By Cindy Wooden

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Pope Francis said he will continue pressing for a church that is open and understanding despite opposition from some clerics who "say no to everything."

"They do their work and I do mine," the pope said when asked, "What is your relationship with ultraconservatives in the church?"

The question was posed by Joaquin Morales Sola, a journalist for the Argen-

tine newspaper La Nacion, in an interview published July 3.

The Vatican newspaper, L'Osservatore Romano, published a translation of the interview July 5.

Most of the interview focused on issues related to Pope Francis' home country and his relationship with Argentine President Mauricio Macri — "I have no problem with President Macri," the pope said in the interview.

But Morales also asked about internal church matters, including criti-

cisms of the pope.

"I want a church that is open, understanding, that accompanies families who are hurting," Pope Francis said.

Some church leaders do not agree with his approach, but "I continue my course without looking over my shoulder," he said, adding that he does not try to silence

them.

"I don't cut off heads. I've never liked doing that."

Besides, he said, he's the pope.

"You remove nails by putting pressure on the top.

"Or you set them aside to rest when they reach retirement age."

Struggling

From Page 6

And so all of us are driven outwards by a divine gene to somehow make a statement with our lives, to somehow create a personal immortality, and to somehow create some artifact of specialness that the whole world has to take note of. This isn't an abstract concept; it's utterly earthy. The evidence for this is seen in every newscast, in every bombing, in every daredevil stunt, and in every situation where someone seeks to stand out. It's seen, too, in the universal hunger for fame, in the longing to be known, and in the need to be recognized as unique and special.

But this grandiosity, of itself, isn't our fault, nor is it necessarily a moral flaw. It comes from the way we are made, ironically from what is highest and best in us. The problem is that, today, we generally aren't given the tools to grapple with it generatively. More and more, we live in a world within which, for countless reasons, our grandiosity is being overstimulated, even as this is not being recognized and even as we are being given less and less the religious and psychological tools with which to handle that. What are these tools?

Psychologically, we need images of the human person that allow us to understand ourselves healthily but in ways that include an acceptance of our limitations, our frustrations, our anonymity, and the fact that our lives must make gracious space for everyone else's life. Psychologically, we

must be given the tools to understand our own life, admittedly as unique and special, but still as one life among millions of other unique and special lives. Psychologically, we need better tools for handling our grandiosity.

Religiously, our faith and our churches need to offer us an understanding of the human person that gives us the insights and the disciplines (*discipleship*) to enable us to live out our uniqueness and our specialness, even as we make peace with our own mortality, our limitations, our frustrations, our anonymity, and create space for the uniqueness and specialness of everyone else's life. In essence, religion has to give us the tools to healthily access the divine fire inside us and act healthily on the talents and gifts God has graced us with, but with the concomitant discipline to humbly acknowledge that these gifts are not our own, that they come from God, and that all we are and achieve is God's grace. Only then will we not be killed by failure and inflated by success.

The task in life, Robert Lax suggests, is not so much finding a path in the woods as of finding a rhythm to walk in.

Father Rolheiser is a Missionary Oblate of Mary Immaculate priest who is president of the Oblate School of Theology, San Antonio, a lecturer, retreat master, newspaper columnist and author. He has a website: www.ronrolheiser.com.

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Action on gun violence is a respect life issue in the eyes of some bishops

WASHINGTON (CNS) — In the first 181 days of 2016, there have been 163 mass shootings in the United States, data gathered by the Washington-based nonprofit Gun Violence Archive show.

Those mass shootings, defined as incidents in which four or more people are wounded or killed, led to 232 deaths and 643 injuries.

Not all such incidents make headlines — except locally. Only occasionally do they reach the scale of the June 12 massacre at a nightclub in Orlando, Florida, in which a lone gunman armed with high-capacity, quick-reload weapons gunned down 99 people, killing 49.

Clergy, gun control advocates and other observers say though that gun violence of any type — whether characterized as mass shootings or not — is destroying the soul of the country.

But solutions have been hard to reach.

“No one has answers. We are all, every one of us, affected by the problem. No one has the right answer,” said Stephen E. Sussman, associate professor of public administration at Dominican-run Barry University in Miami.

At least four bishops recently addressed gun violence. Their concern: U.S. society has a moral responsibility to enact gun control measures to protect society. Most importantly, they maintain, gun violence is a respect-for-life issue and their pleas for action are not rooted in politics.

