

The Steubenville

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News Briefs

Collection to be taken for flood victims

STEUBENVILLE — An emergency collection will be taken in parishes in the Diocese of Steubenville at the direction of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton.

The Sept. 17-18 collection will assist those more than 100,000 individuals and families who have sought disaster aid as a result of recent flooding in Louisiana. As many as 60,000 homes were damaged and nearly 20,000 people rescued from flood waters

Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, called for the collection to support the humanitarian efforts of Catholic Charities USA and to provide pastoral and rebuilding support to impacted Catholic dioceses.

"We are fortunate in Steubenville to have such a generous flock, which 'steps up to the plate' every time a great need arises," Bishop Monforton said. In July, Steubenville parishioners donated more than \$58,000 to assist West Virginia residents. A June flood in the Mountain State killed 23 people.

It's not too late to enrich your marriage

STEUBENVILLE — Registration continues for the Diocese of Steubenville's annual Marriage Enrichment Day Sept. 17 at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, announced Joseph A. Schmidt, diocesan marriage ministry coordinator.

Gregory D. Schutte, director of Marriage Works! Ohio, an initiative of Elizabeth's New Life Center, which is a pregnancy resource center in Dayton, Ohio, will present the day's program – "Building a Eucharistic Marriage: How to Rekindle Our First Love."

The day begins with an 11 a.m. Mass, celebrated in the basilica by Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton, continues with lunch and the 1 p.m. presentation by Schutte.

To register, contact Schmidt at the basilica – telephone (740) 373-3643 or email basilicadre@gmail.com.



The Immaculate Heart of Mary statue, in parishes in the Diocese of Steubenville during the Year of Reconsecration of the diocese to the Immaculate Heart of Mary at the initiation of diocesan Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton, will stand in St. Stephen Church, Caldwell, until Sept. 16. Then it will be moved to St. Michael Church, Carlisle, where it will remain until Sept. 23, when it is taken to Our Lady of Mercy Church, Lowell. (Photo by DeFrancis)



Students at St. Mary Central School, Martins Ferry – seated from left, Zachary Vargo, grade eight; Caden Horvath, grade seven; Catherine Konkoleski, grade eight; and Jasmine Bumbico, grade eight; and Emma Marshall, grade four, standing left; and Brooklyn Lengyel, grade 7, standing right – help get equipment ready for classes that began in late August at the 24 N. Fourth St. parochial school. (Photo by DeFrancis)

Doors opened in August at parochial schools

STEUBENVILLE — Despite the seemingly endless hot, humid weather of the summer of 2016 in Ohio, it's nearly fall and students in parochial elementary, junior high and high schools in the Diocese of Steubenville are back in classrooms for a new school year.

At **St. John Central (Grade)** and **High School** students have returned to the original way education was offered in **Bellaire** when the parochial schools were founded in the 1800s – preschoolers through 12th-graders are being educated in the same building. This one is located at 3625 Guernsey St

Kim Leonard is principal of the schools, housed under one roof, recently replaced. Along with a new roof, updates have been made to the building to accommodate the early learners and the upperclassmen. The high school was constructed in 1949. Another section was added in 1963. Structural repairs have been made in recent years. The gymnasium is newly painted.

Preschoolers, kindergarten, first- and second-graders are housed on the first floor, other elementary students are learning on the second floor and high school classes are being taught on the third floor of the building.

St. John Central (Grade) School, which had been located across from the high school, was relocated to better provide Catholic education in that section of Belmont County, Paul D. Ward, director, Diocese of Steubenville, Office of Christian Formation and Schools, said.

During a meeting when the idea for the integration of the grade- and high-schoolers was introduced, Leonard said the move allows for a better utilization of staff and enables educators to look to the future with an enhanced curriculum. For example, college credits are offered to high school students in their Guernsey Street classrooms. The St. John Central students do not have to leave the building to obtain college credits at the same time they study toward their high school diploma. Cost of the college instruction is an additional \$42 per credit hour. For the fall semester, students are earning,

on average, 12 college credit hours, Leonard said.

Though football no longer is being fielded for freshmen through seniors at the parochial high school, some students are playing for their home public school districts, while receiving a Catholic education at St. John Central High School, Leonard explained. Meanwhile, St. John Central students, too, can play golf. High school girls can play volleyball. As temperatures cool and the seasons come into play, St. John Central will have boys' and girls' basketball teams on the courts. In addition, students can participate in bowling.

Students at the high school, too, can become involved in various clubs, such as the High Adventure Club in which the ninth- through 12th-graders participate in planned outdoor and indoor activities that develop them physically, mentally, socially and spiritually; Interact Club, sponsored by the Bridgeport Rotary, which offers students an opportunity for community service; Science Club, which promotes and cultivates an interest in science; and student council, which hosts activities to improve student life.

Students, too, have a chance to be involved in the arts through an annual Christmas cantata and spring follies.

Cost of tuition should not be a deterrent to enrolling at parochial schools in the diocese, Ward said, since scholarship monies – including dollars from the Immaculate Heart Fund – are available to qualifying families. The Immaculate Heart Fund was established in 2006 to provide tuition assistance to students in parish parochial schools in the diocese who have exhausted all other means of aid.

Requests for Immaculate Heart funds can come from each school in the diocese. For the 2016-17 school year, 110 awards were made from the Immaculate Heart Fund, totaling \$28,275, said David A. Franklin, diocesan comptroller.

Since its inception, individuals have supported the fund. A special collection for the Immaculate Heart Fund will be taken in parishes in the diocese Sept. 24-25, at the direction of Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton.

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Doors opened

From Page 1

At other parochial schools in Belmont County – St. Mary Central, Martins Ferry, and St. Mary Central, St. Clairsville, it was education, as usual, when doors swung open for students.

At St. Mary Central School, Martins **Ferry**, classes were in session, beginning Aug. 25, said Mary Carolyn Nichelson, principal. And, almost from the first day, she said, educators were putting into practice information gleaned from a project that deals with virtues that is being implemented through a grant from the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth, Kentucky. As part of the school's efforts at continuous improvement, a list of 52 virtues has been drawn, Nichelson explained, with the initial emphasis on patience, respect and self-discipline. The meaning of the virtues is learned. Then, the virtue is modeled by educators, identified in students and put into action, Nichelson said.

Emphasis continues, too, at the 24 N. Fourth St., Martins Ferry, school to improve grammar, spoken and written. As well, Nichelson said, overall standards in language arts, math, science, social studies and religion are being weighed.

The school's students are being served by a new speech therapist, Diane Riethmiller, on Wednesdays.

In **St. Clairsville**, at **St. Mary Central**, it was a quiet start to the new school year Aug. 24, said Nannette Kennedy, principal.

Since computers are so integral to students, iPads continue to be purchased to put more of them into the learners' hands. In grades five through eight, Kennedy said students are able to logon to 70 of the electronic devices. The iPads are used, occasionally, also, in the lower grades, she said. "We are staring to increase our iPad inventory to upgrade our technology in the school," Kennedy stressed.

As always, students at St. Mary Central will handle a number of service projects, including a schoolwide card-making effort.

Students in kindergarten through grade eight will make greeting cards for residents in the four nursing homes in the area for each month, not just special occasions, Kennedy said.

Also, a student art show and auction will be held in November and coats and tennis shoes donated in December. Service projects lined up are aligned with the school's motto – "St. Mary's Central – Faith, Knowledge, Service, Imagine the Possibilities," Kennedy said.

Though students were back at their desks Aug. 18 at **St. Benedict School**, **Cambridge**, excitement was created outside, since for the first time ever, kindergartners through fifth-graders have a playground, said Jane Rush, principal. The playground was constructed after donations from the community – including \$10,000 from Basic Systems Inc., Cambridge – parishioners and school families, Rush said.

Also, new to the 220 N. Seventh St. school is a security system on main doors to ensure the safety of students. "We are doing a lot to implement school safety," Rush added.

This year's theme at St. Benedict — "Blessed are the merciful for they will be shown mercy," from Matthew, Chapter 5, Verse 7, ties in with Pope Francis' declaration of the Year of Mercy, Rush said. Students at the Guernsey County school will become immersed in the spiritual works of mercy, as well as with Catholic social teaching on life and dignity of the human person, Rush explained.

A new club this year, STREAM – science, technology, religion, engineering, arts and math – has been started for fifth-through eighth-graders. It will provide hands-on activities, Rush said.

For the first time this year, St. Benedict will sponsor a Thanksgiving morning race on the Great Guernsey Trail, which runs from Cambridge to Lore City, as a fundraiser

Also new to the school this year is Kayla

Hanson, upper level English and language arts teacher.

Dozens of new students are walking the halls at **Bishop John King Mussio Central Elementary** and **Junior High School, Steubenville**, said Theresa Danaher, principal.

For lower grade students at the 100 Etta Ave. school, new instructors were in classrooms, too. New teachers include Katie Ice, Emily Kilonsky, Ashley Dudas and Kim Cheretko, and new teacher aides are Kasandra Chaney, Marie Coniker and Taylor Hawthorne. Nicki Herrmann is an intervention specialist and Shannon Foley is a special education aide. The school's new office manager is Jennifer LeFever. Also, on campus are Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus. The sisters are serving as campus ministers for the preschoolers through sixth-graders.

Another new to Bishop John King Mussio Central Elementary School are after-school programs, which include pubic speaking for second through sixth grade and a choral group for fifth and sixth grades.

At Bishop John King Mussio Central Junior High School, housed in a wing of Catholic Central High School, Steubenville, new includes a resource room.

Also, a full-time intervention specialist and two aides to work with special needs' students are in the junior high, Danaher said.

Junior high students will continue to

fund "Cynthia's Kitchen," named for a former Bishop John King Mussio Central Junior High School student, Danaher said. Fundraising began with a swim party. The kitchen in Liberia, through Mary's Meals, feeds 372 children each day.

Continuing, too, at the junior high are enriched educational experiences, which initially include classes in drama, finance, card construction, newspaper, band, evangelization and robotics.

Students, too, are beginning to think about their annual musical, Danaher said. This fall's presentation is "Godspell," directed by Marc Barnes.

Stream monitoring, a school retreat and a race, also, are being readied for, Danaher said.

Elementary and junior high students are operating under a common theme this year, Danaher said. It is from 1 Corinthians, Chapter 10, Verse 31: "Whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God."

