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News Briefs

Sword pierced city's heart, bishop says

ORLANDO, Fla./VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Orlando Bishop John G. Noonan urged people of faith “to turn their hearts and souls” to God and pray for the victims, the families and first responders following the worst mass shooting in U.S. history June 12.

“A sword has pierced the heart of our city,” he said in a statement. “The healing power of Jesus goes beyond our physical wounds but touches every level of our humanity: physical, emotional, social, spiritual. Jesus calls us to remain fervent in our protection of life and human dignity and to pray unceasingly for peace in our world.”

The shooting rampage at a nightclub in Orlando left 50 people dead, including the gunman, and 53 wounded.

Police said a lone gunman identified as 29-year-old Omar Mir Seddique Mateen – opened fire inside the Pulse club in Orlando in the early morning hours. News reports said that Mateen, who pledged allegiance to the Islamic State terrorist group, died in a gun battle with SWAT team members.

Across the nation, reaction from church and community leaders was swift, and in cities large and small, people organized candlelit vigils for the victims and their families.

“Waking up to the unspeakable violence in Orlando reminds us of how precious human life is,” said Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, who is president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Pope Francis offered prayers for the families of the victims of the mass shooting and expressed hope that people would find ways to identify and uproot “the causes of such terrible and absurd violence.”

Describing the shooting as an expression of “homicidal folly and senseless hatred,” a Vatican statement said: “The terrible massacre that has taken place in Orlando, with its dreadfully high number of innocent victims, has caused in Pope Francis, and in all of us, the deepest feelings of horror and condemnation, of pain and turmoil. Pope Francis joins the families of the victims and all of the injured in prayer and in compassion. Sharing in their indescribable suffering he entrusts them to the Lord so they may find comfort.”

Jesus' tomb getting needed restoration

JERUSALEM (CNS) — For the first time in 200 years, experts have begun a restoration of the Edicule of the Tomb in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, where, according to Christian tradition, Jesus was laid to rest after his crucifixion.

The project, which began in early June, is expected to take up to one year to complete and will include damage repair and reinforcement of the structure.

The work is being carried out by experts from the National Technical University of Athens.

The project came together on assent of the three principal churches – Greek Orthodox, Roman Catholic, Armenian Apostolic, as well as the Ethiopian, Syriac and Coptic churches – overseeing the tomb under the 19th-century Status Quo agreement.



Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton starts the June 4 Marian procession that opened the Year of Reconsecration of the diocese to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. He is accompanied by Permanent Deacons Richard G. Adams, left, and Randall Redington, right. After the downtown Steubenville procession, Mass was celebrated in St. Peter Church, in the background. (Photo by DeFrancis) Bishop Monforton's homily/Page 7; additional Photos/Page 12



Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton joins Father David L. Huffman to congratulate the Class of 2016 of St. Joseph Central High School, Ironton. (Photo by Johnson) Story/pictures/Inside

Seniors in three parochial high schools in diocese awarded diplomas

BELLAIRE/IRONTON and STEUBENVILLE — At the three parochial high schools in the Diocese of Steubenville — St. John Central, Bellaire, St. Joseph Central, Ironton, and Catholic Central, Steubenville



Natalie Cervelli



Maria Ducci



Lindsey Froehlich



Brooke Moore



Jessica Alvey

— graduating seniors have been awarded diplomas, and the highest academic achievers in each of the classes of 2016 have been singled out.

Paul D. Ward, director, Steubenville Diocese Office of Christian Formation and Schools, hands each graduate a diploma during individual commencement exercises in Bellaire, Ironton and Steubenville.

Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton congratulates graduates individually and collectively at baccalaureate Masses at churches — St. John, St. Joseph and St. Peter — in the communities — Bellaire, Ironton and Steubenville — where the high schools are located.

St. John Central graduation was held May 22 in the gymnasium of the 3625 Guernsey St., Bellaire, high school.

Natalie Cervelli, Maria Ducci, Lindsey Froehlich and Brooke Moore were valedictorians and Jessica Alvey salutatorian, announced Kim Leonard, St. John Central High School principal. Father Timothy P. McGuire, pastor of St. Frances Cabrini Parish, Colerain, is pastoral administrator of the high school.

Cervelli is the daughter of Mark and Amy Cervelli of Bellaire and a member of St. John Parish, Bellaire. While at St. John Central High School, Natalie consistently scored 4.0 grade point averages, was a member of the National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, Science, International and High Adventure

clubs, as well as the Drug Free Clubs of America and Militia Immaculata. She was selected to attend leadership programs in West Virginia and Ohio and represent her class, in school, when a freshman, junior and senior. Natalie, also, was a cheerleader and a member of the cross-country and softball teams. The recipient of numerous academic awards and scholarships, Natalie plans to attend The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, in the fall and major in chemistry.

Ducci, the daughter of Chris and Nancy Ducci of Wheeling, West Virginia, is a member of St. John Parish, Bellaire. While a student at St. John Central High School, Maria was a member of the National Honor Society, the Spanish National Honor Society, Student Council, Interact Club and Science Club. She, too, was a "Teen Ambassador" and a representative to Buckeye Girls' State. Consistently excelling academically, with a perfect 4.0 grade point average, Maria, also, was a cheerleader and on the cross-country team. In the fall, Maria, who received several awards and scholarships, plans to attend West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia, and major in biology.

Froehlich, who is the daughter of Jeff and Bonnie Froehlich of Woodsfield, held a 4.0 grade point average every quarter since her freshman year at St. John Central High School. Also, while in school, Lindsey was

a member of the National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society and the All-Conference Academic Team. In sports, Lindsey played volleyball and basketball and ran track. She, too, was a member of the Interact, Science and High Adventure clubs. Lindsey was singled out for awards and scholarships as she graduated from St. John Central. When she attends The Ohio State University in the fall, Lindsey will major in biology.

Moore, whose parents are Jim and Anna Moore of Bellaire, too, held a 4.0 grade point average throughout her four years in high school. At St. John Central, she was a member of the National Honor Society, treasurer of Student Council and the Science Club and a letter winner in cross-country and track.

A member of St. John Parish, Bellaire, Brooke will attend Wittenberg University, Springfield, Ohio, in the fall and major in biology. For her academic achievements at St. John Central, she received awards and scholarships.

The St. John Central salutatorian, Alvey, is the daughter of John Alvey and Vicki Gilmore, both of Bellaire. While at the high school, Jessica was a member of the National Honor Society, Student Council,

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Lynsey Booker



Logan Carrico



Ivie Hopkins

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Seniors

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Science Club and High Adventure Club. The holder of academic awards, Jessica was selected to attend a leadership program in Wheeling. She played volleyball and basketball and ran track. The recipient of a scholarship, Jessica will attend Kent State University, Kent, Ohio, in the fall and major in biology.

Other **St. John Central High School** graduates are: Abigail Adams, Austin Anastasia, Brian Bossell, Anthony Busack, Ashlyn Callarik, Kyle Coppa, Mark Donahue, Jacqueline Helms, Alexis Jarrett, Jared Keiser, Emily LeMasters, Austin Morris, Brycen Murray, Kyle Ogden, Nicholas Petho, Rachel Porter, Marissa Rose, Charlie Scatterday, Jeffrey Schell-Green, Zachary Schnegg, Kylie Stauffer and Bryce Zonkoski.

During the June 3 graduation at St. Joseph Church, Ironton, **St. Joseph Central High School** graduates **Lynsey Booker, Logan Carrico** and **Ivie Hopkins** were the valedictorians and **Emily Anderson, James Kelley, Brady Parlato** and **Emma Saxby** the salutatorians, announced Christi Bare, St. Joseph Central High School guidance counselor. Paul Mollett is principal of the school at 912 S. Sixth St., Ironton. Father David L. Huffman is pastoral administrator of St. Joseph Central High School.

Booker is the daughter of Wesley and Denise Booker of Ironton. In the fall, Lynsey plans to attend Ohio University, Athens, and major in athletic training. While at St. Joseph Central High School, Lynsey was a member of the National Honor Society, served as class president, was chosen for a citizenship award, was a varsity basketball and soccer player and was a winner in Marshall University, Huntington, West Virginia, academic competition. She, too, received other awards and scholarships. A member of St. Lawrence O'Toole Parish, Ironton, Lynsey is a choir member there.

Carrico is the son of Jim and Julie Carrico of Ironton. In the fall, Logan will attend The Ohio State University and enroll as a premedical student. At St. Joseph Central, Logan was a member of the National Honor Society, served as a class officer, was on the school's Quiz Bowl team, served on a Mock Trial team, was a bowler and participated in Marshall University academic competition. Also, Logan was a drummer for the high school. As a member of St. Joseph Parish, he is a server and lector at Mass at the Ironton church.

Hopkins is the daughter of Tim and Ruth Hopkins, residents of Ironton, and St. Joseph parishioners. In the fall, Ivie plans to attend Capital University, Columbus, for which she has been awarded scholarships, and major in marketing. At St. Joseph Central High School, Ivie was a member of the National Honor Society, a winner in Marshall University academic competition, a leadership conference participant, cheerleader, on the volleyball, soccer and softball teams and a member of the Quiz Bowl team.

