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News Briefs

California bishops urge easing 'fear'

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The California Catholic Conference in a Lent message issued Ash Wednesday said “it is long past time for our leaders to stop allowing this issue to be used for political advantage and set themselves to the task of fixing our broken immigration system.”

Referencing migrants and refugees who are “being unjustly targeted and vilified,” the conference, which is the public policy arm of the state’s bishops, asked the Trump administration and Congress to “ease the climate of fear that is now gripping our communities” and asked Catholics and “people of goodwill” to stand in solidarity with the “vulnerable and excluded in our society.”

The bishops asked for reforms in visa and guest worker programs, reforms that keep families together, due process for those who are detained and an “immediate path to regularize” the status of “those who are here (without documentation) and contribute to our economy and society with an eye to one day becoming citizens.”

The March 1 statement makes a plea that during Lent, “a time when Christian people devote ourselves more intentionally to the spiritual and corporal works of mercy in an earnest effort to reform our lives in the image of Jesus Christ,” urgent attention be given to “neighbors who are migrants and refugees, especially those immigrants who are undocumented.”

Official

Father Augustus Nweze has been appointed by Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton to provide assistance to Father Thomas R. Nau, pastor of Triumph of the Cross Parish, Steubenville.

From Nigeria, Father Nweze is studying at Franciscan University of Steubenville.



The Immaculate Heart of Mary statue, in churches in the Diocese of Steubenville during the Year of Reconsecration of the Diocese to the Immaculate Heart of Mary at the initiation of diocesan Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton, will be relocated March 10 from St. Ambrose Church, Little Hocking, to St. Bernard Church, Beverly. The statue will remain in St. Bernard Church until March 17, when it will be transported to St. Stephen Church, Caldwell. (Photo by DeFrancis)



Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton blesses ashes March 1 at Catholic Central High School, Steubenville, and uses some to mark Father Michael W. Gossett with a cross. Father Gossett is Central’s chaplain, as well as the diocese’s vocations director and a parochial vicar to Msgr. Kurt H. Kemo, diocesan vicar general and pastor of Blessed Sacrament and Our Lady of Lourdes parishes, Wintersville. Altar servers Hayden Daley, Daniel Harris, Vincenzo DiCarlantonio and Lucca DiMichele assist at the Mass at Catholic Central’s Berkman Theater, Lanman Hall. During his homily, Bishop Monforton told the Bishop John King Mussio Central Junior High and Catholic Central students that in the Scripture reading, “Jesus is warning you and me not to be showoffs.” Focus, the bishop challenged, on almsgiving, fasting and praying. Select one of the three as a class, he continued, and practice it as a Lenten penance. (Photos by DeFrancis)

Lent breathes life into world asphyxiated by sin

By Junno Arocho Esteves

ROME (CNS) — Lent is a time to receive God’s breath of life, a breath that saves humanity from suffocating under the weight of selfishness, indifference and piety devoid of sincerity, Pope Francis said.

“Lent is the time to say no to the asphyxia born of relationships that exclude, that try to find God while avoiding the wounds of Christ present in the wounds of his brothers and sisters,” the pope said March 1 during an Ash Wednesday Mass.

Pope Francis celebrated the Mass after making the traditional Ash Wednesday procession from the Benedictine monastery of St. Anselm to the Dominican-run Basilica of Santa Sabina on Rome’s Aventine Hill.

After receiving ashes on top of his head from Cardinal Jozef Tomko, titular cardinal of the basilica, the pope distributed ashes to the cardinals, his closest aides, some Benedictines and Dominicans.

He also distributed ashes to a family and to two members of the Pontifical Academy for Martyrs, which promotes the traditional Lenten “station church” pilgrimage in Rome.

Lent, he said, is a time to say “no” to “all those forms of spirituality that reduce the faith to a ghetto culture, a culture of exclusion.”

The church’s Lenten journey toward the celebration of

Christ’s passion, death and resurrection is made on a road “leading from slavery to freedom” and “from suffering to joy,” he said. “Lent is a path: It leads to the triumph of mercy over all that would crush us or reduce us to something unworthy of our dignity as God’s children.”

The ashes, while a symbol of humanity’s origin from the earth, the pope said, is also a reminder that God breathes new life into people in order to save them from the suffocation of “petty ambition” and “silent indifference.”

“The breath of God’s life sets us free from the asphyxia that so often we fail to notice or become so used to that it seems normal, even when its effects are felt,” the pope said.

The Lenten season, he continued, is a “time for saying no” to the asphyxia caused by superficial and simplistic analyses that “fail to grasp the complexity of problems” of those who suffer most.

“Lent is the time to say no to the asphyxia of a prayer that soothes our conscience, of an almsgiving that leaves us self-satisfied, of a fasting that makes us feel good,” the pope said.

Instead, Pope Francis said, Lent is a time for Christians to remember God’s mercy and “not the time to rend our garments before evil but rather make room in our life for the good we are able to do.”

“Lent is the time to start breathing again. It is the time to open our hearts to the breath of the One capable of turning our dust into humanity,” the pope said.



Baci Carpico, (in picture above left) past state deputy and a member of the Ohio Knights of Columbus scholarship committee, presents a \$1,000 check to Sydney Bennington, a Catholic Central High School, Steubenville, student, while Rich Wilinski, Catholic Central principal, looks on. And, (in picture above right) Jim Colegrove, in back, at left, Knights district deputy, gives \$1,000 to Alyson Johnson, a St. Joseph Central High School, Ironton, junior. Her parents, Dwane and Lisa Johnson flank her, while her pastor, Father David L. Huffman, back right, congratulates her. The students are rewarded with the tuition assistance for their involvement in school, church and community and academic excellence, said Carpico. During the 2016-17 school year, the Knights presented 39 scholarships totaling \$39,000 to parochial high school students. Since the inception of the scholarship program in 1997, the Knights has provided \$657,700 to students in Catholic high schools in Ohio, Carpico stated. (Photo by DeFrancis and provided)



Josephinum plans 'come and see' March 23-25

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The Pontifical College Josephinum is hosting a "Come and See" College Live-in March 23-25.

The live-in — aimed at males who are high school juniors and seniors or college-aged who want to know more about seminary life — begins at 4 p.m., March 23, and concludes at 1 p.m., March 25.

There is no charge for the live-in.

Discussions, meals, prayer, recreation, attendance at classes and a tour of the campus are planned for the weekend.

To register, contact Father Michael W. Gossett, diocesan vocations director, via telephone (740) 264-0868 or email mgossett@diosteub.org or Linda A. Nichols, diocesan chancellor, (740) 282-3631 or lnichols@diosteub.org.

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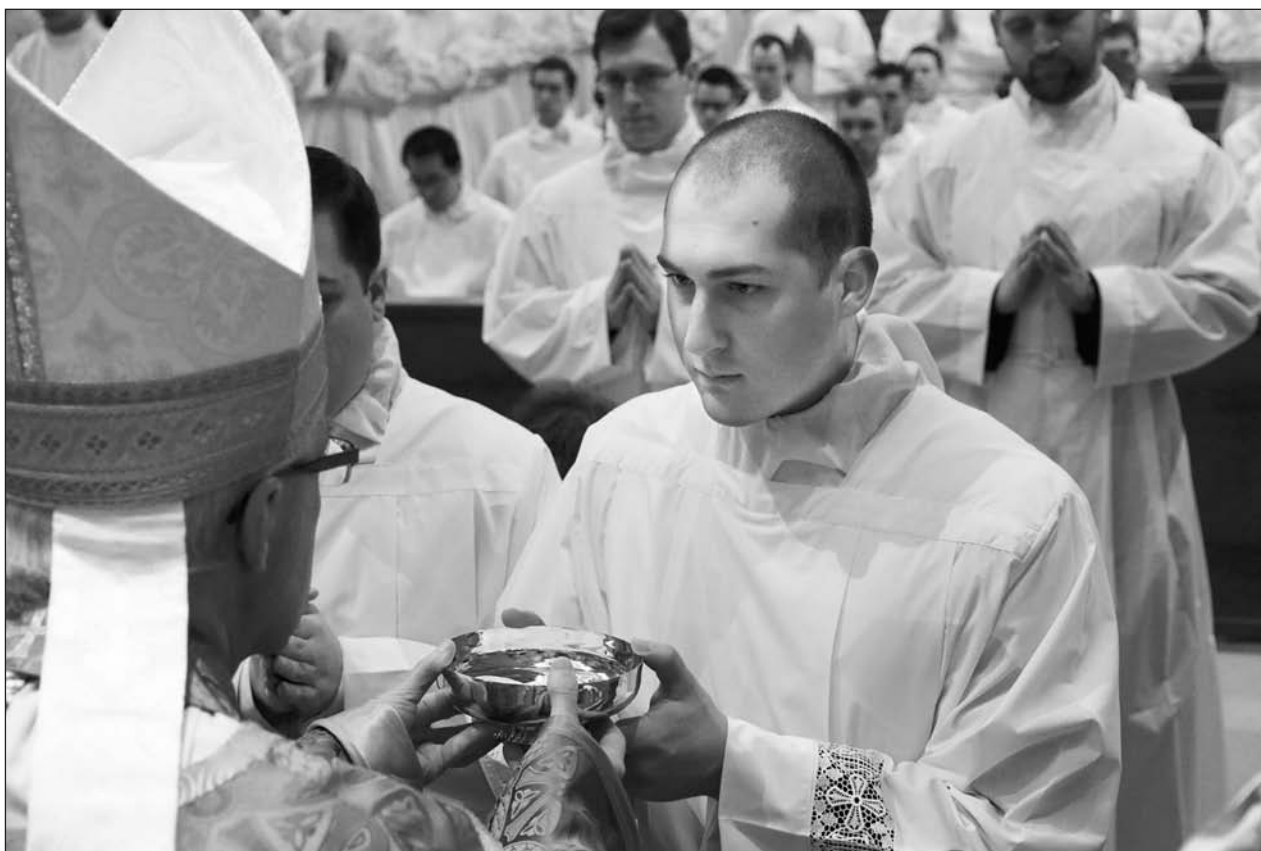
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Nicholas V. Ginnetti, Diocese of Steubenville seminarian, receives a paten from Bishop David Kagan during Mass in a chapel in Rome. (Photo provided)

Diocesan seminarian, studying in Rome, is acolyte

ROME — The ministry of acolyte has been conferred on Nicholas V. Ginnetti, Diocese of Steubenville seminarian.

Ginnetti was one of 63 seminarians studying at the Pontifical North American College, Vatican City State, Europe, to be conferred a ministry of acolyte by Bishop of Bismarck (North Dakota) David Kagan Feb. 26 in the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception, Pontifical North American College.

