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News Briefs

Church recommit to AIDS treatment

DURBAN, South Africa (CNS) — The face of the AIDS epidemic has changed dramatically in recent years as scientists have created antiretroviral drugs that lower levels of the virus in the bloodstream, allowing those infected with HIV to live relatively normal lives.

Yet getting those drugs into the hands of everyone who needs them remains difficult.

Worldwide, only 17 million of the 36.7 million people who carry the virus are receiving treatment, U.N. officials told delegates to the International AIDS Conference last month.

Thus, Catholics and other religious leaders recommitted themselves to work to expand treatment. Vatican officials have begun pushing a project to rapidly expand the availability of antiretroviral drugs for children. The first step was getting drug manufacturers on board. Since not many children in developed countries contract HIV now, there's no sizable market to recoup research and development and manufacturing costs. With only poor children needing the drugs, there's less of an incentive to manufacture pediatric medicines or the specific diagnostic tools that are also needed.

Catholics urged not to give in to hatred

WASHINGTON (CNS) — While Catholics mourn the senseless killing of a beloved French priest, church leaders have emphasized that shock and grief over this attack cannot fuel hatred against Muslims or immigrants.

"Whoever makes this choice, profanes Christian martyrdom," said Chaldean Catholic Patriarch Louis Sako of Baghdad, warning that responding with hatred or increased suspicion is "sacrilegious blasphemy" of the priest's death. "These people betray and disrespect Father Jacques more than those who inspired their killers," he told the Vatican Insider after the 85-year-old priest was killed during Mass in St. Etienne-du-Rouvray.

The attackers, who slit the priest's throat, claimed allegiance to the Islamic State and the group later claimed responsibility for the priest's murder.



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, will stand in St. Joseph Church, Ironton, until Aug. 19 and St. Lawrence O'Toole Church, Ironton, until Aug. 26. (Photo by DeFrancis)



Pope Francis walks with World Youth Day pilgrims as he arrives for a July 30 prayer vigil at the Field of Mercy in Krakow, Poland. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)

Pope Francis calls youths to elevate the discourse

By Cindy Wooden

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Aware of the risk of being called naive or being accused of spouting platitudes, Pope Francis called on young people to model for adults the paths of mercy and respect, and then demonstrated what he meant.

"Today we adults — we adults — need you to teach us, like you are doing now, how to live with diversity, in dialogue, to experience multiculturalism not as a threat but an opportunity," the pope told young people gathered for a prayer vigil July 30 in Krakow, Poland.

"Have the courage to teach us that it is easier to build bridges than walls. We need this," he said.

Many people find it easy to sit on the couch and tweet popular stereotypes like: "All Muslims are terrorists," or "Immigrants steal our jobs."

Pope Francis acknowledged that it is a huge task to build bridges and said he knew many people might not feel up to it at first. But, he said, Christians have an obligation to make at least an attempt.

Start small, he said. Take the hand of someone next to you.

It is possible that no one will accept that extended hand, he said, "but in life you must take risks; one who never risks never wins."

At a time when civil discourse seems not only to have rejected "political correctness," but also grandma's, "if you can't say anything nice, don't say anything at all," Pope Francis said Christians are called to watch their tongues. And their texting fingers.

"We are not here to shout against anyone. We are not about to fight. We do not want to destroy. We do not want to insult

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After Mass, during World Youth Day, which Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton celebrated with diocesan "ambassadors," Alyson M. Radford, Alyson Orsatti, Kyleigh Falcone, Rachel Russell, Isabella M. Gessler, Catherine Beaulieu, Bryce Ramsay, Joseph Zinno, Mike Stapleton and John Beaulieu. (Photo provided) — More Photos/Page 4

Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus will minister in school

STEUBENVILLE — Five years after the Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus established a first house in the United States in the Diocese of Steubenville, the religious women will begin ministry in a diocesan parochial school.

At the request of Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton and with the assent of Sister Maria Del Mar Merino, Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus mother general, who will make her fourth visit to Steubenville next month, the Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus will become campus ministers at Bishop John King Mussio Central Elementary School.

Paul D. Ward, diocesan director, Office of Christian Formation and Schools, and Theresa Danaher, Bishop John King Mussio Central Elementary and Junior High School principal, expressed their enthusiasm at having the sisters serve in campus ministry for the preschoolers through sixth-graders.

“We are delighted the sisters have agreed to come on board as campus ministers, providing catechesis twice a week,” Danaher said. By the end of the school year, the sisters will have presented religion lessons and taught about eucharistic adoration to all the students.

The religious congregation dates to Sept. 8, 1998, proceeding from another religious community. The contemplative and missionary sisters have 38 communities in nine countries – Spain, Peru, Guatemala, El Salvador, Mexico, Rome, Chile and Argentina, along with the U.S. The 535 professed sisters and 103 novices seek to render adoration, love and reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, especially in the Eucharist, in union with Mary; strive to have the Sacred Heart of Jesus loved by



Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus Sisters, in front from left, Maria Ecclesiae Kline, Visitacion de Maria Martinez (mother superior) and Ingrid de Maria Saenz; and, in back, from left, Marta de Santa Maria Frances, Alianza Maria Vila and Maria de La Luz Garcia stand on the grounds of the Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Oratory on Lovers Lane in Steubenville. The former Aquinas Central School is visible in the background. The sisters will serve as campus ministers at Bishop John King Mussio Central Elementary School, Steubenville, when the 2016-17 school year gets underway. (Photo by DeFrancis)

everyone, and act as missionaries of God’s love. Presently, six sisters and a postulant reside in Steubenville. The first two novices from Steubenville are in Spain now to continue their formation.