As students walked the hallways at Catholic Central High School, they had to notice the excellent condition of the building. Rich Wilinski, principal, said among the maintenance done at the high school in Jefferson County was lighting. In cooperation with American Electric Power, new lighting has been installed that will result in a 47 percent savings on energy costs, Wilinski said.

Also, all classrooms are air-conditioned, now. This was especially noticeable, he
To Page 3

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"A Funeral Service For A Life Remembered"

Doors opened

From Page 2

said, because classroom instruction began on days when temperatures reached the 90s outside.

After a donation from the Class of 1965 and an anonymous donor, 30 new desks could be purchased and placed in classrooms, Wilinski added.

Whotever you do, do it all for the

Art work in the hallway, at Bishop John King

Mussio Central Elementary School, Steuben-

ville; created by teacher Paula Dulaney. (Photo

For the beautification of the outside of Catholic Central, an area lawn service, Bradley, donated landscaping.

The Catholic Central band is under new direction. The band director is Adam Boyd. "He got off to a good start with band camp and is getting the band ready for the marching season," Wilinski said.

Another new instructor at Catholic Central is Debbie Kovalesky. She is teaching Spanish.

In the southern end of the diocese, school opened Aug. 17. St. Lawrence Central, 315 S. Sixth

St., Ironton, and St. Joseph Central, 912 S. Sixth St., Ironton, students were back in classes, Chris Monte, assistant principal, said. St. Lawrence preschoolers were in classrooms in Lawrence County Sept. 6, he said.

provided)

As education continues at the elementary level, a new program has been added for readers, Monte explained. Project MORE - Mentoring in Ohio for Reading Excellence - provides one-on-one intervention by volunteers with students who need assistance with reading. The volunteers, from the school community, have been trained and come to St. Lawrence Central four days a week to work, in the beginning, with kindergarten, first- and second-graders, Monte explained.

New to St. Joseph Central High School, this year is a Science Club. The students will be involved in science projects and will help their peers with science and academic fairs, Monte said.

In Monroe County, St. Sylvester Central School, Woodsfield, students were in their seats Aug. 30, said Robyn C. Guiler, principal.

One of the first things students noticed when they walked into the 119 E. Wayne St. school was a newly repainted gymnasium that sported a replica on the wall of the school's mascot. The work could be done because of donations of money and time, especially from the local Knights of Columbus, and volunteers, who included school parents and student leaders, said Guiler.

The principal added that for security, doors were enhanced to allow staff to see out, but outsiders not to be able to see in the school.

And, she said, the learners in third and fourth grades began to study from new science books.

All the study is conducted under the idea of "Where Faith and Knowledge Meet," she said.

Washington County's hilltop parochial school - St. John Central, Churchtown – opened its doors Aug. 24 with new aid conditioning in the cafeteria and gymnasium. "It

The Knights of Columbus is proud CHOOSE General Agent 740-280-0280 LIFE INSURANCE DISABILITY INSURANCE LONG-TERM CARE RETIREMENT ANNUITIES made a huge difference these hot days," said Larry Moegling, principal.

Another new at the school is furniture in the math room that permits students to sit at tables and be able to use a book, paper and an electronic device. "It has added more

> room to work and has been very well received by the students," Moegling said.

Fifth- through eighthgrade math is being taught by Barbara Marquess, new to St. John Central. She, also, teaches at St. Mary School,

Another new teacher at St. John Central is Ken Huck. He is assisting Karen Pottmeyer with teaching religion in the upper grades, Moegling explained. Huck, too, will aid in the computer lab. An alumnus of St.

John Central School, Huck returned to Churchtown from Dayton, Ohio, as a retiree with a science and engineering background. He, also, is a radio commentator on Catholic Radio Maria.

The preschool associated with St. John Central underwent major renovation, Moegling said. An arts and crafts studio was added for the preschoolers. New preschool teacher is Maria Huffman, a St. John the Baptist, Churchtown, parishioner, mother of five and longtime educator.

St. Mary Central, Marietta, marked 120 years of Catholic education in Washington County Sept. 8. The celebration came shortly after the start of the 2016-17 school year, Aug. 17, said Susan T. Rauch, principal.

For the sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders at St. Mary's, the new year started with each student receiving a Surface Pro 3. Each student can use the tablet, which has downloaded textbooks on it, in class and for assignments, which can be sent directly to the teacher, Rauch explained. However, hard copies of books are available, too, for students not able to easily access the internet at home.

As students learn, they are doing so, too, with a focus on respect, said Rauch. "We want to show respect to others in the classroom and try to focus on respect to the environment and others in the community," she said. One service project undertaken by St. Mary students is to clean a walking trail in Marietta.

Throughout the year, Bishop Monforton will visit parochial schools in the diocese, teaching in classrooms and celebrating Masses with students. He, too, salutes Catholic education during a special Catholic Schools Week in April in the diocese.

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Bishop Monforton's Schedule

September

- 10 Outside work, with volunteers, Aquinas Catechetical Center, Steubenville, 9 a.m. Catholic Central High School, Steubenville, football game, 7 p.m.
- 11 Blue Mass, St. Peter Church, Steubenville, 10 a.m. Mass, Christ the King University Parish, Athens,
- 12 Mass, the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, 7:45 a.m. Dinner with Bishop Emeritus Gilbert I. Sheldon and Brothers of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Steubenville, 5 p.m.
- 13 St. Vincent Seminary Board of Regents meeting, Latrobe, Pennsylvania, 10:30 a.m. Franciscan University of Steubenville, 6 p.m.
- 14 School visit, St. John Central, Bellaire, 9 a.m. School Mass, St. John Church, Bellaire, 10:30 a.m. Presbyteral Council meeting, St. Mary Church, St. Clairsville, 12:30 p.m.
- 15 Mass, Holy Rosary Church, Steubenville, 8:30 a.m. Diocesan "Decree on Child Protection" workshop, St. Louis Church, Gallipolis, 6:30 p.m.
- 16 Mass, the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, 7:45 a.m. School visit, St. John Central School, Churchtown,
- 17 Marriage Enrichment Day Mass, the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, 11 a.m. Mass, St. Stephen Church, Caldwell, 5:30 p.m.
- 18 White Mass, Blessed Sacrament Church, Wintersville, 11 a.m. Picnic, permanent diaconate candidates, Steubenville, 5 p.m.
- "Misa con Hermanas," Mass with Spanish sisters, Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus, Steubenville, 8:30 a.m. Diocesan "Decree on Child Protection" workshop, St. Mary Church, Marian Hall, St. Clairsville, 6:30 p.m.
- Mass, Holy Rosary Church, Steubenville, 7 a.m. Luncheon, with staff, in celebration of Bishop Emeritus Gilbert I. Sheldon's 90th birthday, Steubenville, noon Franciscan University of Steubenville, 6 p.m.
- 24 Hiking, with Franciscan University of Steubenville students

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Elementary Schools

St. John Central School 350 37th St. Bellaire, OH 43906

Parishes: St. John, Bellaire; Sacred Heart, Neffs; St. Mary, Shadyside; and St. John Vianney, Powhatan Point

Founded: 1858

Size: preschool through grade eight, 110 students and 12 lay faculty

Special Programs: Internet accessible computer lab and classroom computers, Smart Board interactive learning, iPads for use by students, accelerated math for grades six and seven, upper-level math through St. John Central High School, Bellaire, student council, science fair, science lab, spelling bee, Tournament of Truth, speech services, psychological services and federal hot lunch program Athletics: Junior Irish football, track, volleyball, wrestling, boys' and girls' basketball, cheerleading and Irish Youth fifth-sixth grade intramurals

Principal: Kim Leonard

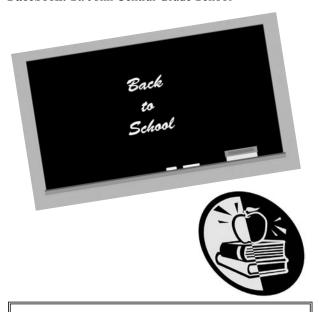
Local Education Advisory Council: Father Daniel Heusel, pastoral administrator, and Leonard, principal **Tuition:** parishioners – \$2,150 for one child; \$3,700 for two children; and \$4,650 for three children; nonparishioners – \$2,750 for one child; \$4,900 for two children; \$6,450 for three children

Financial Aid: Kremer Foundation, Immaculate Heart

Fund and parish assistance **Email:** kim.leonard@omeresa.net

Phone: (740) 676-4932 **Fax:** (740) 676-4934

Facebook: St. John Central Grade School



St. Lawrence Central School 315 S. Sixth St. Ironton, OH 45638

Parishes: St. Ann, Chesapeake; St. Lawrence O'Toole and St. Joseph, Ironton; and St. Mary Mission, Pine Grove

Founded: 1909

Size: prekindergarten-six, 130 students and 13 lay faculty **Special Programs:** book fair, math-a-thon, spelling bee, academic fair, geography bee, Right-to-Read Week, field day and field trips

Athletics: intramural boys' and girls' basketball and intramural soccer

Principal: Paul Mollett

Assistant Principal: Chris Monte

Local Education Advisory Council: Father David L. Huffman, pastoral administrator; Christi Bartram, Charles Heim, Chris Kline, Ralph Kline, John Turner and Andy Whaley

Tuition: \$2,520 Financial Aid: available Email: pmollett@stjoe.k12.oh.us

Phone: (740) 532-5052

Fax: (740) 532-5082

St. Benedict School 220 N. Seventh St. Cambridge, OH 43725

Parish: Christ Our Light, Cambridge

Founded: 1911

Size: kindergarten-eight, 96 students, 10 lay faculty and four religious

Special Programs: Title I, computer classes, physical education, speech and hearing services, physical and occupational therapy, music, band, summer library reading program, awards assemblies, field trips, spelling bee, student council, accelerated math and reading programs, Science Club and Spanish

Athletics: girls' volleyball and boys' and girls' basketball **Honors:** full accreditation by Ohio Catholic School Accrediting Association

Principal: Jane Rush

Local Education Advisory Council: Father Paul E. Hrezo, pastoral administrator; Rush, principal; Susanna Mascolino, Casey McVicker, Missy Nau, Adam Sikora, Andrew Stanberry and Susan Wright

Tuition: parishioners – \$1,850; nonparishioners – \$3,120 **Financial Aid:** Available through tuition assistance, Kremer Foundation, Immaculate Heart Fund, EdChoice Expansion, Leps scholarships and participation in the scrip program