In total, they have called for banning civilian access to military-style weapons, implementing background checks before gun purchases and prohibiting people on the federal no-fly list from obtaining a firearm.

“It is time for us as a nation to require at least as much

from those purchasing guns as we expect from those making application for a driver’s license. Public safety must always come first,” Bishop David A. Zubik of Pittsburgh said in a late-June statement.

He told Catholic News Service that his concern is rooted in long-standing Catholic teaching.

“It’s respect for human life,” he said. “We see so many different incidents of this type of violence that are occurring. And also that we take a look at that as a society. We’re becoming numb to these kinds of incidents.”

Bishop Kevin J. Farrell of Dallas has been particularly outspoken, having forcefully addressed the issue twice on the diocesan blog this year. His stance has received harsh criticism from gun rights backers. He told CNS that he was hardly offended because his concern extends to the protection of human life.

“We bear a big moral responsibility for all of this, and the deaths of those children (in Newtown, Connecticut, in 2012) especially, and the deaths of those young people who were in that night club in Orlando. That blood is on our hands and our leaders need to come to terms with this,” Bishop Farrell said.

Archbishop Blase J. Cupich of Chicago and Bishop Dennis J. Sullivan of Camden, New Jersey, also issued recent statements, imploring political leaders to implement a ban on assault weapons. Archbishop Cupich’s concern stems from the high rate of gun violence in his city, while Bishop Sullivan directly addressed the Orlando attack.

“The time for waiting is over,” Bishop Sullivan said in a June 23 posting on the diocesan website. “It was over after Virginia Tech, after Charleston, after Sandy Hook,

after San Bernardino and again now. How is it possible that these violent weapons can be purchased with such ease by people who have previously demonstrated signs of being a danger to others? And just as importantly, should these weapons be so easily and quickly purchased by anyone?”

Gun rights organizations, such as the National Rifle Association, argue that any limit on acquiring firearms violates the Second Amendment. Their argument is based on the idea that responsible and trained gun owners could more readily disarm an assailant meaning to inflict harm on innocent people in public places.

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The shooting of police officers July 7 near the end of a demonstration in Dallas to protest fatal shootings by police officers in Louisiana and Minnesota earlier in the week “calls us to a moment of national reflection,” said the president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

“To all people of goodwill, let us beg for the strength to resist the hatred that blinds us to our common humanity,” said Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, in a July 8 statement.

The archbishop described the sniper attack on the Dallas police officers “an act of unjustifiable evil.”

He said the “police are not a faceless enemy” but people offering their lives to protect others. He also noted “the suspects in crimes or routine traffic stops are not just a faceless threat” but members of families in “need of assistance, protection and fairness. When compassion does not drive our response to the suffering of either, we have failed one another,” Archbishop Kurtz said.

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Athens — Mass will no longer be celebrated at 7:15 a.m., at St. Paul Church. The 8:15 a.m. Mass will continue to be celebrated at its regular time.

Bridgeport — St. Joseph CWC will hold a picnic card party Aug. 3 at St. Mary Church Marian Hall, St. Clairsville. Doors open at 6 p.m.; admission, \$6. For reservations, accepted until Aug. 1, telephone (740) 635-2836 or (740) 635-2532.

Caldwell — St. Stephen Parish will sponsor a parish social from 5-8 p.m., Aug. 7, in the church hall.

St. Stephen Parish will have a series of presentations at 1 p.m. or 7 p.m., Tuesdays, in the church hall, on preparations for making a "Marian consecration." The series will conclude with making a Marian consecration Aug. 14. The program is for families and individuals over the age of 12. For additional information, telephone (740) 424-5069 or (330) 673-2715.

Caldwell/Fulda — First Saturday devotions will continue with the celebration of the 9 a.m. Mass, Aug. 6, at St. Stephen Church, Caldwell, and the celebration of the 9 a.m. Mass, Sept. 3, at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Church, Fulda.

Cambridge — Enrollment in the "Brown Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel" will be held during the celebration of the 8:35 a.m. Mass, July 16, at St. Benedict Church. Scapulars will be provided.

Mass will be celebrated in the new monastery chapel of the Blessed Martyrs of Damiel Priory at 1:30 p.m., July 20; 11 a.m., July 23, and 2 p.m., Aug. 16. Father Paul E. Hrezo, pastor of Christ Our Light Parish, will bless the monastery 20 minutes prior to the celebration of the July 23 Mass.