On a recent morning, as the sisters conversed in their novitiate and center for promoting vocations to their institute, the Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus said that two sisters will travel two days a week to the school on Etta Avenue in Steubenville. There they will interact with students and get to know their parents. “We want to be a help to families,” Sister

Visitacion de Maria Martinez, mother superior, said, “especially in this year of

reconsecration of the diocese.” Bishop Monforton announced the reconsecration of the diocese to the Immaculate Heart of Mary earlier this year.

“We look at the diocese as a big family,” Sister Visitacion said.

The sisters minister with the belief that world problems respond to the love of Jesus and that society can be transformed with love, the mother superior added.

Since they moved into Steubenville, the Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus have sponsored a prayer movement – DOYMAR – for 7 to 26 year olds. The children, youth and young adults meet monthly in the oratory for faith-based talks, celebration, socialization and prayer.

DOYMAR Day will be celebrated Sept. 18 at the oratory. The previous day is vocations day, which begins with an 11 a.m. Mass celebrated by Father Thomas R. Nau, pastor of Triumph of the Cross Parish, Steubenville, and rector of Holy Name Cathedral, Steubenville. Third Order Regular Father John Shanahan will preside at an 11 a.m. Mass DOYMAR Day. Bishop Monforton will celebrate Mass in Spanish at 8:30 a.m., Sept.

19, at the oratory, when the sisters celebrate the 18th anniversary of their founding.

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Annual diocesan marriage enrichment planned

STEUBENVILLE — The Diocese of Steubenville's annual Marriage Enrichment Day will be held Sept. 17 at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption in Marietta, announced Diocese of Steubenville Office of Family and Social Concerns Director Michele A. Santin and diocesan Marriage Ministry Coordinator Joseph A. Schmidt.

At 11 a.m., the day of enrichment, Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton will celebrate Mass in the basilica.

Gregory D. Schutte, director of Marriage Works! Ohio, will present the day's program, "Building a Eucharistic Marriage: How to Rekindle Our First Love."

The presenter received a bachelor's in psychology from the University of Dayton (Ohio) and a master's in social work from The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.

The holder of an independent license in social work, Schutte has more than 22 years of experience as a therapist in many different fields of counseling, including as a hospital discharge planner, hospice counselor, crisis counselor, mental health therapist and marriage/family therapist.

Marriage Works! Ohio is an initiative of Elizabeth's New Life Center, a pregnancy resource center in Dayton. Launched in collaboration with several organizations, Marriage Works! Ohio seeks to help build healthy families and healthy communities by providing marriage and relationship education for couples, Schmidt said. Marriage Works! Ohio was selected in 2009 as one of eight promising practices in marriage education in the United States and in 2011 was the recipient of one of the largest federal grants in the U.S.

Schutte is the author of the Catholic marriage enrichment program "Discovering Our Deepest Desire," which is based off his years of couples' therapy and research of St. John Paul II's "Theology of the Body." The program received an imprimatur from Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati Joseph Binzer in 2013.

The keynote speaker at several marriage and family conferences and events throughout Ohio, Schutte, also, is host of a Radio Maria program "Living Out the Sacrament of Marriage" and a member of the Catholic band ROMANS, which has two recordings and several original songs to its credit.

Married for 23 years, Schutte is the father of seven children who range in age from 5 to 20.

Schutte's presentation will follow a noon lunch in the basilica undercroft.



Gregory D. Schutte

(Photo provided)

Schmidt said of the day's program, "Prior to marriage, couples spend an enormous amount of time getting to know each other and working hard to win the heart of their loved one. However, somewhere in marriage, often couples lose sight of the vow they made to each other: to love and to cherish.

"Based off his marriage curriculum, ... (Schutte) will be presenting the building blocks to revitalizing marriages through developing and nurturing, what he calls, 'eucharistic marriages.'"

Married couples, those contemplating marriage, clergy who work with couples and others should register by Sept. 5 for the Marriage Enrichment Day, Schmidt said.

The registration fee is \$10. However, there is no charge for clergy to attend.

Child care will be available, beginning at 1 p.m., in the basilica's social hall at a cost of \$2 per child.

Checks should be made payable to the Diocese of Steubenville and returned to Schmidt: St. Mary Basilica, 506 Fourth St., Marietta OH 45750; fax (740) 376-2956, email basilicadre@gmail.com.

The day is not only sponsored by the diocese's Office of Family and Social Concerns, but also by the Knights of Columbus, Santin said.

Steubenville Diocese parishioners aid flood victims

STEUBENVILLE — Diocese of Steubenville parishioners have donated to their flood-ravaged neighbors in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston (West Virginia).

A check for \$58,078.29 has been mailed to the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, said David A. Franklin, Steubenville Diocese's comptroller. The money was collected in parishes in the diocese on call from Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton. "We all are aware of the recent tragic flooding in the southern part of West Virginia," Bishop Monforton said in late June. "As brothers and sisters in the Lord, it seems most appropriate for us to reach out to those directly affected by this natural disaster. As we pray for the victims, many of whom you and I know, we also can provide material assistance to those whose lives will be forever changed."

June floods in the Mountain State killed 23 people.

Bishop Michael J. Bransfield of Wheeling-Charleston thanked the faithful of the dioceses and their bishops for their generous support of the flood victims. A report on the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston website reveals that \$141,240 was collected through special collections in the dioceses of Greensburg, Pennsylvania, Lexington, Kentucky, and Youngstown, Ohio, as well as Steubenville.

The funds will be used to provide support to the victims through Catholic Charities West Virginia and related agencies, Bishop Bransfield said.

