

# The Steubenville REGISTER

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### **News Briefs**

Philippines to host eucharistic congress

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Catholics from around the world will gather in Cebu, Philippines, for the International Eucharistic Congress, said Archbishop Jose S. Palma of Cebu.

He told reporters at the Vatican in late October that the theme of the congress – "Christ in you, our hope of glory" – was chosen long before Pope Francis announced the special jubilee Year of Mercy would begin Dec. 8. However, he said, the Jan. 24-31 congress in Cebu will be filled not only with reflections on hope and mercy, but also on the inclusion of the poor and marginalized.

The theme also has a strong missionary thrust, which for Catholics in Asia takes the form of dialogue with other cultures and religions, he said.

Blessed Sacrament Father Vittore Boccardi, a staff member at the Pontifical Committee for International Eucharistic Congresses, said: "What is mission of the church? To bring God's mercy," so it is providential that the congress is being celebrated during the jubilee year.

Archbishop Piero Marini, president of the pontifical committee, told reporters that the Philippines is the only predominantly Catholic country in Asia and is a powerhouse of faith and missionary outreach. Catholics, he said, make up more than 80 percent of the population of more than 100 million people and "the annual number of baptisms is greater than that of Italy, France, Spain and Poland combined."

**'Nostra Aetate' – 50 – commemorated** ROME (CNS) — Representatives of the

world's religions gathered in Rome to commemorate and reflect on the 50th anniversary of "Nostra Aetate," the Second Vatican Council's declaration on relations with other religions.

Although it is the shortest of the Second Vatican Council's documents, its influence continues to be felt in the life of the church today, said speakers at a Oct. 26-28 conference, sponsored by the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue and the Pontifical Commission for Religious Relations With the Jews.

Comboni Father Miguel Angel Ayuso Guixot, secretary of the interreligious dialogue office, said that while much has been done since the document's publication, there is still much more to do in advancing relations between the Catholic Church and non-Christian religions. "So many words have been said but there has also been much silence," Father Ayuso said.



### **Diocese compliant with protection of young**

STEUBENVILLE — The Diocese of Steubenville is compliant with all audited articles within the "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People" for the 2014-15 audit period.

Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton received the notice of compliance from StoneBridge Business Partners, an EFP Rotenberg Co., Rochester, New York.

The conclusions reached on the compliance of the diocese were based on inquiry, observation and the review of specifically requested documentation furnished StoneBridge Business Partners during an onsite audit in October. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Secretariat of Youth and Child Protection will be notified of the compliance.

Since 2004, the Steubenville Diocese has been in full compliance with the charter – drafted by the USCCB in response to sex abuse by some clergy, nationwide. In years that the diocese is not visited by onsite auditors, who talk with a variety of clerics, religious and laypeople and examine documents, the diocese conducts self-audits. Both are part of a nationwide assessment of what each diocese in the country has done, and is doing, to respond to allegations of clergy sexual abuse, to reach out to victims and to develop and implement comprehensive programs of abuse detection and child protection.

Msgr. Kurt H. Kemo, diocesan vicar general, directs the diocese's Child Protection Review Board. He had praise for Bishop Monforton, whom he said is vigilant in the protection of children and young people, and the review board, whose members he said are extremely dedicated in the use of their skills to maintain a safe environment for youth in the diocese. "The audit of a diocese takes much work, not only during the time of the audit period, but throughout the entire year. The

compliance of the diocese comes from many, many people in the diocese, including clerics, religious and laypersons. I am grateful to be in a diocese where child protection is taken so seriously," Msgr. Kemo said. (Members of the Child Protection Review Board are Frank A. Fergiato, Belmont County Common Pleas Court judge, chairman; Daniel P. Fry, Belmont County prosecuting attorney; Dr. Joseph DiPalma, dentist and lay volunteer, St. Clairsville; Jane Engott, counselor, Cambridge; Thomas M. Perrone, executive director, North Point Consulting and Behavioral Health Services, Bethesda, and Michele A. Santin, director, diocesan Office of Family and Social Concerns (Catholic Charities). James G. Piazza, executive assistant to the bishop, and Paul D. Ward, director, diocesan Office of Christian Formation and Schools, are ex-officio review board members.)

Locally, the decree was drafted in 2003. The Child Protection Review Board re-examined the document in 2009 and 2014 and proposed revisions, accepted, most recently, by Bishop Monforton. Annually, clerics, religious and laypeople who minister to children and young people in the diocese review the decree at workshops in Gallipolis, Marietta, St. Clairsville and Steubenville.

The decree is proposed to prevent the abuse of children and adolescents, as well as provide a system for handling incidents of abuse after they occur. Anyone who is a religious or in a paid or volunteer position who suspects child abuse should contact Msgr. Kemo and civilian authorities. Any victim harmed by a priest or anyone serving on behalf of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Steubenville is urged to contact diocesan and local secular authorities. Msgr. Kemo can be reached at the chancery in Steubenville – telephone (740) 282-3631 or email, kkemo@diosteub.org.

### Cambridge couple celebrates 73 years of marriage

CAMBRIDGE — Early on, Agnes set her sights on Ed.

This year, Agnes and Ed Lehotay are celebrating 73 years of marriage.

On a recent sunny afternoon, the couple sat to reminisce with the Register and Father Robert D. Borer, pastor emeritus of Christ Our Light Parish, Cambridge, where they are members (Father Paul E. Hrezo is pastor of Christ Our Light Parish).

For a third year in a row, Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton will celebrate enduring marriages when he presides at Masses in churches in Ironton, Marietta and Steubenville. Couples who are celebrating anniversaries of marriages of 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60 and every year after 60 will be acknowledged by Bishop Monforton at the Masses. The Masses will be celebrated at 5:15 p.m., Nov. 21, at St. Lawrence O'Toole Church, Ironton; noon, Nov.



22, at the Basilica of St. Mary Agnes and Ed Lehotay talk, in their kitchen, about of the Assumption, Marietta, their 73 years of marriage. (Photo by DeFrancis)

and 5:30 p.m., Nov. 22, at Holy Family Church, Steubenville.

Agnes Lehotay just turned 90; Ed Lehotay is 99. The two reside in a house they built more than three decades ago on acreage they own that overlooks Cambridge. The house has pieces of wooden furniture, crafted by Ed Lehotay. He learned woodworking as a youth, he said.

She was only 10, she said, when she declared that she was going to marry Ed when she grew up. That happened when she was only 16.

By the time they married, Ed Lehotay knew all about work. He had labored in a coal mine, since the age of 14. "I was a dynamiter," he said.

During World War II, in a Canton, Ohio, factory, he made caps for 50-caliber bullets that could penetrate 2 inches of steel, he said.

At one time, he worked in To Page 3

## St. Mary students awarded top prize

MARIETTA — St. Mary School students will receive \$5,000 worth of technology updates, thanks to shoppers who turned in their receipts to be tabulated at the Grand Central Mall, Parkersburg, West Virginia.

When back-to-school shoppers take to the mall, across the Ohio River from Marietta, they are invited to turn in their receipts for tallying, explained Tammi Bradley, St. Mary marketer. Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption parishioners and parents and friends of St. Mary School participate. After receipts were totaled this fall, Susan T. Rauch, St. Mary principal, was notified that the school had been named the top "Earnings for Learning" school in the private school category.

The \$5,000 prize money will be used to update technology in all the school's classrooms.

Meanwhile, Tonya Booth, a St. Mary School volunteer, continues submitting Box Tops for Education to benefit students. Cash from the submissions is directed to the school, Bradley explained. Each Box Top for Education is worth 10 cents. The most recent submission for which figures have been added showed 4,290 clipped box tops, Bradley said.

Box Tops for Education can be mailed to or dropped off at the school, 320 Marion St., or left in the basilica, 506 Fourth St. Catholic Central High School, Steubenville, students launch a balloon rosary Nov. 2, All Souls' Day – the commemoration of all the faithful departed. Father Michael W. Gossett, CCHS chaplain, director of vocations for the Diocese of Steubenville and parochial vicar to Msgr. Kurt H. Kemo, diocesan vicar general and pastor of Blessed Sacrament and Our Lady of Lourdes parishes, Wintersville, celebrated Mass with the students in the high school's Berkman Theater, Lanman Hall, and then led them outside, as they prayed the rosary. The balloons – from Celebrations, a Steubenville company – were let fly on school grounds in the city's western end in memory of all those who have lost a loved one during the past year, said Rich Wilinski, CCHS principal, and Dolores B. Michnowicz, director of curriculum/guidance counselor at the central high school. A few purple balloons were released, also, in memory of Cynthia Phillipson, a Bishop John King Mussio Central Junior High School, Steubenville, student, who died a year ago. The junior high is housed in a wing of the high school. Bishop John King Mussio Central Elementary School students line the fence at their nearby school to view the launching. (Photo by DeFrancis)

### Application opens for special needs scholarships

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Application can be made until Nov. 15 for Ohio students with special needs to receive from \$7,000 to \$27,000 from the Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship Program.

During the program's first application window that ran from February through April, more than 4,000 students applied for the scholarship, according to the Ohio Department of Education. Application can be made for any student in the state with an Individualized Education Program. Parents should choose the school and/or providers, such as therapists, and apply to the participating school and/ or providers and ask them to apply for the scholarship, which begins in January, on their behalf.

More information is available at www. scohio.org.