During the Mass, Bishop Kagan, an alumnus of the college, reminded the seminarians that their new responsibility of serving at the altar, their second-to-last step before being ordained to the priesthood, is one to be taken on with a spirit of humility. “Remember that your service is never to be about you ... for the people of God whom you will serve look to you to model fidelity, devotion and humble joy in your service to almighty God, and what a privilege you have in this vocation.”

As part of the rite, Bishop Kagan placed the paten, which contains the hosts for the celebration for Mass, in the hands of each candidate and said, “Take this vessel with bread for the celebration of the Eucharist. Make your life worthy of your service at the table of the Lord and of his church.”

The seminarians, in their second year of formation for the priesthood, have two additional years of theological studies and spiritual formation before being ordained to the priesthood in their home dioceses.

In 2015, Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton presided at the candidacy of Ginnetti, prior to the seminarian beginning his study in Rome.

A May 2015 graduate of the Pontifical College Jo-

sephinum, Columbus, Ohio, Ginnetti received a degree in philosophy and humanities in preparation for his study at the Pontifical North American College.

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

The Pontifical North American College serves as the American seminary in Rome.

Founded in 1859 by Blessed Pius IX, the college has formed more than 5,000 priests for service in dioceses in the United States, Canada and Australia.

Bishop Monforton’s Schedule

March

- 12 Mass, St. John the Baptist Church, Churchtown, 9:30 a.m.
Rites of Election and Recognition of Candidates for Full Initiation in the Church, the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, 2:30 p.m.
“Vocations Tour 2017,” the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, 6 p.m.
- 13 Mass, the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, 7:45 a.m.
“Vocations Tour 2017,” Christ the King University Parish, Athens, 6 p.m.
- 14 Mass, the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, 7:45 a.m.
“Vocations Tour 2017,” St. Teresa of Avila Church, Cadiz, 6 p.m.
- 15 Diocesan Finance Council meeting, Steubenville, 9:30 a.m.
Mass, Steubenville/Wintersville Lenten series, Holy Family Church, Steubenville, 5:15 p.m.
- 16 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.
Diocesan Tournament of Truth, Bishop John King Mussio Central Elementary School, Steubenville, 1 p.m.
Mission Advancement Planning Task Force meeting, Cambridge, 6:30 p.m.
- 17 Lenten retreat for diocesan staff, Franciscan Sisters Third Order Regular of Penance of the Sorrowful Mother Motherhouse, Toronto, 9:30 a.m.
- 18 Diocesan Men’s Day of Renewal Mass, St. Stephen Church, Caldwell, 2:30 p.m.
- 19 Mass, Holy Family Church, Steubenville, 9 a.m.
“Vocations Tour 2017,” Our Lady of Mercy Church, Carrollton, 6 p.m.
- 20 Mass, followed by reception, 100th anniversary of St. Joseph Parish, St. Joseph Church, Tiltonsville, 6:30 p.m.
- 21 Mass, Holy Rosary Church, Steubenville, 7 a.m.
Host lunch with Ohio Catholic superintendents of schools, Steubenville, noon
- 22-24 Jurisprudence and Practice workshop for bishops and canonists, Washington, D.C.
- 25 Mass and dinner, Family of Jacopa Association, Steubenville, 5 p.m.

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New evangelization ministry being rolled out in diocesan parishes

STEUBENVILLE — ChristLife — Catholic Ministry for Evangelization — will open with training in September in the Diocese of Steubenville and will be started in at least eight diocesan locations in January 2018.

Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton initiated the program, labeled as an evangelization process.

As described in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, evangelization is: “The proclamation of Christ and his Gospel by word and testimony of life, in fulfillment of Christ’s command.”

The aim of evangelization, said St. John Paul II, is: “The proclamation of the word of God has Christian conversion as its aim; a

complete and sincere adherence to Christ and his Gospel through faith. ... Conversion means accepting by personal decision the saving sovereignty of Christ and becoming his disciple.”

The need to evangelize is: “The sacred liturgy does not exhaust the entire activity of the church; it must be preceded by evangelization, faith and conversion. It can then produce its fruits in the lives of the faithful; new life in the Spirit, involvement in the mission of the church, and service to her unit,” reads the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

ChristLife will be coordinated by Permanent Deacon Richard G. Adams, under the direction of the Office of Christian Formation and Schools for which Permanent Deacon Paul D. Ward is the director.

Founded in 1995, ChristLife is an apostolate of the Archdiocese of Baltimore. It is described as a way to help people discover, follow and share Jesus Christ as members of the Catholic Church. “It struck me that after years of talking about evangelization and catechesis, after years of reading church documents, hearing about all kinds of strategies, ChristLife is a way of doing the new evangelization, at the parish level, that can actually work,” said Baltimore Archbishop William E. Lori.

Deacon Adams detailed statistics that reveal that 70,000 people in 730 parishes

in 37 states in the United States and nine foreign countries have participated in ChristLife. In the Diocese of Steubenville, the program was undertaken in 2015 by Father Daniel Heusel, pastor of St. John Parish, Bellaire, and Sacred Heart Parish, Neffs, for parishioners in those parishes and nearby St. Mary Parish, Shadyside.



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He called it a positive experience for the approximately 70 participants.

ChristLife is divided into three segments — “Discovering Christ,” “Following Christ” and “Sharing Christ” — with the vision to equip Catholics for evangelization, so others might come to know personally the love of God through Jesus Christ, in the Holy Spirit, becoming his followers and members of the church.

The program is rooted in personal relationships with God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit and is faithful to the magisterium, nourished by the sacraments, sustained by a charismatic prayer life, evangelically oriented, dependent on the power of the Holy Spirit and committed to Christian unity, information on the apostolate reads.

“Discovering Christ” invites guests to hear the good news and personally encounter Jesus Christ. It includes seven sessions and a retreat day. Each session includes a meal, prayer time, video teaching and small-group discussion.

“Following Christ” helps those who have completed “Discovering Christ” grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ, while “Sharing Christ” trains Catholics to share Jesus Christ with others and invite them to be part of the church. Then, the process is to be repeated.

ChristLife is designed to be repeated in order to be weaved into the life of the

parish by disciplining people and sending them out as missionaries, information on the ministry reads.

Lifelong parishioners, those who have fallen away from the practice of the faith and people who have no religious background can benefit from ChristLife, Deacon Adams said.

It is different from other programs, he continued, because it does not involve just giving information, but also works to create an environment that fosters a personal encounter with the love of God.

“The actual culture of the parish starts to change,” he said.

At the retreat during the first course, participants are invited to make a faith commitment to Christ. They pray and say they want to be a disciple of Christ, Deacon Adams continued.

Having attended training himself in Philadelphia and Syracuse, New York, Deacon Adams said that pastors and parishioners will be trained Sept. 29-30 in the Steubenville Diocese.

In parishes, during ChristLife, small groups of eight to 10 people will be led by a facilitator and a helper, he said. Those two need to have some level of conversion in their lives, he added. “They are the evan-

gelists,” Deacon Adams, who will attend a ChristLife national training conference in April in Baltimore, said. “They have to be people who are able to explain the faith in a compelling way.”

Pastors who have committed their parishes to participate are Father Anthony R. Batt, pastor of Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Carrollton, and St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Morges; Msgr. Gerald E. Calovini, pastor of Holy Family Parish, Steubenville; Father Thomas A. Chillog, pastor of St. Mary Parish, St. Clairsville; Father Paul E. Hrezo, pastor of Christ Our Light Parish, Cambridge; Father David L. Huffman, pastor of St. Joseph and St. Lawrence O’Toole parishes and administrator of St. Mary Mission, Pine Grove; Msgr. Kurt H. Kemo, pastor of Blessed Sacrament and Our

Lady of Lourdes parishes, Wintersville; Father Mark A. Moore, pastor of Christ the King University Parish and St. Paul Parish, Athens, and Sacred Heart Parish, Pomeroy; and Father Timothy J. Shannon, pastor of St. Henry Parish, Harrietsville, and Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Lowell.

Though those pastors have agreed to spearhead ChristLife in their parishes, all parishes are invited to explore the implementation of the program, Bishop Monforton said.

As explained by Deacon Ward, the diocese has committed to the costs of the training weekend and to supplying the DVDs that are part of ChristLife to parishes. Each parish is expected to cover the cost for participants’ booklets and meals.

Pastors or parishioners who want to learn more about ChristLife should contact Deacon Adams via telephone at (740) 283-4564 or email adams660@comcast.net.

Staff member for The Steubenville Register

The Steubenville Register, official newspaper for the **Diocese of Steubenville**, is seeking a person with a communications background to write articles, take photographs and layout pages and to coordinate social media activities, also. The applicant should be proficient in Photoshop and InDesign, and be able to navigate the web, as well as Twitter.

Send resume, cover letter and three references to **Shannon Minch-Hughes, P.O. Box 969, Steubenville, OH 43952, or email shughes@diosteub.org, by March 31.**

Position Available for Director of Music Ministries

The community of **St. Joseph Church in Dover, Ohio**, seeks an experienced pastoral musician to serve as Director of Music Ministries. This is a full-time, professional, ministerial position, with benefits. The Director of Music will oversee, direct and coordinate the music ministries for all liturgy and parish worship, including our Hispanic and elementary school liturgies. The successful candidate will recruit, train and oversee all musicians, choirs (both English- and Spanish-speaking choirs), cantors, song leaders and other music volunteers. He or she will also serve as a resource to parish ministries and develop a plan for introducing new repertoire.

This person must work collaboratively with the pastor, parish clergy and all parish staff, as well as serve on the parish’s Spiritual Life and Liturgy Committee and Leadership Team. Qualified applicants must be highly organized, possess a friendly demeanor, and dedicated to St. Joseph’s mission of becoming a parish of authentic, missionary disciples. The ideal candidate will have previous experience as a pastoral musician and be proficient in both the piano and organ. An excellent working knowledge of Catholic worship is required and the ability to converse in Spanish will be a plus.

Job offer is contingent on the successful passing of the mandatory background screening, completion of the VIRTUS “Protecting God’s Children” program and reference checks. Salary is commensurate with experience.

Contact **Father Hatfield at the parish office (330) 364-6661 or email to stjosephchurch@roadrunner.com.**

Creed is topic for adult faith formation April 1 in Beverly

STEUBENVILLE — Divine Revelation, Christ and the Trinity are the topics April 1 at St. Bernard Church, Beverly, when Carolyn A. Crabtree, catechetical

consultant, Diocese of Steubenville, Office of Christian Formation and Schools, leads discussion on the creed.

To register, email ccrabtree@diosteub.org.