Because he has toured flooded areas, Bishop Bransfield said that it is clear to him that it will take significant resources for families in the hardest hit areas to recover.

Catholic Charities and local parish outreach continue to provide direct assistance for food, clothing and shelter and provide new appliances and furniture, Bishop Bransfield said in a statement on the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston website.

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Bishop Monforton's Schedule

August

- 18 Mass, Holy Rosary Church, Steubenville, 7 a.m.
WAOB radio segment, 7:40 a.m., 8:40 a.m. and 6:40 p.m.
- 19 Mass, Holy Rosary Church, Steubenville, 8:30 a.m.
Center of Hope Friendship Room benefit dinner,
Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Steubenville,
7 p.m.
- 20 Mass, St. Francis Xavier Church, Malvern, 4 p.m.
Mass, St. Gabriel Church, Minerva, 6 p.m.
- 21 Mass, St. John Bosco Mission, Sardis, 12:30 p.m.
- 22 "Misa con Hermanas," Mass with Spanish sisters,
Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus,
Steubenville, 9:30 a.m.
- 23 Mass, Holy Rosary Church, Steubenville, 7 a.m.
- 24 Mass, Holy Rosary Church, Steubenville, 8:30 a.m.
- 25 Mass, Holy Rosary Church, Steubenville, 8:30 a.m.
- 26 Oath of Fidelity Mass, Franciscan University
of Steubenville, 4 p.m.
- 27 Installation Mass for Father Mark A. Moore, as
pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Pomeroy, at Sacred
Heart Church, 5:30 p.m.

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World Youth Day participants from the Steubenville Diocese arrive in Poland.



Alyson M. Radford, Steubenville Diocese catechetical consultant, uses Pope Francis to identify her contingent as they walk to the World Youth Day vigil.



Steubenville youth trade trinkets with their French and Italian counterparts.



Thousands of pilgrims to World Youth Day line both sides of the street to walk for approximately an hour and a half to welcome Pope Francis.



World Youth Day participants bed down prior to the final Mass.



Horse-drawn wagons took Diocese of Steubenville youth to Morskie Oko Lake in one of Poland's national parks after World Youth Day.



Diocese of Steubenville "ambassadors" return after a two-week trip to World Youth Day, and beyond. (Photos provided)



Jeremiah Hahn, left, and Nicholas Ward stand before Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton during a candidacy Mass at St. Peter Church, Steubenville (John Craig holds the book for Bishop Monforton. Father Bradley W. Greer, bishop's master of ceremonies, stands right). The bishop said to Hahn and Ward, during the Aug. 7 Mass, "This day you publicly express your intention to receive holy orders, and I will accept that intention." As he referenced the Gospel, Bishop Monforton said to Hahn and Ward, seminarians for the Diocese of Steubenville, "You will be like St. Paul and lead others to the kingdom of heaven." The bishop pointed out that the two have begun their formation. They expect to be ordained to the priesthood in four years. "From this day on," Bishop Monforton said to the men, "You are not spectators. We will assist you with love and prayer." Hahn, son of Scott and Kimberly Hahn of Steubenville, is studying for the priesthood at Sacred Heart Seminary, Detroit. Ward, son of Paul D. and Mary Ward, also, of Steubenville, is studying for the priesthood at the Pontifical College Josephinum, Columbus, Ohio. (Photo by DeFrancis)

Steubenville woman professes perpetual vows as a Dominican Sister

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Nine young women – including one from the Diocese of Steubenville – made their perpetual profession of the simple vows of poverty, chastity



(Photo provided)

Dominican Sister Agnes Schreck

and obedience as Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia Congregation in Nashville, Tennessee, July 25.

Among those making final profession was Dominican Sister Agnes Schreck, a former member of Triumph of the Cross Parish, Steubenville.

Sister Agnes is the daughter of Alan and Nancy Schreck, also parishioners at Triumph of the Cross.

The perpetually professed is a graduate of Catholic Central High School, Steubenville, and Aquinas College, Nashville. There she earned a Bachelor of Science in Education.

Currently, Sister Agnes teaches grades six through eight at St. Pius V School in Providence, Rhode Island.

The Mass for the Rite of Perpetual Religious Profession was celebrated at the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Nashville.

Bishop David R. Choby, bishop of the Diocese of Nashville, was the principal celebrant.

The homilist was Dominican Father Wojciech Giertych, theologian of the Papal Household, Vatican City.

Father Thomas R. Nau, pastor of Triumph of the Cross Parish and rector of Holy Name Cathedral, Steubenville, also concelebrated the Mass.

In addition to the sisters making final profession of vows, nine young women professed their first vows in the Congregation of St. Cecilia July 28.

The Congregation of Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia was established in Nashville in 1860. The Sisters of St. Cecilia are dedicated to the apostolate of Catholic education. The community of nearly 300 sisters serves in 37 schools throughout the United States, with mission houses also in Sydney, Australia; Vancouver, British Columbia; Rome and Bracciano, Italy; Elgin, Scotland; Sittard, The Netherlands; and Limerick, Ireland.

St. Cecilia Motherhouse is located in Nashville.

For more information on the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia Congregation, visit their website, www.nashville-dominican.org.

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St. John Paul II The Ascension

By Diocese of Steubenville
Bishop Emeritus Gilbert I. Sheldon

St. John Paul II next addresses the ascension of Jesus. We might be tempted to think that Jesus had finished his mission with the resurrection and his commission of the apostles to carry on his work, so there was nothing more to be done except to leave the earth and return to heaven. How he did that would have to show the apostles that this was a farewell – a clean break – with his life on earth. It would call for some kind of clear gesture – perhaps something dramatic. But what do you do for an encore after you have arisen from the dead? Why not be seen rising up in the air, heavenward, until you pass out of sight?