### NEED A PASSPORT?

Citizens of Ohio, West Virginia and Pennsylvania come to the Jefferson County Auto Title Department or Rayland, Ohio Auto Title Department. Both offices open Monday – Friday and Rayland office is also open every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. <u>EXCEPT</u> when a holiday falls on a Friday or a Monday. Upon purchase of your PASSPORT with us, your photo I.D. is "FREE." *This can be a savings of \$7 to \$50.* 

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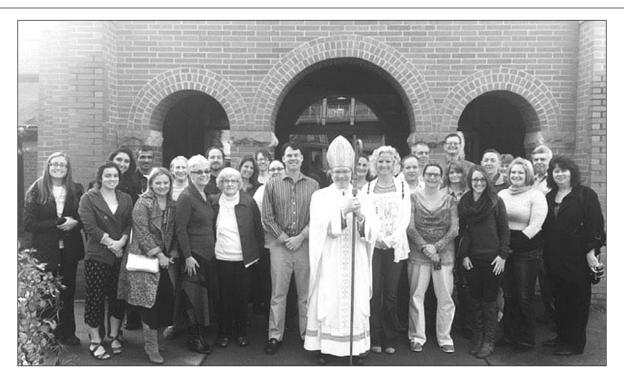


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After a White Mass at Christ the King University Parish, Athens, Nov. 1, Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton gathers with the members of the health professions. Father Mark A. Moore is pastor of Christ the King University Parish and St. Paul Parish, Athens. The White Mass, like the Blue Mass for those in law enforcement, is a more recent custom in dioceses. The White Mass and Blue Mass draw their names from the traditional uniform colors associated with those professions. The Red Mass, an annual Mass celebrated for members of the legal profession, dates back to the 13th century. Bishop Monforton has celebrated all three Masses this year in the Diocese of Steubenville. (Photo by Father Moore)

### **Cambridge couple**

#### From Page 1

a glass factory. He, also, operated a garage.

She was 26, he 35, when they bought a bar in downtown Cambridge. It was the only year of married life she has disliked, Agnes Lehotay said.

Though the savings and loan officer where they borrowed to open the bar offered them a 30-year loan for their venture, the Lehotays paid back the money they owed in a year and a month, Agnes Lehotay said.

They sold the bar and bought the farm where they raised their four children, whom they later gave 10 acres of land each. They, also, have 14 grandchildren, 23 greatgrandchildren and great-great-grandchildren, the number of whom they have lost count.

"I love the farm," Agnes Lehotay said. In the early years of living on it, the roads around the land were mud. "It's a different world out there. I used to ride horses on the road in front of the house. I would never be able to do that today," she said, because of the fast-moving autos driving by. She was 40 when she learned to drive, she said. "The kids had to go places in high school."

On the farm, the Lehotays have planted gardens, milked cows, raised cattle, chickens and pigs.

"He's a workaholic," Agnes Lehotay said of her husband. "He's too serious," she added. She, she said, is the one who jokes. Maybe it's her Scotch-Irish heritage, she quipped. He is of Czechoslovakian descent.

Agnes Lehotay always was a churchgoer. But, she said, when she got married, after about a month, she asked her husband, if he didn't go to church. They became regular Massgoers; were remarried by a priest and were active in Holy Trinity Parish, Byesville. "Our children are all graduates from Catholic school," Agnes Lehotay said. When the parish in Byesville closed, the Lehotays attended St. Benedict, Cambridge. However, since Ed Lehotay turned 95, their weekly eating out and Mass going have diminished. Now, they view Mass on television.



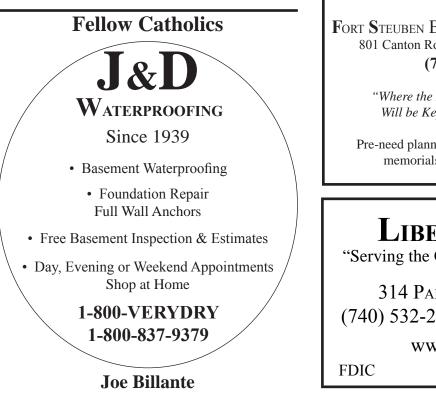
As for life, Agnes Lehotay said she just takes it one day at a time. "I really love Christ, and I know he loves us."

As for an enduring marriage, she added, "We never fight. I will not fight."

In the diocese, the celebration of enduring marriages is being coordinated by the diocesan Office of Family and Social Concerns (Catholic Charities), Michele A. Santin, director, and Joseph A. Schmidt, diocesan marriage ministry coordinator, and the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women.

The diocesan celebration of enduring marriages comes at the same time that Worldwide Marriage Encounter, San Bernardino, California, is doing its annual search for the Longest Married Couple in the United States and Canada. The search for the longest married continues until Jan. 10. The winners in the United States and Canada will be named in February 2016, to coincide with World Marriage Day, the second Sunday of February.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter's activity of recognizing couples for their long marriages is in its sixth year in the U.S. and third year in Canada. Nominations may be submitted by email – wwmelmc2015@gmail.com; regular



### **Bishop Monforton's Schedule**

#### November

- 8 Confirmation Mass, Sacred Heart Church, Pomeroy, 9:30 a.m.
- 9 Lunch, Carmelite Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Los Angeles, Steubenville, 11:30 a.m. Mass, The Laurels of Steubenville nursing home, Steubenville, 2 p.m.
   Steubenville revitalization committee meeting,
- Froehlich's Classic Corner, Steubenville, 6:30 p.m.
  Mass, Holy Rosary Church, Steubenville, 7 a.m.
- Franciscan University of Steubenville, 6 p.m.
  Diocese of Steubenville Finance Council meeting, chancery, Steubenville, 9:30 a.m.
- Radio segment WDEO 990 AM, 12:20 p.m.
  12 Mass, Ohio Catholic Education Association, Cleveland Convention Center, 11 a.m. Catholic Conference of Ohio meeting, Cleveland, 12:30 p.m.
- 13 "Faith in the Future" prayer breakfast, Froehlich's Classic Corner, Steubenville, 8 a.m. Mass, Catholic Central High School Senior Class retreat, Holy Family Church, Steubenville, 11 a.m.
- 14-20 U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops meeting, Baltimore
- 19 WAOB radio segment, 7:40 a.m., 8:40 a.m. and 6:40 p.m.
- 21 Mass, wedding anniversaries, St. Lawrence O'Toole Church, Ironton, 5:15 p.m.

mail – Dick and Diane Baumbach, 8924 Puerto Del Rio Drive, Suite 402, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920; or special telephone number – (321) 613-5180.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter has been offering weekend experiences for more than 47 years and is considered the original faith-based marriage enrichment program. It now offers evening and half-day programs that are presented at parishes and other church facilities.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter has a presence in almost 100 countries, which makes it the largest pro-marriage movement in the world. In North America, programs are presented in English, Spanish, French and Korean.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter offers married couples the opportunity to spend time together away from the busyness of the world to focus on each other. Priests are encouraged to attend a weekend, which offers insights into their relationship with the church and their parishioners, and how their sacrament of holy orders interacts with the sacrament of matrimony.

To learn more about the Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekends, go online to wwme.org or contact the national office at (909) 863-9963.

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### To celebrate church's 100 years, Barnesville women gather recipes

BARNESVILLE — A cookbook, newly published, is a nod to the past.

The book – the 100th Anniversary Cookbook Assumption Catholic Church – commemorates the 100 years of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, 306 W. Main St., Barnesville.

Founded in 1900, the Barnesville parish, as well as the present church built in 1915, predates the diocese.

Parishioner Rose Grear is credited as being the impetus behind the cookbook, which she said not only reflects the past 100 years of Assumption through many family recipes, but also provides a connection to the present with the how-tos of many modern-day dishes printed.

The cookbook, with a green hardcover with a picture of the church, has 274 recipes, contributed by more than 100 people. Each parishioner was asked to submit recipes, said Grear, Rita Hall, Alice

Hunkler, Pat Reischman and Mary Anne Stephens, gathered in the basement of the church on a recent afternoon to talk about the church anniversary.

Pearl Reischman, Assumption's oldest parishioner, has a recipe – wild rice – in the book. Reischman will be 96 in February.

There are a variety of recipes, all divided into categories – appetizers and beverages, soups and salads, vegetables and side dishes, main dishes, breads and rolls, desserts, cookies and candy, and this and that.

A history of Assumption Parish is printed in the front of the cookbook. It reads, in part, that prior to the construction of a church in Barnesville, Mass was celebrated in the 1850s in private residences. Priests



Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Barnesville, is 100 years old this year and parishioners, from the left, Alice Hunkler, Rose Grear, Mary Anne Stephens, Pat Reischman and Rita Hall display a cookbook that is on sale to mark the anniversary. (Photo by DeFrancis)

from Temperanceville officiated. Then, in 1871, an acre of land, where the church cemetery is located now, was bought for \$250. A church was built for the slightly more than a dozen families. However, the church was struck by lightning and destroyed by fire.

In 1900, the parish's first resident pastor, Father Daniel Coffey, purchased two lots on Main Street for \$2,000 and a former Presbyterian Church was bought, cut in half and moved to the site. By 1911, a rectory had been built.

But, on Christmas Day 1914, the church was destroyed by fire. A year later, a brick church was erected at a cost of \$12,000 for the 60 parish families. When the Diocese of Steubenville was established and its first bishop, John King Mussio, visited the parish in 1946, 117 parishioners received the sacrament of confirmation.

The parish's longest-serving pastor, Father Charles E. Mascolino, became pastor in 1978. When he retired in 1998, he was replaced by Father Virgil L. Reischman. Msgr. Mark J. Froehlich became pastor in 2007. On his retirement in 2014, Father David J. Cornett was assigned as pastor. He, too, is pastor of St. Mary Parish, Temperanceville.

Dec. 6, Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton will celebrate Mass at the church. Fifteen candidates are expected to be confirmed that day. A church social will follow the 11 a.m. Mass.

Plans are for the anniversary celebration to end in January with a covered-dish dinner, also in the church undercroft. Cooks will be asked to bring a recipe from the cookbook, which can be purchased for \$12 each, or two for \$20. Cookbooks will be mailed for \$17 for one, \$26 for two. Checks for the cookbooks ordered should be made out to Assumption Church CWC (Catholic Woman's Club) and mailed to Grear, 60859 Pigeon Point Road, Barnesville, OH 43713.

For local deliveries of the cookbook for anyone who is unable to pick one up, contact Hunkler at (740) 425-3369 or Hall at (740) 425-3671.

The cookbooks will be sold after some Masses, also.