Salutatorian **Anderson** is the daughter of Larry and



Emily Anderson



James Kelley



Brady Parlato



Emma Saxby

Cindy Anderson of Ironton. In the fall, Emily will attend Marshall University, where she has received a scholarship, and major in biochemistry. While at St. Joseph Central High School, Emily was a member of the National Honor Society and volleyball and bowling teams. She, too, was a cheerleader, winner of Marshall University academic competition and a member of the Quiz Bowl. As well, Emily was on the yearbook staff. A member of St. Lawrence O'Toole Parish, Emily is a lector and a member of its folk choir, and at St. Joseph Church, she is a member of the music club.

Kelley is the son of James and Kimberly Kelley of Ironton. James has received scholarships and plans to attend Ohio University in the fall and major in electrical engineering. At St. Joseph Central High School, he was a member of the National Honor Society and a class officer. James played baseball, basketball, soccer and golf. He was on the Quiz Bowl, was a winner of Marshall University academic competition, served the yearbook staff and received scholar and athletic awards. A St. Joseph parishioner, James is an altar server and lector.

Parlato is the son of Jason and Jacque Parlato of Ash-

land, Kentucky. He has received scholarships and plans to attend Georgetown College, Georgetown, Kentucky, in the

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Bishop Monforton's Schedule

June

- 19 Mass, St. John Church, Bellaire, 10:30 a.m.
- 20 Catholic Conference of Ohio meeting, Columbus, Ohio, noon
Annual Priests' Jubilee Celebration, St. Mary Church, St. Clairsville, 4:30 p.m.
- 26 Youth Mass, Franciscan University of Steubenville, 10 a.m.
- 27 Mass, Holy Family Fest, Apostolate for Family Consecration, Bloomingdale, 9 a.m.
- 29 Faith in the Future luncheon, Franciscan University of Steubenville, noon
Mass, Sts. Peter and Paul Oratory, Lore City, 6 p.m.

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Seniors

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fall and major in education. While a student at St. Joseph Central High School, Brady was a member of the National Honor Society and on the Quiz Bowl team. He, too, was a bowler, winner of Marshall University academic competition and a participant in annual mathematics university-level competition. Also, at St. Joseph Central High School, Brady received academic awards, participated in the Mock Trial and was a yearbook staff member.

Saxby is the daughter of Dr. Richard and Lisa Saxby of Ironton. In the fall, Emma plans to attend the University of Rio Grande, Rio Grande, Ohio, and major in business. Also, at the university, she will be a member of the women's soccer team. At St. Joseph Central High School, Emma was a member of the National Honor Society, received a leadership award, served as a student body officer and was on the soccer and bowling teams. In addition, Emma was a Marshall University academic competitor, a member of the St. Joseph Central yearbook staff and represented the high school in leadership events. She, too, was a member of the Mock Trial team. At St. Lawrence O'Toole Church, where she is a parishioner, Emma sings in the choir and is a server and lector, too.

Other members of the **St. Joseph Central High School** Class of 2016 are: David Childers, Timothy Dickess, Jordan Jenkins, Justyn Kuhns, Morgan Mahlmeister, Alyssa Miller, Allison Scaife, Sarah Snowden, Sydney Wain, Alexander Ward, Tyler Ward, Ivy Whaley and Judge Williams.

When the Class of 2016 at **Catholic Central High School** received diplomas, **Anthony Barber** and **Rachel Dziewatkoski** were named co-valedictorians, said Rich Wilinski, principal. **Taylor Bennington** was salutatorian.

Father Thomas R. Nau is pastoral administrator of the hilltop school.

Barber is the son of Michael and Sherri

Barber of Steubenville. They are members of Blessed Sacrament Parish, Wintersville. At the church, Anthony is an altar server. At Catholic Central, Anthony was Student Council president and a member of the National Honor Society, Key Club and the Foreign Language Club. Also, while at Catholic Central, Anthony won awards for academics, recorded more than 100 hours of community service and was cited for his prowess in football, basketball and baseball. He, too, was awarded college scholarships. In the fall, Anthony will attend the University of Pittsburgh (Pennsylvania) and major in engineering.

Dziewatkoski is the daughter of Julius and Audrey Dziewatkoski of Wintersville. They are members of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Wintersville. At Catholic Central, Rachel was a member of the National Honor Society, Catholic Daughters, Students Against Destructive Decisions and Key, Pep and Foreign Language clubs. She, also, participated in sports – basketball, softball and volleyball – and was in the marching band. She was a tutor and chemistry lab assistant. Rachel, who tabulated 235 hours of community service while in high school, also works at a karate school. She has been awarded scholarships, also. Rachel will attend Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, in the fall and major in engineering.

Salutatorian **Bennington** is the daughter of Doug and Denise Bennington of Mingo Junction. She is a St. Agnes, Mingo Junction, parishioner. Taylor serves her parish as an altar server. In high school, she was a member of the National Honor Society, Catholic Daughters and Students Against Destructive Decisions. She, too, was in the marching band. The recipient of awards and scholarships, Taylor will attend Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, in the fall and major in pharmacy.

Other top-10 graduates at **Catholic Central** are Joshua Bensus, Braden Bol-



Anthony Barber



Rachel Dziewatkoski



Taylor Bennington

(Photos provided)

ger, Haley Hartzell, Lauren Hunt, Madeline Metcalf, Abigail Miller and Kateri Schmiesing.

Also, members of the Class of 2016 at **Catholic Central** are: Eva Balzano, Kaylee Bates-Williams, Alexis Bennington, Mikayla Bernert, Sophia Bodo, Brent Boller, Emily Byers, Bridgette Chronister, Kylie Chronister, Isabella Emmerling, John Fallon, Anne Fischer, Matthew Fischer, Noah Flores, Rebecca Fouts, Daniel Franckhauser, Garrett Gallaher, Daniela Gonzalez, Colin Greve, Anthony Heavilin, James Howard, Mark Indovina, Jared John, Kara Kakascik, Luke Karaba, Maria Kelly, Isaac Kiedrowski, Emily Kissinger, Annabelle Kuchan, Allison Lamantia, Charles LeFever, Austin Marchetta, Alexis Mastroianni, Alexandria McComb, Georgi McGinness, Austin Meronoff, Andrew Milewsky, Caleb Moore, Luke Neary, Ainslie Oiler, Abby O'Kruta, John Parise, Connor Pecar, Allison Pizzoferrato, Tara Pizzoferrato, Seth Potenzini, Cody Raymond, G Raymond, Mark Rest, Jacob Rigaud, Jesse Robinson, Matthew Sarlo, Ryan Stillwell, Nicholas Stimpert, Brandon Svec, Susanna Thibault, Shawn Thompson, John-Paul Tysz, Nicole Virtue, Jordan Wood and Jesse Zamberlan.



It's over – graduation, Class of 2016, St. Joseph Central High School, Ironton. (Photo by Johnson)

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, by July 15, 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 ward@diosteub.org.



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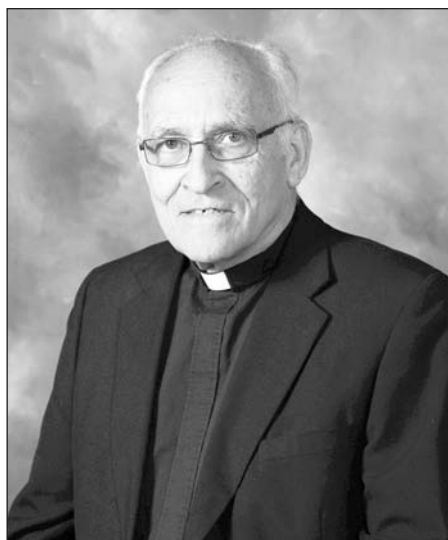
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(Photo by George)

Father Borer



(Photo provided)

Msgr. Mullett



(Photo provided)

Father Tuttle



(Photo by DeFrancis)

Father Walker

Priests celebrate 40 years of ordination to the priesthood, retirement

STEUBENVILLE — Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Emeritus Gilbert I. Sheldon – who is celebrating 40 years of ordination as a bishop – will deliver the homily at the Annual Priests’ Jubilee Celebration June 20.

Father Thomas A. Chillog, Steubenville Diocese episcopal vicar for pastoral planning and personnel and pastor of St. Mary Parish, St. Clairsville, announced the homilist for the 4:30 p.m. Mass at St. Mary Church, St. Clairsville.

Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton will preside at the Mass, which will be followed by a dinner in the church’s Marian Hall.

Priest jubilarians include Msgr. Anthony J. Giannamore, celebrating 60 years of ordination to the priesthood; Father Martin J. Holler and Father Thomas A. Magary, 50 years; Father Robert D. Borer, Msgr. Gene W. Mullett, Father Joseph N. Safranec and Father Richard J. Tuttle, 40 years; and Father Paul J. Walker, newly retired, Father Chillog announced.

Father Robert D. Borer was born Sept. 9, 1940, in Lorain, Ohio, one of four children (also, Gerald, Carol and David) of Jerome C. and Elaine H. Diedrick Borer.

He received his early education at St. Joseph (grade) School, Amherst, Ohio, and South Amherst District (high school), Amherst. Then, Father Borer attended the University of South Carolina and, later, St. John Vianney Seminary, Bloomingdale. He received a bachelor’s degree from The College of Steubenville, now Franciscan University of Steubenville, in 1972. From St. Mary’s University of (Winona) Minnesota, Father Borer obtained a master’s in counseling. Prior to being ordained to the priesthood, he, also, served in the U.S. Army, 1958-61, and worked for Ford Motor Co. and American Ship Building Co., Lorain.