But there is more to it than that! Our Lord's

mission of redemption was not completed with the resurrection. The Ascension to heaven was an integral part of that mission. Redemption meant the reversal of the sin of our first parents, original sin. That sin consisted in their rejection of God's plan for mankind – a plan, which included their one day being transformed with a glorified body and commencing upon an eternity in sharing the life of God. Reversing the process of original sin required that a human being – one who could adequately represent the whole human race – retrace their footsteps: by accepting the will of God completely. That meant accepting the passion and death on the cross.

What Adam and Eve chose were the good things of this earth and this life – things that God had created – in place of what God had in store for them. The Crucifixion involved not the good things, but the worst things of this life and this earth: pain, suffering and mankind's own inhumanity to mankind itself. Here was the result of sin – this life and this earth at its worst. This was the "chalice" that Jesus was willing to drink at the will of his Father on behalf of all his fellow human beings; all that lived since the time of

Adam and all that would live thereafter. He would thereby turn the effects of sin into the very instrument of man's redemption! Having done so, the Father would restore to mankind – in the person of Jesus Christ – the destiny that he intended for mankind from the beginning. The last step in the process of redemption was for Jesus to be glorified as planned and to assume that heavenly existence with the Father.

There is nothing wrong with enjoying the things of this life and this earth – as long as we do so within the limits that God has set. After all, did God not invite our first parents to enjoy the fruit of all the trees in the Garden of Eden except one: the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (see Genesis, Chapter 2, Verses 8-9; 15-17)? That's where God drew the line, but Adam and Eve, like so many of their children after them, chose to cross that line. All this is presented symbolically, of course. What the actual prohibition

involved, we do not know. We can only speculate about it.

The work of redemption brought mankind full circle. We now stand to avail ourselves of it. We are to follow Christ into eternal life, but we must do so "the hard way," so to speak. We must follow in the footsteps of Jesus, accepting the cross or crosses that we encounter in this life and their final culmination in death, itself.

John Paul points out that Our Lord foretold his own ascension more than once. He told Mary Magdalene whom he encountered on the morning of the resurrection: "Stop holding on to me, for I have not yet ascended to my Father, to my God and your God." The implication here is that the work of redemption – and the cause of rejoicing – was not yet complete. At the Last Supper, he told the apostles, "I go to the Father, and you will see me no more" (Jn 16:10, also Jn 16:5 and Jn 14:28). In his conversation with Nicodemus, he hinted that his ascension would be the first of mankind's to enter heaven: "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man" (Jn 3:13). The pope explains that unknown to Nicodemus at the time, this statement tells us that the Ascension is included in the

mystery of the Incarnation as its concluding moment. The Letter to the Hebrews begins: "When he accomplished purification for our sins, he took his seat at the right hand of the majesty on high" (Heb 1:3). And, again: "For Christ did not enter into a sanctuary made by hands ... but heaven, itself, that he might now appear before God on our behalf" (Heb 9:24). This statement explains the earlier one in

Hebrews that said: "... He entered once for all into the sanctuary, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption" (Heb 9:12). John Paul sees in these passages, "The redemptive value of the Ascension into heaven as the culmination of the economy of salvation." We recall in this connection Jesus' words to the disciples: "In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you" (Jn 14:2)?

Reflection on these words throws light on another mysterious statement of Jesus at the Last Supper, to the effect that, unless he left the disciples, the "Paraclete" could not come to them (Jn 16:7). The pope comments: "Yes, Christ must end his earthly presence ... so that he may remain in an invisible way, by virtue of the Spirit of truth, of the Counselor-Paraclete." Unless his mission was completed, the Holy Spirit could not begin his work in the church and in individual souls. Much more will be said of the Holy Spirit in the next volume of St. John Paul's presentation of the creed. For now, let it be said that after the ascension, the third person of the blessed Trinity entered human affairs. The Spirit makes possible all that takes place spiritually and supernaturally in the history of the church, including our contact with the risen and ascended Christ in the holy Eucharist.



Bishop Sheldon

We must follow in the footsteps of Jesus, accepting the cross or crosses that we encounter in this life. ...

Suicide and Mental Health

By Father Ron Rolheiser

As young boy, I longed to be a professional athlete, but I had to soon accept the unwelcome fact that I simply wasn't gifted with an athlete's body. Speed, strength, coordination, instinct, vision, I got by in ordinary life with what I had been given of these, but I wasn't physically robust enough to be an athlete.

It took some years to make peace with that, but it took me even longer, well into midlife, before I came to both acknowledge and give thanks for the fact that, while I wasn't blessed with an athlete's body, I had been given a robust mental health, and that this was a mammoth undeserved blessing, more important for life than an athlete's body. I had often wondered what it would be like to have an athlete's body, to possess that kind of speed, strength and grace, but I had never wondered what it must be like not to have a strong, steady, resilient mind, one that knows how to return a lob, split a defense, not be afraid of contact, absorb a hit, and not let the rigors of the game break you.

And that recognition was bought and paid for by some of the most painful moments of my life. As I aged, year after year, I began to see a number of my former classmates,



Father Rolheiser

colleagues, trusted mentors, acquaintances of all kinds and dear friends lose their battle with mental health and sink, slowly or rapidly, into various forms of clinical depression, mental paralysis, mental anguish, dementia of various kinds, dark personality changes, suicide and, and worst of all, even into murder.