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Fathers, sons wanted for eighth 'men's day'

GALLIPOLIS — All men are welcome at the eighth annual Diocese of Steubenville Men's Day of Renewal.

However, Paul R. Sebastian, St. Louis, Gallipolis, parishioner and publicist for the annual event, urged fathers and their teenage sons to make the March 18 men's day at St. Stephen Church, Caldwell, a shared experience.

Doors to the church will open at 8 a.m. for men's day, said Don Coen, chairman of the Men's Day of Renewal Steering Committee. A half-hour later, Permanent Deacon Charles J. "Chuck" Schneider will lead the praying of the rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

At 9 a.m., Joe Loizzo, officially, will begin the day, which will continue at 9:15 a.m. with Permanent Deacon Donald Scott Carson opening a Holy Hour.

Following a 15-minute break, the first talk of the day will be given. During his hour-long presentation, Guy Gruters — a U.S. Air Force captain, Eastern Airlines pilot, IBM account representative, software systems president, data processing director and corporation vice president who is a father of seven, fourth-degree Knights of Columbus and author — will talk about his faith. He will reveal how his trust in God carried him through being a prisoner of war for five years. As well, Gruters is expected to share how he learned to show mercy to his captors.

He, too, will provide information on leadership and teamwork in the family, church and community.

Father Paul E. Hrezo, pastor of Christ Our Light Parish, Cambridge, will celebrate reconciliation, after which confessions will continue from noon until 1 p.m.

According to Sebastian, renewal day participants will be able to eat lunch as well as go to confession to one of many diocesan priests expected to be present.

The afternoon session starts with music by Greg Strauss of Beverly.

In the afternoon, Gruters will give a second hour presentation.

Then, Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton will celebrate Mass, beginning at 2:30 p.m., at the men's day.

Though the men look to St. Joseph as their patron saint, Sebastian said the day of renewal and future ones will be consecrated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The Immaculate Heart of Mary statue that has been in churches in the Diocese of Steubenville during the Year of Reconsecration of the diocese to the Immaculate Heart of Mary at the initiation of Bishop Monforton will stand in St. Stephen Church, beginning March 17.

Mail the \$25 registration fee for men's day to Roger Huck, P.O. Box 54, Beverly, OH 45715. Include name, address, telephone number, email address and parish. Make checks payable to the Diocese of Steubenville.

Registration can occur at the door, too, the day of the event. Sebastian said no one will be turned away because of inability to pay.

For more information, contact Coen (740) 264-0155 or (740) 632-1565.

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Human resources office created; woman heads

STEUBENVILLE — A woman who has a long history of service to Catholic organizations has been named to a position with the Diocese of Steubenville.

In a newly created Office of Human Resources is Shannon Minch-Hughes, announced Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton.

As explained by James G. Piazza, executive assistant to the bishop, the diocese has formed the Office of Human Resources. Minch-Hughes will work out of that office.

She will be responsible for the administration of all employee benefits, including health insurance and retirement plans; development of job descriptions for diocesan staff; revision of the diocesan employee handbook and employment manuals; administration of personnel policies; facilitation of the diocesan employee

appraisal process; and payroll calculation and reporting for diocesan offices, as well as for staff at the diocese's Mount Calvary Cemetery in Steubenville.

Previously, the diocesan Finance Office was charged with human resources duties for the diocese.

In addition, Minch-Hughes will be available for consultation to other diocesan entities, including parishes, schools, ministries and agencies, for assistance in human resources related areas and to ensure that employment procedures and policies are compliant with state and federal guidelines, Piazza said.

All inquiries concerning human resources should be directed to Minch-Hughes at the chancery, 422 Washington St., Steubenville; telephone (740) 282-3631 or email shughes@diosteub.org.

Too, she will assist with insurance dealing with diocesan buildings and properties.

A graduate of the University of Akron (Ohio), Minch-Hughes resides in Mingo Junction with her husband Steve.



(Photo by DeFrancis)

Shannon Minch-Hughes

Compensation to diocesan priests may change

ST. CLAIRSVILLE — When the Diocese of Steubenville Presbyteral Council met, compensation to diocesan priests was viewed for possible changes.

Father Thomas A. Chillog, diocesan episcopal vicar for pastoral planning and personnel and ex-officio member of the council, chaired the March 2 meeting at St. Mary Church, St. Clairsville.

As presented by Father Chillog, diocesan priests receive an annual salary and transportation allowance, as well as benefits. Since presently only \$500 is earmarked annually for "eye and dental," it was agreed to by council members that any increase in compensation to priests include added dollars for eye and dental.

Msgr. Kurt H. Kemo, diocesan vicar general and an ex-officio member of Presbyteral Council, will examine the possibilities of an insurance policy that covers eye and dental costs to priests.

Also, during the meeting, Permanent Deacon Richard G. Adams detailed ChristLife (Story/Page 4).

Sister Mary Brigid Callan, stewardship and development director for the Steubenville Diocese, presented a synopsis of surveys returned to the diocese by parishioners, parish staff and clergy who ranked parish strengths and concerns, as well as wrote comments.

Results of the survey, directed by Greater Mission Development Services, Elkridge, Maryland, will be returned to parishes, detailed to diocesan staff and digested by a Mission Advancement Planning Advisory Task Force. Meeting again in mid-month, the task force is expected to use the survey results and data from the diocese to prioritize the needs of parishes and the diocese, financially and

pastorally, Sister Callan has said.

The planning process in the diocese expanded from its initiation at the diocesan level after Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton called for a renewal of the diocese when he presented "With Immense Hope."

The bishop, at the meeting, also, talked about progress at Holy Name Cathedral, Steubenville (Pictures/Page 12). The cathedral is closed for the celebration of Masses for renovation, restoration and renewal.

With the acquisition of property in the South Fifth Street area, Bishop Monforton said that "Cathedral Square" will be created and the church's presence in the southern end of the city returned to what it was in the 1940s and '50s.

He asked for patience. "Holy Name Cathedral will be finished," Bishop Monforton said.

Next meeting of Presbyteral Council is May 11, also at St. Mary Church, St. Clairsville.

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St. John Paul II The Spirit in the Early Church

By Diocese of Steubenville
Bishop Emeritus Gilbert I. Sheldon

Jesus referred to the Holy Spirit as “another Counselor” (see, John, Chapter 14, Verse 16) “who proceeds from the Father” (Jn 15:26) whom “the Father sends in the Son’s name” (Jn 14:26). He said also: “He will glorify me for he will take what is mine and declare it to you” (Jn 16:14). This Spirit, therefore, has to be not a vague “force” of some kind, but a *someone* – a person! What else could our Lord’s words mean? We say in the creed at Mass: “I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified.” We say “proceeds from” because he was not created, but exists by the very nature of an infinite God (we might recall here what has been said previously about God as an Infinite Being who knows and wills). It is not something we can picture with our finite minds, but something that had to be revealed to us. As we saw, it was Jesus himself who had to tell us about such things; otherwise we would never have had a clue about them.

The Spirit is active in the lives of human beings (even for those who are not baptized Christians). St. John Paul II tells us: “The Paraclete-Counselor does not replace Christ. He comes after him in virtue of Christ’s redemptive sacrifice. He comes so that Christ can remain in the church and

The Spirit is active in the lives of human beings. ...

work in her as our redeemer and Lord.” He takes up after our Lord’s work of redemption was complete and is instrumental in making that redemption effective for us both as individuals and as members of the church. Jesus said: “He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you.” He is continuously at work “behind the scenes,” so to speak. He is notably at work at baptism, at which the priest (or other minister of the sacrament) applies words and water, but it is the Holy Spirit who effects the result. He endows the soul with the new life of grace: the sharing in the same grace that filled the human soul of Jesus. Like all that is done in or through the church, it is done “in the name of Christ,” but it is the Spirit who brings about the result.

The work of the Holy Spirit is not something new and different from that of Christ; it is the “follow through,” we might say, of that work. We sometimes hear of “the reign of the Spirit.” The expression is legitimate enough in itself, but there have been movements in the church to regard the work of the Spirit as a completely new kind of divine activity in the world, superseding that of Christ. This was the view of a sect called the “Spirituals” in the Middle Ages. They were much taken with the notion of “charisms” that they believed are given by the Holy Spirit independently from the work of Christ. St. Thomas Aquinas was outspoken in challenging such ideas in his time. Unfortunately, they keep reappearing (we should not confuse them with the modern charismatic movement in the church). There have also been claims of new “revelations” after the time of Christ against which we should be on our guard. We can number among them the claims of such sects as the Mormons and the Jehovah’s Witnesses. To the contrary, Jesus said of the Spirit, “He will take what is mine and declare it to you” (Jn 16:15), i.e., not something new and different from what Christ taught. In this connection, John Paul expresses his admiration for the development of doctrine on the relationship between the Holy Spirit and Christ by the Eastern (Byzantine) churches.

While the Fourth Gospel is our prime source of revelation concerning the Holy Spirit, it is in the Acts of the Apostles that we see the work of the Spirit in action.

Acts begins with the ascension of Jesus into heaven and the selection of Mathias as successor to Judas and tells of the event of Pentecost itself, when the promise of Jesus to send “another Paraclete” was fulfilled. It goes on to tell of the work of Peter and John in Jerusalem and their encounter with the Jewish authorities, portending the persecution that was soon to come against the first Christians, not by the Romans, but by their fellow Jews. The life of the early primitive Christian community is described: They met to pray together in the temple and to share the Eucharist (“the breaking of bread”) in their homes (Acts 2:46-47). They pooled their material possessions in order to share with the less affluent. They met to listen to the witness of the apostles about Jesus and, particularly, about his res-



Bishop Sheldon

urrection from the dead. Acts tells of a second coming of the Spirit, this time upon the entire community (see, Acts, Chapter 4, Verse 31). St. John Paul observes: “The overall view ... given by Luke enables us to see in that community the model of Christian communities formed throughout the centuries.” They would later become the parishes and the religious congregations of our own day in which the Holy Spirit continues his work.

The first Christian community was not without its blemishes, the case of Ananias and Sapphira being a case in point. This couple lied about their assets and was struck dead by God – not because of the unwillingness to share, but because of their willingness to disrupt the unity and mutual trust that was the hallmark of the first Christian community (see, Acts, Chapter 5, Verses 1-11). Nor was the first community without its martyr: Stephen, one of the newly minted deacons was stoned to death by his fellow Jews for his witness to Christ (see, Acts, Chapter 7).

John Paul reminds us that our ancestors in the faith were all Jews, including the original Apostles as well as Mary, the Mother of Jesus. Stephen, the first martyr was Jewish, as was St. Paul the Apostle, most closely associated with the conversion of the Gentile world from which most Christians today derive their origin. While present day Jewish Christians are relatively few and far between, we must never forget our debt to those who passed on to us the faith and life of the Christian church!