For Grear, Hall, Hunkler, Reischman and Stephens, the cookbook was a labor of love. For

the parish, many whose members were baptized, confirmed and married in the Main Street church, it is an evangelizing tool, Grear said.

The women, too, pointed to other anniversary committee members, Bill Hunkler, Ann Clayton, Pearl Reischman, Kay Perkins, Jeannie Shepherd and Henry and Georgia Gallagher who worked to prepare placemats and a photo exhibit. The placemats detail the history of Assumption. The pictures line the walls of the parish hall and show different people and events in the parish. For example, the women said, Henry Gallagher, who will be 93 in December, is the brother of the first baby, John, baptized in the church.



Sister Jeanne

### Sister Jeanne Vucic celebrates 60 years as religious

ADENA — Sister Jeanne Vucic, a Sister of Charity of Nazareth, Kentucky, who has ministered in the Diocese of Steubenville since 1978, is celebrating 60 years as a sister.

On Sept. 8, 1955, she entered the Vincentian Sisters of Charity in Pennsylvania. Originally from McKeesport, Pennsylvania, she said she had been taught by Vincentian Sisters, whom she joined at the age of 15. By the time she was 18, she was an elementary school teacher with 52 first-graders in the class.

A graduate of Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana, and Franciscan University of Steubenville, with degrees in music education, French and theology, Sister Jeanne taught in elementary and high schools in Pennsylvania, before becoming a French teacher at Catholic Central High School, Steubenville, for eight years.

In 1986, Sister Jeanne became the pastoral associate at St. Casimir Parish, Adena. She

directs the parish's religious education and sacramental preparations, trains eucharistic ministers and visits the homebound. Also, for St. Casimir, as well as St. Adalbert Parish, Dillonvale, she directs the music ministry, which includes leading the choirs, preparing cantors and playing the organ.

As she looked back on the occasion of her anniversary, she remembered her father's reluctance to have her leave home at such a young age she said, but she concluded, "I have had a wonderful life."





### **Conference on promoting healthy attachments celebrating 25th anniversary**

STEUBENVILLE — Child welfare is the focus of the 25th annual conference on promoting healthy attachments, announced Michele A. Santin, director, Diocese of Steubenville, Office of Family and Social Concerns (Catholic Charities).

Coordinated by Santin in conjunction with Project Attach (a committee comprised of

professionals from Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia who plan and evaluate the program) the conference will be held Nov. 23-24 at Wilson Lodge, Oglebay Resort and Convention Center, Wheeling, West Virginia.

The conference - held annually during November – National Adoption Month – originated from the needs of adoptive children, Santin explained.

On the first day of the conference, Wayne Duehn, a professor emeritus of social work at the University of Texas at Arlington, and Deborah Mucha, a postdoctoral level psychologist, will make morning presentations. Duehn's topic is "Creating Sexual Safety – A Prerequisite for Healing," while Mucha's is "Psychological First Aid: Making Sense of What You Are Seeing and Learning What To Do With It." Duehn, engaged in clinical research on sexually abusive parents and juvenile sex offenders, will review data relevant to identification of children who have experienced sexual abuse, discuss a healing milieu within a family to minimize the negative impact of past sexual abuse and suggest how to develop a comfort level in discussing sexual abuse and normal sexuality issues with children, foster/adoptive families and mental health/ social service providers. Mucha will provide participants with a general understanding of trauma

Sister of St. Francis of Sylvania, Ohio, Nancy Ferguson, left, director of mission integration and leader of the Mission/Standards Team at Trinity Health System, Steubenville, and Colleen Swearingen, senior social worker, Trinity Health System, meet in the lobby of the medical facility to discuss its longtime sponsorship of the conference on promoting healthy attachments. (Photo by DeFrancis)

and its relationship to behaviors, offer them an opportunity to learn how to conceptualize and trace response behaviors to the trauma roots and help them understand the origin of the behavior and how to respond to a crisis situation.

During the afternoon of Nov. 23, Duehn again will be at the podium. He will present with Kelly Ryan Schmidt, a post-permanency supervisor at Three Rivers Adoption Council, Pittsburgh, and Meghan Nagle, a post-permanency family therapist, also, at Three Rivers Adoption Council. Their topic is "Hurt Kids, Healing Parents." The presentation will focus on the latest research and techniques in assessing, treating and parenting children impacted by

trauma

In addition, Nov. 23, Kristen Johnson-Gibeaut, who earned a master's in counseling at West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia, will talk on "The Impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences: A Look at the ACE Study." Johnson-Gibeaut will give a brief history of the study and enable participants to understand the importance of recognizing adverse childhood experiences and their impact.

Nov. 23 will conclude with a presentation by Denise Goodman, who earned a doctorate in social work from The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio. "Parenting from the Trenches" is Goodman's topic. She will offer strategies for parenting children and teens.

The second day of the conference will include presentations by Debi Grebenik and Liz Winter, with a closing address by Dr. Daniel J. Siegel. Grebenik, a licensed clinical social worker with the Trauma Training Institute, Colorado Springs, Colorado, will focus on "Keys to Understanding the Role of Trauma On the Brain, Bonds and Behavior." Gre-

benik will present concepts related to understanding trauma's impact on children and youth. Winter, who earned a doctorate in social work from the University of Pittsburgh, where she is a clinical

assistant professor and the academic coordinator of the school's child welfare education for leadership program, will address "Self Care for Workers and Caregivers." Winter will discuss the effects of stressors and traumatic

Home heating assistance available to Ohioans through March 31 COLUMBUS, Ohio - Heating assistance is avail-

able to eligible households through the Home Energy Assistance Program, said David Goodman, director of Ohio Development Services Agency.

Through March 31, a winter crisis program will provide assistance to eligible households that are threatened with disconnection, have been disconnected or have



Barlow (678-2277) less than a 25 percent supply of bulk fuel, meet income requirements and participate in a face-to-face interview.

For more information, Ohioans can call the toll-free hotline at (800) 282-0880, Monday through Friday, or visit http://development.ohio.gov/is/is heapwinter.htm. The hearing impaired should dial (800) 686-1557 for assistance.



www.MariettaRealEstate.com

stressors for frontline workers and resource families, supervisors and managers. Later that same day, she will focus on "The Intersection of Traumatic Stress and Substance Abuse," while Grebenik will talk about "Moving Forward After Trauma: Helping Individuals and Families Grow and Heal "

Through skyping, Dr. Siegel, who holds a medical degree from Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, and is a clinical professor of psychiatry at the University of California, Los Angeles School of Medicine, will present the keynote address, "The Mindsight and Healing Trauma." An award-winning education and author - "No-Drama Discipline: The Whole Brain Way to Calm the Chaos and Nurture Your Child's Developing Mind"- Siegel will introduce interpersonal neurobiology as an interdisciplinary approach used to explain the importance of close relationships on the development and function of a child's growing brain. Participants can gain an understanding of how mind, brain and relationships interact to shape how people become who they are.

Registration deadline for the conference is Nov. 13, though Santin said registrations will continue to be accepted, if space permits. Send payment and registration to DeDe Kidder, conference secretary, Diocese of Steubenville, P.O. Box 969, Steubenville, OH 43952 or email, dkidder@brdband.com. Make checks payable to Jefferson County Department of Job and Family Services.

More information on the conference is available at www. diosteubfl.org or from Santin at msantin@diosteub.org; telephone (740) 282-3631, extension 122, or fax (740) 282-3327.

Social workers and counselor continuing education hours - up to 15 - are available for conference attendees from Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia, Santin emphasized.

For the conference, a limited number of rooms have been reserved at Wilson Lodge at a discounted rate for participants. To reserve a room for overnight and receive the discount, telephone (304) 243-4090 or (800) 624-6988 and identify yourself as being with the conference on promoting healthy attachments.

Conference participants, too, will memorialize Gregory C. Keck. He was a 23-year presenter at the annual conference, who died suddenly. Donations will be accepted by Santin for a tree that will be planted at Oglebay in Keck's memory.



### St. John Paul II Jesus Founds the Church

#### By Bishop Emeritus Gilbert I. Sheldon

"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the Gospel" (Mk 1:15). With these words, Jesus proclaimed the establishment of the kingdom of God on earth. That is the essence of the Gospel, the good news. It was to be the fulfillment of the promise that was foretold throughout the time of the Old Testament. We read in the Psalms, for instance, "Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations" (Ps 145:13). In the prophecy of Daniel, "The God

of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed or delivered up to another people; rather, it shall break in pieces all the kingdoms – i.e., human kingdoms – and put an end to them, and it shall stand forever" (Dn 2:44).

The Second Vatican Council stated: "To carry out the will of the Father, Christ inaugurated the kingdom of God,

which for centuries had been promised in the Scriptures. ... The Lord Jesus inaugurated the church. The church, or in other words, the kingdom of God, now present in mystery, grows visibly through the power of God in the world" (Dogmatic Constitution On the Church, "Lumen Gentium," Paragraphs 3-5).

In his casting out of devils and forgiving sins, Jesus was breaking the power of evil to which mankind aligned itself by sin, thereby alleviating a much greater evil than physical infirmities. His parables of the kingdom describe the dynamics of the kingdom's beginnings and growth: it begins insignificantly but grows to worldwide proportions. At the same time, it can be received enthusiastically or rejected outright. We saw before how Jesus, before Pilate, stated that his kingdom was "not of this world," i.e., not like human kingdoms, but at the same time existing in the world of men. Essential to its establishment is the crucifixion and death (and resurrection) of Jesus: "When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself" (Jn 12:32). He likened himself to a shepherd - the "Good Shepherd," who tends his flock of human souls - he calls his sheep together, gathering them into a flock. The Hebrew word for a flock or an assembly, is "gahal." In Greek, the same idea is expressed by "ekklesis," from which the Latin word, "ecclesia" derives. As Yahweh called the descendants of Abraham to be his Chosen People of the Old Covenant, Jesus calls all people to be his flock of the New Covenant. John Paul comments: "It is certain that the assembly-church receives from Christ also its external structure. ... But its essential value is the communion with Christ himself"

The call of Jesus was addressed to all mankind, but, in the pope's words, "He called some in a special way to follow him in order to be prepared by him for a future

The call of Jesus was addressed to all mankind. ...