Email: jane.rush@omeresa.net **Phone:** (740) 432-6751 **Fax:** (740) 432-4511

Website: www.stbenedictschool.weconnect.com

St. Mary School 320 Marion St. Marietta, OH 45750

Parish: The Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta

Founded: 1896

Size: Montessori preschool, prekindergarten-eight, 170 students, 12 full-time lay faculty, eight part time, one teacher aide, two priests, one part-time librarian, six part-time auxiliary and Title I staff

Special Programs: student council, DARE, band, hand bells, Accelerated Reader, Power of the Pen, spelling bee, Tournament of Truth, Math Counts, science fair, social studies fair, Northwestern University Midwest Talent Search for advanced academic students, talented and gifted program, Presidential Physical Fitness Award, altar servers, scholar and lector programs and student of the month

Honors: Archie Griffin Award and student of the month **Athletics:** basketball (boys and girls), track, golf, cross country, volleyball and cheerleading

Principal: Susan T. Rauch

Local Education Advisory Council: Msgr. John Michael Campbell, pastoral administrator; Father Thomas A. Nelson, parochial vicar to Msgr. Campbell; Rauch, principal; Jenny Altenburger, David Baker, Tammi Bradley, Brian Chavez, Sue Cisar, Tony Huffman, Lori Lutz, Ben Schenkel, Kerry Westermeyer and Carol Wharff

Tuition: parishioners – Montessori preschool, half day, \$2,680; prekindergarten through eighth grade, \$2,860, one child; \$5,215, two children; \$7,470, three children; \$9,600, four children, and \$11,680, five children; and nonparishioners – \$3,000 per child, Montessori preschool, half day, and \$5,000 per student, prekindergarten through eighth grade

Financial Aid: available to students whose parent(s) are contributing members of the parish and unable to pay full tuition

Email: susanrauch@stmaryscatholic.org

Phone: (740) 374-8181 **Fax:** (740) 374-8602

Website: www.stmarys.k12.oh.us

St. John Central School Churchtown

17654 Ohio Route 676, Marietta, OH 45750

Parishes: St. Bernard, Beverly; St. John the Baptist, Churchtown; St. Ambrose, Little Hocking; and Our Lady of Mercy, Lowell

Founded: 1956

Size: preschool, 27 students; kindergarten-eighth grade, 111 students, seven full-time and three part-time teachers, four priests, one administrative assistant, one part-time custodian and one part-time nurse

Special Programs: academic and science fairs; Accelerated Reader, computer technology class, service projects, Christmas and spring programs, spelling bee, Jump Rope for Heart, Relay for Life, math-a-thon, young engineers' and scientists' days and junior high trip to Washington, D.C., or Philadelphia/Gettysburg (alternating years)

Athletics: grades three-eight girls' and boys' basketball; cheerleading; track, golf, volleyball, cross country and interscholastic sports with sufficient interest

Principal: Larry Moegling

Local Education Advisory Council: Paul D. Ward, supervising administrator; Father Virgil L. Reischman, chaplain; Msgr. Robert J. Kawa, Father Robert A. Gallagher and Father Timothy J. Shannon

Tuition: parishioners – kindergarten-eight, one child, \$2,162; two, \$3,475; three, \$4,788; preschool, \$1,096; early learning, \$865; and nonparishioners – one child, \$3,447; two, \$6,821; three, \$10,293; preschool, \$1,096; early learning, \$865

Financial Aid: tuition assistance program available through scrip program

Email: larrymoegling@aol.com **Phone:** (740) 896-2697 **Fax:** (740) 896-2555

Website: www.stjohncentralschool.com

St. Mary Central School 24 N. Fourth St. Martins Ferry, OH 43935

Parishes: St. Mary, Martins Ferry; St. Anthony of Padua, and St. Joseph, Bridgeport; St. Frances Cabrini, Colerain; St. Adalbert, Dillonvale; St. Joseph, Tiltonsville; and St. Lucy, Yorkville

Founded: 1889

Size: prekindergarten-eight, 130 students, 10 lay faculty, two teacher aides and five priests

Special Programs: 3- and 4-year-olds preschool, Computer Club, student newspaper, Student Leadership Committee, life skills, Belmont County and Ohio state science fairs, Nature's Classroom, Scripps National Spelling Bee, NASA Space Program, Spanish, eighth-grade trip to Washington, D.C., and after-school care (2:15-5:15 p.m., Monday through Friday)

Athletics: grades five-eight girls' cheering, basketball and wallsthalls bases' healerthells, grades gaves night turing Irigh

Athletics: grades five-eight girls' cheering, basketball and volleyball; boys' basketball; grades seven-eight Junior Irish girls' cheerleading, volleyball, softball, basketball, cross country and track; Junior Irish boys' wrestling, basketball, track and cross country; and Irish Youth sports for grades five-six

Principal: Mary Carolyn Nichelson

Local Education Advisory Council: Father Thomas Marut, pastoral administrator, and two representatives from the seven parishes supporting the school

Tuition: parishioner, kindergarten-eight, \$1,900, one child; \$2,375, two children; \$2,900, three or more children; nonparishioner, kindergarten-eight, \$2,050, one child; \$2,525, two children; \$2,050, three or more children; preschool: 3-year-olds, \$750; 4-year-olds, \$900

Financial Aid: Adopt-a-Child, Kremer grant, Immaculate

Heart Fund, Jon Peterson and EdChoice **Email:** maryc.nichelson@omeresa.net

Phone: (740) 633-5424 **Fax:** (740) 633-5462

Website: www.smcmartinsferry.weebly.com

Facebook: SMC

Elementary Schools

St. Mary Central School 226 W. Main St. St. Clairsville, OH 43950

Parishes: St. Mary, St. Clairsville, and Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Barnesville

Founded: 1955

Size: kindergarten-eight, 142 students; preschool/prekindergarten, 23; 13 lay faculty, speech therapist, school psychologist, Title I tutoring, health aide and physical education and music classes

Special Programs: school Masses, faith celebrations, cantors and choir, student council, accelerated reading program, service and community projects and Washington, D.C., trip every other year for seventh- and eighth-graders **Athletics:** Irish Youth and Junior Irish sports – football, cross country, basketball, cheerleading, track, volleyball and wrestling

Principal: Nannette Kennedy

Local Education Advisory Council: Father Thomas A. Chillog, pastoral administrator; Doug Butts, Cynthia Fregiato, Tom Gallagher, Angel Glitch and Pam Shields **Tuition:** parishioners – \$2,575, one child; \$3,818, two children; \$4,750, three or more children; and nonparishioners – \$3,125, one child; \$4,418, two children; \$5,400, three or more children

Financial Aid: Immaculate Heart Fund, Knights of Columbus scholarships, EdChoice and by request to pastors and principal

Email: nannette.kennedy@omeresa.net

Phone: (740) 695-3189 **Fax:** (740) 695-3851

Website: www.stmaryscentral.com



Bishop John King Mussio Central Elementary School 100 Etta Ave. Steubenville, OH 43952

Parishes: Triumph of the Cross, Holy Family and St. Peter, Steubenville; St. Agnes, Mingo Junction; St. John Fisher, Richmond; St. Francis of Assisi and St. Joseph, Toronto; and Blessed Sacrament and Our Lady of Lourdes, Wintersville

Founded: July 1, 2008

Size: preschool-sixth grade, 382 students, 22 full-time lay faculty and two part-time faculty

Special Programs: 3- and 4-year-old preschool with half- and full-day options; band, music, computer, art, library and physical education classes, spelling bee, science fair, Tournament of Truth, Accelerated/Star Reading Program, Math Facts in a Flash, Title 1 – math and reading remediation, First in Math online program, after-school care, weekly celebration of Mass, daily prayer, psychological and health services, service learning projects, students JB Green Team, after-school resource program, art club and special needs students on Jon Peterson scholarship program

Athletics: grades five and six flag football, volleyball, basketball, softball and track and field and instructional basketball for grades three and four

Principal: Theresa Danaher

Local Education Advisory Council: Father James M. Dunfee, pastoral administrator; Danaher, principal, and a representative from each of the supporting parishes

Tuition: parishioners – \$2,250 for first child; \$1,750 for second child; \$1,350 for third child; fourth child, free if all children are in the elementary school; and nonparishioners – \$2,550 for one child; \$2,000 for second child; \$1,550 for third child; fourth, free if all children are in the elementary school; one-time family fee, \$100; new family registration fee, \$40; tuition family discounts available for families with children also attending Bishop John King Mussio Central Junior High School and/or Catholic Central High School

Financial Aid: tuition assistance available through the school, parishes, scholarships, Immaculate Heart Fund, scrip program and EdChoice

Email: tdanaher@bishopmussiojh.org

Phone: (740) 264-2550 **Fax:** (740) 266-2843

Website: www.bishopmussio.org

St. Sylvester Central School 119 E. Wayne St. Woodsfield, OH 43793

Parishes: St. Sylvester, Woodsfield; St. John the Baptist, Miltonsburg; and St. John Bosco Mission, Sardis

Founded: 1870

Size: preschool, 45 students; kindergarten-eight, 82 students, 11 lay faculty and two aides

Special Programs: spelling bee, yearbook, newspaper and all-day preschool

Athletics: boys' and girls' basketball and girls' volleyball

Principal: Robyn C. Guiler

Pastoral Administrator: Father David L. Gaydosik

Tuition: Catholic - \$2,000, one child; \$2,500, two children; \$2,800, three or more; and non-Catholic - \$2,800, one child; \$3,500, two children; \$4,000, three or more; preschool - two half days, \$120; three half days, \$180; two full days, \$200; three full days, \$300

Financial Aid: via Father Gaydosik, as needed, and all families eligible for \$250 in tuition deductions over the course of the year by working and donating for fundraisers **Email:** nsss_rguiler@seovec.org

Phone: (740) 472-0321 **Fax:** (740) 472-1994



Junior High

Bishop John King Mussio Central Junior High School 320 West View Suite 2 Steubenville, OH 43952

Parishes: Triumph of the Cross, Holy Family and St. Peter, Steubenville; St. Agnes, Mingo Junction; St. John Fisher, Richmond; St. Francis of Assisi and St. Joseph, Toronto; and Blessed Sacrament and Our Lady of Lourdes, Wintersville

Founded: 2008

Size: seventh through eighth grade, 110 students

Special Programs: band, choir, general music, Spanish instruction, weekly liturgy, Reach Out evangelization program, computer and art classes, First in Math online computer program, school newspaper, student council, weekly service to the local soup kitchen, community service projects, miniclasses taught by local community members in finance, law enforcement, chess, architecture,

medical careers, robotics, drama and French; science fair, art fair, spelling bee, geography bee, Tournament of Truth, Drama Club with annual school musical, algebra class at Catholic Central High School, Steubenville, students and staff raise funds to fully fund the school lunch program called "Cynthia's Kitchen" at St. Dominic School in Liberia in memory of a former Bishop John King Mussio Central Junior High School student Cynthia Phillipson; and special education for students with disabilities through the Jon Peterson scholarship program

Athletics: Junior Crusader volleyball, football, cheerleading, basketball, track, wrestling and softball

Principal: Theresa Danaher

Local Education Advisory Board: Father James M.