Evangelizing Through the Good



Bishop Barron

By Bishop Robert Barron

Anyone even vaguely acquainted with my work knows that I advocate vigorous argument on behalf of religious truth. I have long called for a revival in what is classically known as apologetics, the defense of the claims of faith against skeptical opponents. And I have repeatedly weighed in against a dumbed-down Catholicism. Also, I have, for many years, emphasized the importance of beauty in service of evangelization. The Sistine Chapel Ceiling, the Sainte-Chapelle, Dante’s “Divine Comedy,” Bach’s “St. Matthew’s Passion,” T.S. Eliot’s “Four Quartets” and the Cathedral of Chartres all have an extraordinary convincing

power, in many ways surpassing that of formal arguments. So I affirm the path of truth and the path of beauty. But I also recommend, as a means of propagating the faith, the third of the transcendentals, namely, the good. Moral rectitude, the concrete living out of the Christian way, especially when it is done in an heroic manner, can move even the most hardened unbeliever to faith, and the truth of this principle has been proven again and again over the centuries.

In the earliest days of the Christian movement, when both Jews and Greeks looked upon the nascent faith as either scandalous or irrational, it was the moral goodness of the followers of Jesus that brought many to belief. The church father Tertullian conveyed the wondering pagan reaction to the early church in his famous adage: “How these Christians love one another!” At a time when the exposure of malformed infants was commonplace, when the poor and the sick were often left to their own devices, and when murderous revenge was a matter of course, the early Christians cared for unwanted babies, gave succor to the sick and the dying, and endeavored to forgive the persecutors of the faith. And this goodness extended, not simply to their own brothers and sisters, but, astonishingly, to outsiders and to enemies. This peculiarly excessive form of moral decency convinced many people that something strange was afoot among these disciples of Jesus, something splendid and rare. It compelled them

to take a deeper look.

During the cultural and political chaos following the collapse of the Roman Empire, certain spiritual athletes took to the caves, deserts and hills in order to live a radical form of the Christian life. From these early ascetics, monasticism emerged, a spiritual movement that led, in time, to the re-civilization of Europe. What so many found

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Lent Focuses Our Gaze on the Easter Resurrection

By Diocese of Steubenville
Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton

“Then he said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe.’

“Thomas answered and said to him, ‘My Lord and my God.’

“Jesus said to him, ‘Have you come to believe because you have seen me?’

“Blessed are those who have not seen and believed” (Jn 20:27-29).

It may seem counter intuitive in this Lenten season to begin with this Easter proclamation, but Lent does focus our gaze on the Easter Resurrection, does it not? Lent also poses the question of how do you and I both internalize and convey the Resurrection promise in our daily lives.

In an expanded view including the above Scripture passage, we have three underlying themes:

- The peace of the Easter Resurrection is communicated to the disciples;
- In Jesus’ visit with the disciples we have the institution of the Sacrament of Penance, which receives considerable focus this penitential season of Lent;
- We hear that belief precedes knowledge.

Why are these three components important this season of Lent? Regarding *peace*, we know that God is the source of all peace. In a world full of civil and international strife, humanity yearns for a peace that in and of itself it cannot provide. From wars to domestic violence there is vast evidence which testifies to the lack of peace.

Concerning the *Sacrament of Penance* or Confes-

sion, we are in the midst of the parish reconciliation season. Parishes or groupings of parishes, such as our deaneries, may celebrate two-to-three Lenten reconciliation services. Those with schools may have as many as four or five during Lent.

And, it all comes down to *faith*. All of what we do as fellow Catholics implicitly and explicitly is based on faith, faith in a merciful God who is near. Even if our faith does not come near to the perfection to which we are called, God invites us into his compassionate embrace. God understands. Always.

In her masterpiece, “The Interior Castle,” St. Teresa of Avila acknowledges that you and I cannot enter the life of Christ by any effort of our own. Jesus Christ moves us into proper position so that we may receive him openly. St. Teresa indicates that Jesus Christ need not open any of the doors of our own existence, for he can pass through any barriers we have constructed. St. Teresa goes further by stating that if Christ can bring peace to the apostles, how much more can he calm our own souls?

The Lenten season is a season in which we desire peace, peace in our hearts which frequently can be replaced with worldly concerns. Lent deepens our encounter with Jesus through the sacraments, our Lenten penances, and our acknowledgement that season of our Easter Mountain climb is different than any other liturgical season during the year.

St. Patrick’s Day Dispensation with a Work of Mercy

Recognizing that St. Patrick’s Day falls on Friday this year, as Bishop of the Diocese of Steubenville, I dispense the faithful entrusted to my care and those Catholics who are within the territory of the Diocese of Steubenville from the obligation to abstain from meat on the Memorial of St.



Bishop Monforton

Patrick, March 17, 2017.

As the Memorial of St. Patrick is observed on a Lenten Friday, I encourage those who wish to exercise this dispensation to embrace another penance, whether it is as a community or as individuals, through a corporal or spiritual work of mercy on that same Friday.

Our Lenten observances are not intended to be part of a list which we check off on our way to the great celebration of Easter.

Our Lenten observances further galvanize our own hearts to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, all the while recognizing Jesus’ redemptive actions of his suffering, death and resurrection.

May you and your family have a spiritually rich Lenten season.

Thirsting (Third Sunday of Lent)



Father Walker

By Father Paul J. Walker

For three Sundays in Lent, we now read especially long Gospels. They are three stories of deliverance: Jesus and the Samaritan woman; Jesus and the man born blind; Jesus and his deceased friend Lazarus. A woman finds her way out of her dead-end life. A blind man receives sight. Jesus calls a dead man back to life. I think these deliverances are told during Lent because they prove what people say at the end of today’s (March 19) Gospel: Jesus is “indeed the savior of the world.”

In the third Lenten Sunday story we can see how they arrive at this conviction. Jesus rests beside Jacob’s well, weary from journeying in the midday heat. No one comes

to the well at this hour (noon) but this Samaritan woman who assumes she will not be seen in public by anyone. She is ashamed and fears the gossip about her way of life – married five times and now living with a man not her husband. Jesus offers no trace of contempt or reproach; he simply asks her for a drink of water.

A conversation ensues and Jesus speaks about a water he can give – a spring that never leaves one thirsty again. Thirst has led the Samaritan woman, not only to the well, but to Jesus who would refresh her spirit and renew her world. It was the same thirst that drew her through all the detours, all the lovers of her life. If she could only realize, Jesus said, that he himself was “living water” – the fulfillment of every hope. He has aroused her curiosity. The many disappointments she has experienced in her relationships make room for a new hope. She has found the spring that is able to calm her thirst: faith in Jesus and thus that inner connection to God, which Jesus calls “worship in spirit and truth.”

Our endless thirst is what makes us work so hard at physical life – producing, earning, doing, consuming. We “drink” from many wells, but so often the water is stagnant and still, like the water at the bottom of this village well. Sometimes our thirst is so great we can get lost in it and ignore the very truth that could satisfy: God’s thirst for us – even in our sin!

It is Jesus who asked the confused and searching woman for a drink – he reached out to her, down into her life

exposing her need for God.

Jesus is the stream of love between God and ourselves. His “I thirst” from the cross is as much the voice of God as it is the stirring of a human heart. It is not Christ’s humanity alone that feels the parching. It is his divinity as well – longing for union with us.

More vast than the farthest reach of our hunger and thirst to be known and loved, is the God who longs to be our bread of life, our living water, the sustenance that has loved us into being and keeps us there.

As acute and overwhelming as our thirst for God might be, as exhausting and enervating as our journey to God might seem, the yearning that God has for us and the journey that God has made into our hearts surpasses it all infinitely!

So, St. Paul can rejoice in the second reading:

*At the appointed time, when we were still powerless,
Christ died for us godless creatures. ...*

*It is precisely in this that God proved his love for us:
that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us*

(see, Romans, Chapter 5).

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

U.S. Catholic, Lutheran bishops mark 500th anniversary of Reformation

CHICAGO (CNS) — Catholic and Lutheran bishops gathered in Chicago March 2 for a prayer service commemorating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and to release a statement on the event.

The service took place at the Lutheran Center during a joint meeting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's Committee for Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations.

Each year Lutherans mark Oct. 31 as Reformation Day, honoring Martin Luther, who was a Catholic priest in 1517 when he began the process that became the Protestant Reformation. His "95 Theses" were a list of topics on which, Luther believed, the Catholic Church needed to reform.

In a joint statement issued March 2, the U.S. Lutheran and Catholic bishops acknowledged the two churches' ongoing relationship.

"Lutherans and Catholics in this country have long affirmed the ecumenical principle that 'what unites us is greater than what divides us.' For more than 50 years we have contributed to the theological dialogues that have helped move us 'from

conflict to communion,'" the statement read.

"We join our work, our prayers and our commitments to the efforts of Christians around the world who this year are commemorating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation," it continued. "To our sisters and brothers representing other ecumenical partners, we extend a special welcome as you join us in prayer. We Catholics and Lutherans understand that our work together toward reconciliation between us is for the sake of healing in the whole body of Christ, into which all of us are incorporated through baptism."

It was important for the group of U.S. bishops that their March 2 service model the one Pope Francis and Bishop Munib Younan, president of the Lutheran World Federation, presided over in the Lutherans' Lund cathedral in Lund, Sweden, Oct. 31, 2016. During that service the two church leaders signed a joint statement in which Catholics and Lutherans pledged to pursue their dialogue toward full unity and committed themselves to work for the poor, the needy and victims of injustice.

Together Pope Francis and Bishop Younan "affirmed both the sorrow and the

tearing apart of the body of Christ but also the joy and expectation of the reality and hope that 500 years into this that we have begun again being able to see each other as sisters and brothers," said Lutheran Bishop Donald Kreiss, chair of the ECLA's Committee for Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations.

"And that amongst our people on both sides there is a deep longing for fellowship at the table," he said. "We're not there yet but it's an important part of this observance on this 500th anniversary of the Reformation to say, 'Look how far we have come.'"

For 50 years, the Evangelical Lutheran bishops and Catholic bishops have met to dialogue. "The dialogue is important in part for Lutherans because if we remember our history the Reformation started as an effort

not to separate the church but to reform it," Bishop Kreiss said. "Over the centuries since, we have not forgotten that we are part of the church catholic and that that is where our deep roots are. This is in some ways a way to honor the home from which we came."

The USCCB's Committee for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs has formal dialogues with 14 different faith groups.