Cambridge — The third annual St. Benedict/Guernsey Catholic Central/Holy Trinity alumni reunion will be held at 6 p.m., Aug. 20, at Theo's Restaurant, 632 Wheeling Ave. For additional information, contact Susan Lerner Tharp at (740) 439-5166.

Gallipolis — Donations are being accepted for an upcoming Aug. 27 St. Louis Parish spaghetti dinner. For additional information, telephone Amilda Noll-Thompson, (740) 446-7132 or Patty Hays, (740) 446-3884.

Guysville — An annual St. John homecoming will be held July 31, at the chapel, which is located on Dutch Ridge Road. Beginning at noon, a chicken or ham dinner will be served. Cost of the meal is \$7 for adults and \$3 for children. There will be bingo, raffles and other games during the afternoon.

Marietta — Enrollment applications for the 2016-17 academic year at St. Mary School are being accepted. Montessori preschool, which is a half-day program; prekindergarten, all day; and kindergarten through eighth-grade classes are available. For additional information or to setup an appointment time for a tour of the school, telephone the school office at (740) 374-8181, or email nssm_tbradley@seovec.org.

St. Clairsville — An open house will be held at St. Mary Central School, 226 W. Main St., for the 2016-17 school year, from 6:15-6:50 p.m., Aug. 21. A parents' meeting will follow, from 7-7:45 p.m. Registrations are being accepted for students prekindergarten through eighth grade. For additional information, telephone the school office at (740) 695-3189.

Temperanceville — The annual St. Mary Parish picnic will be held July 30 and July 31, at the church. Barbecue chicken or roast beef dinners will be served from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., July 31. A dance will be held from 8-11 p.m., July 30, with music provided by Deep Down Country. Bingo, instant bingo, raffles, children's games, a craft table and baked goods will be part of the event. Mass will be celebrated at 9:30 a.m., July 31. A dance will be held from 7-10 p.m., July 31, with music by Little Creek Band.



The choir — whose members include Christine Ginnetti, Dave Krak, Don Whitmore, Grace Whitmore, Audrey Kuklica, Shirley Scholik, Maria Duke, Darlene Schaeffer and Samantha Schaeffer — at Sts. Peter and Paul Oratory, Lore City, sing to celebrate the saints' feast day June 29.



Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton kneels before the altar as he ends Mass at Sts. Peter and Paul Oratory. He is accompanied by Father Paul E. Hrezo, pastor of Christ Our Light Parish, Cambridge, center, and altar servers who included Ben Jackson, Sidney Beaver and Chris Ginnetti.



Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton greets a Massgoer in Lore City. (Photos by DeFrancis)



After Mass, it was picnic time on the grounds of Sts. Peter and Paul Oratory.

Around and About

Barton — The Barton Volunteer Fire Department will sponsor an annual polkafest from 11 a.m.-8 p.m., July 31, at the firemen's field, 52176 Center St. Held rain or shine, nonstop music will be provided from noon until 8 p.m. Barbecue chicken, ribs, homemade Polish foods, desserts and raffles will be part of the event. Admission is \$6 for adults; children, 18 years of age and under, can attend for free. For additional information, telephone (740) 695-3029.

Carrollton — Individuals interested in joining the "St. John's Villa Volunteer Program" can contact Susan DeChiara or Danielle Snider at (330) 627-9789. Participants, who must be at least 16 years of age, would assist in singing, reading and doing crafts with residents. The villa's mission statement reads, in part, that it is "to support, empower and value people of all ages served, with special focus on adults who are mentally challenged, their families and the broader community, enabling each to attain their full mental, social, physical and spiritual potential."

Martins Ferry — Knights of Columbus Mother of God Council 1421 will sponsor a fish fry from

11 a.m.-6 p.m., July 15, at the council hall, 25 N. Fourth St. Eat in or takeout orders will be available. To place an order, telephone (740) 633-0528.

Steubenville — Speakers at the 26th annual conference on promoting healthy attachments Nov. 21-22 at Oglebay Park Resort and Convention Center, Wheeling, West Virginia, will focus on trauma, announced Michele A. Santin, director, Diocese of Steubenville Office of Family and Social Concerns (Catholic Charities). Additional information on the conference will be available from Santin, email msantin@diosteub.org or telephone (740) 282-3631, or DeDe Kidder, conference secretary, email dede.kidder@gmail.com or telephone (740) 632-3018.