Dunfee, pastoral administrator, and representatives from parishes that support the school

Tuition: parishioners, \$2,550; out of parish, \$2,735; family fee, \$100

Financial Aid: through the Diocese of Steubenvilleestablished Immaculate Heart Fund and through scholarships from the Kremer Foundation, Msgr. Paul L. Richter, eighth-grade class, Knights of Columbus and Humienny Scholarship

Email: tdanaher@bishopmussiojh.org; santinone@bishopmussiojh.org

Phone: (740) 346-0028 **Fax:** (740) 346-0070

Website: www.bishopmussiojh.org

St. John Paul II Jesus Is Lord

By Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Emeritus Gilbert I. Sheldon

St. Peter, on the feast of Pentecost following the resurrection of Jesus, said to the crowds: "Let all the house of Israel therefore know assuredly that God has made him both Lord and Christ (i.e., Messiah) this Jesus whom you crucified" (Acts 2:36). Peter and the apostles had received earlier the Holy Spirit, sent by Jesus as he predicted. Through the Spirit they now understood that Jesus – as man – shared the authority and power of God himself! The Holy Spirit apparently influenced the crowd as well, because some 5,000 accepted baptism at the hands of the disciples in the ensuing days (Acts 4:4).

St. John Paul says: "The awareness that he (Jesus) was 'the lord' had already ... entered the minds of the apostles dur-

... Jesus - as man - shared the authority

and power of God himself!

ing Christ's pre-paschal activity."
"Lord" became the customary appellation for Jesus throughout the early Christian communities. This comes as no surprise since, as early as the birth of Jesus, the

angels announced to the shepherds, "There is born to you ... a savior who is Messiah and lord" (Lk 2:11). St. Paul, writing even before the Gospels were written, reflected this usage oftentimes in his letters, e.g., "Indeed, even though there are so-called gods in heaven and on earth ... yet, for us, there is one God, the Father, from who all things are and for whom they exist, and one lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things are and through whom we exist" (1Cor 8:5-6).

John Paul explains: "Jesus Christ is lord because he possesses 'the fullness of power' in heaven and on earth. It is kingly power 'far above all principalities, authorities, powers and dominions and every name that is named. ... And he put all things under his feet and has given him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of the one who fills all things in every way" (Eph 1:21-23). "Principalities, authorities, powers and dominions" are classifications of angels, based on refer-

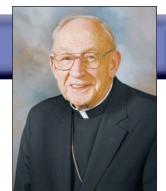
ences in sacred Scripture. The point St. Paul was making is that Jesus – in his humanity – is superior in power and authority even to these pure spirits. In addition, he speaks of Jesus as "head of the church." This expresses *spiritual* authority, authority that Jesus himself foretold when, at the Last Supper, he promised that he would soon send the Holy Spirit upon them (Jn 16:7). The dispensing of the Holy Spirit and his gifts is a *priestly* power as well, since a priest is one who mediates between man and God. As "head of the church," we see reference to the *mystical body*, the unseen reality of the church as the body of Christ, of which Jesus is the head and we the members.

Quite obviously, the title "lord" always was applicable to Jesus as Son of God, equal in nature to the Father as the second person of the blessed Trinity. But the fulfillment of his mission as God-Man, the redeemer of mankind, one

who reversed the effects of sin, both original and personal, makes us all beholding to him in ways infinitely beyond our capacity. As such, he is our "Lord," beyond question. In the words of John

Paul, "The redemption is the source of the authority which Christ, through the Holy Spirit, exercises over the church." This lordship of Jesus is summarized by St. Paul in a classic passage: "For just as in Adam, all men die, so, too, in Christ shall all be brought to life ... Jesus the first fruits; then ... those who belong to Christ; then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to his God and Father. ... For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death, for he has subjected everything under his feet. ... When everything has been subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subjected to the one who subjected everything to him, so that God may be all in all" (1 Cor 15: 22-28). St. Paul speaks here of the culmination of Christ's mission, of the era of the church, and of the end of time itself. Under the lordship of Jesus, all things will be returned to the Father to return to the state in which they were intended to be at the time of creation.

This is a vision of the triumph of Jesus Christ over all creation: the final state of things. It is taken up in the Second Vatican Council in its "Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Mod-



Bishop Sheldon

ern World" ("Gaudium et Spes"): "The Lord is the goal of human history, the focal point of the longings of human history and civilization, the center of the human race, the joy of every heart and the answer to all its yearnings" (Paragraph 45). The pope elaborates: "We can summarize this by saying that Christ is the lord of history. In him the history of man, and it may be said, of all creation, finds its fulfillment." He goes on to say: "Finally, we must add that Christ is the lord of eternal life. It is he who shall come to judge the living and the dead in the last judgment. ... The full right to judge definitively human actions and consciences belongs to Christ as redeemer of the world. ... The Son, however, did not come precisely to judge, but to

The Son, however, did not come precisely to judge, but to save; to bestow the divine life that is in him. ... Christ who is therefore the lord of eternal life, towers above the world and above history as a sign of infinite love surrounded with glory, but desirous to receive from every man a reply of love in order to grant him eternal life."

This brings to a close Pope John Paul II's series of

This brings to a close Pope John Paul II's series of reflections on "Jesus Christ, Son and Savior," which he delivered from Aug. 27, 1986, to April 19, 1989, during his general audiences. His talks were a catechesis on the creed. Our next article will begin the continuation of these talks in a series on the Holy Spirit, the next article of the creed entitled "The Spirit, Giver of Life and Love."

God's Nature - Exuberance or the Cross?

By Father Ron Rolheiser

It's funny where you can learn a lesson and catch a glimpse of the divine. Recently, in a grocery store, I witnessed this incident:

A young girl, probably around 16 years of age, along with two other girls her own age, came into the store. She picked up a grocery basket and began to walk down the aisle, not knowing that a second basket was stuck onto the one she was carrying. At a point the inevitable happened, the basket stuck to hers released and crashed to the floor with a loud bang, startling her and all of us around her. What was her reaction? She burst into laughter, exuding a joy-filled delight at being so startled. For her the surprise of the falling basket was not an irritation but a gift, an unexpected humor happily fracturing dram routine.

If that had happened to me, given how I'm habitually in a hurry and easily irritated by anything that disrupts my agenda, I would probably have responded with a silent expletive rather than with laughter. Which made me think: Here's a young girl who probably isn't going to church and probably isn't much concerned about matters of faith, but who, in this moment, is wonderfully radiating the energy of God, while, me, a vowed religious, over-serious priest, church minister and spiritual writer, in such a moment, too often radiates the antithesis of God's energy, irritation.

But is this true? Does God really burst into laughter at falling grocery baskets? Doesn't God ever get irritated? What's God's real nature?

God is the unconditional love and forgiveness that Jesus

reveals, but God is also the energy that lies at the base of everything that is. And that energy, as is evident in both creation and Scripture, is, at its root, creative, prodigal, robust, joy-filled, playful and exuberant. If you want to know what God is like look at the natural exuberance of children, look at the exuberance of a young puppy, look at the robust, playful energy of young people, and look at the spontaneous laughter of a 16-year-old when she is startled by a falling basket. And to see God's prodigal character, we might look at billions and billions of planets that surround us. The energy of God is prodigal and exuberant.

Then what about the cross? Doesn't it, more than anything else, reveal God's nature? Isn't it what shows us God? Isn't suffering the innate and necessary route to maturity and sanctity? So isn't there a contradiction between what Jesus reveals about the nature of God in his crucifixion and what Scripture and nature reveal about God's exuberance?

While there's clearly a paradox here, there's no contradiction. First, the tension we see between the cross and exuberance is already seen in the person and teachings of Jesus. Jesus scandalized his contemporaries in opposite ways: He scandalized them in his capacity to willingly give up his life and the things of this world, even as he scandalized them equally with his capacity to enjoy life and drink in its God-given pleasures. His contemporaries weren't able to walk with him while he carried the cross and they weren't able to walk with him either as he ate and drank without guilt and felt only gift and gratitude when a woman anointed his feet with expensive perfume.

Moreover, the joy and exuberance that lie at the root

of God's nature are not to be confused with the bravado we crank up at parties, carnival, and Mardi Gras. What's experienced there is





Father Rolheiser

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Bishop Reflects - On Saint, Schools and Shepherding

By Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton

"Blessed are the merciful for they will be shown mercy" (Mt 5:7)

St. Teresa of Calcutta

Just last month I used the same quote from the Beatitudes to introduce my article. History repeats itself for this verse from Sacred Scripture underscores the life of St. Teresa, as she began her ministry to the poor and sick 70 years ago. Her life was a living testimony to Jesus' invitation to share God's mercy and compassion without reservation.

As a seminarian 26 years ago, I had the opportunity to serve at the San Gregorio shelter, an apostolate of Missionaries of Charity. More than once I had the chance to visit with our newly declared saint, and she even signed my Lent and Easter breviary (also known as the Divine Office or Liturgy of the Hours). While petite in height, St. Teresa stood head and shoulders above everyone whenever she entered a room.

St. Teresa lived what she taught, and her mercy was contagious with anyone whom she encountered. She gave value to the lives of those that society had discarded or the culture of death asserted had little or no value.

This Pulitzer Peace Prize (1979) recipient even spoke at the United States National Prayer Breakfast in 1994. I encourage you to read her Peace Prize and Prayer Breakfast addresses or watch them online, especially as you and I determine how we will vote in two months. ... Her integrity is a model for all.