On May 1, 1976, at Holy Name Cathedral, Steubenville, he was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop John King Mussio.

Initially, Father Borer was assigned as an instructor and chaplain at St. John Central High School, Bellaire, while ministering at All Saints Parish, Blaine. He then served St. Anthony of Padua, Bridgeport, St. John Vianney, Powhatan Point, and St. Mary, St. Clairsville.

Also, Father Borer was director of Vianney Center, a diocesan retreat center, and Family Life Park, Blooming-

dale; administrator, Sacred Heart Parish, Pomeroy, while spiritual counselor, St. Vincent Seminary, Latrobe, Pennsylvania; and administrator, pro tem, St. Joseph, Amsterdam.

In 1991, Father Borer was assigned as pastor of St. Benedict Parish, Cambridge. During the years he served in Cambridge, Father Borer, too, was administrator, Sts. Peter and Paul, Lore City, and Corpus Christi, Belle Valley; moderator, Visitation Deanery Council of Catholic Women; pastor, Sts. Peter and Paul Parish; parochial administrator, Holy Trinity Parish, Byesville, and pastoral administrator, St. Benedict School.

In 2009, Father Borer became pastor of Christ Our Light Parish, Cambridge, from which he retired from active parish ministry in June 2014.

During his active parish ministry, Father Borer was a member of the diocesan College of Consultants; director, Belmont County Search Retreat Program for Teens; and spiritual director, Cursillo Movement.

He resides in Cambridge and continues to minister there.

Also, a member of the Class of 1976, celebrating 40 years of ordination to the priesthood, is **Msgr. Gene W. Mullett**.

Born July 21, 1950, in Powhatan Point, a son of Charles W. and F. Kathryn Malovitz Mullett, Msgr. Mullett has a brother, Donald, who is a resident of Shadyside, and a sister, Donna, of Orange Park, Florida.

As a youth, Msgr. Mullett was educated in schools in Bellaire, first, St. John Central Grade School and then St. John Central High School. He attended Ohio University, Athens, from which he received a Bachelor of Science in Education in 1972, and St. John Vianney Seminary, Bloomingdale.

On May 1, 1976, at St. John Arena, Steubenville, he was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Steubenville by Bishop John King Mussio.

Msgr. Mullett’s first assignments were to Holy Trinity

Parish, Byesville; Guernsey Catholic Central, Cambridge; and administrator, Salt Fork Lodge Mission.

He became the pastor of Corpus Christi Parish, Belle Valley, and, too, served as administrator, St. Henry Parish, Harriettsville; pastor, St. John Vianney Parish, Powhatan Point, and administrator, St. John Bosco Mission, Sardis.

During the 1980s, Msgr. Mullett was assigned, in the diocese, as the acting superintendent of schools. He, too, was pastor of Our Lady of North American Martyrs, Steubenville, and St. Anthony of Padua, Steubenville, and dean, Annunciation Deanery.

In 1990, he was named a prelate of honor.

Msgr. Mullett was assigned, also, as pastor, St. John and St. Michael parishes, Bellaire; administrator, Sacred Heart Parish, Neffs, and pastoral administrator, St. John Central Grade School, Bellaire.

He, too, served as dean, Queen of Peace Deanery, and acted as parochial administrator, St. Mary Church, Shadyside, and St. John Vianney, Powhatan Point. He was pastor, St. Joseph Parish, Tiltonsville, and St. Lucy Parish, Yorkville; and later chaplain, Franciscan Sisters Third Order Regular of Penance of the Sorrowful Mother, Toronto.

Presently, he resides in Carrollton, where he is chaplain for the Sisters of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd.

On the diocesan level, Msgr. Mullett has served as a member of the cemetery board, Mount Calvary Cemetery, Steubenville; for the Ministry to Priests and as a priest consultant. He, too, is a judge in the diocese’s Tribunal.

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St. John Paul II (More) on The Resurrection

By Diocese of Steubenville
Bishop Emeritus Gilbert I. Sheldon

Having refuted theories that deny the physical resurrection of Jesus, St. John Paul II turns to some other dimensions of the resurrection that bear comment. One is the fact that Jesus himself predicted his death and resurrection not once, but several times: When he and the apostles were in the vicinity of Caesarea Philippi, after Peter's acknowledgment of Jesus as the Messiah, Jesus warned them that, even though he was the Messiah, he would be arrested and put to death "and rise after three days" (Mk 8:31-32). After the Transfiguration, Jesus warned the apostles to tell no one of their experience, "except after the Son of Man had risen from the dead" (Mk 9:9). As they traveled through Galilee, Jesus informed the apostles that he would be arrested, be killed, "and after three days, will arise" (Mk 9:31-32). As they were nearing Jerusalem, Jesus again warned the apostles that he would be handed over to the Gentiles, i.e., Romans, mocked, spit upon, scourged and put to death, "but after three days, he will arise" (Mk 10:33-34).

Jesus' purpose in this was to teach the disciples that his death and resurrection were an essential part of his mission and God's plan for mankind's redemption. After driving the merchants and moneychangers from the Temple, he was challenged by the Jews as to his authority for doing so. He replied, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews thought that was to be the sign they were asking for. "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 ..." (Jn 2:13-22). The pope comments: "Once again we are confronted with the relation between Christ's resurrection and his word, with his announcements linked to the Scriptures."

All this suggests Jesus' power over life and death itself, but Jesus not only predicted that power, but actually exercised it a number of times, e.g., by raising back to life the daughter of Jairus (see, Mk 5:39-42), the son of the Widow of Naim (Lk 7:12-15), and his friend, Lazarus (Jn 11:42-44).

In addition to Jesus' predictions of his resurrection, there is the matter of the empty tomb to be considered. By itself, of course, the empty tomb is not a proof of the resurrection. It could be explained otherwise. Mary Magdalene at first thought that the gardener or sexton had removed Jesus' body (see, Jn 20:13). The Jewish leadership bribed the guards to say that the disciples of Jesus stole his body while they were asleep (Mt 28:12-15). However, the empty tomb does call for an explanation. Obviously, if there was a body there before, but not now, something must have happened, but what? It was only after Jesus began appearing to different individuals and groups that the answer – incredible as it was – came out. Interestingly, the first to experience those appearances were women: Mary Magdalene, then the women who came to prepare Jesus' body. Peter and John saw the empty tomb, too, but only after they had heard the story of the women, who reported an encounter with angels who said Jesus had risen from the dead. John believed immediately that Jesus had risen; apparently, it took the actual appearance of Jesus to convince Peter and the other apostles (Matthew 28, Mark 16, John 20).

John Paul next reflects on those appearances and their significance.

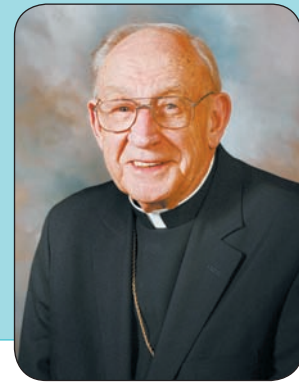
While St. Paul's testimony to the Resurrection is the earliest, historically, it is not offered in detail. He presents the risen Christ "in a global and synthetic way." He says, for example, that Christ "appeared to 500 of the brethren at one time." We would love to have a fuller account of that occasion, but, unfortunately, that's all Paul gave us. No doubt he assumed correctly that it was well-known among the earliest Christians and did not need his going onto detail. He does not even give details of his own encounter with the risen Christ, except to say that "last of all, as one untimely born, he appeared to me" (1 Cor 15:3-8). For details, we must turn to the Gospel accounts again. We get the details from Luke's account in the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 9:1-9).

Jesus appeared as he was before, but with the important difference that his was now a glorified, a transformed body, that, as we saw, was not inhibited by material obstacles of mass or of space. That alone would be enough to make peo-

ple a bit nervous or at least uncomfortable in his presence. Yet, Jesus did not come on in a triumphal manner, as if to say, "See, I won after all," or words to that effect. He did not return as an avenging angel to wreak havoc and vengeance on his enemies. As far as we can tell, he never appeared to the Sanhedrin, Pilate, the Pharisees and scribes, but only to his disciples (what a story it would have made if he did confront Caiaphas or Pilate or Herod). That was not his game plan, nor that of his Father. He came to persuade souls, not to overwhelm them. For that reason, he chose to continue his mission, not in person, but through people themselves, beginning with his apostles and disciples and continuing with those who succeeded them.

The pope notes the fact that Jesus appeared first to women, not to his chosen disciples. There could well be a glimpse of the future in that: just as it was from women that the apostles learned that Jesus had risen, so, in the natural order, we learn to take our first steps – both physical and spiritual – and come to know Christ – "at our mother's knee." Many priests would admit that it is the women who are the backbone of every parish – the ones who respond to every call and assist in every effort. They would be hard-pressed without them!

The main lesson in this approach by Jesus was to show us the "paschal mystery": that the life that he came to offer us – the life that is to be eternal as well as completely fulfilling, the life of perfect happiness – would come only after we, like he, have undergone a passion and death. What that passion will be, we must discover from day-to-day. It comes in bits and pieces, with longer or shorter lulls in-between. What that death will be, we will know when it happens, but it will be a true death like that of Jesus. Whether or not we choose to believe in Jesus Christ, the scenario is the same for all of us. The difference is that those who believe are sustained by the knowledge that, after the passion and death, comes the glorification!