Steubenville — The public can attend, at no cost, a 7 p.m., July 28, Applied Biblical Studies Conference, where the topic is "Living the Year of Mercy," and the 7 p.m., July 30, Defending the Faith Conference, where the talk is titled "The Treasure of Our Soul: Our Profession of Faith," at Franciscan University of Steubenville. For more information, telephone Franciscan University's Christian Outreach Office, (740) 283-6315.

Bishop supports NFP awareness

STEUBENVILLE — National Natural Family Planning Awareness Week is July 24-30, and Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton has written a message to direct attention to it.

“Recently Pope Francis published an apostolic exhortation on marriage and the family, ‘The Joy of Love.’ The Holy Father offers a beautiful reflection on the meaning of marriage – a gift, a blessing and a calling from God. As we prepare to celebrate National Natural Family Planning Awareness Week, we are offered an occasion to reflect on some key aspects of the pope’s message.”

The bishop continued, “The theme of this year’s observance is ‘Love, Mercy, Life: Opening the Heart of Marriage.’ Marriage is a gift and a calling from God. In God’s plan, marriage is meant to be a source of life, love and joy, both for the couple and the family they establish.

“Natural family planning is a noble way for married couples to open their hearts to God’s plan. NFP enables

couples to discern whether God is calling them to bring forth new life or to wait for a time. Based on the latest science, NFP allows couples to celebrate and reverence God’s vision for human sexuality by respecting their bodies in a way that artificial means do not. As Pope Francis observes: ‘We need to return to the message of the encyclical ‘Humanae Vitae’ of Blessed Pope Paul VI, which highlights the need to respect the dignity of the person in morally assessing methods of regulating birth’ (‘The Joy of Love,’ Paragraph 82).”

Bishop Monforton urged people to visit the diocesan NFP webpage: www.diosteub.org/Family/NFP.

He concluded, “As we continue our journey in this extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, I pray for God’s blessings upon all the people of the Diocese of Steubenville. In a particular way, I pray for blessings on all married couples and families, that they mirror the Holy Family in living out this beautiful vocation.”



Lynn Sullivan

A memorial service and celebration of life for Lynn Sullivan will be held Aug. 6. The service will begin with music

at 11 a.m. at St. Paul Church, 38 N. College St., Athens; Mass follows at 11:30 a.m. A reception will be held from 1-4 p.m. (music program at 2 p.m.) at Holy Family Center, 75 Stewart St., Athens.

Summer assistance available

GAHANNA, Ohio — The Ohio Neighbor to Neighbor Program is accepting applications for utility assistance grants for the 2016 summer cooling season.

Through a partnership between AEP Ohio, a unit of American Electric Power, and Dollar Energy Fund, eligible AEP Ohio customers who need help during summer months can apply for assistance to maintain or restore their electric service through Aug. 31, while funds are available, a spokesman for the program announced.

For more information about Dollar Energy Fund and how to apply for the Hardship Program or donate to the organization, visit www.dollarenergyfund.org.

TOR Father is kayaking for sisters

STEUBENVILLE — Third Order Regular Franciscan Father Matt Russick is paddling for the poor – kayaking that is.

For a third year, Father Russick is raising money for the Franciscan Sisters Third Order Regular of Penance of the Sorrowful Mother. The dollars raised will support the religious association’s ministry in downtown Steubenville, the Heart of Mary House of Prayer and Service.

Father Russick joined the TORs in 2002. Originally, from Michigan, he served the Grand Rapids Diocese in youth ministry, prior to entering the seminary, he said. Ordained in 2009, he taught in a high school in Pennsylvania, served in a parish in northern Virginia and for the last three years has ministered in Austria, teaching a university class and serving in campus ministry. “God has been good,” he said.

Since he entered the Franciscans, Father Russick said, he has known the TOR Sisters, whose motherhouse is in Toronto. “Their presence in the downtown is very valuable,” he said of their serving the less fortunate in Steubenville, including operating Samaritan House, a clothing store and emergency food center. “They are living among the people, building relationships, treating everyone with a great deal of dignity,” Father Russick said.