Bishop Mitchell T. Rozanski of Springfield, Massachusetts, who is chair of the committee, agreed with Bishop Kreiss that Luther didn't mean for the Reformation to be a split from the Catholic Church. "We acknowledge the pain of that separation but we also say we can't leave it right where it is. Christ wants us to be united and so he's bringing us together in the Holy Spirit. ..."

Heating assistance available until March 31

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Heating assistance is available to eligible Ohio households through the Home Energy Assistance Winter Crisis Program until March 31, a spokeswoman for the Ohio Development Services Agency reminded.

Ohioans facing disconnection from their heating source, those who have been disconnected or those that have less than a 25 percent supply of bulk fuel may qualify.

The household must have a gross annual income at or below 175 percent of the federal poverty level. For a family of four, the annual income must be at or below \$42,525.

Individuals who want to receive Winter Crisis assistance must have a face-to-face

interview at the local energy assistance provider. To find a local provider, visit www.energyhelp.ohio.gov or telephone (800) 282-0880, Monday through Friday; hearing impaired (800) 686-1557.

Customers must bring proof of income (copies of pay stubs), copies of most recent energy bills, photo ID, a list of all household members, including Social Security numbers and birth dates, and proof of U.S. citizenship/legal residency for all household members. Documents that are accepted to prove U.S. citizenship/legal residency include: a Social Security card, birth certificate, U.S. Passport, naturalization paper/certification of citizenship, permanent VISA or INS ID Card.

CRS collection March 26 in diocesan parishes

WASHINGTON — The annual Catholic Relief Services collection will be held in most parishes — including ones in the Diocese of Steubenville — Laetare Sunday, March 26, with the theme "Help Jesus in Disguise."

"The needs of our world are great, and the effects of this collection are far-reaching," said Archbishop Thomas J. Rodi of Mobile, Alabama, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on National Collections.

"Through this collection we humbly respond to the suffering Christ who comes to us bearing the face of the vulnerable refugee, the immigrant family, the rejected poor and the abandoned stranger. We serve these, our brothers and sisters, because by

doing so we serve Christ."

Entities within the USCCB that receive support include: the Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church, the Department of Justice Peace and Human Development, and the Department of Migration and Refugee Services, said a spokeswoman for the USCCB.

Other Catholic Church organizations that receive funds are: Catholic Relief Services, Catholic Legal Immigration Network Inc. and the Holy Father's Relief Fund.

The USCCB Administrative Committee is responsible for grant-making from this national collection, the spokeswoman said.

More information about the CRS collection is available at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

Evangelizing

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fascinating was the sheer intensity of the monks' commitment, their embrace of poverty and their blithe trust in divine providence. Once again, it was the *living out* of the Gospel ideal that proved convincing. Something similar unfolded in the 13th century, a time of significant corruption in the church, especially among the clergy. Francis, Dominic and their confreres inaugurated the mendicant orders, which is just a fancy way of saying the begging orders. The trust, simplicity, service to the poor and moral innocence of the Dominicans and Franciscans produced a revolution in the church and effectively re-evangelized armies of Christians who had grown slack and indifferent in their faith.

And we find the same dynamic in our time. John Paul II was the second most powerful evangelist of the 20th century, but unquestionably the first was a woman who never wrote a major work of theology or apologetics, who never engaged skeptics in public debate and who never produced a beautiful work of religious art. I'm speaking, of course of St. Teresa of Kolkata. No one in the last 100 years propagated the Christian faith more effectively than a simple nun who lived in utter poverty and who dedicated herself to the service of the most neglected people in our society.

There is a wonderful story told of a young man named Gregory, who came to the great Origen of Alexandria in order to learn the fundamentals of Christian doctrine. Origen said to him, "First come

and share the life of our community and then you will understand our dogma." The youthful Gregory took that advice, came in time to embrace the Christian faith in its fullness and is now known to history as St. Gregory the Wonderworker. Something of the same impulse lay behind Gerard Manley Hopkins's words to a confrere who was struggling to accept the truths of Christianity. The Jesuit poet did not instruct his colleague to read a book or consult an argument but rather, "Give alms." The living of the Christian thing has persuasive power.

We have been passing through one of the darkest chapters in recent church history. The clerical sex abuse scandals have chased countless people away from Catholicism, and a secularist tide continues to rise, especially among the young. My mentor, the late, great Cardinal George, surveying this scene, used to say, "I'm looking for the orders; I'm looking for the movements." He meant, I think, that in times of crisis, the Holy Spirit tends to raise up men and women outstanding in holiness who endeavor to live out the Gospel in a radical and public way. Once again, I'm convinced that, at this moment, we need good arguments, but I'm even more convinced that we need saints.

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



During a recent visit to Belmont County, Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton celebrated an evening Mass at Sacred Heart Church, Neffs. He was greeted by the parish pastor, Father Daniel Heusel, who also is pastor of St. John Church, Bellaire, and parishioners Dr. Vincent Kolenich, Curt Koshenka, Pauline Beckett and Stanley Czynewski. Evan Zido and Leahna Sparling, in back, assisted the bishop during Mass. (Photo by Twinkle Prout)

Pope to priests: Defend marriage, minister to those in irregular unions

By Carol Glatz

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Reaching out to and guiding couples in cohabitation with tenderness and compassion is essential to promoting and defending the sanctity of marriage, Pope Francis said.

Couples who have chosen to live together without getting married in the church “are, in spiritual and moral terms, among the poor and the least, toward whom the church, in the footsteps of her teacher and Lord, wants to be a mother who doesn’t abandon, but who draws near and cares for,” he said in an audience with parish priests Feb. 25.

Look upon such couples with “tenderness and compassion,” he said, urging the clergy to remember that ministry to the least and the neediest “is an essential part of your work in promoting and defending the sacrament of marriage.”

The pope spoke to parish priests who were in Rome attending a course on marriage preparation and the new rules to reform the process for verifying the validity of a marriage. The course was offered Feb. 22-25 and was spon-

sored by the Vatican’s Roman Rota, a marriage tribunal.

Pope Francis told the priests he was pleased the priests participated in the studies “because it is up to you, above all, to concretely apply (the teachings) in your daily contact with families.”

The parish is, in fact, “the place, par excellence, of the salvation of souls,” he said.

The parish priest is the one who is acutely aware of the social realities of the local culture and the complexities of individual situations: couples married in the church; common-law unions; civil unions; failed unions; and happy and unhappy families and young people, he said.

The priest, he said, is the one young people turn to when seeking to be married in the church and whom married couples experiencing difficulties may turn to for help “to rekindle the faith and rediscover the grace of the sacrament” or to ask about an annulment.

“For every person and every situation, you are called to be ‘fellow travelers’ to give witness and support,” he said.

Pope Francis underlined the importance of marriage preparation courses and making sure engaged couples truly

understand and have faith in a Christian marriage, which is “a sign of the union of Christ and the church.”

“I am convinced that a real catechumenate is needed for the sacrament of marriage” that is in-depth and long term, he said.

He said he believed the biggest challenge to overcome may be the way people think and see marriage as “a social reality” and not a true sacrament that requires lengthy preparation.

Tirelessly remind couples, he encouraged, that God is reflected in a Christian marriage — “impressing his image and the indelible character of his love on them.”

While constantly upholding the “great mystery” and sacred nature of marriage, also take care of those who have come to realize they are not in a valid union and want to remedy their situation, the pope said.

Priests, Pope Francis cautioned, will have to handle this “delicate and necessary” task in a way that the other faithful in their care do not come to see the priests as “experts in bureaucratic proceedings or juridical norms, but as brothers who take on an attitude of listening and understanding.”

Catholic Charismatic Renewal marks 50th anniversary of founding

By Peter Finney Jr.

NEW ORLEANS (CNS) — For the past 50 years, Patti Gallagher Mansfield has kept the Champion Wiremaster stenographer’s notebook, 5-by-8 inches, safely tucked away among her most cherished, sacred items in her dresser drawer.

The notebook has 80 ruled pages. It cost 25 cents. One was given to each of the 25 students from Duquesne University and La Roche College who attended a weekend retreat in February 1967 at The Ark and The Dove Retreat House just outside of Pittsburgh.

Between the slightly faded, tan covers are page after page of Mansfield’s handwritten reflections in blue ballpoint pen of the mysterious things that happened on that three-day retreat, a weekend that ultimately changed the course of the Catholic Church worldwide.

“Who would have ever imagined — 80 pages, Patti Gallagher — that what I would record in this notebook would have any significance to over 120 million Catholics all over the world?” Mansfield, now 70, said. “It is amazing.”

The weekend — now called the “Duquesne Weekend” — is acknowledged as the birth of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal movement in the United States, which has spread throughout the world. The Charismatic Renewal centers on the “baptism of the Holy Spirit” in which God’s Spirit renews and fills a person with grace. Mansfield talks about releasing the graces already conferred through baptism and confirmation.

“As far as I know, there were individual Catholics who had been baptized in the Spirit,” said Mansfield, who added the Duquesne Weekend was the first known case in which a group had “a common experience” that then

spread quickly to college campuses, rectories, hospitals and parishes across the country.

“That could not have happened unless the Lord were behind it and that he willed for this grace of being baptized in the Holy Spirit to become more widely experienced by the whole church,” she said.

She made the comments in an interview with the Clarion Herald, the New Orleans archdiocesan newspaper, in advance of the movement’s golden anniversary celebration, held Feb. 17-19 in the same retreat house chapel in Gibsonia, Pennsylvania.

Mansfield, who was a 20-year-old Duquesne junior in 1967, and her husband, Al, now serve as liaisons for the Charismatic Renewal in the Archdiocese of New Orleans.

While at Duquesne, she had been a regular member of a Bible study group, and there was talk from two professors who had attended an interfaith prayer meeting a few weeks earlier that they had received baptism in the Holy Spirit.

The professors suggested a new name for the students’ upcoming retreat — “The Holy Spirit” — and asked the group to read “The Cross and the Switchblade,” a 1962 book by pastor David Wilkerson about his ministry to youth drug gangs, and the first four chapters of the Acts of the Apostles.

Mansfield recalled hearing a presentation about surrendering her life to Jesus that prompted her

to write: “Jesus, be real for me!” She tore out a page from her notebook and posted a message on the bulletin board: “I want a miracle!”

That night, two members of the group were supposed to celebrate their birthdays with a party, but “there was a listlessness in the group,” Mansfield recalled. She went upstairs to the chapel, now called the Upper Room, to pray. She remembers giving her life to God.

“I’m grateful I wrote everything down,” Mansfield said. “It’s not like I remember everything that was said, but I remember how I felt. I remember feeling like my body was on fire. I asked the priest (on the retreat), ‘Who should I tell?’ and he said, ‘The Lord will show you.’”