Slowly, painfully, haltingly, I came to know that not everyone has the internal circuits to allow them the sustained capacity for steadiness and buoyancy. I also came to learn that one's mental health is really parallel to one's physical health, fragile, and not fully within one's own control. Moreover, just as diabetes, arthritis, cancer, stroke, heart attacks, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and multiple sclerosis can cause debilitation and death, so, too, can mental diseases wreak deadly havoc inside the mind, also causing every kind of debilitation and, not infrequently, death, suicide.

How might one define robust mental health? Robust mental health is not to be confused with intelligence or brilliance. It's neither. Rather it is steadiness, a capacity to somehow always be anchored, balanced, buoyant and resilient in the face of all that life throws at you, good and

bad. Indeed, sometimes it can be a positive blockage to creativity and brilliance. Some people, it seems, are just too grounded and sane to be brilliant! And brilliant people, gifted artists, poets, musicians, not infrequently struggle to stay solidly grounded. Brilliance and steadiness are frequently very different gifts. Through the years that I have

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P.O. Box 160, 422 Washington St.
Steubenville, OH 43952-5160
email: register@diosteub.org

Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton, publisher
Pat DeFrancis, editor
pdefrancis@diosteub.org
Janice M. Ward, circulation/advertising
jward@diosteub.org

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World Youth Day and Beginnings

By Diocese of Steubenville
Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton

World Youth Day Experience

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

Just a little less than two weeks ago, Pope Francis brought to a close the 2016 World Youth Day celebrations in Krakow, Poland. Personally, it would be an understatement to say the celebrations met expectations, for rather, they exceeded expectations. The quote of Jesus above from the Beatitudes was the prevailing theme throughout the WYD events.

More than once, Pope Francis has indicated that our youths are unique and irreplaceable treasures. “Young people are the window through which the future enters the world.” How best for us to invite our youths into a deeper relationship with Jesus than to fortify and strengthen their common bond of faith in the presence of the Vicar of Christ? Pope St. John Paul II prophetically enabled the youths to encounter their faith at the first WYD in 1985 and the first international WYD in 1986.

The best way to express the atmosphere of these days is that a contagious joy and love for Jesus permeated the streets of the Cracovian city. In the midst of these celebrations, we also received the horrible news of the French priest who was martyred in a gruesome attack in church. Instead of dismissing this cowardly act, we as believers faced it head-on, recognizing the fact that hatred and anger never remedies hatred and anger. Our youths carry that very special task of sharing Jesus Christ well into this third millennium of Christianity and the very trajectory of our Church travels with them. Properly catechized youths in communion with our Holy Father equips them with the effective means to share the promise of eternal hope in a

world in which despair can prevail.

It was heartwarming to see the vast numbers of American youths in the Tauron Arena for the U.S. Pilgrims’ Gathering and Prayer, as it was an energizing experience to say the least. As fellow Americans, that Wednesday evening we praised Our Lord Jesus and affirmed our membership in the family of faith. In fact, this moment even provided the youths opportunity to interact with us “older kids,” namely, the bishops. Pope Francis summed up his charge for all the youths in that it was their duty to share their Christian joy. It seems to me they were following his words with great enthusiasm both day and night.

While I can share much more in this article regarding WYD, I invite you to read my seven blogs (see diosteub.org) as well as daily tweets from WYD. As Pope Francis expresses to our youths: “In God’s eyes you are precious, and your value is inestimable.”

A Weekend of Beginnings

Last weekend (Aug. 6/7) was a weekend of beginnings, of sorts. On Saturday, the feast day of the Transfiguration of Our Lord, I had the privilege to preside at Mass at which three young ladies made their first profession to the Franciscan Sisters Third Order Regular. Sister Magdala Marie, Sister Agnes Maria and Sister Philomena Clare publicly expressed their intention to embrace the evangelical virtues of chastity, poverty and obedience in order that they may be more configured to Our Lord Jesus. Thereby, in the Father of Mercy Chapel at Our Lady of Sorrows Monastery, these three young women demonstrated how the brilliant light of Jesus’ Transfiguration is meant to be shared and not simply envisioned as a historical moment



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and then to be filed away until the next year. These three sisters taught us all that in our docility to God’s will we become stronger in the faith.

On Sunday, the 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time, I had another privilege to receive the intentions expressed of Jeremiah Hahn and Nicholas Ward to formally pursue Holy Orders. This watershed moment takes these men from a time of college discernment of whether or not Jesus is inviting them to become priests to a new question of since I intend to become a priest, what type of priest am I to become? From St. John Paul II to St. John Vianney,

we recognize the plentitude of gifts God shares, which we bring to his harvest as priests.

At this candidacy Mass, I publicly accepted the two young men’s intentions and exhorted them to demonstrate their daily encounter with Jesus in the midst of the people of God. No ministry in the Church considers isolationism as a virtue. Even in the most cloistered of areas, we encounter Jesus as we prayerfully engage the people of God.

Yes, there was a great “spiritual high,” which I carried home from Krakow nearly two weeks ago, and I can confidently say that joy was not simply unique to World Youth Day. No, we are capable of that same joy and eternal hope in our own diocese, in both the big and small moments of our lives. Continue to *pray for vocations*. This past weekend demonstrates to even the most cynical that prayers make a difference.

May the joy of Our Lord Jesus Christ permeate the members of your family, enlivening each one of us in that transformative light of Jesus Christ so perfectly expressed in his Transfiguration on Mount Tabor.