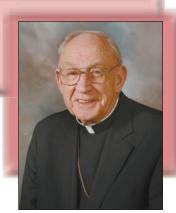
mission" (see Jn 1:43; Lk 5:10; Lk 5:27-28). There were 12 of these "apostles." We read their names in the Gospels. "At daybreak he called his disciples and selected 12 to be apostles: Simon,

to whom he gave the name, Peter, and Andrew, his brother; James and John; Philip and Bartholomew; Matthew and Thomas; James, the son of Alpheus, and Simon, called the Zealot; Judas, son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who tuned traitor" (Lk 6:13-16).

The distinction between disciple and apostles is in the fact a disciple is one who follows, while an apostle is one who is sent as a representative or an envoy.

The Gospel of Mark gives the same list, but prefaces it with the comment that Jesus would send them, "to preach the good news and to have authority to expel demons" (Mk 3:14-19). Matthew offers the same list, adding some details about how they are to prepare themselves for their mission (Mt 10:17). Matthew also gives more details concerning the call of Peter, Andrew, James and John from their occupation as fishermen (Mt 4:18-22). There are some differences in the naming of the Apostles, due in most cases to use of both Aramaic and Greek in listing their names.

The Gospel of John offers this intriguing statement of Jesus to the Apostles: "You have not chosen me; I have chosen you ..." (Jn 15:18). It says something important to those of future times who would follow in the footsteps of the apostles. Jesus also said: "The mystery of the kingdom of God has been granted to you" (Mt 4:11), suggesting that he was handing to them the continuation of his own messianic mission. The number 12 is significant since there were 12 tribes of Israel, descended, suppos-



**Bishop Sheldon** 

edly, from the 12 sons of Jacob, the grandson of Abraham. "You who have followed me in the new age, when the Son of Man is seated on his throne of glory, will yourselves sit on 12 thrones, judging the 12 tribes of Israel" (Mt 19:28). The 12 tribes, constituting the entire Chosen People of the Old Covenant, are symbolic of the entire human race of the New Covenant. We read further in Our Lord's prayer at the Last Supper: "As you sent me into the world, so I send them into the world' (Jn 17:18).

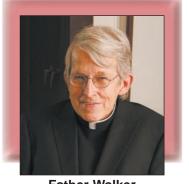
Likewise, as we know, it was at the Last Supper that Jesus offered the Apostles his body and blood under the form of bread and wine, and commanded them: "Do this as a remembrance of me" (Lk 22:14-18). In St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, which is believed to be older than the synoptic Gospels, we read the words of Jesus, "Do this in remembrance of me" repeated twice (1 Cor 11:23-26). Their mission was therefore to include also a priestly function, as we will discuss later in more detail. On the evening of his resurrection, Jesus said to the apostles, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." Then he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive men's sins, they are forgiven them; if you hold them bound, they are held bound" (Jn 20:21-23). The commission of the apostles is spelled out further in Matthew: "Full authority is given me both in heaven and on earth; go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations. Baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Teach them to carry out everything that I have commanded you. And know that I am with you always - until the end of the world" (Mt 28:18-20). (The apostles would not be around until the end of the world, implying that they were to appoint successors – which, as we know – they did!)

### The End of Days (33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time)

#### By Father Paul J. Walker

Browsing through a "Christian" bookstore today can be a scary and unsettling experience; it often offers one the "bad news" and not the "good news"! The titles and covers on many of the books could give children (and many

adults) nightmares. In this present age of guessing who has nuclear weapons; of imagining horrible scenarios of such weapons in the hands of terrorists (it's scary enough that they are in the hands of our government); and the very real threat of environmental disasters, there has



**Father Walker** 

been renewed interest in the apocalyptic passages of the Scriptures. This interest often assumes a fundamentalist interpretation of said passages, and along with it a curiosity about the future, including wild speculation about the chronological beginning and end of the human race. Such speculative interpretation is to be avoided for at least two reasons: it destroys the meaning of the original authors of these texts and the meaning of the church that included them in the canon of Scripture and secondly, such a fundamentalist reading tends to bypass or even deny human responsibility for the unfolding of human history.

At the heart of all the efforts to unlock these apocalyptic texts (such as this Sunday's first reading from Daniel, Chapter 12, Verses 1-3, and Mark's Gospel, Chapter 13, Verses 24-32) lies our picture of God and his relation to the world. It should be said first of all that we of the 21st century hear these texts within the framework of a different cosmology than that of the authors of Daniel and Mark. Aided by the investigations and discoveries of astronomy and cosmology, it is clear that the stars are not luminaries "up there" in the sky, but are "out there" in the vast void of space, trillions in numbers, and cannot "fall" anywhere. We know that our own universe is over 15 billion years old, and this little oasis Earth is four to five billion years

old. So we see that this kind of writing is not meant to be conceptualized or envisioned (stars "falling"; strange, horrendous beasts; mysterious numbers, colors, etc.) There To Page 8

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### Jesus' Resurrection Creates Holy Souls

By Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton

"For I handed on to you as of first importance what I also received: (namely) that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures; that he was buried; that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures; that he appeared to Cephas, then to the Twelve" (1 Cor 15:3-5).

This month of November is suitably named month of holy souls. How do you and I encourage holy souls and what lessons have you and I learned from the holy souls who have gone before us? For one, the above words from St. Paul to the Christian community in Corinth, as well as to our community in the Diocese of Steubenville, underscores the fact it is Jesus himself who has made souls holy. Chapter 15 of *St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians* has the subtitle description of "The Resurrection of the Dead." This very passage may be entitled "The *fact* of the Resurrection."

We witness first-hand this ancient, apostolic 'kerygma." This is not simply a proclamation, for it is preaching the Good News of what God has done and what God will do in the person of Jesus Christ. The word "kerygma" in Greek means proclamation, but in Christian terminology "kerygma" refers to specific content, namely the Good News of Jesus Christ. If the "kerygma" is to be passed on from one to another, it will be done so verbally, for *faith comes from hearing*.

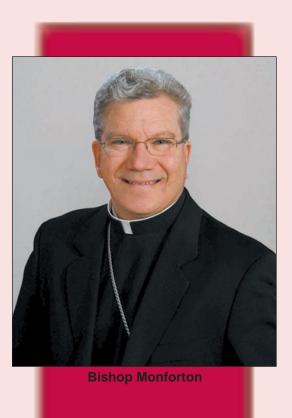
What we have here is an ancient confession of faith. And within it we hear what is fundamental to the proclamation of the faith. St. Paul explains the apostolic tradition of defending and handing on the deposit of faith for all to believe. What began with the Apostles in the first century continues with the successors of the Apostles into the 21st century.

Like other Pauline letters, *First Corinthians* is not so much of a systematic exposition as it is a response to a specific problem in a Christian community which has already assimilated the basic "kerygma." We read between the lines, pardon the expression, that St. Paul was in a position to learn a lot about the historical Jesus from prime sources. We also are acutely aware that Paul is very much interested in the person and deeds of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. St. Paul is deeply familiar of Jesus' love for him as well as for the people to whom Paul ministers.

In these final weeks of *extraordinary* Ordinary Time, in this month of Holy Souls we can ask ourselves the following:

- How do you and I take time to encounter Jesus?
- How do you and I hand on our faith to others?

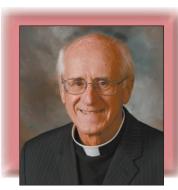
• How do you and I confess our faith in actions and not simply in words?



#### By Msgr. Thomas C. Petronek

Let's look at the three chapters that make up the second episode in the second half of Mark's Gospel – 11:1-13:37. The disciples do not play the part of the antagonists as

they did in the previous episode. The antagonists of this second episode are members of the religious establishment in Jerusalem. And let us not forget that from early on, "The Pharisees went out, and held counsel with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him" (3:6).



Msgr. Petronek

We are in Jerusalem with much of the action taking place in the Temple. It all happens in one week. Due to Jesus' three passion predictions in the previous episode, an ominous cloud of foreboding darkens the streets and alleys of the Holy City during the second episode

• **11:1-10** – And yet this second episode opens with the outrageously joyous explosion of the crowds singing Psalm 118 – one of the great hymns sung by pilgrims processing into Jerusalem for a festival – in this case, Passover – the foundational feast of Israel.

The allusions to the Old Testament in this scene include: the Mount of Olives, the young donkey, garments and leafy branches on the road and Psalm 118. All of them point to Jesus resolutely orchestrating the whole scene according to God's plan as sketched out in the Old Testament. Jesus is in charge!

### Mark's Gospel Part 13

• **11:11-26** – Jesus kills with a curse a fig tree for not bearing fruit. He then stops the Temple sacrifices and comments on the withered fig tree with a short discourse on prayer. We notice Mark's handiwork in sandwiching Jesus' Temple action between the two parts of the story of the fig tree's death. The fig tree's death foretells the Temple's coming destruction for not serving its purpose.

Following Jeremiah (7:8-11) Jesus calls the Temple "a den of thieves" – the place where robbers retreat for safety after they have committed their crimes. It is the old story of the disconnect between liturgy and life. People think so long as the temple services are continued, they may live immoral lives and everything is just fine.

Jesus says: "No more disconnect. No more temple-cave in which to hide without moral reformation." Jesus is in charge!

• **11:27-33** – The religious establishment (chief priests, scribes and elders) challenges Jesus' stopping the Temple sacrifices which had been ordained by God in Leviticus. Jesus counters with a question about the baptism of John which, of course, was a ritual action expressing and deepening a change in the moral behavior of the one baptized – liturgy and life connected. Jesus is in charge!