Back to School

The smiles from parents this time of year reminds me that the school year has begun. Please pray for all students, faculty and staff, as they embark on a new school year. May all exemplify the mercy and compassion of our newly declared saint.

Last year, I devoted much of my pastoral outreach to the nursing homes and care centers in our diocese, and so had less time to visit our Catholic schools. Hopefully, I will balance a little more time to visit the schools as I venture the 5,910 square miles of the Steubenville Diocese.

The primary role of our Catholic schools is to share Jesus. Everything else follows, from literature to science, as our students grow in the complementary disciplines of faith and reason. Even the area of sports is a learning tool, as the participants are reminded it's not all about a single individual, but the focus is on fairness and the coordinated effort of the entire team.

Four Years

This time four years ago I was ordained and installed as your bishop. I give thanks to God for allowing me to



Bishop Monforton

serve you as your shepherd, to bring you Jesus and to bring you to Jesus.

I, also, thank you for your prayers and for your patience. By now we have learned much about each other on our common journey with the Lord Jesus. In the midst of our pilgrimage may we be constantly attentive to the supernatural gifts of the theological and cardinal virtues God has given us. May these gifts continue to shape us, so that we may better reflect the holy life of St. Teresa of Calcutta.

God bless you and your family in this extraordinary Ordinary Time.

Pope Francis and the Scriptural Underpinnings in 'Laudato Si" for the Care of Creation

By Eric J. Fitch

Pope Francis throughout "Laudato Si" gives the Scriptural underpinning for the doctrinal teaching found in this encyclical. This is especially true in Chapter 2, "The Gospel of Creation," where he makes the case of the duty for stewardship of the natural world. He starts in the Book of Genesis wherein is found the two stories of the creation of the world and man. Not only does God deliberately call his works good at the end of the days of creation, after the final day in which man and ultimately woman is created he proclaims it all is very good! Each person is not a thing, but someone created out of God's love in his image and likeness. Before the Fall, man and nature were in harmony. Sin distorted this relationship – ruptured the concept of care and stewardship into one of dominion. That the Earth is the Lord's and continues to be so seemed to have been forgotten even though God grants dominion over the Earth in Genesis, Chapter 1, Verse 28. It is clarified in Genesis, Chapter 2, Verse 15, where God instructs man to "till and keep." These dual orders are important in that "tilling" fits what became the dominant paradigm in that we cultivated, ploughed, worked the land to raise our crops, to graze our livestock, to grow other plants and animals to meet our material needs. We seemed to forget the "keep" part of the instructions, the stewardship, conservation, preservation, caring and protection of God's creation. St. Francis of Assisi is pointed to by Pope Francis as a model for reconciling the relationship between humans and the rest of God's creation.

To further emphasize the proper relationship between God, man and the rest of creation, Pope Francis refers to other parts of the Hebrew Scriptures. For example, the beginning of Psalm 24 reads: "The earth is the Lord's." In Deuteronomy, Chapter 10, Verse 14, we are reminded that "the earth and all that is within it" are the Lord's. Perhaps, most importantly, he points the reader to Leviticus, Chapter 25, Verse 23, where the author points out that: "The land shall not be sold in perpetuity, for the land is mine; for you are strangers and sojourners with me." The importance of this comes further home when one examines the rest of Chapter 25. The first seven verses are God's instructions to his people via Moses of the sabbatical year; basically that as God has declared one day per week of rest for man, the Sabbath, that every seven years shall be considered a sabbatical year where the land is allowed to rest. People, livestock and wild animals all should be allowed to eat of what is produced without cultivation, pruning and the like. Verses 8 through Verses 22 teach of the jubilee years. Every seven times seven plus one equals 50 years shall be declared a jubilee, where not only the rules of the sabbatical apply, but land is redistributed back via the tribes of Israel. Even land sales must take in to account the number of years to the jubilee and discount its ownership value. People can in this model own land only for a time and during that they must respect the gift of its use from God. We can use what we need but not overuse and destroy the capacity of nature to support us without permanent damage. It also should be protected from harm from man for its own self. In some ways, this is very much an early formation of how what is today called sustainability.

Moving forward through the Scriptures, people are reminded of these essential truths and relationships. Humans must respect nature and its delicate balances. In Psalm 29, Pope Francis draws upon this description of that relationship: "He commanded and they were created:

and he established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds and he set a law which cannot pass away." This is God's creation. It should not be used destructively. It should not be used greedily. It should be



Eric Fitch

conserved and preserved as an undiminished heritage for future generations and itself. We are in relationships with all of creation; in Deuteronomy, Moses recounts and Aaron writes how you should not stand by when your brother's donkey or ox has fallen. You should go, you should help. If you come upon a bird setting on her nest hatching her young, leave her. Don't take her from her young. Respect and support your fellow creatures; don't needlessly exploit and destroy. In the Psalms we are constantly reminded of the goodness of the earth, that it is ultimately the Lords and that we are but sojourners within it.

In the story of Cain and Abel, Pope Francis points out that the sin of Cain was not just a vile breaking of the relationship with his brother and neighbor but with the earth as well. In the story of Noah and the Ark, we are shown that even when God becomes frustrated with the sin of mankind, the renewal of creation including mankind is embedded within his promise. Time and again in the Psalms

To Page 9

High Schools

St. John Central High School 3625 Guernsey St. Bellaire, OH 43906

Founded: 1886; current school building built in 1949 Size: grades nine-12, 40 students, 11 lay faculty

Curriculum: honors program, college preparatory and college credit plus education courses held on campus for qualifying students in ninth through 12th grades

Athletics: volleyball, golf, basketball (boys and girls), cheerleading, bowling (boys and girls), baseball, softball and track (boys and girls)

Activities: music ministry, yearbook, Science Club, Spanish Club, Adventure Club, student council, National Honor Society, Interact Club, Militia Immaculata and Sociedad de Honoraria

Principal: Kim Leonard

Local Education Advisory Council: Father Timothy P. McGuire, pastoral administrator, and Leonard, principal Chaplain: Father Edward A. Maxfield Jr.

Tuition: parishioners – \$3,600; nonparticipating – \$4,200; discounts for multiple students in a family

Financial Aid: substantial aid available to families qualify-

ing on an objective need basis Email: kim.leonard@omeresa.net **Phone:** (740) 676-4932

Fax: (740) 676-4934

Facebook: www.facebook.com/St.JohnCentral Twitter: https://twitter.com/stjohncentral





St. Joseph Central High School 912 S. Sixth St. Ironton, OH 45638

Founded: 1924

Size: grades seven-12, 103 students and 13 lay faculty Curriculum: college preparatory and general courses Athletics: soccer, volleyball, basketball, softball and

Activities: National Honor Society, Junior National Honor Society, annual variety show, student council, Mock Trial, Math Club, Science Club, Quiz Bowl, academic fair, SCORES academic competition, Search retreat and community service

Achievements: Governor's Award for Teaching Excellence, district science fair and state science fair

Principal: Paul Mollett

Assistant Principal: Chris Monte

Local Education Advisory Council: Father David L. Huffman, pastoral administrator; Christi Bartram, Charles Heim, Chris Kline, Ralph Kline, John Turner and Andy Whaley

Tuition: \$2,710 Financial Aid: available Email: pmollett@stjoe.k12.oh.us **Phone:** (740) 532-0485

Fax: (740) 532-3699



Catholic Central High School 320 West View Suite 1 Steubenville, OH 43952

Founded: 1889 as Holy Name High School; became Catholic Central in 1930; new building in 1950

Size: grades nine-12; 253 students; 19 lay faculty and chaplain

Curriculum: college courses through Franciscan University of Steubenville and Eastern Gateway Community College, Steubenville, College Credit Plus, accelerated college preparatory, advanced placement classes and selected business and vocational

Athletics: football, boys' and girls' basketball, boys' and girls' soccer, volleyball, softball, golf, baseball, track, wrestling and swimming

Activities: band, Royalettes, cheerleading, student council, Key Club, National Honor Society, Foreign Language Club, pontifical servers, yearbook, Catholic Daughters Club, Pep Club, Junior Varsity Pep Club, Students Against Destructive Decisions, academic competition team, Drama Club, spring musical and Show Choir

Service Requirement: 15 hours of service per student

per year

Principal: Rich Wilinski

Guidance Counselors/Curriculum: Dolores B. Michno-

wicz and Jude Lucas

Pastoral Administrator: Father Thomas R. Nau

Chaplain: Father Michael W. Gossett

Tuition: parishioners – \$3,800; reduction for additional

Financial Aid: available each spring for the following

year when need is demonstrated

Email: rwilinski@steubenvillecatholiccentral.org

Phone: (740) 264-5538 Fax: (740) 264-5443

Website: www.steubenvillecatholiccentral.org



Men studying for diocesan priesthood in classes

STEUBENVILLE — Men, studying for ordination to the priesthood for the Diocese of Steubenville, are in classrooms in Columbus, Ohio, Detroit or Rome, said Father Michael W. Gossett, director, vocations, Diocese of Steubenville.

Nicholas Ginnetti, who began study in Rome in 2015, continues instruction at the Pontifical North American College. Ginnetti of Kimbolton received a degree in philosophy and humanities from the Pontifical College Josephinum, Columbus, prior to traveling to Italy to continue to prepare for ordination to the priesthood for the diocese.

Furthering their studies at Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Detroit, are Joshua Erickson of Toronto and Jeremiah Hahn of Steubenville. Erickson is in third theology, while Hahn is in first theology.

Also beginning study at Sacred Heart Major Seminary is Andres Chivel of Argentina. Previously, Chivel was enrolled at the Josephinum. He spent the summer serving

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Chillog is pastor. Erickson was assigned for the summer to St. Ambrose Parish, Little Hocking, where Father Robert A. Gallagher is pastor. Nicholas Ward of Steubenville is studying for ordina-

at St. Mary Parish, St. Clairsville, where Father Thomas A.

tion to the priesthood for the Steubenville Diocese at the Pontifical College Josephinum. Ward graduated from the Josephinum in May with a bachelor's degree and continues as a first theology student this fall. Ward spent the summer at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption. He was assigned to serve there under the direction of Msgr. John Michael Campbell, rector.

New to study for the priesthood for the diocese is Wil Crow of Athens, first pretheology, Josephinum, and Peter Stetson of Steubenville, first college, Josephinum.