Bishop Sheldon

*He came
to persuade souls,
not to overwhelm them.*

Faith and Fear

By Father Ron Rolheiser

A common soldier dies without fear, yet Jesus died afraid. Iris Murdoch wrote this and that truth can be somewhat disconcerting. Why? If someone dies with deep faith, shouldn't he or she die within a certain calm and trust drawn from that faith? Wouldn't the opposite seem more logical, that is, if someone dies without faith shouldn't he or she die with more fear? And perhaps the most confusing of all: Why did Jesus, the paragon of faith, die afraid, crying out in a pain that can seem like a loss of faith?

The problem lies in our understanding. Sometimes we can be very naive about faith and its dynamics, thinking that faith in God is a ticket to earthly peace and joy. But faith isn't a path to easy calm, nor does it assure us that we will exit this life in calm, and that can be pretty unsettling and perplexing at times. Here's an example:

The renowned spiritual writer, Henri Nouwen, in a book entitled, "In Memoriam," shares this story around his mother's death: Nouwen, a native of the Netherlands, was teaching in the USA when he received a call that his mother was dying back home in the Netherlands. On his flight home, from New York to Amsterdam, he reflected on his mother's faith and virtue and concluded that she was the most Christian woman he had ever known. With that as a wonderfully consoling thought, he fantasied about how



Father Rolheiser

she would die, how her last hours would be filled with faith and calm, and how that faith and calm would be her final, faith-filled witness to her family.

But that's not the way it played out. Far from being calm and unafraid, his mother, in the final hours leading up to her death, was seemingly in the grip of

some inexplicable darkness, of some deep inner disquiet, and of something that looked like the antithesis of faith. For Nouwen this was very disconcerting. Why? Why would his mother be undergoing this disquiet when for all her life she had been a woman of such strong faith?

Initially this unsettled him deeply, until a deeper understanding of faith broke through: His mother had been a woman who every day of her adult life had prayed to Jesus, asking him to empower her to live as he lived and to die as he died. Well, seemingly, her prayer was heard. She did die like Jesus who, though having a rock-solid faith, sweated blood while contemplating his own death and then

cried out on the cross, anguished with the feeling that God had forsaken him. In brief, her prayer had been answered. She had asked Jesus to let her die as he did and, given her openness to it, her prayer was granted, to the confusion of her family and friends who had expected a very different scene. That is also true for the manner of Jesus' death and

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Opening of the Diocesan Year of Reconsecration on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary

(Editor's Note: This is the homily delivered by Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton, June 4, during the noon Mass at St. Peter Church, Steubenville. The Mass followed a Marian procession through downtown Steubenville. The procession and Mass opened a diocesan Year of Reconsecration, declared by Bishop Monforton.

The day's Mass readings were taken from: Isaiah, Chapter 61, Verses 9-11; Galatians, Chapter 4, Verses 4-7; and Luke, Chapter 2, Verses 41-51.)

By Diocese of Steubenville
Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton

Praised be Jesus Christ! Before I begin I wish to thank all who prepared our solemn procession through the city of Steubenville with the newly crafted Immaculate Heart of Mary statue (and, thank you to all who prayed for good weather for this morning's Marian procession). This statue of Mary will travel the diocese to each parish in the midst of the diocesan Year of Reconsecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

On May 23, 1945, the first bishop of Steubenville consecrated our diocese to the Immaculate Heart of Mary "in more than words, but in every decision, our deeds, our plans and our lives." This day of June 4, 2016, we begin the Year of Reconsecration of the Diocese of Steubenville with the expressed purpose no different than my predecessor as we dedicate ourselves to Mary, one who is free from the least taint of sin, embracing completely God's Divine Will, in order that we may continue to seek purpose in life through the fountain of Our Lady's strength, and ultimately through her Immaculate Heart to discover ultimate peace in Jesus Christ Our Lord and Savior.

"His mother kept all these things in her heart." The Evangelist Luke underscores the fact that Mary treasures Jesus to the deepest recesses of her being. Jesus' very identity resonates in her *immaculate heart* as Jesus prepares for his earthly ministry. This very *compassionate heart* will continue to fill with motherly affection and concern as her Son preaches and provides sign after sign that the Kingdom of God is at hand. This same *merciful heart* will

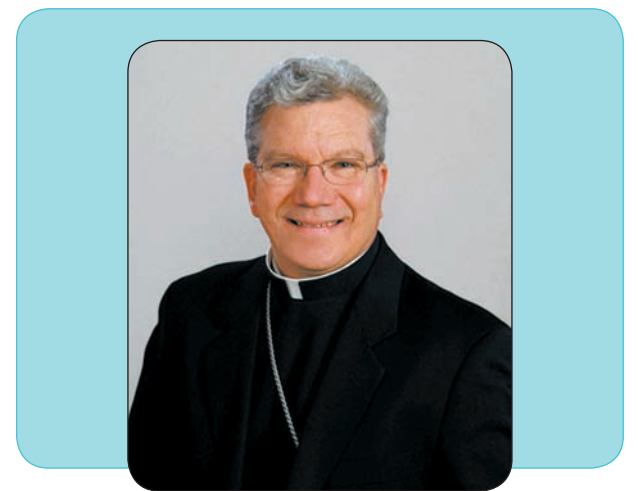
be pierced with a sword at Jesus' suffering and death. The Immaculate Heart will know firsthand the joys of Jesus' Resurrection. This is not a heart full of despair, rather the Immaculate Heart of Mary, free of all sin, is replete with *immense hope*.

The Prophet Isaiah tells of the rejoicing and blessedness of one such as Mary who follows God without reservation, namely, with an undivided heart. Through Mary's "yes" we are given our Savior who delivers us from all sin. As St. Paul indicates to us today in his Letter to the Galatians, through Jesus' birth, born of the Virgin Mary, we have been made adopted children of God: the Kingdom of God is our inheritance. Hope reigns.

We begin this Year of Reconsecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary focused on the truth that our very lives, our shared hope, must be centered in Christ: in the Diocese of Steubenville, in our deaneries, in our parishes, and yes, in the domestic Church – our families. We live in a culture where mediocrity can be synonymous with satisfactory. This cannot be so in our lives, in our communities. The future of our communities resides not in a *perpetually guarded hope* but instead in an *immense hope*. A perpetually guarded hope is code for maintaining decline. Immense hope accepts both successes and failures as necessary fuel for the engine of growth. Our prayers for our community leaders and civil servants, who endeavor to better our communities, provide an ally with the strength of which there is no peer.

As we configure ourselves to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, plumbing the depths of our own hearts to a re-awakening of our identity as Mary's children, we become dependent on Mary in all things. We trust completely in her motherly care.

Church history reveals that renewal comes not through entitlement but through prayerful work, *spiritually hard work*. This day I instruct all parishes in the Diocese of Steubenville that if you have not already, to introduce the opportunity daily for common recitation of the holy rosary, to further educate our brothers and sisters on the vast treasury of the Catholic Church's Marian devotions, and of course, to begin each parish meeting with the prayer



Bishop Monforton

of the Hail Mary. Mary leads us to Jesus. Introduce family and neighbor to Mary.

How fitting we begin our diocesan Year of Reconsecration in the midst of the Church Universal's Jubilee Year of Mercy! In his most recent apostolic exhortation, "Amoris Laetitia," ("The Joy of Love"), Pope Francis reminds us that "Love does not despair in the future" (Joy of Love, Paragraph 116). In order to obtain that inner peace your heart and mine must be modeled after the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Only then may we confidently replace hate with charity, doubt with faith and *despair with hope*. For the effects of this Year of Reconsecration to be truly realized, our hearts first must be open to change, to conversion.

*Hail Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with thee;
blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.
Amen*

Immaculate Heart of Mary. Pray for us.

Why You Should Read C.S. Lewis' 'The Great Divorce'

By Bishop Robert Barron

In my capacity as regional bishop of the Santa Barbara pastoral region, which covers two entire counties north of Los Angeles, I am obliged to spend a good deal of time in the car. To make the long trips a bit easier, I have gotten back into the habit of listening to audio books. Just recently, I followed, with rapt attention, a book that I had read many years ago but which I had, I confess, largely forgotten: C.S. Lewis' "The Great Divorce." The inspiration for this theological fantasy is the medieval idea of the "refrigerium," the refreshment or vacation from hell granted to some of the souls abiding there. So Lewis' narrator leaves the dreary streets of the underworld and, with a coterie of other ghosts, journeys by flying bus to a lovely land that he comes to realize is the forecourt of heaven. In that enchanted place, the ghosts meet a number of denizens from the heavenly world, who attempt to lure the poor souls out of their misery.

Lewis was that rare sort of genius, able to combine high theological insight with vivid imagination, and it is precisely this coming-together that makes his writing so memorable. I would like to rehearse a number of motifs from this story that struck me as being of particular spiritual significance. The first has to do with the paradox of the grandeur and nothingness of hell. Lewis' narrator tells us that the streets and residences of hell stretch out so far that it requires centuries of travel to get from one end of the



Bishop Barron

city to the other. This immensity is due to the fact that the citizens of that awful place just want to get as far away from one another as possible. Further, when the bus travels from hell to heaven, it seems to go far up into the air and to cover an enormous distance. However, when the narrator, in dialogue with a heavenly spirit, wonders where precisely hell is in relation to the heavenly realm, the spirit bends down, pulls a single blade of grass and uses its tip to indicate a tiny, barely perceptible, fissure in the ground. "That's where you came in," he explains. All of hell, which seemed so immense to the narrator, would fit into a practically microscopic space in heaven. Lewis is illustrating here the Augustinian principle that sin is the state of being "incurvatus in se" (curved in around oneself). It is the reduction of reality to the infinitely small space of the ego's concerns and preoccupations. Love, on the contrary, which is the very life of heaven, is the opening to reality in its fullness; it amounts to a breaking through of the buffered and claustrophobic self; it is the activity of the "magna anima" (the great soul). We think our

own little egocentric worlds are so impressive, but to those who are truly open to reality, they are less than nothing.