• **12:1-12** – It is hard not to miss the difference between the story in these verses (called a "parable" in verse one) and the three parables in chapter four which befuddled crowds and disciples alike. The parables of chapter four describe God's plan and activity with comparisons to farming practices which Jesus explains privately to his disciples. The story of the wicked tenant farmers is so obviously about the religious establishment – the chief priests, scribes and elders – that they get it immediately and try to arrest Jesus. And who could miss Jesus' quote of Psalm 118:22-23 to indicate this is all in God's plan? Jesus is in charge! The next two stories (**12:13-17** and **12:18-27**) – paying Roman taxes and the nature of the resurrection – have Jesus' antagonists (Pharisees, Herodians, Sadducees) trying to trip him up. The battle is engaged. They are bested. Jesus is in charge!

• **12:28-34** – The disputes between the religious establishment and Jesus culminate in a healthy discussion between one scribe and Jesus on the heart of the Mosaic Law. Jesus quotes Deuteronomy, Chapter 6, Verses 4-5, which all observant Jews called to mind daily – love of God totally. Jesus combines that with Leviticus, Chapter 19, Verse 18 – love of neighbor as oneself.

The scribe agrees with Jesus and suggests that love of God and neighbor goes far beyond holocausts and sacrifices. The connection between liturgy and life could not be clearer. In liturgy, one expresses one's relationship with God (moral life) and by expressing it deepens it. One's moral life (relationship with God) finds expression and deepening in religious ritual (liturgy). Jesus is in charge!

The next two stories (**12:35-37** and **12:37-40**) contrast Jesus, son of David, with the self-serving behavior of the religious establishment. Jesus is in charge!

• **12:41-44** – Jesus calls his disciples' attention to the complete self-sacrifice of an impoverished widow. He does it approvingly. We are only one chapter away from the Passion-Resurrection Narrative (14:1-16:8) in which Jesus gives his all in self-sacrifice. The widow's action is both liturgy (ritual expression of her relationship with God) and life (her love of God expressed in the gift of all she had).

• 13:1-37 – If the second episode of the second half of Mark's Gospel opened with an outrageously joyous explosion of the crowds in song (11:1-10), it ends with Jesus' hushed description of the coming disaster that will To Page 8

### **Bishops to consider election document**

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The U.S. bishops will consider whether to approve a new introductory note and a limited revision of their quadrennial statement on political responsibility during their Nov. 16-19 fall general assembly in Baltimore.

The statement, "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship," is reissued every four years and takes into account the latest issues taking center stage in the political arena. The document, which in general calls for Catholic voters to consider the common good when going to the polls, has been released before every presidential election for almost four decades.

What a U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops news release described as "a limited revision" and new introductory note for "Faithful Citizenship" were prepared by a working group led by Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, vice president of the USCCB.

The bishops also will discuss and vote on a proposed formal statement on pornography, "Create in Me a Clean Heart: A Pastoral Response to Pornography." The bishops had given their approval a few years ago to craft a statement on the subject.

They are scheduled to discuss and vote on a proposal to take up a one-time national collection to fund the completion of the Trinity Dome in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington. No structural work is needed, but shrine officials have been in planning meetings about the ornamentation of the mosaics on the underside of the dome, visible from within the shrine. The big, blue dome has no ornamentation although the shrine's other domes do. No date has been set to begin and no deadline to complete it. As of yet, no cost has been affixed to the project.

The bishops also will hear a report from the USCCB Subcommittee on the Church in Latin America on the golden anniversary of the annual national Collection for the Church in Latin America.

Three canonization causes also will go before the bishops for the canonical consultation required to advance their causes: Father Aloysius Ellacuria – a 20th-century Claretian Missionary priest from the Basque region of Spain who spent much of his priestly ministry in the American Southwest; Sister Ida Peterfy was the Slovak-Hungarian-born founder of the Society Devoted to the Sacred Heart and Antonio Cuipa, who along with more than 80 "companions," was martyred for the faith in colonial Florida between 1549 and 1706.

The bishops will discuss and vote on proposed revisions to strategic priorities for the next USCCB planning cycle, which cover 2017-20, following up on input given a draft version of these priorities during their June meeting in St. Louis.

A vote will be taken on the inclusion of "Excerpts From the Roman Missal: Book for Use at the Chair" in U.S. dioceses.

The bishops will choose a treasurerelect and vote on the 2016 USCCB budget and the 2017 diocesan assessment that helps fund USCCB operations.



Diocese of Steubenville seminarian Nicholas Ginnetti, studying for the priesthood in Rome, is joined by Msgr. Kurt H. Kemo, diocesan vicar general, after Mass. The Mass was celebrated in the Oratory of the Nativity during Msgr. Kemo's recent visit to Italy. Between the two is the altar and the reliquary of the holy crib in which Jesus lay after his birth, which is in front of the oratory, located under the main altar of St. Mary Major Basilica, the largest church in Rome dedicated to the Blessed Mother, Msgr. Kemo said. (Photo provided)

### The End of Days

#### From Page 6

is nothing like this literary form in our contemporary experience (there hasn't been for 2,000 years), so it is hard for our literal minded and linear thinking culture to get hold of it. Does this mean that our contemporary picture of the universe and its story alters how we translate this cosmic imagery of Daniel and Mark (and others in both Hebrew and Christian Scriptures)? I don't think it does. If we understand that these apocalyptic narratives are neither predicting nor describing something, but are more like proclamations assuring us of the prophet's and the early church's faith that human history will not conclude without the universal recognition of Jesus as Lord of that history. Data and details as to when such events will occur or what it will look like are simply not accessible.

As a Catholic hearing these sometimes frightening passages, I need to avoid the fundamentalist trap, yet still hear what is important for Christian life.

The first reading from Daniel is a poetic ending to a prophetic (not fortune-telling) utterance that tells of wars and great sufferings. Yet these concluding verses frame all the suffering and fear within a hope and a promise surpassing everything. If we ask ourselves what this message might mean for us now, thousands of years later, it would seem they disclose a divine providence that has not abandoned human history. This is strengthened by the Gospel reading (see Mk 13:24-32) wherein the author offers the same recognition of disasters, terrible sufferings, historical tragedies and the same reassurance that precisely in the midst of all that agony, the Son of Man will show himself in power and glory, initiating a final judgment and resolution – the "how" and "when" shrouded in mystery, consigned to a time ... "no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father." Cloaked in this apocalyptic imagery lies a promise, not a threat: the promise that in Jesus Christ God's final word over the world will match his first – ... "God saw that it was good" (Gn 1:25).

Fundamentalists today tend to treat these texts as mysterious predictions speculating about when these things will come to pass and just how the end will come; attempting to calculate such data by breaking some secret code hidden within the numbers, colors, sights and sounds of biblical apocalyptic imagery. Rather than threaten and terrify with images of abandonment, destruction, fear and loss, this literary form seeks to disclose what 14th-century mystic Julian of Norwich opened for us in her "Book of Showings" (also named "A Revelation of Divine Love"): She envisions God proclaiming, "See! I am God. ... I am in everything. See! I do everything. See! I never lift my hand off my works, nor will I ever. ... I lead everything toward the purpose I ordained it to from without beginning ... " (from "Meditations with Julian of Norwich," Brendan Doyle,

1983, Page 39). Clothed with this style of narrative is the announcement that this is indeed God's world, he has not removed it from his embrace, he continues daily pronouncing his original blessing over it and its future is redeemed. It is a graced world even amid its chaos and conflict.

This is the incredible power and promise of these readings – a power that sustains and supports our journey and a promise that though the path takes us through the valley of death's shadow, what awaits us is light and everlasting life.

Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger (now Benedict XVI, retired pope) offered these encouraging words of hope and life in his 2001 work, "God Is Near Us":

"... at the end of history is something truly new. We cannot imagine it, because we are ignorant both of the possibilities of the material and of the capacities of the Creator. Yet we do know ... not only that individuals will be saved, but that God intends to save his entire creation ... this is what looking forward to eternal life means: not wanting to be lost from the sight of God, because he is our life."

(Ignatius Press, Page 148)

Father Walker is a Diocese of Steubenville priest, retired from active parish ministry. He continues to reside in his hometown, McConnelsville, where he presides at weekday and Sunday Masses at St. James Church and writes a regular column for The Steubenville Register.

## Mark's Gospel

shortly befall Jerusalem and its magnificent Temple. Jesus fairly whispers the horrors about to befall the Holy City to the four he chose at the very beginning (1:16-20). If he prophetically enacted the death of the Temple when he stopped the sacrifices (11:5-19), he now describes that Temple's complete destruction at the hands of the Roman Legions in A.D. 70 when not one stone will be left on another.

This theme of the Temple's destruction will follow us into the third episode of the second half of Mark's Gospel – the Passion-Resurrection Narrative (14:1-16:8). During Jesus' trial before the high priest, chief priests and elders, the witnesses could agree on only one thing – that Jesus said: "I will destroy this Temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands" (14:58). Jesus is in charge!

Msgr. Petronek is a Diocese of Steubenville priest, former director of the diocesan Office of Worship and missionary priest, who is retired from active parish ministry. He resides in Wheeling, West Virginia, from where he continues to minister, which includes writing a regular column for The Steubenville Register.

### Synod members disagree on report's opening to Communion for remarried

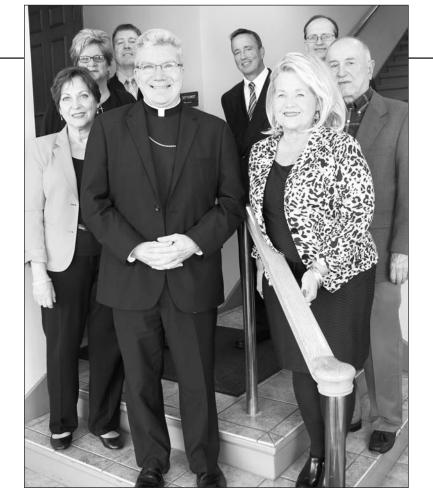
By Robert Duncan, Cindy Wooden

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Australian Cardinal George Pell said the final report of the Synod of Bishops on the family did not create an opening for the divorced and civilly remarried to receive Communion. Other synod members took a different

Other synod members took a different view and acknowledged that the paragraph

in question was being read differently. "The text has certainly been significantly misunderstood," Cardinal Pell, prefect of the Vatican Secretariat for the Economy, told Catholic News Service Oct. 25.