Brandon Foster of Malvern is serving a ministerial year at St. Agnes Parish, Mingo Junction, where Father James M. Dunfee is pastor.

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Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton installs Father Mark A. Moore, left, as pastor of Sacred Heart Parish. Father Moore also serves as pastor of Christ the King University Parish and St. Paul Parish, both in Athens. During the Aug. 27 installation at the church in Pomeroy, Father Thomas A. Nelson, center, parochial vicar to Msgr. John Michael Campbell, rector of the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption in Marietta, concelebrated. Fathers Moore and Nelson are both from the same hometown, Ironton. Andrew and Stephen Brown, Jacob Hoback and Michael Martin (three of whom are partially visible in background) were altar servers at the Mass, at which Father Moore said he was humbled by the attendance. "It falls into your hands to be church," he said. (Photo by DeFrancis)

Letter to the Editor

In his "Ask the Bishop" (Aug. 26 Steubenville Register), Bishop Monforton said that many issues surround the present political arena and several should be taken most seriously and guide the voter's conscience. He listed first, respect for the lives of unborn children.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, in their "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship," cite Pope John Paul II who reiterates many times that every Catholic has a grave and clear obligation to oppose any law that attacks human life and to not vote for those who promote them.

Your vote is your authorization for those you help elect to legislate as they please. You therefore are complicit in whatever they do.

It is serious sin to vote for those who are pro-choice.

Don Krahel St. Clairsville

God's Nature

From Page 6

not actual delight but, instead, a numbing of the brain and senses induced by frenzied excess. This doesn't radiate the exuberance of God, nor indeed does it radiate the powerful exuberance that sits inside us, waiting to burst forth. Carnival is mostly an attempt to keep depression at bay. As Charles Taylor astutely points out, we invented carnival because our natural exuberance doesn't find enough outlets within our daily lives, so we ritualize certain occasions and seasons where we can, for a time, imprison our rationality and release our exuberance, as one would free a caged animal. But that, while serving as a certain release-valve, is not the ideal way to release our natural exuberance.

When I was a child, my parents would often warn me about false exuberance, the exuberance of wild partying, false laughter and carnival. They had this little axiom: *After the laughter, come the tears*! They were right, but only as this applies to the

kind of laugher that we tend to crank up at parties to keep depression at bay. The cross however reverses my parents' axiom and says this: After the tears, comes the laughter! Only after the cross is our joy genuine. Only after the cross will our exuberance express the genuine delight we once felt when we were little, and only then will our exuberance truly radiate the energy of God

Jesus promises us that if we take up his cross, God will reward us with an exuberance that no one can ever take from us.

Father Rolheiser is a Missionary Oblate of Mary Immaculate priest. He is president of the Oblate School of Theology, San Antonio. In addition, Father Rolheiser is a lecturer, retreat master, widely circulated newspaper columnist and author of numerous books. More information on Father Rolheiser can be found on his website: www.ronrolheiser.com.

Pope Francis

From Page 7

humans are called upon to praise both God the Creator and his creation.

Both the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures demythologized nature. Only God is divine, but neither did they reduce nature/ creation to anything less than wonderful, even miraculous. The Scriptural foundation for the imperative of treating nature as the creation of the God who entrusted it to man for both his use and his stewardship is firmly established in "On Care for our Common Home." There is a mandate from God to use this wonderful creation to meet our needs, and especially for the poor. This is compatible with marshaling a call to duty to better protect nature against abuse of those gifts through an anthropocentric worldview and the resultant destruction of nature and our fellow creations.

Pope Francis continues on in Chapter 2 moving into the Christian Scriptures to emphasize the fundamental options for the poor in the context of the word of Christ. Jesus regularly used images of nature to teach about how our relationships with both his Father and with our fellow humans should be. But even within this, he re-emphasizes that the earth is the Lord's. Those who exploited the earth for wealth and power at the expense of the poor and sick are on the wrong side. In Matthew, Chapter 11, Verse 25, we hear Jesus emphasize that God is his Father and the Father of all creation. In Luke, Chapter 12, he speaks

of five sparrows that will sell for two pennies, but not beneath the notice and care of the Father. Pope Francis skillfully draws upon the Gospels, epistles and Revelation to explain how God through Jesus redeems not only man, but lifts nature up again to its proper role. The natural world is God's gift to man to provide for our sustenance, but there also is intrinsically tied with this gift of creation the charge to us to steward it and all his creation. How long? It will be to the end of the world, where all will be renewed and redeemed in a new heaven and new earth.

Fitch is an associate professor of environmental science and leadership, and director of the environmental science program at Marietta (Ohio) College. He has a bachelor's in biology from St. Meinrad (Indiana) College; master's in environmental science, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, and Ph.D., resource development (specialization in environmental policy and law and public policy), Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan. A parishioner at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, Fitch is a member of the Diocese of Steubenville Task Force, formed in response to "Laudato Si": On Care for Our Common Home." His column is a continuation of ones that task force members began writing earlier this year for The Steubenville Register.

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Annual Fall Card Party

Sponsored by Triumph of the Cross Parish CWC



SUNDAY, SEPT. 18

HOLY ROSARY CHURCH AUDITORIUM 100 ETTA AVE., STEUBENVILLE

Doors open at 1 p.m.; lunch served at 2 p.m. Cards, bingo, raffles and prizes Cost, \$7































Athens — Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults classes, for anyone interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, will be held at 7 p.m., Mondays, beginning Sept. 12, at 7 p.m., at Holy Family Center, located at Christ the King University Parish. For additional information, telephone (740) 707-7417 or email ohionadia@aol.com.

Barnesville — Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish will participate in the annual pumpkin festival, which is held on the downtown streets of Barnesville. Chicken, chicken salad, tuna salad, hamburgers, hot dogs, vegetable soup, chili, soup beans, cornbread, rolls, homemade noodles, salads, pies and drinks will be sold Sept. 23 and Sept. 24, from 11 a.m.-7 p.m., in the church hall; tuna salad will not be sold Sept. 24. Chicken or roast beef with mashed potatoes, homemade noodles, corn and green beans, cole slaw, pie or cake and beverages will be sold Sept. 25, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. There will also be a raffle at the event.

Caldwell — Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults classes, for anyone interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, will be held Wednesdays, at 6:30 p.m., at St. Stephen Church, in the annex. For additional information, telephone (740) 732-4129.

Cambridge — A Mass of anointing will be celebrated at 2:30 p.m., Sept. 25, at St. Benedict Church social hall. The Mass is for those in need of physical, mental, spiritual, psychological or emotional healing or for those weakened by age, facing surgery, or with a life-threatening illness. If transportation is needed, telephone (740) 432-5853 or (740) 432-7609. A reception will follow.

Cambridge — St. Benedict School will sponsor a fundraiser magazine sale through Sept. 15. Magazines can be purchased or renewed at www. gaschoolstore.com; enter school ID 2652964. For additional information, telephone the school office at (740) 432-6751.

Glouster — Holy Cross CWC will hold a bake sale Sept. 11, following the celebration of the 9 a.m. Mass, in the church hall.

A Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults inquiry night, for anyone interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, will be held Sept. 14, following the celebration of the 6:30 p.m. Mass, at 7:15 p.m., at Holy Cross Church.

Ironton — Mass will be celebrated at noon, Sundays, at St. Lawrence O'Toole Church.

The Ironton Catholic community CWC will hold a fall rummage sale from 9 a.m.-noon, Oct. 1, in St. Joseph Church undercroft.

Lore City — A 10-week DVD "Catholicism" series class, presented by Archdiocese of Los Angeles Auxiliary Bishop Robert Barron, who is a lecturer, retreat master and author of numerous books, will begin at 6:30 p.m., Sept. 19, at Sts. Peter and Paul Oratory.

Malvern/Minerva — St. Francis Xavier Parish, Malvern, and St. Gabriel Parish, Minerva, will host a "Sept. 11 Day of Remembrance" at 7 p.m., Sept. 11, at St. Gabriel Church. Active and retired first responders and military personnel can attend the evening of prayer and music, which will feature bagpipes; uniforms are encouraged. An ice cream social will follow in the church hall.

Marietta — Visitation Deanery Diocesan Council of Catholic Women will meet at 2 p.m., Sept. 18, at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption. Installation of officers will take place that day.

Marietta — St. Mary School will hold a fall festival Sept. 30, Oct. 1 and Oct. 2 at the Msgr. Kakascik Parish Center at the school, 320 Marion St. Activities will begin at 7 p.m., Sept. 30, with an adult evening consisting of food and fundraising. Tickets, which cost \$40, are valid for two people, and can be purchased at the school office. A live auction will also be held that evening, beginning at 8:30 p.m. Super bingo will be held Oct. 1, beginning at 5 p.m.; a free dinner will be provided prior to playing. Oct. 2 will feature a chicken dinner sponsored by



Triumph of the Cross Parish Catholic Woman's Club annual fall card party will be held Sept. 18 announce, seated from the left, Pat Arruda, Mickie Sellaroli, Mary Alice Hinerman and Mary Ann Bushlow, and Jeanne D'Anniballe, standing left, and Nancy Schreck, standing right. The card party begins at 2 p.m. at Holy Rosary Church auditorium, 100 Etta Ave., Steubenville. However, doors will open at 1 p.m. to the auditorium. During the event, lunch will be served, cards played, bingo called, raffles held, prizes awarded and baked goods sold, the members of the Steubenville-based CWC said. Admission to the card party is \$7. (Photo by DeFrancis)

the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption CWC. Cost of the dinner is \$9 for adults; \$6, for children 12 years of age and under; free, for children 2 years of age and under. There will also be a country store, silent auction and raffle drawings, from 1-5 p.m. that day. For additional information, telephone the school office at (740) 374-8181.

Minerva — A Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults inquiry session will be held at 7 p.m., Sept. 14, at St. Gabriel Church. For additional information, telephone the parish office at (330) 868-4498.

Pomeroy — Mass will be celebrated in Spanish at 6:30 p.m., Sept. 11, at Sacred Heart Church. A meal will follow in the church undercroft.

St. Clairsville — Friday morning Bible study will meet from 9:30-11:30 a.m., beginning Sept. 9, in St. Mary Parish offices. The topic of discussion will be "Base of Western Society – The Law." For additional information, call Uli Heiby at (740) 695-5501.