One of the sad ghosts that Lewis describes carries on his shoulder a rather loathsome reptile who whispers suggestions in companion's ear. It is eminently clear – even to the ghost himself – that this creature is doing nothing but harm. An angel approaches and places his hands around the lizard and calmly asks the ghost, "May I kill it?" At this, the fallen spirit recoils and commences to make excuses for the thing on his shoulder.

"May I kill it?" the angel solemnly asks once again. The ghost balks and becomes uneasy. "May I kill it?" inquires the angel. Finally, the ghost acquiesces and the angel crushes the life out of the reptile, at which point the ghost begins to harden into something greater and more substantial. And the lizard, thought to be dead, begins to metamorphose into a stately stallion. When both ghost and reptile have been thoroughly transformed, the man mounts the horse and the two ride off together with brio and purpose. The creepy and insinuating reptile is symbolic, it becomes clear, of lust, that vice which continually suggests self-destructive courses of action. Yet, not even an angel of God can kill it without the conscious permission of the will. Once killed, however, it can rise into what it originally was meant to be: the erotic desire which is a source of tremendous energy, indeed a stallion which the soul can gleefully ride. What I especially appreciate in this

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Priests celebrate

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Father Joseph N. Safranec was born Nov. 3, 1944, in Buffalo, New York, a son of Joseph George and Jennie Lucia Competillo Safranec. Father Safranec has a sister, Mary, who resides in Sutersville, Pennsylvania, and had a brother, Nicholas, who is deceased.

Prior to entering St. John Vianney Seminary, Bloomingdale, Father Safranec was educated at St. Lucy and Public School No. 62, Buffalo, New York, and St. John Vianney Seminary, now Christ the King Seminary, East Aurora, New York.

On Jan. 23, 1976, at St. Francis Xavier Church, Malvern, he was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop John King Mussio.

Initially, Father Safranec was assigned to St. Francis Xavier, Malvern; St. Edwards High School, Carrollton; and as administrator, St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish, Morges.

Later, he served as a full-time teacher at St. Joseph Central High School, Ironton; associate pastor, St. Peter Parish, Steubenville, and associate pastor, Holy Rosary Parish, Steubenville.

In 1980, Father Safranec left the Steubenville Diocese and served in the U.S. Air Force, active duty for eight years, and as a member of the Air Force Reserves for which he was called back to active duty for five years and as a chaplain at a Veterans' Administration medical center in Minneapolis.

In retirement from active ministry, Father Safranec resides in Eagan, Minnesota.

Father Richard J. Tuttle was born Aug. 11, 1950, in Steubenville, a son of Robert Lee and Antoinette Rita Controguerra Tuttle. He has two brothers, David of Steubenville and Perry of Columbus, Ohio.

St. Anthony, Steubenville, and Catholic Central High School, Steubenville, were the educational facilities where Father

Tuttle received his early learning. Then, he studied at St. John Vianney Seminary, Bloomingdale, and The College of Steubenville, now Franciscan University of Steubenville, from which he received a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy in May 1972. Father Tuttle, also, holds a master's, Theological Foundation, Notre Dame, Indiana, and a doctorate of ministry in applied ministries with a concentration in religious education, Graduate Theological Foundation, Donaldson, Indiana. He, too, studied at the North American College in Rome.

He was ordained to the priesthood May 1, 1976, at St. John Arena, Steubenville, by Bishop John King Mussio.

Father Tuttle first was assigned to Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Carrollton; and St. Edward High School, Carrollton, with residency at St. Francis Xavier, Malvern. He, too, served as a chaplain at St. John Villa, Carrollton; instructor, St. John Central High School, Bellaire, with residency at St. Mary, Shadyside; chaplain, Timken Mercy Hospital, Canton, Ohio; and pastor, St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Morges.

In 1991, he became pastor of Holy Family Parish, Steubenville. From there, he began a medical leave in 2008 and retired from active parish ministry in the diocese in 2011.

For the diocese, Father Tuttle established the Office of Total Ministry, which offered a total ministry program; initiated planning for permanent deacons; assisted with the diocesan synod in the 1980s and served on the diocese's Presbyteral Council and the College of Consultors.

Too, Father Tuttle served in the diocese's vocations' and worship offices, on the diocesan environment and art committee and was a member of the diocesan liturgical commission.

At one time, he was an assistant master

of ceremonies; and taught courses at Franciscan University of Steubenville, where he, too, was a member of the university's board of advisers for the pre-theology program, a volunteer adviser to students and chaplain for pilgrimages to the Holy Land, Europe, Egypt and Jordan. For his work at the university, he was awarded the higher education institution's John King Mussio Alumni Award in 1997.

While in Steubenville, Father Tuttle was a member of the Knights of Columbus, fourth-degree, Fraternity of St. Dominic.

In retirement, he resides in Florida where he assists at St. Rose of Lima Parish, Poinciana, and at least 11 other parishes in the Orlando Diocese and celebrates Masses and hears confessions at the National Shrine of Our Lady Queen of the Universe, Orlando, is a member of the Apostolate of the Sea USA for which he serves as a chaplain on cruises, and has done missionary work in Puerto Rico.

Father Paul J. Walker was born June 20, 1945, in Columbus, Ohio, a son of Herbert H. and Mary Elizabeth Triplitt Walker. Father Walker's sister, Carol Ann Griffin, resides in Zanesville, Ohio.

As a youth, Father Walker attended McConnellsville Grade and Malta-McConnellsville High schools, McConnellsville. He studied for the priesthood for the Diocese of Steubenville at St. John Vianney Seminary, Bloomingdale, and obtained degrees from The College of Steubenville, now Franciscan University of Steubenville; The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., and the University of Notre

Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana

In his home church, St. James, he was ordained to the priesthood May 18, 1972, by Bishop John King Mussio.

As his first assignment, Father Walker was an instructor, St. John Central High School, Bellaire, and in residence at St. Mary Church, St. Clairsville. He then served as an assistant, St. Mary Parish, Marietta; instructor, St. John Vianney Seminary, Franciscan University of Steubenville and the University of Dayton (Ohio); teacher of religion, St. Mary Central School, St. Clairsville, St. Benedict School, Cambridge, and St. Agnes Central School, Mingo Junction; faculty member, Pontifical College Josephinum, Columbus; and parochial vicar, St. Mary, St. Clairsville, St. Pius the Tenth, Steubenville, Christ the King University Parish, Athens, St. Agnes, Mingo Junction, and St. Benedict, Cambridge.

Beginning in 1994, Father Walker was assigned as pastor, St. James Parish, McConnellsville. He continued to minister there until his retirement from active parish ministry in 2015.

Father Walker, also, served on the diocesan liturgical commission, was the director of the diocesan Office of Worship, worked with diocesan adult education programs and was on staff of the diocese's Total Ministry program.

In retirement from active parish ministry, Father Walker continues to reside in McConnellsville, writes a regular column for The Steubenville Register, which he began to pen earlier, and celebrates Masses, regularly, at St. James Church.

Two elected to Priests' Personnel Board

STEUBENVILLE — Elections for representation to the Priests' Personnel Board — advisory to the bishop on placement of priests — have been held, said Father Thomas A. Chillog, episcopal vicar for pastoral planning and personnel.

Msr. John Michael Campbell, rector, the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, was elected to serve as senior clergy representative, beginning in

September and continuing for three years.

For the same time period, Father Michael W. Gossett, currently serving as the younger clergy representative, has been re-elected to that position.

Others on the board are Father Anthony R. Batt, northern area representative; Father James M. Dunfee, middle age; Father Mark A. Moore, southern; and Father David L. Gaydosik, central.

Faith

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the reaction of his family and disciples. This isn't the way anyone naturally fantasizes the death of a faith-filled person.

But a deeper understanding of faith reverses that logic: Looking at the death of Henri Nouwen's mother, the question is not, how could this happen to her? The question is rather: Why wouldn't this happen to her? It's what she asked for and, being a spiritual athlete who asked God to send her the ultimate test, why wouldn't God oblige?

There's a certain parallel to this in the seeming doubts suffered by Mother Teresa. When her diaries were published and revealed her dark night of the soul, many people were shocked and asked: How could this happen to her? A deeper understanding of faith would, I believe, ask instead: Why wouldn't this happen to her, given her faith and her openness to enter into Jesus' full experience?

But, this has still a further complication: Sometimes for person of deep faith it doesn't happen this way and instead he or she dies calm and unafraid, buoyed up by faith like a safe ship on stormy waters. Why does this happen to some and not to others? We have no answer. Faith doesn't

put us all on the same conveyor belt where one dynamic fits all. Sometimes people with deep faith die, as Jesus did, in darkness and fear; and sometimes people with deep faith die in calm and peace.