Why ‘Vikings’ is the Most Religiously Interesting Show on TV

By Archdiocese of Los Angeles
Auxiliary Bishop Robert Barron

At the prompting of some of my younger colleagues at Word on Fire, I spent time during a recent vacation getting caught up on the History Channel show “Vikings.” My friends had told me that “Vikings,” curiously, is the most religious show on television. They were right. Don’t get me wrong, there is enough violence, pillaging, plundering, sword fighting and political intrigue to satisfy the most macho viewers; but “Vikings” is also drenched with religion – and for that I applaud Michael Hirst, its sole writer and director. For this emphasis is not only historically accurate, but it also resists the regnant orthodoxy in much of the entertainment industry that characters should be presented as though they are indifferent to the world of faith.

First of all, *everyone* in “Vikings” is religious: the Northmen (and women) themselves, the English, the French and visitors from distant lands. To be sure, they are religious in very different ways, but there is no one who does not take with utter seriousness a connection to a higher, spiritual realm. Moreover, their spirituality is not an abstraction, but rather is regularly embodied in ritual, prayer, procession, liturgy and mystical experience. The ubiquity and intensity of faith in these various peoples and tribes calls to mind philosopher Charles Taylor’s observation that, prior to



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1500 or so, it was practically unthinkable not to be religious. That God exists, that spiritual powers impinge upon the world, that we live on after we die, that a higher authority judges our deeds – all of this was simply the default of the overwhelming majority of the human race prior to very recent times in certain pockets of Western civilization. Taylor speaks of the “buffered self” that has come to dominate today. He means the identity that is closed in upon itself, oblivious to a transcendent dimension, committed unquestioningly to a naturalist or materialist view of reality.

I must confess that it was enormously refreshing to watch a program in which every single self was unbuffered!

Second, “Vikings” is extraordinarily instructive in regard to one of the most vexing problems of our time, namely, the clash of religions. When the Vikings first come ashore on the eastern coast of England, their initial contact is with the monastery of Lindisfarne, where they find, not mighty warriors, but prayerful, nonviolent monks. They are both amused and intrigued. There is a particularly affecting scene in which the Vikings confront Athelstan the monk, who would come to play a crucial role in the series, and they discover that, of all the treasures in the monastery, he is most concerned with protecting a book of the Gospels. Facing down the swords, clubs and firebrands of the Vikings, Athelstan hugs to his chest the sacred text. It would

be hard to imagine a more powerful and beautiful manner of indicating the centrality of the Word to Christians. On another early raid, Floki, a kind of Norse mystic and ardent defender of Viking spirituality, enters a chapel where Mass is being offered. As the priest and people cower in fear, Floki strides to the altar, drinks some of the consecrated wine, and then spits the contents out. The Christian faithful gasp and shriek in dismay. The conquerors, of course, are puzzled, but they have learned a key lesson regarding Christian theology of the Eucharist.

And the learning moves in the opposite direction as well. Since Athelstan speaks their language, the Vikings carry him back to their home country, and the monk becomes, in time, a dear friend to Ragnar, the Viking king. From the pagan potentate, Athelstan hears the stories of Thor, Odin and the other Norse divinities, and he learns to appreciate the spirituality ingredient in these figures and myths. Athelstan wears an amulet carved with representations of Ragnar’s gods, even as he coaxes Ragnar through the words of the Our Father. Lest this all seem like so much anything-goes, all-spiritualities-are-the-same-deep-down political correctness, know that the characters in “Vikings” remain deeply interested in getting it right religiously. After some dalliance with Norse religion, Athelstan definitively and joyfully re-embraces his Christianity; and Floki remains, despite plenty of contact with Christianity, an ardent adept of Viking religion. Moreover, Ragnar’s brother Rollo, who accepts baptism for cynical, political reasons, finds

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Pope Francis names six women, six men to panel to study women deacons

By Cindy Wooden

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis has appointed six men and six women to a commission to study the issue of women deacons, particularly their ministry in the early church.

In addition to the 12 members named Aug. 2, the pope tapped Archbishop Luis Ladaria Ferrer, secretary of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, to serve as president of the commission.

The pope set up the commission at the request of the International Union of Superiors General, the organization for the leaders of women's religious orders around the world. Meeting the group in May, Pope Francis said that while his understanding was that the women described as deacons in the New Testament were not ordained as male deacons are today, "it would be useful for the church to clarify this question."

The International Theological Commission, a body that advises the doctrinal congregation, included the question of women deacons in a study on the diaconate almost 20 years ago. While its report, issued in 2002, did not offer recommendations for the future, it concluded that biblical deaconesses were not the same as ordained male deacons.

In June, Pope Francis told reporters that he had asked Cardinal Gerhard Muller, prefect of the doctrinal congregation, and Sister Carmen Sammut, president of the superiors' group, to suggest scholars to include in the study group.

At least one of the members Pope Francis named to the commission — U.S. scholar Phyllis Zagano — has written extensively on the role of women deacons in the early church, arguing that they were ordained

ministers and that women can be ordained deacons today.

Zagano is a senior research associate in the religion department at Hofstra University in Hempstead, New York.

Zagano told Catholic News Service she learned of the appointment through emails from friends and that she was "happy for the church." She said she knew some of the people named to the commission but was not familiar with their writings on women in the diaconate.

"The theological question isn't whether women were ordained (in the early church), but rather whether women can be ordained as deacons. The church has stated definitively that women cannot be ordained as priests. The church has always left the question of restoring women to the diaconate as open," she told CNS Aug. 2.

"It appears to me that this is an opportunity for the church to discuss whether women can be restored to the ordained diaconate," she said.