Beginning Sept. 14, St. Mary Parish will have a weekly evening Bible study on the Letters of St. Paul. The sessions will begin at 6:30 p.m.,in the parish offices. For additional information, telephone Michael Zabrecky at (740) 695-9993.

Steubenville — "The Bible and the Virgin Mary"

Scripture study series will begin Sept. 12 in the Marian Room at Holy Rosary Church. Classes will be held once a month, Mondays, for 10 months. Materials will be provided; registration is required by contacting Toni Hendricks at (740) 278-7131 or toni.k.hendricks@gmail.com.

A 24-week adult faith formation Scripture Bible study will begin Sept. 19 at Holy Rosary Church, in the Marian Room. The group will discuss "Matthew: The King and His Kingdom." Classes will be held every two weeks, from 6:30-8 p.m. For additional information or to order a book, telephone June Baker at (740) 381-5451 or Ascension Press, (800) 376-0520.

Wintersville — Our Lady of Lourdes CWC will participate in a bake sale Sept. 14 in front of Diamond Drug Pharmacy, 503 Cadiz Road. It coincides with the health fair being held at the pharmacy that day. The event will begin at 10 a.m. Nut rolls will be available for purchase.

The Blessed Sacrament Men's Club will sponsor a bus trip to the NFL Hall of Fame Oct. 15. Cost of \$69 includes bus, tip and admission fee. A \$20 deposit is due as soon as possible, with the balance due by Oct. 1. For additional information, telephone (740) 512-8706 or (304) 232-3367.

Around and About

Belmont — A Patriot's Day gathering will be held at 11 a.m., Sept. 10, at Union Local High School, 66779 Belmont Morristown Road, to honor military, law enforcement, fire and rescue, paramedics and those serving in active duty, retired, veterans, the fallen and families of those in public service.

Carrollton — Knights of Columbus Our Lady of Carroll County Council 15401 will join with the Columbiana County Chapter Knights of Columbus councils to host a benefit for St. John's Villa. The Oct. 1 event will combine the Villa "Holy Cow Team Challenge" with the kickoff of the K of C Council 15401 annual square dance. The challenge will begin at 6 p.m., at St. John's Villa Restaurant, 701 Crest St., where each eight-person team will have one hour to eat nine-and-a-half pounds of food; the square dance will follow. Music will be provided by Dan Kirk. Cost is \$15 per person for the "Holy Cow Team Challenge" and square dance, or \$5 for

the dance only, which will be held from 7-10 p.m. All proceeds will benefit St. John's Villa. For additional information or reservations, prior to Sept. 16, contact Joe McKarns at (330) 424-8165 or email firekernaljoe@yahoo.com; or Mike Maiorca, (330) 738-2114 or email mikeandjoyce@myfrontiermail. com.

Gallipolis — Breakfast, prepared by Knights of Columbus Council 3335, will be available following the celebration of the 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Masses at St. Louis Church, in Lourdes Hall.

Steubenville — The Franciscan University of Steubenville women's volleyball team will host an annual "Dig Pink Day" Sept. 10, to support breast cancer research. Admission is \$5 for adults; \$2 for students and senior citizens. Attendees can participate in a high school serving contest for \$1 per person between the 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. matches.

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Around and About

From Page 10

There will also be a Chinese auction, with baskets valued at \$100 each, a 50/50 raffle and "Courtside Couch" tickets at the event. Seventy-five percent of the proceeds will be donated to "Dig Pink," which teams with the volleyball community to inspire science and hope in the match against breast cancer. The remaining 25 percent will be donated to the Trinity Emergency Assistance Relief Fund, which assists individuals diagnosed with cancer, to lessen the burdens associated with diagnosis and treatments. For additional information, visit Franciscan University's athletic site.

A free public lecture titled "Newman on the Development of Doctrine: Tradition as a Form of Discernment" will be presented at 7 p.m., Sept. 15, in the Tony and Nina Gentile Gallery, J.C. Williams Center, at Franciscan University of Steubenville. The presentation is hosted by the university's English department and cosponsored by the theology and philosophy departments.

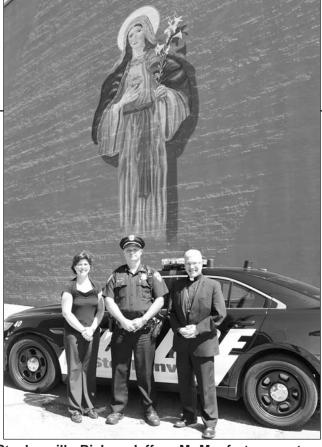
Steubenville — Knights of Columbus St. John Neumann Council 11828 will host a pro-life night Sept. 10 in Holy Family Church, Malara Hall. A social will be held from 7-7:30 p.m.; guest speakers will follow. The evening will conclude at approximately 9:30 p.m. Tickets are free and available at www.eventbrite. com; through the council website, www. stjohnneumanncouncil.weebly.com/currentevents; or by telephoning Marshall Myers at (740) 282-8222.

Toronto — The Franciscan Sisters Third Order Regular of Penance of the Sorrowful Mother annual Share His Mercy Benefit Banquet will be held Sept. 17, under the theme, "Bringing the Healing Touch of Christ to a Broken World." The event be-

gins with Mass at 4:30 p.m. in the Father of Mercy Chapel at Our Lady of Sorrows Monastery, Toronto. It continues at a banquet at the Knights of Columbus hall, Mingo Junction, during which sisters will share experiences from their ministries, including serving the poor in downtown Steubenville, visiting nursing homes, ministering to Bishop John King Mussio Central Junior High School, Steubenville, students, and prison ministry at Belmont Correctional Institution, St. Clairsville. For a sponsorship of the event or to donate toward the evening's silent auction, telephone the sisters' mission advancement office, (740) 544-5542, extension 115. Telephone the same number to make a reservation for the banquet, which is required.

Wheeling, W.Va. — Michael Munger, professor of political science and economics at Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, will speak at Wheeling Jesuit University Sept. 19. Munger will present "Tomorrow 3.0: Surviving in the Sharing-Middleman Economy." The 7 p.m. program is part of the distinguished speaker series presented annually by Wheeling Jesuit's Institute for the Study of Capitalism and Morality and will take place in the National Technology Transfer Center auditorium.

Zanesville, Ohio — A "Beauty of the Feminine" Catholic women's conference will be held Oct. 8 at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, 144 N. Fifth St. Registration and breakfast will begin at 8 a.m.; Mass will be celebrated at 9 a.m.; the conference will be held from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Cost is \$20, prior to Sept. 30; \$25, at the door the day of the event. To register, telephone (740) 453-3309 or (740) 453-3301. Checks can be made payable to St. Thomas Aquinas and sent to 144 N. Fifth St., Zanesville, OH 43701.



Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton meets with Alexandra and Eric Hart, outside the chancery in downtown Steubenville, to plan the annual Blue Mass, Sept. 11, in the city. Eric Hart, a Steubenville police officer, and his wife Alexandra organize the Mass annually to honor police, fire and emergency personnel. During the 10 a.m. Mass at St. Peter Church, Steubenville, victims of 9/11 will be remembered, too, the Harts said. (Photo by DeFrancis)

'Renew Your Spirit' at annual retreat

LITTLE HOCKING — "Renew Your Spirit Ladies Retreat Day" Oct. 1 at St. Ambrose Church, Little Hocking, will fea-

ture presentations from a convert to Catholicism – Connie Clay Mazurkiewicz – and a restaurant owner, one of 13 children – Carolyn Plummer.

Rita Rodgers, St. Ambrose parishioner, announced the annual event, which opens with registration at 8:30 a.m. at the church at 5080 School House Road.

The St. Ambrose Parish Women's Prayer/Share Group, under the guidance of Father Robert A. Gallagher, St. Ambrose pastor, began what has become an annual retreat day for women in the Diocese of Steubenville and neighboring dioceses. The St. Ambrose Catholic Woman's Club and a second parish prayer group have become involved in the planning and execution of the retreat day.

Mazurkiewicz was born in Detroit, one of four daughters of Baptist parents, whom she credits with providing her with an out-

standing Christian example. Mazurkiewicz converted to Catholicism in 1994. The mother of three college students, Mazurkiewicz became involved with St. Ambrose Parish, serving on parish council, teaching in the parish school of religion and participating in Bible study, while attending Mass locally and throughout the United States.

Cited as a successful businesswoman for more than 15 years, Mazurkiewicz will talk to retreatants about "a life without Jesus is like an unsharpened pencil, it has no point." Planners of the retreat day said that Mazurkiewicz will "gladly share her story to encourage and inspire you with the hope to bring you closer to Jesus Christ and to be firm in your Christianity and faith."

A resident of Beverly, Plummer is the daughter of Earl and the late Dorothy Schaad. A graduate of Waterford High School in Washington County, Plummer majored in music in college and became a music director in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston (West Virginia). After she re-



Connie Mazurkiewicz



Carolyn Plummer (Photos provided)

was involved at the Cathedral of St. Jude, St. Petersburg, where she participated in the first performance of "People of the Passion," a Lenten music reflection. The performance continues yearly at St. Bernard Church, Beverly, during Lent. Plummer, also a spiritual director, returned to Beverly in 2011 and the following year opened the Cornerstone Inn Restaurant in her hometown.

located to Florida, Plummer

At the retreat, Plummer will focus her afternoon presentation on the submission of a 49-year-old widow to God's will.

The morning and afternoon of the retreat again will feature music by Kay Carter, a St. Mary of the Hills, Buchtel, parishioner. Carter directs her parish's music ministry. In addition, the Nelsonville na-

tive is a professional musician, who plays guitar and trumpet and sings. She, too, is a wife, mother, grandmother and greatgrandmother.

Small group discussions, a presentation by School Sister of Notre Dame Joan Marie VanBeek, who directs activities at Sacred Heart Retreat House, a ministry of St. Ambrose Parish, lunch, confession and the Divine Mercy Chaplet will complete the retreat day by 2:15 p.m.

For reservations, contact Rodgers by telephone at (740) 423-5697 or through her email drrodgers2417@gmail.com or Becky Hennen, telephone (740) 989-2460 or email, becky1097@windstream.net.

To cover expenses, retreat day planners request a \$10 donation. Make checks payable to St. Ambrose CWC and mail to Rodgers, 2417 Norris Ave., Belpre, OH 45714, before Sept. 24.