Elizabeth Kubler-Ross submits that each of us goes through *five* clear stages in dying, namely, *denial*, *anger*, *bargaining*, *depression* and *acceptance*. Kathleen Dowling Singh suggests that what Kubler-Ross defines as *acceptance* needs some further nuance. According to Singh, the toughest part of that *acceptance* is *full surrender* and, prior to that *surrender*, some people, though not everyone, will undergo a deep interior darkness that, on the surface, can look like despair. Only after that, do they experience joy and ecstasy.

All of us need to learn the lesson that Nouwen learned at his mother's deathbed: Faith, like love, admits of various modalities and may not be judged simplistically from the outside.

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

Why You Should Read

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episode is Lewis' spot-on representation of how the soul clings desperately to what is actually killing it, preferring, in W.H. Auden's phrase, "to be ruined rather than changed."

A final image is one of the most beautiful in the book. The narrator spots a stately procession making its way toward him. A woman is being carried, in the manner of a queen, with great reverence, and all around her people are offering tokens of respect and admiration. So impressed is he that the narrator turns to one of the heavenly citizens and wonders whether this might be the Blessed Virgin Mary. "No," says his interlocutor, "It's someone ye'll never have heard of. Her name on earth was Sarah Smith." It turns out that this one so highly honored in heaven was a very ordinary person during her earthly life. But through her love, she became a spiritual mother to hundreds, indeed to every person she met. Even the lowly animals were embraced by

her affection and came more to life. The point is that what is honored on earth is by no means the same as what is honored by God and the saints. Here below, we hold up achievements in education, business, finance, entertainment, the military, etc. But none of this matters in the grand scheme of things. What matters, what, in St. Paul's language, lasts, is love. We recall the Lord's words: "Don't store up treasures for yourself on earth ... but store up treasure in heaven." The relevant spiritual questions suggested by this scene: Whom do we honor? How and by whom do we want to be honored?

These sketches give you but a hint of the riches contained in this little but powerful book. May they inspire you to pick up "The Great Divorce" and savor it.

Bishop Barron is an auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and the founder of Word on Fire Catholic Ministries.

Pope elevates memorial of St. Mary Magdalene to feast day

By Junno Arocho Esteves

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Recognizing St. Mary Magdalene's role as the first to witness Christ's resurrection and as a "true and authentic evangelizer," Pope Francis raised the July 22 memorial of St. Mary Magdalene to a feast on the church's liturgical calendar, the Vatican announced.

A decree formalizing the decision was published by the Congregation for Divine Worship June 10, along with an article explaining its significance.

Both the decree and the article were titled "Apostolorum Apostola" ("Apostle of the Apostles").

In the article for the Vatican newspaper, Archbishop Arthur Roche, secretary of the congregation, wrote that in celebrating "an evangelist who proclaims the central joyous message of Easter," St. Mary Magdalene's feast day is a call for all Christians to "reflect more deeply on the dignity of women, the new evangelization and the greatness of the mystery of divine mercy."

"Pope Francis has taken this decision precisely in the context of the Jubilee of Mercy to highlight the

relevance of this woman who showed great love for Christ and was much loved by Christ," Archbishop Roche wrote.

While most liturgical celebrations of individual saints during the year are known formally as memorials, those classified as feasts are reserved for important events in Christian history and for saints of particular significance, such as the Twelve Apostles.

In his apostolic letter "Dies Domini" ("The Lord's Day"), St. John Paul II explained that the "commemoration of the saints does not obscure the centrality of Christ, but on the contrary extols it, demonstrating as it does the power of the redemption wrought by him."

Preaching about St. Mary Magdalene, Pope Francis highlighted Christ's mercy toward a woman who was "exploited and despised by those who believed they were righteous," but she was loved and forgiven by him.

Her tears at Christ's empty tomb are a reminder that "sometimes in our lives, tears are the lenses we need to see Jesus," the pope said April 2, 2013, during Mass in his residence, the Domus Sanctae Marthae.

Pope Francis also mentions her specifically in the prayer he composed for the Year of Mercy: "Your loving gaze

freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money; the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things; made Peter weep after his betrayal, and assured paradise to the repentant thief."

Archbishop Roche explained that in giving St. Mary Magdalene the honor of being the first person to see the empty tomb and the first to listen to the truth of the resurrection, "Jesus has a special consideration and mercy for this woman, who manifests her love for him, looking for him in the garden with anguish and suffering."

Drawing a comparison between Eve, who "spread death where there was life," and St. Mary Magdalene, who "proclaimed life from the tomb, a place of death," the archbishop said her feast day is a lesson for all Christians to trust in Christ who is "alive and risen."

"It is right that the liturgical celebration of this woman has the same level of feast given to the celebration of the apostles in the general Roman calendar and highlights the special mission of this woman who is an example and model for every woman in the church."

Vatican dialogue with US women religious continues, cardinal states

By Cindy Wooden

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — More than a year after the conclusion of the Vatican's apostolic visitation of U.S. communities of women religious, the Vatican began asking more than a dozen orders to send their superiors to Rome to discuss concerns that surfaced.

"We did a very positive report at the conclusion of the visitation," a report that looked at the life of women's congregations in the United States as a whole and was released in December 2014, said Cardinal Joao Braz de Aviz, prefect of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life.

But "there remained about 15 – more or less – congregations that we needed to speak with about a few points," the cardinal told Catholic News Service June 14. The cardinal had attended a news conference about a new document from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith looking at the relationship between the hierarchy and communities or movements that arise from "charismatic gifts."

"When you are speaking of religious orders, secular institutes and the order of virgins, all of this is part of the charismatic side of the church," he said. More than 2,000 orders and institutes are recognized by the Vatican as "paths of a special encounter with God," the cardinal said, but it

is the responsibility of bishops and the church's hierarchy to support and guide them.

When he announced the conclusion of the visitation, Cardinal Braz de Aviz had told the press that "individual reports will be sent to those institutes which hosted an onsite visitation and to those institutes whose individual reports indicated areas of concern – because there are some of those, too."

Speaking to CNS June 14, the cardinal said, "I don't know if the Sisters of Loretto are still in the phase of the review of the visitation that the Holy See conducted, but I believe so."

In early June, the Global Sisters Report said that Sister Pearl McGivney, president of the Sisters of Loretto, had been asked to come to Rome to discuss alleged "ambiguity" in the order's adherence to church teaching and its way of living religious life.

The cardinal told CNS that his office's questions were not a judgment and, because the actual site visits took place between 2009 and 2012, "we do not know yet if they are still of concern or not because many years have passed."

"We are in dialogue" with the congregations, he said. "And it is going very well. We already have spoken with six or seven. It is going very well. It is a serene dialogue, a dialogue to see where and how we can help."

"We are calling some to Rome in order to better understand," the cardinal said. "With some there is no longer anything that needs to be done because they already have completed a whole process" of adjusting issues that were of concern to the Vatican. In those cases, he said, "we embrace and get back to work."

A statement posted June 9 on the Sisters of Loretto's website said Cardinal Braz de Aviz asked Sister McGivney to "come to Rome to discuss some areas of concern which surfaced during the apostolic visitation process."

"The Loretto community engaged wholeheartedly in the apostolic visitation process and, through it, affirmed our Loretto charism and our lives together," the statement said.

"Four sisters from other congregations visited us at our motherhouse. They interviewed 90 sisters as well as co-members, students, teachers in our schools and other colleagues. The visitors seemed warm and genuinely interested in our lives. They did not inquire about these 'areas of concern' with our elected leadership during this visitation, and we had no expectation that six years later we would find ourselves being asked to come to Rome to address any outstanding issues."

Still, the statement said, "we are confident that our dialogue with the Vatican will be fruitful."

Vatican, World Youth Day officials release Pope Francis' Poland itinerary

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis will visit the Nazi death camps of Auschwitz and Birkenau during his visit to Poland for World Youth Day in Krakow.

He will also commemorate the 1,050th anniversary of Christianity in Poland, pray at the icon of the "Black Madonna" of Czestochowa, and hear confessions and have lunch with some of the young people attending the youth day gathering.

The pope's visit July 27-31 will be his 15th trip outside of Italy. He will visit three cities, give eight speeches and celebrate three Masses.

Pope Francis will be visiting Auschwitz the year that marks the 75th anniversary of the death of St. Maximilian Kolbe, who offered his life for another prisoner at the camp during World War II. The official WYD website, krakow2016.com, said the pope is expected to meet with camp survivors and pray alone in the bunker where Father Kolbe had been locked up.

While the pope will be meeting with Polish government authorities as well as bishops and religious from Poland, the focus of his visit will be the closing events of World Youth Day, which has the theme: "Blessed are the merciful,

for they will receive mercy."

Pope Francis will visit the Shrine of Divine Mercy in Krakow and walk through its Holy Door of Mercy. Local organizers said he may pray before the tomb of St. Faustina Kowalska, who is buried there.

The 2016 WYD celebration will mark the 30th anniversary of when St. John Paul II, the former archbishop of Krakow, invited bishops all over the world to hold an annual event for youth in their dioceses. The first international gathering, now held every two or three years, was in 1987 in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where Pope Francis was born and ministered before becoming pope.

In Krakow, the pope will visit a pediatric hospital, lead a Way of the Cross with young people and hold a prayer vigil the evening before the closing Mass of World Youth Day, which is expected to draw more than 1 million people, according to some government officials.