For him, raising money for the sisters is a way that he can participate in their ministry of mercy. One year, he peddled for the poor, riding his bicycle for 250 miles from Maryland to Ohio. Last year, he hiked for the poor. That year he covered 26 miles as a nod to the 26 years of the sisters’ ministry. Father Russick and his brother Aaron will put their kayak on the 250-mile Muskegon River. “We are



Father Matt Russick stands in the parking lot at Samaritan House. (Photo by DeFrancis)

doing the last little bit,” of the waterway, he said of the July 24-25 river travel. The brothers will paddle 27 miles to represent the sisters’ years of ministry.

In the first year, Father Russick raised \$11,000 for the TOR Sisters. The second time, he brought in \$15,000. This year, he hopes to tally \$20,000. To donate, go online to franciscansisterstor.org; telephone (740) 544-5542 or mail checks to Franciscan Sisters TOR, 369 Little Church Road, Toronto, OH 43964.

Obituaries

Franciscan Sister of Manitowoc, Wisconsin, Marialee (Nancy) Lamantia suffered a heart attack and died July 1 at Holy Family Memorial Hospital, Manitowoc.

Born Aug. 16, 1947, a daughter of Anthony and Helen Grossi Lamantia, Sister Marialee was a 1965 graduate of Catholic Central High School, Steubenville. She had been a member of Holy Family Parish, Steubenville.

A Franciscan Sister for more than 45 years, Sister Marialee, 68, served her community as a nurse, teacher, principal and counselor.

A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated July 9 at Holy Family Convent, Manitowoc; burial followed.

She is survived by brothers David of Longwood, Florida, and Mark (Tony) of Old Monroe, Missouri; nephews, a niece and a grand-nephew, as well as her Franciscan Sisters.

Ursuline Sister M. Bernadette Maier has died at 89.

Born March 12, 1927, in Cleveland, she was the daughter of Earl and Caroline Ross Maier.

Sister Bernadette, who joined the Ursuline community from Immaculate Conception Parish in Ravenna, Ohio, in 1946 and professed final vows in 1952, was a lifelong educator. She held undergraduate and master’s degrees and after serving as a teacher, principal and administrator was a consultant for the Catholic Conference of Ohio.

She is survived by a sister Shirley Sloth of Lake Zurich, Illinois, nieces and nephews and her Ursuline Sisters.

A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated June 7 at the Chapel of the Most Holy Trinity Ursuline Educational Center/Motherhouse, Cleveland. Interment followed in All Souls Cemetery.

Sister Alverna O’Laughlin, 84, a Franciscan Sister of the Congregation of Our Lady of Lourdes, Rochester, Minnesota, died May 30.

Born Patricia Ann O’Laughlin Feb. 1, 1932, to Frank and Minnie Range O’Laughlin in Winona, Minnesota, she entered the Sisters of St. Francis in 1950, made her first vows in 1953 and her perpetual vows in 1956.

After completing nursing classes, Sister Alverna served in hospitals in Minnesota and in 1965 established an activities program for the retired Franciscan Sisters at Assisi Heights.

She, too, served as a hospital chaplain, founded an organization to help those with disabilities get ham radio licenses and equipment and did volunteer ministries, including in the Ironton Catholic community where she resided before her retirement to Assisi Heights in 2007.

Sister Alverna is survived by nieces and nephews and her Franciscan Congregation.

A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated June 6 in the Chapel of Our Lady of Lourdes, Assisi Heights. Burial followed in Calvary Cemetery, Rochester.

John D. Brockway, 99, St. Peter, Steubenville, June 26.

John H. Bryan, 87, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, a Yorkville native, July 4.

Bernadine “Bernie” Cerny, 87, St. Francis Xavier, Malvern, June 22.

James W. Chanoski, 87, Adena, St. Casimir, July 3.

Helen Case Donley, 89, Adena, St. Casimir, June 20.

Eleanor E. Dumbola, 83, Triumph of the Cross, Steubenville, June 28.

Kenneth R. Fout, 61, 615 Pike St., Coal Grove, St. Lawrence O’Toole, Ironton, July 1.

Doris Plumby Miklik, 87, 15 N. Fourth St., Martins Ferry, St. Mary, June 29.

David E. “Abe” Miller, 65, Toronto, St. Francis of Assisi, June 9.

Mary Neuhart, 76, 4620 Smithfield St., Shadyside, St. Mary, June 29.

Charlotte Cadegan Perun, 87, Toronto, St. Francis of Assisi, June 25.

Dorothy Scarmack, 84, Athens, St. Paul, June 27.