Two female students from La Roche College approached

Mansfield, and one of them asked, “What happened to you? Your face looks different.”

“Well,” Mansfield told them, “I’ve experienced what we’ve been talking about.”

Mansfield said she led the women to the front of the chapel and said, “Lord, whatever you did for me, do for them.”

Mansfield said she remembered hearing one of her professors say, “What’s the bishop going to say when he hears that all these kids have been baptized in the Holy Spirit?”

Mansfield said the Charismatic Renewal has always been and will always remain at the center of the church. She said after the Duquesne Weekend, her study of the Scriptures and the documents of the Second Vatican Council — especially the footnotes on the Holy Spirit in “Lumen Gentium” (Dogmatic Constitution on the Church) — convinced her that the movement was within the church.

“I was determined that if what I experienced was not OK with the Catholic Church, I would deny having had such an experience,” she said. “I remember closing the documents and saying, ‘It’s OK. I can be a daughter of the church.’ One of my roommates told me, ‘Gallagher, Gallagher, this whole thing scares me to death. I’m afraid you’re going to leave the church.’ Of course, I felt like I was discovering the church.”

Within months, news of the Duquesne Weekend spread to students attending the University of Notre Dame and Michigan State, Mansfield said. This was before the internet. It was mostly word of mouth, but Mansfield said one way of transmitting the news came through “carbon copies” of testimonies that were mailed out.

In June 2014, Mansfield joined hundreds of thousands of charismatics, across all denominations, in Rome’s Olympic Stadium and met with Pope Francis. “The Holy Father told us to remember that this grace was born ecumenical,” Mansfield said.

She will return to Rome June 1-4 for a worldwide charismatic conference and the celebration of Pentecost. Pope Francis will preside at a prayer service June 3, the eve of Pentecost, at the Circus Maximus, a large outdoor oval that was the location of chariot races and other mass entertainment in ancient Rome.

“One of my friends asked me, ‘How do you feel when you think that something that happened to you on that retreat in that Upper Room chapel has affected millions of people around the world?’ and I told him, ‘I try not to,’” Mansfield said. “If I dwelled on it, it would be so overwhelming that I couldn’t function or I could be tempted to feel proud or important, and I surely don’t want to do that. I’m just a housewife, momma and grandma coming from Louisiana. How did I get into this stuff?”

Finney is executive editor/general manager of the Clarion Herald, newspaper of the Archdiocese of New Orleans.



The notebook that Patti Gallagher Mansfield has kept for 50 years contains her journal of the acknowledged beginning of the worldwide Catholic Charismatic Renewal movement. (CNS photo/Clarion Herald)

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Adena — Stations of the Cross will be prayed March 17 and March 31, at 3 p.m., at St. Casimir Church. On Good Friday, Stations will be prayed at 2 p.m.

Athens — Stations of the Cross will be prayed Fridays of Lent, at 7 p.m., at Christ the King University Parish.

Each week of Lent, the Athens Catholic community will facilitate a discussion on a saint. Discussions will be held Tuesdays, from 7-8:15 p.m., and Thursdays, from 9:15-10:30 a.m., at the Holy Family Center library, which is located at Christ the King University Parish.

Lenten fish fry dinners will be held each Friday during Lent from 4:30 until 7 p.m., at the Holy Family Center, which is located at Christ the King University Parish. Fried or baked fish, side vegetable, French fries or baked potato, coleslaw, roll and beverage will cost \$8; special pricing for senior citizens and children.

Barnesville — Homemade articles, made by the Sisters of St. Elizabeth, Belarus, will be on sale following the celebration of the 8 a.m. Mass, March 16, at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church. Proceeds from the sale support the sisters in their work with children and adults with physical and/or mental disabilities, those suffering from addictions and the homeless.

Bellaire — Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 10:40 a.m., Fridays throughout Lent, at St. John Church. Stations will also be prayed at 6:30 p.m., March 10, March 24 and April 7, at the church.

St. John Parish will sponsor fish fries Fridays throughout Lent, from 8 a.m. until 1:30 p.m., in the church hall. All proceeds will benefit St. John Central schools.

Beverly — Stations of the Cross will be prayed Fridays during Lent, at 7 p.m., at St. Bernard Church. Benediction will precede the praying of the Stations.

A group discussion on Allen Hunt's book "Everybody Needs to Forgive Somebody" will take place at 7 p.m., Thursdays during Lent, at St. Bernard Church. Hunt is an internationally known speaker and author.

St. Bernard CWC will sponsor a yard sale March 10, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., and March 11, from 9 a.m.-noon, at the church hall.

Buchtel — "Our Father's Plan," an EWTN 13-week video Bible study, will be presented Tuesdays, following the celebration of the 6:30 p.m. Mass, at St. Mary of the Hills Church.

Cambridge — Stations of the Cross will be led by St. Benedict School students at 2 p.m., Fridays during Lent, at St. Benedict Church. Stations will also be prayed at 6:30 p.m., Fridays during Lent, at the church.

Lunch will be provided by Christ Our Light Parish for the March 15 Lenten luncheon series at Unity Presbyterian Church, 130 N. Seventh St. Serving will begin at 11:45 a.m. A program, including a speaker and music, will follow. Luncheons are held Wednesdays, through April 5, at the Presbyterian church.

Christ Our Light Parish will host the Guernsey Association of Churches' weekly Sunday evening Lenten prayer service at 7 p.m., March 26, at St. Benedict Church.

Carrollton — Handmade religious articles, made by the Sisters of St. Elizabeth, Belarus, will be on display March 15 at Our Lady of Mercy Church. Proceeds from the sale will be used to render spiritual, social and financial support to the sick and suffering at the National Psychiatric Clinic, the boarding home for children with special needs, for mentally challenged adults and a shelter for the homeless.

Chesapeake — Stations of the Cross will be prayed on Fridays during Lent, at 7 p.m., at St. Ann Church.

The social committee at St. Ann Parish will



Members of the St. Joseph Catholic Woman's Club are making plans for the parish organization's annual "bunco" party. Father John F. Mucha, pastor of St. Joseph and St. Anthony of Padua parishes, Bridgeport, joins the women – Barbara Trytko, Jean Kloss, Maureen Flowers and Peg Baker – in announcing the March 26 party at St. Anthony's hall in the 600 block of Main Street in Bridgeport. Doors open at 1 p.m., when lunch will be served; games begin at 2 p.m. Admission is \$6. For reservations, telephone (740) 635-2836 or (740) 635-2102. (Photo provided)

sponsor meatless soup dinners beginning at 6 p.m., Fridays of Lent, through April 7, in the church hall. Donations will be accepted and donated to Community Mission Outreach.

Colerain — St. Frances Cabrini Parish CWC will hold a raffle fundraiser, which will award monetary prizes. Tickets cost \$10 each. The drawing will be held April 30. To purchase a ticket, telephone the parish office at (740) 635-9933.

Dillonvale — Stations of the Cross will be prayed March 10, March 24 and April 7, at 3 p.m., at St. Adalbert Church.

Glouster — "Our Father's Plan," an EWTN 13-week video Bible study, will be presented Mondays, following the celebration of the 11 a.m. Mass, in Holy Cross Church hall.

A Lenten ecumenical service will be held at 7 p.m., March 16, at Holy Cross Church.

Ironton — Stations of the Cross will be prayed Fridays of Lent at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. at St. Joseph Church. The sacrament of reconciliation will be offered a half-hour before Stations and again following praying of Stations.

Ironton — As part of senior Christian service, the senior class of St. Joseph Central High School will host an "American Red Cross Blood Drive" from 1-6:30 p.m., March 31, in the school gymnasium, 912 S. Sixth St. Visit redcrossblood.org and enter StJoe_Ironton, to schedule an appointment, or telephone the school office at (740) 532-0485.

Little Hocking — A 24-hour period of prayer and adoration, to pray for pro-life issues and our nation, will begin at 4 p.m., March 24, and continue until 4 p.m., March 25, at St. Ambrose Church.

Lore City — Stations of the Cross will be prayed on the Thursdays of Lent, at 6:30 p.m., at Sts. Peter and Paul Oratory; confessions will follow.

Lowell — The sacrament of reconciliation will be offered from 5-5:40 p.m., Saturdays during Lent, at Our Lady of Mercy Church.

A Lenten ecumenical supper will be held at Our Lady of Mercy Church hall, March 21, beginning at 6 p.m.; a service will follow at 7 p.m.

Our Lady of Mercy Parish will sponsor Lenten fish fries March 10, March 24 and April 7, from 4-8 p.m., at the church hall.

Marietta — Visitation Deanery Council of Catholic Women will meet March 26 at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption. Prior to the meeting,

a prayer service will be held at 2 p.m.

Martins Ferry — On Tuesdays throughout Lent, Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 6:30 p.m., at St. Mary Church.

McConnelsville — During the Lenten season, Stations of the Cross will be prayed Tuesdays, at 6:30 p.m., at St. James Church. Following Stations, there will be a discussion based on the book titled "Everybody Needs to Forgive Somebody," by Allen Hunt, internationally known speaker and author.

Mingo Junction — Stations of the Cross will be prayed Fridays during Lent, at 7 p.m., at St. Agnes Church. On Good Friday, Stations will be prayed at noon.

Neffs — Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 6:30 p.m., March 17 and March 31, at Sacred Heart Church.

Pomeroy — Stations of the Cross will be prayed on the Fridays of Lent, at 7:30 p.m., at Sacred Heart Church.

Richmond — Mother of Hope Deanery Council of Catholic Women will meet at 2 p.m., March 12, at St. John Fisher Church.

St. Clairsville — Mass will be celebrated in Spanish at 2:30 p.m., March 19, at St. Mary Church. The sacrament of reconciliation will precede Mass at 2 p.m.

Instruction classes, in preparation for the sacrament of confirmation, for adults 18 years of age or older and a practicing Catholic, who have not been confirmed, will be held at St. Mary Church. For additional information or to register, telephone Mike Zabrecky, St. Mary Parish director of religious education, at (740) 695-9993, prior to April 21. The sacrament of confirmation will be celebrated May 20, at the 4:30 p.m. Mass, at St. Mary Church.

St. Mary Parish will host "Soup and Sermon," sponsored by the St. Clairsville Council of Churches, March 22, from noon-12:55 p.m. It will include lunch, which will consist of soup and bread, and a short sermon.

Steubenville — Mass will be celebrated Fridays during Lent, at 5:15 p.m., at St. Peter Church.

Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 6 p.m., Fridays of Lent, at St. Peter Church.