Here is some of the schedule released by the Vatican: July 27 (Rome, Krakow), 2 p.m. (8 a.m.) departure from Rome's Fiumicino Airport, 4 p.m. (10 a.m.), arrival at John Paul II International Airport in Krakow-Balice, welcoming ceremony and then meeting with government authorities

and the diplomatic corps in the courtyard of Wawel Royal Castle in Krakow, courtesy visit with President Andrzej Duda of Poland at Wawel Castle, meeting with Polish bishops in Krakow's cathedral; July 28 (Krakow, Czestochowa, Krakow), Convent of the Sisters of the Presentation, Jasna Gora Monastery in Czestochowa and prayer in the chapel of the "Black Madonna," Mass near the shrine to mark the 1,050th anniversary of the baptism of Poland with homily by Pope Francis, transfer by helicopter to Krakow, welcoming ceremony at gathering with young people in Blonia Park.; July 29 (Krakow, Oswiecim, Krakow), visit to Auschwitz and then Birkenau extermination camp, visit to University Children's Hospital, Krakow, Way of the Cross with youth in Blonia Park; July 30 (Krakow), visit to the Divine Mercy Shrine, hear confessions of young people in the shrine, Mass, lunch with young people, arrival at "Campus Misericordiae" ("Field of Mercy"), prayer vigil with youth at the "Field of Mercy"; July 31 (Krakow, Rome), Mass at the "Field of Mercy" to mark World Youth Day, meeting with WYD volunteers, the local organizing committee and benefactors at the Tauron Arena, farewell ceremony at the Krakow-Balice airport, departure for Rome.

When Pope Francis declared the Year of Mercy, beginning Dec. 8, 2015, and continuing through Nov. 13, 2016, Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton followed in the pope's lead and opened Holy Doors. Pope Francis opened a first Holy Door at St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican Dec. 8. Bishop Monforton opened Holy Doors at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, and at the chapel at Franciscan University of Steubenville. The bishop pledged, also, that during the Year of Mercy he would visit every nursing home in the diocese in which diocesan parishioners resided and celebrate Mass, when possible, and visit room-bound parishioners from parishes in the diocese. The bishop began his visits to nursing homes in Jefferson County and concluded them June 9 at Adena Health and Rehabilitation Center. There, he reminded the residents that they continue to be a part of their parishes, St. Adalbert in Dillonvale or St. Casimir in Adena. It is just, he said, "We come to you, and gather as brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ."

The visit to the health care facility in Jefferson County was the 38th for Bishop Monforton during the Year of Mercy. Msgr. John C. Kolesar, pastor of St. Adalbert and St. Casimir parishes, celebrates Mass with Bishop Monforton at the Adena Health and Rehabilitation Center. Parishioners from the two parishes and health care residents and employees were in the seats. (Photo by DeFrancis)



Franciscan Sister celebrates 60th anniversary; served in Cambridge

MANITOWOC, Wis. — Franciscan Sister of Christian Charity of Manitowoc, Wisconsin, Miriam Dosch, who served in the Diocese of Steubenville, is celebrating her 60th jubilee.

Born March 5, 1936, she was one of nine children of Hilaria and Francis Dosch of Zanesville, Ohio. The family attended St. Nicholas Parish in Sister Miriam's birth city, and she attended the parish school and Rosecrans High School, Zanesville, where she was taught by Franciscan Sisters.

Because of being influenced by the Franciscan Sisters and her parish priest, who drove five high school seniors to visit the Franciscan motherhouse in Manitowoc, Sister Miriam said she knew she wanted to be a religious when she graduated high school in 1954. She was received by the Franciscan order June 13, 1955.

In 1968, Sister Miriam completed an undergraduate degree and followed it in 1972 with a master's in education counseling at The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.

She spent years as a teacher and principal and prior to leaving Cambridge for a



(Photo provided)
Sister Miriam Dosch

return to the motherhouse in 2013, served as a pastoral associate for Christ Our Light Parish, Cambridge, when Father Robert D. Borer was parish pastor.

Blessed Sacrament site of Life Line Screening

WINTERSVILLE — Residents of the Ohio Valley can learn about their risk for cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, diabetes and other chronic, serious conditions with screenings by Life Line Screening.

Blessed Sacrament Church, 852 Main St., Winterville, will host the screenings July 6.

(Msgr. Kurt H. Kemo, Diocese of Steubenville vicar general, is pastor of Blessed Sacrament and Our Lady of Lourdes parishes, Winterville; Father Michael W. Gossett is parochial vicar to Msgr. Kemo at the two Winterville parishes.)

Screenings by Life Line Screening, the Power of Prevention, Independence, Ohio, can check for the level of plaque buildup in arteries, related to risk for heart disease, stroke and overall vascular health;

HDL and LDL cholesterol levels; diabetes risk; bone density as a risk for possible osteoporosis; kidney and thyroid function and more, a spokeswoman for Life Line Screening, announced.

She said that screenings are affordable, convenient and accessible for wheelchairs and those with trouble walking.

Free parking is available, also.

Packages for the screenings start at \$149, but consultants will work with those who want to visit Life Line Screening July 6 to create a package that is right for the individual, based on his or her age and risk factors, the spokeswoman said.

Telephone (877) 237-1287 or visit the website, www.lifelinescreening.com.

Preregistration is required for the screenings to take place.

Former church in Fairpoint sold

STEUBENVILLE — The former St. Joseph Church, Fairpoint, has been sold.

Attorney Thomas S. Wilson, director of the Office of Civil Law for the Diocese of Steubenville, announced the sale of the former church and rectory.

The church closed Jan. 2, 2015, when Father Thomas J. Graven, parish pastor, retired from active parish ministry on the first day of the year.

The closing, decreed by Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton, was based on a diocesan Deanery Pastoral Plan, implemented several years ago after study by priests and laity. Closings of the church in Fairpoint and another in Maynard were contingent on the tenure of the parishes'

pastor, Father Graven.

Kenneth Walter Coleman and Teri Lynne Coleman from St. Clairsville purchased the approximate 2.5 acres, which includes the former church and rectory, for \$125,000, Wilson said.

Since it was decreed that the territory of the closed parish would be attached to St. Mary Parish, St. Clairsville, all sacramental and financial records were transferred to St. Mary. All real and personal property belonging to St. Joseph, also, passed to St. Mary. Therefore, the money from the sale of the Fairpoint property will be given to St. Mary Parish, Father Thomas A. Chillog, pastor, said David A. Franklin, diocesan comptroller.

Diocesan seminarians in parishes

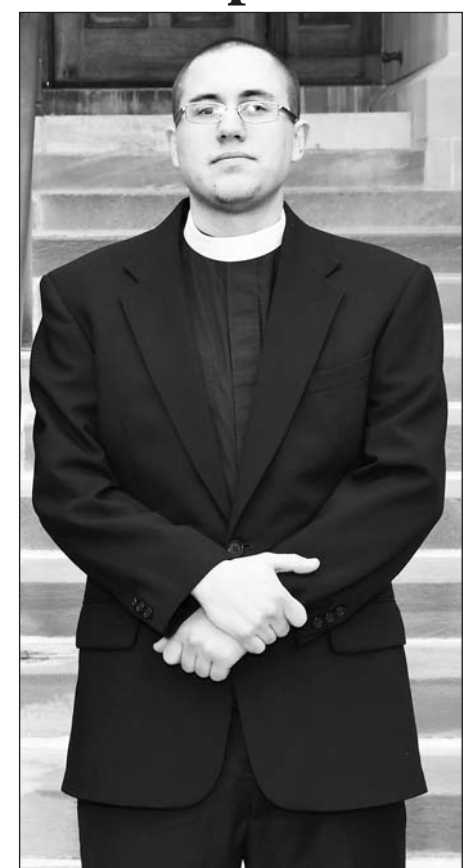
STEUBENVILLE/COLUMBUS, Ohio — Diocese of Steubenville seminarians, including one who has graduated from the Pontifical College Josephinum, Columbus, have been placed in diocesan parishes for summer months.

Father Michael W. Gossett, director, diocesan vocations, announced the placements of Nicholas Ward, Andres Chivel and Joshua Erickson.

Ward, the son of Paul D. and Mary Ward of Steubenville, graduated May 14 from the Pontifical College Josephinum. He was among the 49 students from 23 dioceses in the United States who were members of the Josephinum graduating Class of 2016. He was awarded a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy degree. Ward will serve at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta; Msgr. John Michael Campbell, rector. The seminarian will continue his study for ordination to the priesthood for the diocese in the fall.

Chivel, also studying at the Josephinum, will serve at St. Mary Parish, St. Clairsville; Father Thomas A. Chillog, pastor.

Erickson, studying for the Steubenville Diocese at Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Detroit, has been assigned to St. Ambrose Parish, Little Hocking, Father Robert A. Gallagher, pastor.



Nicholas Ward stands at the Pontifical College Josephinum, where he received a bachelor's degree. (Photo provided)

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

Cambridge/Lore City— Throughout the month of June, Christ Our Light Parish will collect worn-out and tattered Bibles, broken rosaries, and other religious images and devotional items that are beyond repair. Items can be taken to the St. Benedict Church Marian Room, Cambridge, or the sacristy at Sts. Peter and Paul Oratory, Lore City. Articles will be disposed of properly by burying them in a cemetery, or burning them and then burying the ashes in a sacred area.