Mark your calendar for annual youth conference

STEUBENVILLE — Plans are being finalized for the annual Diocese of Steubenville "Rise Up! Let Your Light Shine" youth conference.

The event for students in grades seven through 12 will be held Oct. 16, begin-

ning with 10:30 a.m. registration, at St. Mary School, Marietta, and the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, where Mass will be celebrated by Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton.

Obituaries

Mamie Bucci, 86, Triumph of the Cross, Steubenville, Aug. 21.

Angeline "Angie" Cinson, 85, aunt of Father Victor P. Cinson, pastor of St. Francis Xavier Parish, Malvern, and St. Gabriel Parish, Minerva, and a parishioner of St. Francis Xavier Parish, died Aug. 27.

Helen E. Donofrio, 95, Toronto, St. Francis of Assisi, Aug. 26.

Patrick A. Engle, 65, the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, Aug. 29

Stephanie "Staphie" Tonkovich Hendershot, 90, 232 Neff St., Powhatan Point, St. John Vianney, Aug. 30.

Edward S. Martaus, 87, Toronto, St.

Francis of Assisi, Aug. 19.

Elizabeth P. McVann, 87, Toronto, St. Francis of Assisi, Aug. 21.

Jennie "Tootsie" Gretchen Roski, 91 Adena, St. Casimir, Aug. 23.

Nelson F. Temple, 72, Triumph of the Cross, Steubenville, Aug. 15.

Rose E. Valerio, 86, Triumph of the Cross, Steubenville, Aug. 14.

Antoinette "Toni" Wegler Walsh, 74, the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, Aug. 1.

Larry D. Walters, 82, Maple Street, Bridgeport, St. Mary, Martins Ferry, Aug. 25. John Watson, 72, St. Clairsville, St. Mary, Aug. 25.

Mother Teresa – a favorite motto – 'Do small things with great love'

KOLKATA, India (CNS) — A favorite motto of Blessed Teresa of Kolkata was: "Do small things with great love."

But the "small things" she did so captivated the world that she was showered with honorary degrees and other

awards, almost universally praised by the media and sought out by popes, presidents, philanthropists and other figures of wealth and influence.

Despite calls on her time from all over the globe Mother Teresa always returned to India to be with those she loved most – the lonely, abandoned, homeless, disease-ravaged, dying, "poorest of the poor" in Kolkata's streets.

On Sept. 4, Pope Francis, who has spent this year preaching about mercy, canonized Mother Teresa, who traveled the world to deliver a single message: that love and caring are the most important things in the world.

"The biggest disease today," she once said, "is not leprosy or tuberculosis, but rather the feeling of being unwanted, uncared for and deserted by everybody. The greatest evil is the lack of love and charity, the terrible indifference toward one's neighbor who lives at the roadside, assaulted by exploitation, corruption, poverty and disease."

Her influence is worldwide.

The Missionaries of Charity, which

Mother Teresa founded in 1950, has more than 5,300 active and contemplative sisters today. In addition, there are Missionaries of Charity Fathers, and active and contemplative brothers. In 1969, in response to growing interest of laypeople who wanted to be associated with her work, an informally structured, ecumenical International Association of Co-Workers of Mother Teresa was formed.

The members of the congregation take vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, but the vow of poverty is stricter than in other congregations because, as Mother Teresa explained, "to be able to love the poor and know the poor, we must be poor ourselves."

In addition, the Missionaries of Charity – sisters and brothers – take a fourth vow of "wholehearted and free service to the poorest of the poor."

The tiny, wizened Mother Teresa in her familiar white and blue sari opened houses for the destitute and dying, for those with AIDS, for orphans and for people with leprosy. She founded houses in Cuba and the then-Soviet Union – countries not generally open to foreign church workers.

Her combination of serene, simple faith and direct, practical efficiency often amazed those who came in contact with her

In 1982, when Israeli troops were holding Beirut under siege in an effort to root out the Palestine Liberation Organization, Mother Teresa visited a community of her nuns at Spring School, a home for the aged in East Beirut. It was her first visit in a war zone but not her last.

Meeting with Red Cross officials about relief needs, she asked what their most serious problem was. They took her to a nearby mental hospital that had just been bombed, requiring immediate evacuation of 37 mentally and physically handicapped children.

"I'll take them," she said

"What stunned everyone was her energy and efficiency," a Red Cross official involved in the evacuation said afterward. "She saw the problem, fell to her knees and prayed for a few seconds, and then she was rattling off a list of supplies she needed — nappies (diapers), plastic pants, chamber pots. We didn't expect a saint to be so efficient."

She was an advocate for children and was outspoken against abortion.

In a 1981 visit to New York, she proposed a characteristically direct and simple solution to the problem of unwanted pregnancy: "If you know anyone who does not want the child, who is afraid of the child, then tell them

to give that child to me."

When Mother Teresa received the Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo, Norway, Dec. 10, 1979, she accepted it "in the name of the hungry, of the naked, of the homeless, of the blind,



Pope Francis greets pizza makers from Naples during a pizza lunch for the poor after the canonization of St. Teresa of Kolkata at the Vatican Sept. 4. Three thousand pizzas were served by Missionaries of Charity nuns and brothers to approximately 1,500 poor people who had come to the canonization Mass from shelters, dormitories and soup kitchens the order runs throughout Italy. (CNS photo/L'Osservatore Romano)

of the lepers, of all those who feel unwanted, unloved, uncared for throughout society."

She also condemned abortion as the world's greatest destroyer of people.

"To me, the nations who have legalized abortion are the poorest nations," she said. "They are afraid of the unborn child, and the child must die."

Often when criticized about her approach to social issues, Mother Teresa told of a man who suggested she could do more for the world by teaching people how to fish rather than by giving them fish.

"The people I serve are helpless," she said she told him. "They cannot stand. They cannot hold the rod. I will give them the food and then send them to you so you can teach them how to fish."

When she was criticized for not using her considerable influence to attack systemic evils such as the arms race or organized exploitation and injustice, she simply responded that was not her mission, but one that belonged to others, especially to the Catholic laity.

"Once you get involved in politics, you stop being all things to all men," she said in an interview in 1982. "We must encourage the laypeople to stand for justice, for truth" in the political arena.

Mother Teresa was born Agnes Ganxhe Bojaxhiu to Albanian parents in Skopje, in what is now Macedonia, Aug. 26, 1910. She had a sister, Aga, and a brother, Lazar. Her father was a grocer, but the family's background was more peasant than merchant.

Lazar said their mother's example was a determining factor in Agnes' vocation.

"Already when she was a little child she used to assist the poor by taking food to them every day like our mother," he said.

When Agnes was 9, he said, "She was plump, round, tidy, sensible and a little too serious for her age. Of the three of us, she alone did not steal the jam."

As a student at a public school in Skopje, she was a member of a Catholic sodality with a special interest in foreign missions.

"At the age of 12, I first knew I had a vocation to help the poor," she once said. "I wanted to be a missionary."

At 15, Agnes was inspired to work in India by reports sent home by Yugoslavian Jesuit missionaries in Bengal – present-day Bangladesh, but then part of India. At 18, she left home to join the Irish branch of the Institute of the

Blessed Virgin Mary, known as the Loreto Sisters. After training at their institutions in Dublin and in Darjeeling, India, she made her first vows as a nun in 1928 and her final vows nine years later.

While teaching and serving as a principal at Loreto House, a fashionable girls' college in Kolkata, she was depressed by the destitute and dying on the city's streets, the homeless street urchins, the ostracized sick people lying prey to rats and other vermin in streets and alleys.

In 1946, she received a "call within a call," as she described it. "The message was clear. I was to leave the convent and help the poor, while living among them," she said.

Two years later, the Vatican gave her permission to leave the Loreto Sisters and follow her new calling under the jurisdiction of the archbishop of Kolkata.

After three months of medical training under the American Medical Missionary Sisters in Patna, India, Mother Teresa went into the Kolkata slums to take children cut off from education into her first school. Soon volunteers, many of them her former students, came to join her.

In 1950, the Missionaries of Charity became a diocesan religious community, and 15 years later the Vatican recognized it as a pontifical congregation, directly under Vatican jurisdiction.

In 1952, Mother Teresa opened the Nirmal Hriday (Pure Heart) Home for Dying Destitutes in a dormitory – formerly a hostel attached to a Hindu temple dedicated to the god Kali – donated by the city of Kolkata. Although some of those taken in survive, the primary function of the home is, as one Missionary of Charity explained, to be "a shelter where the dying poor may die in dignity." Tens of thousands of people have been cared for in the home since it opened.

When Blessed Paul VI visited Bombay, now Mumbai, India, in 1964, he presented Mother Teresa with a white ceremonial Lincoln Continental given to him by people in the United States. She raffled off the car and raised enough money to finance a center for leprosy victims in the Indian state of West Bengal.

Twenty-one years later, when U.S. President Ronald Reagan presented her with the presidential Medal of Freedom at the White House, he called her a "heroine of our times" and noted that the plaque honoring her described her as the "saint of the gutters." He also joked that Mother Teresa might be the first award recipient to take the plaque and melt it down to get money for the poor.

In addition to winning the Nobel Peace Prize, Mother Teresa was given Pope John XXIII Peace Prize in 1971; the Templeton Prize in 1973; the John F. Kennedy International Award in 1971; the \$300,000 Balzan Prize for Humanity, Peace and Brotherhood in 1979; the Congressional Gold Medal in 1997; and dozens of other awards and honors, including one of India's highest – the Padmashri Medal.

Even after health problems led her to resign as head of the Missionaries of Charity in 1990, her order re-elected her as superior, and she continued traveling at a pace that would have tired people half her age. In 1996 alone she had four hospitalizations: for a broken collarbone; for a head injury from a fall; for cardiac problems, malaria and a lung infection; and for angioplasty to remove blockages in two of her major arteries.

In late January 1997, her spiritual adviser, Jesuit Father Edward le Joly, said, "She is dying, she is on oxygen." That March, the Missionaries of Charity elected her successor, Sister Nirmala Joshi. But Mother Teresa bounced back and, before her death Sept. 5, 1997, she traveled to Rome and the United States.

Mother Teresa was beatified in record time – in 2003, just over six years after her death – because St. John Paul set aside the rule that a sainthood process cannot begin until the candidate has been dead five years.