Another U.S. scholar also is among the 12 commission members: Augustinian Father Robert Dodaro, president of the Pontifical Augustinian Institute in Rome and a professor of patristic theology specializing in the works of St. Augustine.

The other members of the commission are:

- Spanish Sister Nuria Calduch-Benages, a member of the Missionary Daughters of the Holy Family and member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission;
- Francesca Cocchini, a professor of church history at Rome's Sapienza University;
- Italian Msgr. Piero Coda, a professor of systematic theology and member of the International Theological Commission;



Phyllis Zagano, a senior research associate in the religion department at Hofstra University in Hempstead, New York, is seen in her office Aug. 2. Zagano, who has written extensively on the subject of women deacons, is one of six women appointed by Pope Francis to a 13-person "Commission to Study the Women's Diaconate." (CNS photo/Gregory A. Shemitz)

- Spanish Jesuit Father Santiago Madrigal Terrazas, professor of ecclesiology at the Pontifical Comillas University in Madrid;
- Angeline Franciscan Sister Mary Melone, a theologian and rector of Rome's Pontifical Antonianum University;
- Father Karl-Heinz Menke, retired professor of dogmatic theology at the University of Bonn and member of the International Theological Commission;
- Rwandan Salesian Father Aimable Musoni, professor of ecclesiology at the Pontifical Salesian University in Rome;

- Jesuit Father Bernard Pottier, professor at the Institute of Theological Studies in Brussels and member of the International Theological Commission;
- Marianne Schlosser, professor of spiritual theology at the University of Vienna and member of the International Theological Commission; and
- Michelina Tenace, professor of fundamental theology at Rome's Pontifical Gregorian University.

(Contributing to this story was Gregory A. Shemitz in Hempstead, New York.)

Papal academy convenes summit to tackle today's world refugee crisis

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — A papal think tank is convening a summit to tackle the threat to global stability posed by today's refugee crisis.

The Vatican summit will study ways to end the war in Syria; establish humanitarian corridors worldwide, not just in Europe; not punish Great Britain for its disenchantment with current European Union mandates; help the "disaffected working class" through increased social spending; offer amnesty to victims of human trafficking; and foster development in low-income countries.

"Walls and fences won't stop millions of migrants fleeing violence, extreme poverty, hunger, disease, droughts, floods, and other ills. Only global cooperation toward social justice can do that," the Pontifical Academy of Sciences said on its website.

Titled "Europe: Refugees Are Our Brothers and Sisters," the summit is scheduled for Dec. 9-10. A list of participants was not yet available as invitations were still being sent out, a source told Catholic News Service July 28.

The academy placed special emphasis on the importance of the world's mayors,

saying on its website, "they must be provided with the ability to meet the needs, accommodate and regularize all types of migrants or refugees" as well as promote cooperation and sustainable development, justice and peace.

The summit was called "to bring immediate attention to the threat posed to global stability by the growing presence on our planet of over 125 million refugees," who are in need of immediate attention, the academy said.

It said it was responding to Pope Francis' ongoing call to do more to prevent humani-

tarian crises and deliver concrete, adequate and timely responses to those most in need.

"Supplying tents and drinking water that arrive after everyone is dead of cold and dehydration is totally unacceptable," it said.

Ending all wars would do more than anything else to prevent humanitarian disasters and halt the exodus of refugees, it said, given that "three quarters of all humanitarian emergencies today result directly from war."

The remaining quarter of humanitarian crises are linked to natural disasters.

Suicide

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been writing on suicide, I have received many letters, emails and phone calls with anguished concerns about understanding mental health. One letter came from a woman, a brilliant psychoanalyst, somewhat anxious about her own steadiness and that of her family, who wrote: "Everyone in my family is brilliant, but none of us is very steady!" Of course, we all know families where the reverse is true.

In short, we need a better understanding of mental health; perhaps not so much among doctors, psychiatrists and mental health professionals, where there is already a considerable understanding of mental health and where valuable research goes

on, but within the culture at large, particularly as this pertains to suicide.

When we see someone suffering from a physical disability or a bodily disease, it's easy to understand this limitation and be moved to empathy. But this is predicated largely on the fact that we can see, *physically see*, the disability or the sickness. We may feel frustrated, helpless and even angry in the face of what we see, but we generally understand. We get it! Nature has dealt this person a particular hand of cards, no one's to blame!

But that's not the situation with mental health. Here the disability or sickness is not so overt or easily understood. This is particularly true where the breakdown of

a person's mental health results in suicide. For centuries, this has been badly misdiagnosed, not least morally and religiously. Today, more and more, we claim to understand, even as we don't really understand. A deeper, more-intuitive eye is still required. We still don't really understand mental fragility.

Our physical health can be robust or fragile, the same for our mental health. In both cases, how strong we are depends a lot upon the hand of cards we were dealt, our genetic endowment and the environment that shaped us. We don't get to order our bodies and minds from a catalogue, and nature and life don't always deal the cards evenly.

We need to better understand mental health and mental breakdown. Psychologically and emotionally, we are not immune to all kinds of cancers, strokes, diabetes, multiple sclerosis and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. And they too can be terminal, as is the case with suicide.

Father Rolheiser is a Missionary Oblate of Mary Immaculate priest. He is president of the Oblate School of Theology, San Antonio. As well, 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.

Mercy, poor at center of Blessed Teresa's canonization events Sept. 4

By Junno Arocho Esteves

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The poor, the suffering and those who minister to them will be at the center of celebrations leading up to the canonization of Blessed Teresa of Kolkata at the Vatican.

The main event — the canonization Mass — will begin at 10:30 a.m., Sept. 4, the Vatican announced Aug. 5.