"There is no reference in paragraph 85 or anywhere in the document to Communion for the divorced and civilly remarried; that is fundamental," he said.



Pastor Bobbyjon Bauman, back right, of Starkdale Presbyterian Church, Steubenville, will be the featured speaker at the 11th annual "Faith in the Future" prayer breakfast, 8 a.m., Nov. 13, Froehlich's Classic Corner, downtown Steubenville, said Tracy McManamon, back, second from right, chairman of "Faith in the Future." Also planning the event to pray for the well-being of the community are Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton, Carolyn Glaub, standing left; Beth Rupert-Warren, standing behind Glaub; Mike Florak, back left; Peter Zanetich, right; and Phyllis Riccadonna. Reservations for the \$7 breakfast can be made with McManamon, prayerbreakfast@onesourcebenefits.com or (740) 282-1132. (Photo by DeFrancis)

#### Job Opportunities with the Franciscan Sisters Third Order Regular of Penance of the Sorrowful Mother

#### **Mission Advancement Assistant**

This full-time position involves coordinating and administering specialized *Mission Advancement* functions, such as managing databases, reporting financial data and developing mailing lists in support of ongoing or special project funding programs. Applicants should have at least a bachelor's degree in business or an area related to *Mission Advancement* or two years' experience in marketing or mission advancement. Familiarity with database software is essential. Must be willing to promote the mission and interests of the Franciscan Sisters Third Order Regular of Penance of the Sorrowful Mother. Interested individuals may send their resume to Sister Mary Rose Bratlien, TOR, at employment@torsisters.org.

#### **Mission Advancement Multimedia and Office Assistant**

This full-time position involves updating and maintaining the website and other social media for the Mission Advancement Office, designing projects for print and online publication, tracking, acknowledging and reporting on contributions received, data entry, and other duties as assigned. Applicants should have a bachelor's degree from a four-year college or university; or one- to two-years related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience. Must be willing to promote the mission and interests of the **Franciscan Sisters Third Order Regular of Penance of the Sorrowful Mother**. Interested individuals may send their resume to **Sister Mary Rose Bratlien, TOR, at employment@torsisters.org.** 

But other synod members said the text represented an opening to discernment, on a case-by-case basis, of the possibility of eventual absolution and Communion for some divorced and civilly remarried Catholics.

Cardinal Reinhard Marx, president of the German bishops' conference, told reporters the final report marked "a real step forward" in the pastoral care of the divorced and civilly remarried.

Cardinal Andre Vingt-Trois of Paris said the document is firm in saying "there can be no general rule that applies equally" to all the divorced and remarried without considering their personal situations.

Austrian Cardinal Christoph Schonborn of Vienna told reporters the final report was not a blanket "yes or no" to Communion for the divorced and civilly remarried, but a call to careful discernment, recognizing that the amount of blame different people bear for a broken marriage and the different situations which led them to remarry vary widely. Therefore, the consequences in terms of absolution and Communion vary as well, he said.

In response to such interpretations of the final report, Cardinal Pell said that "the discernment that is encouraged in Paragraph 85 in these particular matters has to be based on the full teaching of Pope John Paul II" and the teaching of the church in general.

Cardinal Pell said the document's mention of the "internal forum," which involves the primacy of one's conscience before God in determining if access to the sacraments is possible, "cannot be used to deny objective truth."

Asked why the document does not clearly say that the door is closed to Communion for the divorced and civilly remarried, Cardinal Pell replied: "I think that is a good question, and I think that the document does say that," however not explicitly.

The ban on Communion for civilly remarried Catholics, he said, "is implicit, really present in the document, but not spelled out as much as some of the fathers would like."

The paragraphs in the synod's final report that deal with the question of pastoral care for civilly remarried Catholics received the largest number of "no" votes, but still gained the necessary two-thirds majority.

Cardinal Pell said the synod fathers could have achieved "an even deeper consensus with a bit more clarity."

The synod members themselves recognize the document is being read differently, said Archbishop Laurent Ulrich of Lille, France. Although no paragraphs were struck down in the final vote, "points of resistance remain," he said.

Cardinal Vincent Nichols of Westminster, England, told reporters Oct. 25 that the steps outlined in the text for "this pathway of discernment" are meant to ensure that a pastor avoids "the temptation of slapping on a quick plaster" while pain and resentment are "festering away," according to a report on the Catholic Voices website.

"This pathway of discernment is to help them look through all those things with the eyes of faith and the eyes of God's mercy," Cardinal Nichols said. And the discernment called for means individual situations are not "prejudged or pre-empted."

The Synod of Bishops is not a decisionmaking body; its deliberations and final report are meant to provide Pope Francis with reflections and advice. It was not immediately known whether Pope Francis would issue a postsynodal apostolic exhortation, as his predecessors often did.

Asked whether the pope will settle the issue of Communion and provide a definitive interpretation to the document, Cardinal Pell responded, "Whether he will or he won't depends, I suppose, on how he sees this document; whether it is clear enough, whether it expresses adequately the mind of the church. We don't want it to be in the situation of some of the other Christian churches where one or two issues were fought about publicly for years and years."

### Mother's Pilgrims Pilgrimage to Medjugorje



### April 26 - May 5, 2016 Trip: Fellow Pilgrims Rev. Joseph M. Mele Rev. Anthony Gargotta

"Thank you for responding to My call. If you knew how much I love you, you'd cry of joy." Hostesses: Cathy Howe & Medjugorje Visionary Mirjana Soldo

Our Lady is Waiting just for you. If you Hear Her Call, let Nothing stand in Your way.

For more information 412-278-4673 or 412-366-7200 www.mothershope.org **Athens** — The Athens Catholic community Peace and Justice Committee will hold a benefit dinner, to raise funds for the Archdiocese of Cusco, Peru, from 6-8:30 p.m., Nov. 13, in Holy Family Center, located at Christ the King University Parish. For additional information, telephone the parish office at (740) 592-2711 or (740) 593-7822.

Ohio University students will host a "Parents Night Out" from 4-7 p.m., Nov. 14, at the Holy Family Center, located at Christ the King University Parish. The event will feature crafts, games, food and the showing of "Charlie Brown's Thanksgiving." Reservations are requested, prior to Nov. 7. For additional information, email Kristina Toman at kt330510@ohio.edu.

**Belle Valley** — To place an order for nut, poppy seed or apricot rolls, baked by Corpus Christi CWC women, call (740) 732-7202 or (740) 732-4129, prior to Nov. 10.

**Buchtel/Glouster** — St. Mary of the Hills, Buchtel, and Holy Cross, Glouster, parishioners are collecting Christmas cards, which will be given to inmates at Hocking Correctional Facility, Nelsonville, to send to their relative and friends. Cards, requested by the end of November, can be taken to either church.

**Caldwell** — An ecumenical Thanksgiving service will be held at 7 p.m., Nov. 24, at St. Stephen Church. A canned food drive will take place that evening; monetary offerings will be accepted, also. **Cambridge** — There will be an organizational gathering, to plan a group for widows and widowers, at 2:30 p.m., Nov. 8, in St. Benedict Church social hall. Nut rolls will be sold by Christ Our Light Parish CWC, for \$10. A limited number of rolls will be made, and they will be sold on a preorder basis. Call (740) 439-3224, to place an order.

Christ Our Light Parish will sponsor a soup luncheon from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Nov. 13, at St. Benedict Athletic and Events Center, 220 N. Seventh St. Homemade soups, breads, desserts and beverages will be available to purchase, at a suggested donation of \$5. Takeout orders will be available, also. To order lunch for pickup, call (740) 995-0605. The luncheon fundraiser is for the support of the Samaritan Center for Transitional Housing.

The Christ Our Light Parish Youth Group will sponsor a fraser fir wreath and garland fundraiser. Orders must be placed by Nov. 18; delivery, Dec. 1. For more information, call Janine Bock, (740) 439-5638 or Pat Farley, (740) 432-7609 or (740) 439-2255.

A vocation potluck dinner and Holy Hour will take place from 6-8 p.m., Nov. 19, in St. Benedict Church social hall. Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity will share personal stories of how God called them to the religious life. Those attending can bring a covered dish to share.

A trip to the annual Jan. 21-22 March for Life, Washington, D.C., is being planned by Christ Our Light Parish, Cambridge, and Sts. Peter and Paul Oratory, Lore City. Registration, with full payment received by Nov. 30, costs \$75; by Dec. 31, \$100. For additional information, contact Ron Ginnetti at ronginnetti@gmail.com or (740) 498-7877, or John Spencer, john.spencer@kofc.org, (740) 444-9632.

**Carlisle** — St. Michael Parish will sponsor turkey bingo from 1:30-4 p.m., Nov. 15, at the church hall. A light lunch, with dessert, will be available.

**Chesapeake** — St. Ann Parish CWC will sponsor a pancake breakfast from 8 a.m.-noon, Nov. 8, in the church hall. Cost for adults to eat is \$5; children eat for \$3.

St. Ann Parish and the CWC will sponsor several fundraisers, for the benefit of Community Mission Outreach. A cereal drive and food drive are presently taking place. Donations can be taken to the church and placed in baskets at the rear sanctuary. Also, "Operation Feed the Pig" is in progress. Monetary donations can be placed in a piggy bank, located inside the church, throughout the month of November. Donations will help with the purchase of Christmas



Some members of the St. Stephen Catholic Woman's Club – from left, Carolyn Estadt, CWC president; Mary Crum, Eileen Miller, Patty Tonnous, Marlene Gaydos, Marlene Lori, Dorothy Schott and Jean Lowe, CWC secretary, display the quilt that will be raffled at the CWC's fourth annual fall bazaar. The large quilt, with a cream background and burgundy accents, is hand quilted. It was quilted by Nancy Thompson of Zanesville, Ohio, sister to Gaydos and Tonnous. The CWC bazaar will be held from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m., Nov. 14, at St. Stephen Church, 1036 Belford St., Caldwell. Father Wayne E. Morris is pastor of St. Stephen Parish, as well as parishes in Belle Valley, Carlisle and Fulda. Homemade crafts, noodles and baked goods will be featured at the bazaar, also. For more information on the event, telephone (740) 732-4129. (Photo by Father Morris)

hams for the less fortunate families of the area.