Mary Alice Schmitt, 91, Mingo Junction, St. Agnes, July 6.

John J. Schoepner, 91, the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, July 4.

Mary D. Tripodi, 94, Triumph of the Cross, Steubenville, July 4.

Alice Poole Walker, 89, 10th and Clinton streets, Ironton, St. Lawrence O’Toole, June 24.

John M. Welday, 57, Toronto, St. Francis of Assisi, July 3.



A plate designates the name of the renovated chapel at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta. The chapel honors three martyrs – St. Thomas More, St. John Fisher and St. Thomas Becket. The painted canvas on the wall outside the chapel depicts the martyrs, also pictured on the vestment, worn by the priest. The martyrs also are pictured on windows inside the chapel. (Photos by DeFrancis)



Marietta basilica

From Page 1

to Msgr. Campbell, previewed some of the items and additions visitors to the basilica will see.

More than 175 years ago, Bishop John B. Purcell of Cincinnati established the parish of St. Mary of the Assumption in Marietta, Msgr. Campbell pointed out. In 2009, the parish celebrated the 100th anniversary of the consecration of the church by Bishop James J. Hartley of Columbus, Ohio. In 2013, St. Mary Church was elevated to a minor basilica, at that time the 76th in the United States. The designation came after major renovation to the church, under the direction of Msgr. Campbell.

After the basilica designation and people from throughout the Diocese of Steubenville, and elsewhere, began to make pilgrimages to it, enhancements to the interior and exterior of the church continued.

People from all 50 states in the United States and 24 foreign countries have signed the visitor's register at the basilica, to date, Msgr. Campbell said. Tourism in Marietta has increased because of the basilica, he said he has been told. Four signs in the community point to the basilica.

Most recently, the undercroft of the basilica, which houses a gift shop and library, has been repainted and

refloored, and a new ceiling and new lighting have been installed.

A large cabinet in a corner of the undercroft is used to display historic items. Among them now are zucchetos that belonged to Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI and Pope Francis. These were received after letters were mailed and a donation made to papal charities.

The zucchetos, which Archbishop Georg Gansuein, prefect of the papal household, authenticated as having been worn by the popes are of two different sizes, Father Nelson pointed out. Pope Benedict is a small man, only about 5 feet, 4 inches tall, Father Nelson said. And, though Pope Francis is perceived by many as being large, he is only approximately 5 feet, 7 inches tall, Father Nelson added.

The chapel in the basilica has been renamed the Chapel of the English Martyrs – St. Thomas Becket, St. Thomas More and St. John Fisher. On a wall outside the door of the chapel, used for adoration, prayer groups, and even was the location of a small wedding recently, pictures of the martyrs were painted on a canvas by artists affiliated with Rohn and Associates Custom Studio Inc. The studio is part of Rohn and Associates Design Inc., a firm of liturgical consultants, designers and artists, with an office in

Pittsburgh. The firm was involved with the multi-million dollar renovation of St. Mary. Rolf R. Rohn is the firm's principal.

The martyrs died defending the faith, Msgr. Campbell said. He said he has a devotion to St. Thomas More, whose head was exposed on London Bridge for a month. Msgr. Campbell said a year or two after his ordination to the priesthood, he visited the cell in which Thomas More was imprisoned.

Father Nelson has a devotion to St. Thomas Becket. The saint's picture is on the holy card Father Nelson handed out at his ordination to the priesthood. "Remember the sufferings of Christ, the storms that were weathered ... the crown that came from those sufferings which gave new radiance to the faith. ... All saints give testimony to the truth that without real effort, no one ever wins the crown."

Windows that depict the three martyrs were installed in the chapel. The windows came from a church in Wooster, Massachusetts, and were made by the same company in Germany that created the windows in the main part of the church, Msgr. Campbell said. The windows, which date back decades, are among those things pointed out during tours of the basilica.



St. Matthias Mission, Freeport, began with a Mass in 1957 in the home of Mary Reaves. Four people attended. In 1963, Msgr. David E. Reasbeck became the mission's first permanent priest and began plans to build a church, above, where Father Frederick C. Kihm, upper right and standing third from left, administrator of the mission and pastor of St. Teresa of Avila Parish, Cadiz, and Sacred Heart, Hopedale, celebrates St. Matthias' 50 years at Mass. He and Thomas Hisrich, mission council president, seated above and standing left, continue the celebration, above. (Photos provided)