Fulda — St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish will hold a game day July 10, from 10:30 a.m. until 5 p.m., at the church hall; a raffle will be part of the event.

Gallipolis — A Spanish Mass will be celebrated by Gallipolis native Father Tim Davison, who presently resides in Oklahoma, at 9:30 a.m., June 18, at St. Louis Church

Ironton — Sunday Mass at St. Lawrence O'Toole Church will be celebrated at 11 a.m., throughout the months of June, July and August.

Lore City — Barbecued chickens will be grilled at Sts. Peter and Paul Oratory June 26. Chickens will be sold following the celebration of the 12:15 p.m. Mass. A donation of \$8 will be accepted.

The feast of Sts. Peter and Paul will be celebrated June 29 at Sts. Peter and Paul Oratory. The sacrament of reconciliation will be offered at 5:15 p.m.; Mass will be celebrated by Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton at 6 p.m. A picnic dinner will begin at 6:45 p.m.

Marietta — Registrations are being accepted for vacation Bible school at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption. The program titled "Mercy Is Falling: A Year of Mercy Jungle Adventure" will be held Aug. 1-4 at St. Mary School, 320 Marion St. Bible school is for children 4 years of age, by Sept. 1, through fifth grade; students in grades six through 12 can work as volunteers. Cost is \$5 per child, prior to July 18; \$10 after July 18. To receive a free T-shirt, children need to be registered prior to July 18. For more information, telephone Joseph A. Schmidt, director of religious education at the basilica, at (740) 373-3643, or email basilicadre@gmail.com.

Olive wood comfort crosses, using pruned branches of olive trees, which are located on the hills of Bethlehem and Jerusalem, can be preordered by June 20 at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption gift shop for \$9.60 each. According to the basilica parish bulletin, the center case contains a relic that has touched Jesus' tomb at the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem. For more information or to place an order, telephone the basilica office at (740) 373-3643.

Marietta — Tony Huffman was re-elected and Kerry Westermeyer was elected to the St. Mary School Local Education Advisory Council.

Martins Ferry — St. Mary's Infant of Prague Society will hold a 25th annual novena to the Infant Jesus of Prague with Benediction beginning at 7 p.m., July 4, at St. Mary Church, 20 N. Fourth St., and continuing for nine consecutive Mondays through Aug. 29. For additional information, telephone Shirley Moczek at (740) 633-3284.

Pomeroy — A farewell party for Father Timothy J. Kozak, pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, will be held following the celebration of the 9:30 a.m. Mass, June 26, in the church hall. Effective July 1, Father Kozak has been named parochial vicar to Msgr. Robert J. Kawa, pastor of St. Bernard Parish, Beverly.

Steubenville — "Fun Fest 2016" will be held at the Catholic Central High School pavilion, 320 West View Ave., July 8, from 5-11 p.m., and July 9, from 1-11 p.m. Food, beverages and games for children and adults will be part of the event. Friday's entertainment will feature the "Crusader Marching Band" and a performance by Spinning Jenny. U.S. Kids will perform at 7 p.m., Saturday; a firework display will take place at 10 p.m. "Firecracker Fun Fest Bingo" will be held from noon- 4 p.m., July 9, at Blessed Sacrament Sargus Hall, Winterville.

Steubenville — Vacation Bible school will be



St. Lucy parishioners meet with their pastor, Father William D. Cross, seated right, to plan a July 10 chicken dinner. The dinner, suggested by St. Lucy parishioner Matthew DiCenzo, standing left, will be held from 11:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the St. Lucy Church hall, St. Lucy Avenue and Walker Street, Yorkville. For a \$10 donation, people can dine in or carry out a roasted half of a chicken, mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans, roll and drink. Desserts will be available, too. For tickets, telephone (740) 859-6833 or (740) 859-4018. Tickets will be available at the door, too, during the day of the dinner, where raffles also will be held. DiCenzo said parishioners used to host weekly fish fries, but there has not been one at the church hall since May 2012. He said that the dinner not only will bring people together, but also will contribute to income for the parish. Father Cross is pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Tiltonsville, too, as well as judicial vicar for the Diocese of Steubenville. Planning the dinner on a recent evening, along with Father Cross and DiCenzo, are, seated from left Helen Frangos, Michele Vinci, Eleanor Outward, Jane Fetty and Josie Piciacchia. And, standing from second from left, Barbara DiCenzo, Christopher DiCenzo, Danny DiCenzo, Ron Lenz, Sandy Rakoski, Vinnie Bonomo and Joyce Baiocco. (Photo by DeFrancis)

held from 9 a.m.-noon, June 20-23, at Holy Family Church Malara Hall. A closing Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m., June 24, at the church. For additional information, telephone (740) 264-2825.

Steubenville — A natural family planning class, offered by NFP International, will be held June 26 at St. Peter Church. For more information or to register, telephone Steve or Ann Craig at (740) 457-9663. An online course is available at www.nfpandmore.org.

Winterville — A second annual memorial golf outing, to benefit the Cynthia Rose Phillipson schol-

arship fund, will be held July 16 at Cadiz Country Club, 800 Country Club Road. Shotgun will begin at 10 a.m.; cost, \$75 per person. Cynthia was a former parishioner of Blessed Sacrament Parish, Winterville, and a student at Catholic Central High School, Steubenville. For additional information, telephone Bob Phillipson at (740) 264-3404, Bill Edwards at (740) 264-7410, or email phillipson108@gmail.com.

Woodfield — Wednesday eucharistic adoration at St. Sylvester Church will not be held during the summer months.

Around and About

Martins Ferry — Knights of Columbus Mother of God Council 1421 will sponsor a fish fry from 11 a.m.-6 p.m., June 17, at the council hall, 25 N. Fourth St.; eat in or take out will be available. Telephone (740) 633-0528, to place an order; delivery to city businesses will be available.

Wheeling, W.Va — Faith in Action Caregivers will sponsor a 15th annual triathlon/duathlon July 9 at Wheeling Jesuit University, 315 Washington Ave. To volunteer for the event or to make a reservation, prior to July 1, telephone (304) 243-5420. A picnic will follow the awards ceremony.

Obituaries

Thomas J. Anderson, 62, Toronto, St. Joseph, May 29.

John Bazan, 96, 920 Pearl St., Martins Ferry, St. Mary, May 25.

Linda K. Bennett, 65, 720 Washington St., St. Mary, Pine Grove, May 30.

Guido Brandi, 93, St. Lucy, Yorkville, May 31.

Genevieve L. Fristick, 86, Mingo Junction, St. Agnes, June 2.

Greg Goldcamp, 68, Ironton, St. Joseph, May 19.

Richard L. Kimble, 49, North Seventh Street, Martins Ferry, St. Mary, June 6.

Raymond J. Kitlak, 82, 405 N. 10th St., Martins Ferry, St. Mary, June 8.

Walter E. "Bud" Kleinman, 85, 1609 Karin St., Ironton, St. Joseph, May 20.

Helen M. Palichowski Kouski, 88, Bridgeport, St. Anthony of Padua, June 1.

Theresa A. Lacey, 71, Triumph of the Cross,

Steubenville, May 30.

John M. Madzia, 77, Flushing, St. Frances Cabrini, Colerain, June 2.

Ronald D. Paris Sr., 62, Toronto, St. Francis of Assisi, May 27.

Dorothy J. Pashke, 78, Mingo Junction, St. Agnes, June 5.

John C. Payne, 59, 225 Pineview Drive, Gallipolis, St. Louis, May 21.

Robert D. Perko, 87, Bridgeport, St. Anthony of Padua, June 10.

Craig W. Petrella, 60, Triumph of the Cross, Steubenville, June 7.

Bobby Lee "Abe" Richie, 82, 2799 Ohio Route 141, Gallipolis, St. Louis, June 4.

Julia T. Salomone, 91, Steubenville, Holy Family, June 1.

Lena Voght Sancreek, 93, Ramsey, Ohio, St. Casimir, Adena, May 30.

Sandy Ziklo, 75, Our Lady of Lourdes, Winterville, May 27.

Bishop Monforton leads Marian procession, opens Year of Reconsecration



Hundreds of rosaries are ready for the June 4 Marian procession that opened the Year of Reconsecration of the Diocese of Steubenville to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The rosaries were made at the Order of the Sacred and Immaculate Hearts of Jesus and Mary, Hopedale.



Dozens of processors walk in a Marian procession through downtown Steubenville – from St. Peter Church on Fourth Street to Third and South streets and back up Fifth Street for a return to St. Peter to open the Year of Reconsecration of the Diocese of Steubenville to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.



Kevin Jordan, Kevin Nelles, Dan Wiesler and Mike Nelson from Nelson Fine Art and Gifts, Steubenville, Mark Nelson, owner, carry the Immaculate Heart of Mary they created into St. Peter Church.



Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton stands in St. Peter Church by the Immaculate Heart of Mary statue he blessed, which he is readying for, at left.



Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Emeritus Gilbert I. Sheldon recesses from the June 4 noon Mass at St. Peter Church that opened the Year of Reconsecration of the diocese to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The statue remains at the Steubenville church until June 11, when it will be transported to Holy Rosary Church, Steubenville. From there, it will stand in Wintersville, June 17-July 1 at Blessed Sacrament and Our Lady of Lourdes churches. From July 1-15, the Immaculate Heart of Mary will be on view at Our Lady of Mercy Church, Carrollton, and St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Morges. (Photos by DeFrancis)