**Ironton** — The Ironton Catholic community gift shop, located in the former convent at St. Lawrence Church, is open every Sunday, following the celebration of the noon Mass at St. Lawrence O'Toole Church, until Christmas. A variety of religious articles will be on sale.

Little Hocking — St. Ambrose parishioners are collecting boxes of spaghetti and spaghetti sauce, which will be donated to Belpre Area Ministries, for use in holiday baskets. Items will accepted through Nov. 15.

St. Ambrose CWC will sponsor a Christmas trade show, consisting of local vendors and gently used seasonal decorations, from 6-8 p.m., Nov. 13, in the church hall.

A charity art auction, featuring paintings by Frank Purcell, St. Ambrose parishioner, will be held from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Nov. 20, in the church hall.

**Marietta** — The Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption will participate in a bus trip to Washington, D.C., for the annual March for Life Jan. 21-22. Registration cost is \$75 per person. For more information, call the basilica office at (740) 373-3643.

Marietta — As a service project, St. Mary School is collecting books, said Principal Susan T. Rauch. The books will be mailed for use in a school library in the Marshall Islands. Books on any reading level, prereaders through adults, will be accepted. They can be taken to the school, 320 Marion St.

**Martins Ferry** — St. Mary Central School students, faculty and staff will prepare Thanksgiving food baskets for the less fortunate. Donations of canned goods, for a traditional Thanksgiving dinner, and monetary donations toward the purchase of turkey gift certificates are being accepted through Nov. 13, at the school, 24 N. Fourth St. For more information, telephone the school office, (740) 633-5424.

**Minerva** — Grief education sessions will be held at 6:30 p.m., Thursdays, at St. Gabriel Church annex. Classes will be based on a book written by Alan Wolfelt titled "Understanding Your Grief." To register or learn more about the sessions, call Lisa Burman at (330) 868-3243.

Pomeroy — A bus will leave Pomeroy at 5:15

a.m. Jan. 21, and return late Jan. 22, for anyone interested in attending the annual March for Life in Washington, D.C. For additional information, call the Sacred Heart Parish office, (740) 992-5898.

**Steubenville** — Christmas cards will be sold by Triumph of the Cross Parish following the celebration of the 4 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Nov. 7 Masses and the 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Nov. 8 Masses, at Holy Rosary Church. The cost is \$10 for a box of 20 cards and envelopes.

Advent candles and wreaths will be sold by the St. Thomas Aquinas Speech and Debate Club following Nov. 21 and Nov. 22 Masses at Holy Rosary Church. Advent candles cost \$10; wreaths, \$10; candles and wreath together, \$18.

**Steubenville** — Father Michael W. Gossett, vocations director for the Diocese of Steubenville, will speak at 4 p.m., Nov. 8, at Holy Family Church, Malara Hall, to close a vocation fair, held in honor of the Year of Consecrated Life. His talk will be on developing vocations within our home life.

**Steubenville** — St. Peter CWC will sponsor a ninth annual toy drive from Nov. 7 through Dec. 3. To participate, take a new, unopened toy, not gift wrapped, to the church, 425 N. Fourth St. Toys will be donated to Urban Mission.

**Steubenville** — "Enjoy Coupon" books are being sold by Catholic Central High School Band Boosters. To purchase a book, which costs \$40, call the school office at (740) 264-5538.

Wintersville — Our Lady of Lourdes CWC will sell nut rolls and pumpkin rolls for \$9 each, following the celebration of the 9:30 a.m., Nov. 15, Mass.

**Woodsfield** — April Parden and Kim Sefert were recently elected co-presidents of St. Sylvester Central Home and School. Also elected was Melissa Smithberger, vice president, Kim Palmer, secretary, and Jeff Dean, treasurer.

St. Sylvester Central School will sponsor a Christmas bazaar from 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Nov. 8, at the school, 119 E. Wayne St. A dinner, including turkey, dressing, homemade noodles, mashed potatoes and gravy, beans and homemade dessert will be served. Cost is \$9 for adults and \$5 for children. There will also be a country store, various vendors and raffles at the event.

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### **Around and About**

Athens — Pregnancy Resource Center of Athens County will offer biannual volunteer training courses from 5:30-8 p.m., Nov. 6, and from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Nov. 7. To register or for more information, telephone Kailyn Browning at (740) 592-4700.

**Bridgeport** — A pancake breakfast will be sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 2262 from 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Nov. 15, in St. Anthony School hall. Cost to eat is \$7 for adults; \$4, children; \$18, family. Breakfast includes pancakes, sausage and beverage.

**Caldwell** — Knights of Columbus Father Kleuber Council 2565 will participate in a "Coats For Kids" campaign. Coats will be distributed within Noble County; monetary donations will also be accepted. To donate a new or gently used coat, call Jim Schoeppner, (740) 732-4982 or Dustin Robison, (740) 624-1236. Coats can also be taken to the Noble Eye Center, 602 West St.

Caldwell — Caldwell First Presbyterian Church will participate in "Operation Christmas Child," a program sponsored by Samaritan's Purse, an evangelical Christian humanitarian organization that provides aid to people in need as a key part of Christian missionary work. Participants can fill a shoe box with items for children, such as small toys, socks, T-shirts, hats, school supplies, etc., and take them to the Presbyterian Church, 532 North St. Nov. 16 through Nov. 23. Boxes will be shipped to several countries, including the United States. For additional information, call Maureen Schultice at (740) 732-7235 or (740) 732-4767; leave a message, the call will be returned.

**Caldwell** — A "Relay for Life Noble County Kick-Off and Family Fun Day" will be held from 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Nov. 14, at Pine Lake Bible Camp, 17965 Hunkadora Road. Its purpose is to raise awareness and get involved in the fight against cancer. For additional information, telephone Tracy Barnhouse, (740) 509-0196.

**Cambridge** — The 13th annual Guernsey County Caregiver Appreciation Luncheon will be held from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Nov. 23, at the Pritchard Laughlin Civic Center, 7033 Glenn Highway. Unpaid family caregivers residing in Guernsey County can attend the complimentary luncheon. Each caregiver can bring one guest; additional guests can attend for \$10 each. Transportation is available through the senior center, (740) 439-6681. Registration is required; call (740) 435-4719 or (800) 945-4250, extension 4719, prior to Nov. 17.

**Carrollton** — The Knights of Columbus Our Lady of Carroll County Council 15401 square dance season will begin Nov. 7, from 7:30-10:30 p.m., and continue on the first Saturday of each month through February, at Our Lady of Mercy Church hall. Cost is \$5 per person; \$9 per couple, or bring the entire family for \$10.

**Carrollton** — St. John's Villa, 701 Crest St., will sponsor a craft show from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Nov. 21. To reserve a table, for \$20, call Susan DeChiara or Danielle Snider at (330) 627-9789.

**Cleveland** — The Benedictine Monks of St. Andrew Abbey will sponsor a "Living With Benedict" retreat Nov. 13-15, at the abbey, which is located at 10510 Buckeye Road. It is for single, Catholic men between the ages of 18-45; there is no charge to attend. To make a reservation or for additional information, telephone (216) 721-5300.

**Gallipolis** — Knights of Columbus St. Louis Council 3335 will sponsor a benefit breakfast following the celebration of the 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Masses, Nov. 8, at St. Louis Church, in the church hall. Proceeds from the event will be used for the less fortunate of Gallia County.

**Martins Ferry** — Volunteer training sessions for Faith in Action Caregivers

Inc. will be held at 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., Nov. 19 and Dec. 10, at 38 N. Fourth St.; reservations are requested. For additional information, telephone (304) 243-5420 or log on www.faithinactionwheeling.org.

**Martins Ferry** — A fish fry will be held by Knights of Columbus Mother of God Council 1421 from 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Nov. 6, at the council hall, 25 N. Fourth St. Call (740) 633-0528, to place an order.

**Martins Ferry** — The Robert Hall Memorial Community Thanksgiving Dinner will be held from 3-6 p.m., Nov. 15, at Colerain Presbyterian Church, 71780 Colerain Road.

North Canton, Ohio — Mary, Queen of Heaven and Earth Chapter of Magnificat, a women's ministry modeled after the Visitation, will sponsor a breakfast Dec. 5, at Walsh University, Barrette Center, 2020 E. Maple St. Doors open at 8:30 a.m.; breakfast will be served at 9 a.m.; cost is \$18. Make checks payable to Magnificat of Stark County and send to Andrea Singarella, 1531 Radford St. NE, North Canton, OH 44720. Seating is limited. No reservations will be accepted after Nov. 28. For further information, call Shirley DeOrio, (330) 305-1146.

**North Canton, Ohio** — A 33-day consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary will be offered through Dec. 8, at Walsh University, 2020 E. Maple St. Weekly talks on the Mother of Jesus will be presented Nov. 11, Nov. 18, Nov. 23 and Dec. 2, at 8 p.m. The event will conclude with the celebration of the 11:30 a.m. Mass, Dec. 8, in Our Lady of Perpetual Help Chapel, Walsh University. All-night adoration will take place Nov. 20-21, beginning with the 9:30 p.m. vigil Mass for the Presentation of Our Lady, and conclude at 6 a.m., after morning prayer.