Steubenville — "St. Stan's Homemade Polish Kielbasa" will be sold by the Catholic Central High School Marching Band. Prepaid orders will

Up and Down the Diocese

From Page 10

be accepted through March 23. Cost is \$5 per pound. For additional information or to place an order, telephone Mary Godich, (740) 944-1249 or the school office, (740) 264-5538. Pickup date is April 2, from 9 a.m.-noon, at the high school cafeteria.

Catholic Central High School students will present "The Wizard of Oz" at 7 p.m., March 31 and April 1, and at 2 p.m., April 2, in Berkman Theater, Lanman Hall.

Tickets cost \$9 for adults; \$6 for students and senior citizens, and will be sold at the door. For additional information, telephone (740) 632-7952 or visit facebook.com/cchswizardofoz.

Toronto — Stations of the Cross will be prayed Fridays during Lent, at 6 p.m., at St. Joseph Church; confessions will follow. Confessions will also be heard from 10:30-11:30 a.m., Saturdays.

Vespers and Benediction will be at 6

p.m., Sundays during Lent, at St. Francis of Assisi Church.

Wintersville — Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 7 p.m., Fridays during the Lenten season, at Our Lady of Lourdes Church.

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Woman's Club will hold a "one day only" Lenten sale of homemade, frozen gnocchi and meatless sauce March 15, from 9:30 a.m. until 5 p.m., in upper Sargus Hall.

Gnocchi will be sold for \$4 per pound; sauce, \$3.50 per quart, or \$1.75 per pint. Phone orders will be taken on the sale day only by telephoning (740) 264-0311.

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Woman's Club will sell raffle tickets for an Easter basket. Cost for two tickets is \$1; the winner will be announced April 8. For additional information, telephone the church rectory at (740) 264-0868.

Around and About

Alhambra, Calif. — The Carmelite Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Los Angeles will sponsor a "Come and See" retreat, for single women between the ages of 18-35, April 23-26, in Alhambra. For more information, email joyofcarmel@outlook.com or telephone (626) 300-8938.

Caldwell — A quarter auction, sponsored by Habitat for Humanity, will be held March 26 at the Noble County Community Center, County Road 56. Advance tickets cost \$5; \$7, at the door. Soups, sandwiches and desserts will be available to purchase. For additional information, telephone Ruth Nau, (740) 732-4790. Proceeds will benefit Southeastern Ohio Habitat for Humanity Noble County.

Cambridge — Knights of Columbus Council 1641 will sponsor fish dinners, Fridays during Lent, through March 31, from 5-7 p.m., at St. Benedict Church social hall, Cambridge, and April 7, from 5-7 p.m., at Sts. Peter and Paul Oratory social hall, Lore City. Dinners will include soup, a shrimp salad bar, baked flounder with shrimp topping, green beans and carrots, roasted red potatoes, cornbread, apple cobbler, coffee and lemonade. Cost for adults to eat is \$11; \$7, for children 10 to 15 years of age; children under the age of 10 eat for free. Proceeds will benefit the K of C local scholarship program.

Cambridge — A soup luncheon will be held from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., March 10, at the First Presbyterian Church hall, 725 Steubenville Ave. Homemade soups, breads, desserts and beverages will be sold. To order, telephone (740) 995-0605. Donations will support the Samaritan Center for Transitional Housing.

Carrollton — Through April 7, fish fry dinners, sponsored by Knights of Columbus

Our Lady of Carroll County Council 15401, will be held Fridays, from 4-7 p.m., in Our Lady of Mercy Church hall. For additional information, telephone Dan Pesta at (330) 627-1244.

Gallipolis — "Super Cash Bonanza" raffle tickets are being sold by Knights of Columbus Council 3335, for \$5 each. The drawing will be held May 27. Proceeds from the fundraiser will benefit the Knights scholarship fund. For additional information or to purchase a ticket, telephone St. Louis Church rectory, (740) 446-0669.

Glouster — A Lenten ecumenical service will be held at 7 p.m., March 23, at the First Baptist Church, 41 Madison Ave., and at 7 p.m., March 30, at Bishopville Church of Christ, 6555 Ohio Route 78.

Lowell — A Lenten supper will be held at St. Johns Evangelical Church, 312 Fourth St., at 6 p.m., March 14; a service will follow.

Lowell — At 6 p.m., March 28, a Lenten supper will be held at the First United Methodist Church, 520 E. Commercial Ave. There will be an ecumenical service that follows at 7 p.m.

Martins Ferry — Fish fries, sponsored by Knights of Columbus Mother of God Council 1421, will be held all Fridays during Lent, from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m., at the council hall, 25 N. Fourth St. Eat in or carryout orders will be available. To place an order, telephone (740) 633-0528.

Martins Ferry — A community Lenten service will be held at the First Baptist Church, 306 Locust St., at 4 p.m., March 12.

North Canton, Ohio — The 42nd annual Philosophy/Theology Symposium, presented by Walsh University, will focus on the topic "Character: As Seen by Philosophers, Sophists and Storytellers." The

symposium will be held March 13-18, in the Betzler Auditorium of Walsh University, 2020 E. Maple St. For additional information, telephone (330) 490-7296.

Steubenville — Father William Kiel, a recently retired priest from the Diocese of Greensburg, Pennsylvania, will celebrate a Mass for healing at 8 p.m., March 23, in Christ the King Chapel, at Franciscan University of Steubenville.

Dana Gioia, current poet laureate of California, and former chairwoman of the National Endowment for the Arts, will deliver a talk titled "Why Beauty Matters — For Art, Faith and Politics" at Franciscan University of Steubenville, March 24, at 3 p.m., in the Tony and Nina Gentile Gallery in the J.C. Williams Center.

"Faustina: Messenger of Divine Mercy" will be presented at Franciscan University of Steubenville at 7 p.m., March 25, in Christ the King Chapel. For additional information, telephone (740) 283-6276.

The Franciscan University of Steubenville's Drama Department will present Bernard Pomerance's "The Elephant Man" March 31, April 1, April 7 and April 8, at 7 p.m., and April 2 and April 9, at 2 p.m., in the university's Anathan Theater.

A Lenten devotional concert by the Schola Cantorum Franciscana will be presented at 7 p.m., April 7, at Franciscan University of Steubenville, in Christ the King Chapel.

The annual Baron Club awards dinner will be held April 22 at Franciscan University of Steubenville. Guest speaker will be Pro Football Hall of Famer Kellen Winslow Sr. Cost for the dinner is \$65 for a single dinner ticket or \$100, which includes dinner and membership in the Baron Club. Register online, FranciscanAthletics.

com/BaronClub or telephone (740) 283-6406. Proceeds support the university's NCAA Division III programs.

The role the Catholic Church plays in international affairs will be explored April 28-29 during Franciscan University of Steubenville's Veritas Center for Ethics in Public Life Spring Conference. Titled "The Catholic Church In World Affairs," the conference will include eight presentations, which will take place in the Tony and Nina Gentile Gallery of the J.C. Williams Center, at the university. Two discussions will take place April 28; the remaining six April 29. For a schedule of events, including talk titles and speaker biographies, or to register, \$50 for the public, visit www.franciscan.edu/church-in-world-affairs or telephone (740) 283-6447.

Steubenville — Knights of Columbus St. John Neumann Council 11828 will sponsor a blood drive at St. Peter Church hall, from noon until 5:30 p.m., March 29.

Steubenville — The Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus will hold a Lenten morning of recollection titled "In Her Immaculate Heart" from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., March 11, at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Oratory. For additional information, telephone (740) 346-2625. The day will include the celebration of Mass, talk, rosary, confessions and a time for silent adoration. Child care will be provided by the sisters.

Wheeling, W. Va. — The annual spring membership tea of the West Virginia Auxiliary of the Congregation of St. Joseph will be held from 2-4 p.m., March 26, at Mount St. Joseph, 137 St. Joseph Road. There is no charge to attend; refreshments will be served. Door prizes will be awarded and a 50/50 raffle conducted.

Obituaries

Madeline "Dixie" Bahen, 94, Blessed Sacrament, Wintersville, Feb. 25.

Anna A. Corra, 93, Blessed Sacrament, Wintersville, Feb. 17.

Doris Costello, 86, McConnelsville, St. James, Feb. 19.

Geraldine "Geri" Giannamore, 88, Our Lady of Lourdes, Wintersville, Feb. 20.

John T. "Jack" Gilmore, 77, Triumph of the Cross, Steubenville, Feb. 10.

Irene Hartings, 94, Athens, Christ the

King University Parish, Feb. 16.

Verna Pennington Hodovanic, 84, Toronto, St. Joseph, Feb. 13.

Geraldine E. Kelly, 87, Steubenville, St. Peter, March 1.

Mary Lazorik, 95, the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, Feb. 17.

Robert A. Leonard, 78, Toronto, St. Francis of Assisi, Feb. 18.

Rose M. Macre, 95, Blessed Sacrament, Wintersville, Feb. 16.

Joseph Mizikar, 99, Cambridge, Christ Our Light, Nov. 11.

Constance M. Mosko, 91, Mingo Junction, St. Agnes, Feb. 24.

Andrea K. Sidorak Palkovic, 55, 57747 Main St., Martins Ferry, St. Mary, Feb. 22.

Elizabeth Mudron Pope, 85, Savoy, Illinois, St. Francis of Assisi, Toronto, Feb. 15.

Stanley Rawson, 73, Blessed Sacrament, Wintersville, Feb. 21.

John M. Roski, 67, Adena, St. Casimir, Feb. 8.

Paul Sarisky, 84, Byesville, Christ Our Light, Cambridge, Jan. 4.

John Skeslock, 99, Beaver Creek, Ohio, Christ Our Light, Cambridge, Feb. 25.

Anita Spencer, Athens, Christ the King University Parish, Feb. 9.

James A. VanDyne, 73, Etna, Ohio, Christ Our Light, Cambridge, Jan. 29.

Mary Lillian Studer Wharton, 98, Cambridge, Christ Our Light, Nov. 19.