**Pomeroy** — Knights of Columbus Msgr. John Joseph Jessing Council 1664 will participate in the American Wheelchair Mission, to supply wheelchairs to people in this country and around the world. For \$150, Knights are able to purchase and deliver a \$500 wheelchair. Donations will be accepted following the 9:30 a.m. Mass, Nov. 15, at Sacred Heart Church. **St. Clairsville** — A book fair, for the benefit of Faith in Action Caregivers Inc., will be held Nov. 7, at Books-A-Million Inc. at the Ohio Valley Mall, 67800 Mall Road.

**St. Clairsville** — "Enjoy Coupon Books" are being sold by Knights of Columbus Our Lady of Peace Council 4243 at St. Mary Church parish offices, or by telephoning John Swan at (740) 695-0366. Cost is \$40; the books offer discounts to various restaurants, entertainment and sporting establishments.

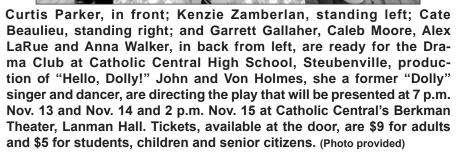
**Steubenville** — Knights of Columbus St. John Neumann Council 11828 will sponsor a breakfast buffet from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Nov. 15, at St. Peter Church hall. Cost for the breakfast is \$7, for an individual serving; \$3, for children under the age of 12; \$30, family maximum charge. Proceeds from the benefit will assist the Samaritan House food pantry.

**Steubenville** — Highlighting sacred music from early America, the Franciscan University Chorale will present a fall concert at 7 p.m., Nov. 6, in Christ the King Chapel, at Franciscan University of Steubenville. The concert is free and open to the public.

Veterans Day, Nov. 11, will mark the 11 a.m. groundbreaking for a veterans memorial, which will be built on the campus of Franciscan University of Steubenville. Construction for the memorial, which is expected to be completed by spring, will commence shortly after the groundbreaking.

"Breeders: A Subclass of Women?" will be shown at 7 p.m., Nov. 17, in the Tony and Nina Gentile Gallery, J.C. Williams Center, Franciscan University of Steubenville. The documentary and discussion that follows will shed light on surrogacy.

**Woodsfield** — Throughout the first weekend in December, Knights of Columbus St. Joseph of Monroe County Council 5009 will sponsor a Christmas card sale following the celebration of the 5 p.m. Saturday Mass, at St. Sylvester Church, Woodsfield, and the 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass at St. Sylvester Church, and the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass, at St. John the Baptist Church, Miltonsburg.



### **Obituaries**

Cecelia "Tate" Baird, 93, Athens, St. Paul, Oct. 26.

**Catherine L. "Kitty" Byers**, 84, Mingo Junction, St. Agnes, Nov. 1.

Helen M. Ceculski, 87, 6830 N. High St., Columbus, Ohio, St. Frances Cabrini, Colerain.Oct. 12.

Patricia M. Cortez, 67, Triumph of the

Cross, Steubenville, Oct. 22. William L. Delatore, 59, Steubenville, Holy Family, Oct. 30.

William F. Fabian, 71, St. Peter, Steu-

benville, Oct. 27. **Thomas D. Flippo**, 66, Mingo Junction, St. Agnes, Oct. 12.

Alice Gade, 92, St. Gabriel, Minerva. Virginia A. "Ginny" Madden, 91,

Mingo Junction, St. Agnes, Oct. 24.

Gladys Jurden Malone, 87, the Ba-

silica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, Oct. 13.

Edith M. Mick, 84, Minerva, St. Gabriel, Oct. 25.

John P. Murphy, 88, the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, Oct. 15. Mary Naffziger, 85, Athens, Christ the

King University Parish, Oct. 22.

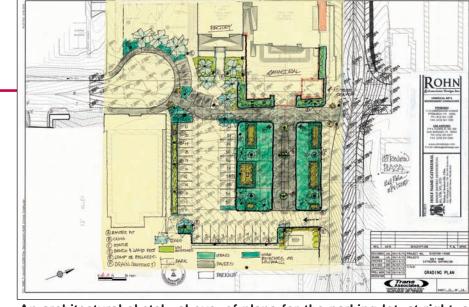
Michael J. Piecynski, 63, Carrollton, St. Gabriel, Minerva, Oct. 23.

Kenneth S. Ray, 81, Toronto, St. Francis of Assisi, Oct. 20.

**Regina M. Smith Schilling**, 83, the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, Oct. 25.

**Carole A. Sinar**, 83, St. Francis Xavier, Malvern, Oct. 21.

Jean E. Waugh Sustersic, 90, Kimbolton, St. Joseph, Bridgeport, Oct. 28.



An architectural sketch, above, of plans for the parking lot, at right, at Holy Name Cathedral, Steubenville, will include a complete overhaul of the area, including demolition of a small structure on the lot and installing green space. Plans continue to be drawn for work to commence on street realignment before year's end, said James G. Piazza, executive assistant to Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton. The bishop has garnered support for the cathedral renovation, restoration and renewal throughout the diocese. (Photo scanned and photo by DeFrancis)



### New software will enable diocese and its parishes to track parishioners

STEUBENVILLE — A new diocesanwide census program from ParishSOFT is being introduced in the Diocese of Steubenville.

Msgr. Kurt H. Kemo, diocesan vicar general, and Martin B. Thompson, director, diocesan Information and Technology, announced the purchase of the software, ConnectNow.

ParishSOFT – which connects people and the church – provides a complete suite of church management software designed to improve communication, save time and money and help churches manage people, finances and reporting from a single technology platform, its website reads. More than 8,500 parishes and archdioceses or dioceses are reported to use the software.

The need to purchase new software that tracks diocesan parishioners was apparent some time ago, Thompson said.

Evolving technology necessitates replacement of equipment, Msgr. Kemo pointed out. Usually after five years, a computer and its programs are obsolete. However, Msgr. Kemo said, the diocese has utilized its parish information manager program over the past 15 years. During Diocesan/ Parish Share Campaign major gift dinners earlier this year, Msgr. Kemo recounted how he, as a newly ordained priest in 1983, was among the teams of people who fanned out from parishes to count churchgoers. That information was input manually into what was then the new computer system in the chancery in downtown Steubenville, he remembered.

Throughout the years, Msgr. Kemo said, staff from parishes and the diocese has maintained the names and addresses of the membership. "It is these years of current information that we are trying to protect," he said.

The new system will enable the vital statistical information, first gained in the 1980s by "so many hardworking people," to be utilized.

It is only, Msgr. Kemo added, through the good stewardship of materials that the current program has been operational for such a long period. "We were even unable to purchase any replacement parts, because of the obsolescence of the program," he said.

Selection of ParishSOFT was not a quick process. Thompson said a committee consisting of parish pastors, parish secretaries and diocesan employees sat to evaluate software. In addition to Thompson and Msgr. Kemo, committe members included Father James M. Dunfee, pastor of St. Agnes Parish, Mingo Junction; Father Timothy J. Kozak, pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Pomeroy; parish staffers Michelle Fouts, Toronto parishes, and Mary Carter, Adena-Dillonvale parishes; and chancery employees James G. Piazza, executive assistant to Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton; David A. Franklin, diocesan comptroller; and Anthony J. Targoss, manager, diocesan Information and Technology.

After examination, ParishSOFT was selected, Thompson said. It provides accessibility from anywhere and enables tracking of multiple addresses for individuals and emailing capabilities, as well as a support team, among other features, Thompson added.

In late July, priests and their parish support staff were oriented to ParishSOFT. During an October conference, priests were given an abbreviated training on the software, Thompson said. In November, eight-hour training sessions for priests and parish staff were held or continue to be held at locations throughout the diocese, including ones in Steubenville, St. Clairsville, Marietta and Ironton. Diocesan employees, too, will be trained on ParishSOFT.

### After 56 years of church service, Smith retires

IRONTON — Mary "Sis" Smith, who started working for St. Joseph Parish in 1959, has retired.

Father David L. Huffman, pastor of St. Joseph Parish and St. Lawrence O'Toole Parish and administrator of St. Mary Mission, Pine Grove, announced Smith's retirement after 56 years "of loyal service to the church."

Smith retired Oct. 1, days after she celebrated her 94th birthday, Sept. 13. She was feted by Ironton parishioners at a birthday/retirement party in the undercroft of St. Joseph Church on her birthday.

Officially, she assisted with the counting of weekend collections and recording the donations, answered the door and telephone at St. Joseph Church rectory, but even washed and ironed altar linens, Father Huffman said.

Moreover, Father Huffman said she performed her duties in a most professional manner, without complaint.

Her Catholic faith never faltered, he added.

As she volunteered for extra duties, Father Huffman said, she would remark, "I am working my way into heaven!"

Recruited for her position by the late Msgr. John J. Yonk, pastor of St. Joseph Parish for almost 40 years, Smith worked with more than two dozen priests who resided in the rectory. Among those was Father Victor P. Cinson, pastor of St. Francis Xavier Parish, Malvern, and St. Gabriel Parish, Minerva, who wrote to Smith on her birthday and retirement and called her a "lifesaver" for him when he was a newly ordained priest in Ironton in May 1974.

Another well-wisher was Father Wayne E. Morris, pastor in the Noble County Catholic community, who commended Smith for the "great wisdom and balance" she brought to the parish.

A longtime pastor in Ironton, Father Thomas R. Nau, pastor of Triumph of the Cross Parish, Steubenville, and rector of Holy Name Cathedral, Steubenville, thanked her for saying yes many years ago to serving the church.

Father Anthony R. Batt, pastor of Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Carrollton, and St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish, Morges, called her a "great encouragement" to his vocation.

Father Samuel R. Saprano, pastor of St. Mary Parish, Shadyside, said that Smith's "pleasant way and smile, would give me a lift if I needed it.

"Congratulations on being the stabilizing presence through several pastors and a sympathetic ear for the many assistants.

"Enjoy your 'retirement'. ...

"You are what Catholic Christians are supposed to be.

Smith is a resident of 525 High St., Coal Grove, OH 45638.



Mary "Sis" Smith is congratulated by Father David L. Huffman and Nancy Rudmann, standing, a 25year St. Joseph Parish secretary. (Photo by Moore)