With the demolition of a multi-family dwelling and a take down of a concrete block building, formerly known as the Teamsters "Union Hall," Holy Name Cathedral is visible from several blocks away on South Fifth Street in Steubenville. Under the direction of Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton, the diocese purchased properties on South Fifth Street to provide parking in a secure environment for a renovated, restored and renewed cathedral. Earlier, a house, which had burned, was bought and demolished by the diocese. Already, streets have been realigned in the South Fifth and South Sixth streets-area, sidewalks installed and a cul-de-sac constructed to enable a piazza to be created in front of the cathedral. A former United Methodist church, kitty-cornered to the cathedral, has been purchased and renamed the Sacred Heart Center of Hope. It will be used to house a counseling center and as a temporary site for the soup kitchen, currently located in the undercroft of the cathedral. Religious objects have been removed from the cathedral's walls for refurbishing and windows taken out and stored. As plans are finalized for the outside and inside of the cathedral's renovation, restoration is expected to begin in the months ahead. First work on the cathedral's renewal will be framing trusses to pitch the roof, James G. Piazza, executive assistant to the bishop, and D. Scott Yarman, project coordinator, said. Once the roof is pitched, the existing flat roof can be removed, they observed. (Photos by DeFrancis)

Pope Francis, top Curia officials launch new style of 'ad limina' visit

By Junno Arocho Esteves

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—For decades, the visits bishops are required to make to the Vatican were known for their formality and routine style, but Pope Francis launched "a whole new style of 'ad limina' visits," a Chilean bishop said.

The bishops were expecting "to have a long meeting with a speech and then individual meetings," as in the past, Auxiliary Bishop Fernando Ramos of Santiago, secretary of the Chilean bishops' conference, told Catholic News Service Feb. 24.

Instead, the Vatican informed the prelates before their departure from Chile that they were going to have a group meeting with the pope and the prefects of several Vatican congregations and offices.

"We were told that this was going to be a new way of doing things that was beginning with us, that looks for a more fruitful, more incisive dialogue between the representatives of the local churches and the pope with his main collaborators," Bishop Ramos said.

After spending three hours with the pope Feb. 20, the Chilean bishops met again with Pope Francis Feb. 23. At the second meeting, the pope and Chilean bishops were joined by several top officials, including: Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state; Cardinal Marc Ouellet, prefect of the Vatican Congregation for Bishops and president of the Pontifical Commission for Latin America; and Cardinal Gerhard Muller, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

Also present at the meeting were: Cardinal Kevin Farrell, prefect for the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life; Cardinal Giuseppe Versaldi, prefect of the Congregation for Catholic Education; Cardinal Beniamino Stella, prefect of the Congregation for Clergy; and Cardinal Joao Braz de Aviz, prefect of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life.

Bishop Ramos told CNS that Cardinal Ouellet began the discussions, which focused on four principal themes: communion and collegiality within the church; the mission of the church in Chile; how to help clergy, religious men and women as well as the laity "in their Christian lives and in their pastoral service"; and pastoral guidelines for the future.

"It wasn't about speaking about little things or a little problem over here," he said. "This was more of a way of looking at everything together, for them to listen to our opinions and (we to listen to theirs) on these principal themes."

"It was something completely different," Bishop Juan Ignacio Gonzalez of San Bernardo, member of the permanent committee of the Chilean bishops' conference, told CNS.

"It was truly something wonderful from the perspective of collegiality, of synodality, of the church walking together. This doesn't just respond to the realities in Chile, it's a whole new (approach) that begins now."

Bishop Ramos told CNS that although the bishops knew about the meeting with the pope and Vatican officials before they left Chile, they found out only when they arrived in Rome that Pope Francis wanted to meet with them privately as well.

After celebrating Mass at the tomb of St. Peter Feb. 20, the bishops were welcomed to the library in the Apostolic Palace by the pope.

"As we were seated around him," Bishop Gonzalez said, "the pope – in his Argentine manner of speaking – told us: 'Well, the soccer ball is in the center. Whoever wants to and is brave enough, give it a kick.'" (The Argentine phrase is: "El que quiera y que tiene la cara mas dura, que le pegue una patada.")

Bishop Ramos added that several bishops would speak and the pope would respond. "It was like talking after dinner while drinking some Bacardi, in a manner

of speaking," he said.

Bishop Gonzalez said at a certain point, a bishop said, "'Holy Father, it's a little bit hot in here, can we open a window?'" The pope said, 'Yes, of course' and stood up. The bishop said, 'No, no don't worry, Holy Father, I'll open it.'"

Bishop Ramos and Bishop Gonzalez said that the sincere discussion was "a turning point" that led to a more open dialogue at

their second meeting with the pope and Vatican officials.

"It's like that Scripture reading. Paul, after preaching, went to Jerusalem to speak with Peter and tell him what he had done. This is the same. We come to Jerusalem to tell Peter this is what happened and he guides us to see what else we can do," Bishop Gonzalez said.

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Diocese of Steubenville



Diocesan/Parish Share Campaign 2017

advance gift phase

Bishop Monforton delivers message of hope to parishioners

Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton recorded this message for diocesan parishioners. The message was played March 4-5 in churches in the diocese's 13 counties – Athens, Belmont, Carroll, Gallia, Guernsey, Harrison, Jefferson, Lawrence, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble and Washington.

Praised be Jesus Christ, now and forever!

From an early age, you and I are taught by our parents to have hope. Hope is the aspiration for eternal life with God, an aspiration witnessed by the activities of each person: “(Hope) takes up the hopes that inspires our activities and purifies them so as to order them to the kingdom of God ... it keeps man from discouragement; it sustains us during times of abandonment” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, Paragraph 1818). Because of the virtue of hope, you and I are able to cooperate in God's saving plan and to manifest to the eyes of others the path taught by Jesus Christ, in his Beatitudes: the profound teaching of Life in Christ.

We acknowledge the need for prayer, as we attend Mass we pray, because of our desire to have an interconnectedness with God, but also to have the ability to address the challenges before us. Anyone here who has confronted the challenges of family tragedy or compromised health is well aware that their prayer style or even content takes on a different form.

• If hope finds strength and expression in prayer, how do you and I pray, do we expressly ask our Lord for hope?

• How are our prayers hopeful?

• How may our diocese improve its stature as a beacon of hope not just for those within the diocese,



Bishop Monforton

but throughout the Ohio Valley and beyond?

Jesus gives us hope today, for he too was tempted. Jesus shows us today that he did not come from God the Father simply as an angelic body, but that he is like you and me in all things, except sin. The three temptations inflicted upon Jesus by the devil are no match for Jesus' love and resolve for his heavenly father and for each of us. The three temptations instruct us how it is so much easier to fall if we live our lives as if the world revolves around us. You and I know that this should not be the case.

Those of us who are familiar with the Old Testament stories are reminded how frequently people gave into temptation because of selfish or self-centered motives like Adam and Eve in our first reading today from the Book of Genesis, or later on from the Book of Genesis, the people in Noah's time. We even find in the Book of Exodus the Chosen People in the desert as they tried to create their own god even after all God had done for them

in their escape from Egypt.

In his conversation with the devil, Jesus quotes Deuteronomy, Chapters 6-8, demonstrating to us that Jesus does not improvise. He knows exactly where he is and what is happening to him and, of course, where he is going. In fact, God establishes his relationship with Israel in Deuteronomy, Chapters 6-8, and Jesus illustrates his relationship with his heavenly Father and the human race in his three responses.

St. Paul, in his Letter to the Romans, highlights the fact that God's love for us runs deeper than you and I can imagine. God's love for us never waivers, despite our propensity to transgress against his law of love for God and neighbor.

Jesus is sent to us to remind us that you and I are not mistakes, for God intends for us to be here even in the midst of our own imperfections. To make the understatement of the day, we have been given that heavenly upgrade through Jesus' suffering, death and resurrection. We are called to be faithful, to stand and to walk with Jesus.

As a diocese, together we embark into these early days into the season of Lent. We also venture the commencement of our annual Diocesan/Parish Share Campaign. Please know of my deepest gratitude as you enable our diocese to reach out to others and to imitate Jesus with our very lives. Please take time to read the tangible ways in which we as a communion of faithful provide hope, Christian hope to our brothers and sisters.

In the words of St. Teresa of Kalkuta:

*The fruit of prayer is faith,
The fruit of faith is love,
The fruit of love is service,
The fruit of service is peace.*

My dear brothers and sisters thank you for providing our Church the opportunity to share peace in the midst of our community and therefore inspiring hope, hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.



DPSC theme – “Do Whatever He Tells You”

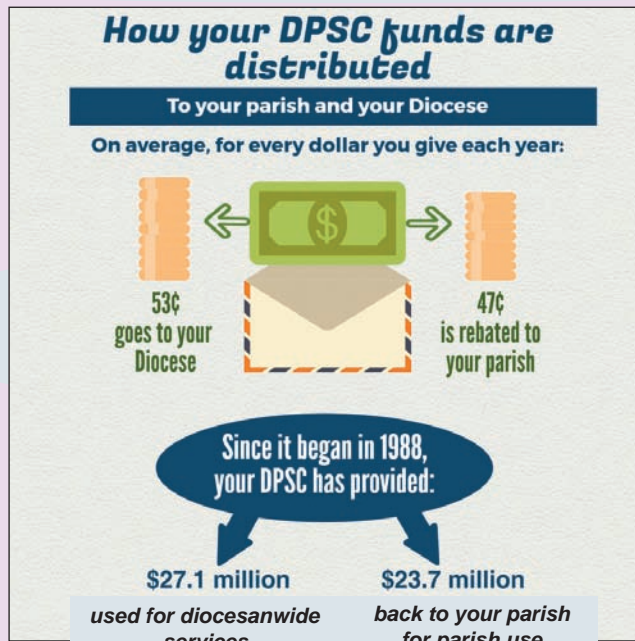
(Jn 2:5).

DPSC goal – \$1,340,000

With Diocesan/Parish Share Campaign dollars ...



two become priests,



schools are celebrated.



permanent deacons are ordained and



seminarians advance,



youth rally,




marriages, first responders are recognized,



Make a pledge or one-time gift to the 2017 DPSC by completing the DPSC pledge card mailed to your home, available at your parish or below. Return the card to your parish priest.

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ PARISH _____



DIOCESE OF STEUBENVILLE

SUGGESTED PLEDGES			TOTAL AMOUNT PLEDGED:	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1500.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$300.00	PAYING NOW	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> \$3500.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250.00		
<input type="checkbox"/> \$3000.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 500.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$200.00	UNPAID BALANCE	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> \$2500.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 400.00	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER \$ _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> \$2000.00			BALANCE TO BE PAID IN 6 PAYMENTS OF	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> MY COMPANY HAS MATCHING GIFT PROGRAM				

Please remember to pray for the success of the DPSC

COMPANY NAME _____

Payments can be made by credit/debit card by visiting onlinepayments.diosteub.org

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO DIOCESE OF STEUBENVILLE DPSC

Pay by cash, personal check made payable to the Diocese of Steubenville, noting DPSC on the memo line of the check; or a credit/debit card by visiting diosteub.org/giveonline. Payments can be made in six monthly payments, beginning in May.



Diocesan/Parish Share Campaign 2017

Goal \$1,340,000

DPSC theme – “Do Whatever He Tells You” (Jn 2:5).