A “family feast” for the poor, a musical, Masses and prayer vigils will precede her canonization, according to programs published by the Vatican and by the Missionaries of Charity, the order she founded.

Known as the “saint of the gutters,” Mother Teresa was revered for ministering to the sick and the dying in some of the world's poorest neighborhoods.

Born Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu in 1910 to an ethnic Albanian family in Skopje, in what is now part of Macedonia, Mother Teresa went to India as a Sister of Loreto in 1929. Receiving what she described as a “call within a call,” she began her missionary work with the poor and laid the foundation for what would become the Missionaries of Charity.

Following her death in 1997, St. John Paul II waived the usual five-year waiting period and allowed the opening of the process to declare her sainthood. She was beatified in 2003.

The date of Mother Teresa's canonization will coincide with the conclusion of the Year of Mercy pilgrimage for workers and ministers engaged in works of mercy.

Here are the main events planned around

the canonization of Mother Teresa:

- Sept. 1, “feast for the poor and Missionaries of Charity family,” including a musical based on Mother Teresa's life.

- Masses Sept. 2 in various languages in Rome's Basilica of St. Anastasia al Palatino and veneration of her relics. In the evening, a prayer vigil with solemn eucharistic adoration will be held at Rome's Basilica of St. John Lateran with Cardinal Agostino Vallini, the papal vicar of Rome, presiding.

- Catechesis Sept. 3 by Pope Francis for the jubilee celebration of workers and volunteers for mercy. In the evening, a prayer and musical meditation will be held at Rome's Basilica of St. Andrea della Valle, followed by veneration of Mother

Teresa's relics and Mass.

- Canonization Mass Sept. 4. Pilgrims will be able to venerate St. Teresa's relics in the evening at the Basilica of St. John Lateran.

- Celebration Sept. 5 of a Mass of thanksgiving and the first feast of St. Teresa of Kolkata in St. Peter's Basilica with Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, presiding. Pilgrims will be able to venerate the relics of St. Teresa at St. John Lateran in the evening.

- Sept. 6, continuing veneration of the relics of St. Teresa at St. John Lateran.

- Sept. 7-8, veneration of the relics of St. Teresa of Kolkata at Rome's Church of St. Gregory the Great, along with the possibility of visiting her room at the convent of St. Gregory.

Kolkata gears up for celebrations of ‘St. Teresa’ – photographers busy

KOLKATA, India (CNS) — A group of young independent photographers are busy clicking away, taking photos of the “City of Joy.”

Their photos, part of the crowdsourced “Sainthood Project,” will be displayed in several locations in Rome in early September, to coincide with the canonization of Blessed Teresa of Kolkata. The photographers are volunteers, trying to highlight aspects of the young Mother Teresa, who founded the Missionaries of Charity to serve the “poorest of the poor” in India. The young people are funding their own travel to Rome to participate in the ceremony and exhibit the photographs in open-air galleries.

“This is our tribute to Mother,” said Srijita Deb Burman, 25, a business professional. “These images will depict the inspiration that must have attracted Mother to this city.”

Although the Sept. 4 canonization is at the Vatican, Kolkata is making preparations. Scholars, priests, students and artists are continuously holding seminars, exhibitions and prayer meetings every day across the city to propagate “Mother Teresa's philosophy toward humanity.”

“I have made several new paintings depicting her ideology that will be exhibited at the arts exhibition at St. Xavier's School in Kolkata until her canonization,” said noted artist Sunita Kumar, a Sikh who

volunteers for the Missionaries of Charity.

Park Street, Kolkata's vibrant street and a prominent hangout for young people, has already been renamed Mother Teresa Sarani. Special festivities will continue in that area until Christmas.

At Mother Teresa's home, the headquarters of the Missionaries of Charity, the doors are open for all, and followers and admirers come every day, visiting and praying in her tomb. Many say they have been doing so for a long time and vouch that their prayers have been heard. Some people drop in to be counseled by the sisters, asking for solace; others come looking for medicine or other daily items.

“Mother Teresa has always been the icon for the confluence of faiths, and that's why I have such devotion for her saintly powers,” said Aarti Kumari, a Hindu and a

regular visitor who comes for counseling from the nuns on family issues.

Mother's home is already a place of worship, where novices and ordinary people can be seen carrying their books to the tomb seeking blessings.

“It was her influence that I joined the order at 18,” recalled Sister Ruth from Andhra Pradesh state.

Sisters Laisa and Ansavio stood near Mother Teresa's statue, distributing small packets of medicine to a few local visitors who had come seeking help.

“I came volunteering for Mother's home at her call, and I feel so fulfilled,” said a woman who identified herself only as Federica from Rome; she will return to Rome just before

the canonization.

Mother Teresa's relics have been placed near her tomb on the ground floor of the motherhouse, but very soon the place will

be dedicated for worship to the saint. Representatives of the Missionaries of Charity say they have plans for regular special Masses and prayer meetings.

A thanksgiving Mass will be held Aug. 26, Mother Teresa's birthday, ahead of the canonization.

On Sept. 4, nuns, novices and followers will participate in the canonization in St. Peter's Square through a live viewing party. “We, too, will witness the live ceremony here. This is a blessing and no one is going to miss it here,” said Sister Blacila.

About 30 members of the Missionaries of Charity will travel to the Vatican for the canonization. German-born Sister Mary Prema, superior general, is already in Rome to facilitate the process and accommodate the guests.

Later in September, a series of festivities have been planned across the city.

And the Vatican will anticipate the canonization of Blessed Teresa of Kolkata with a special postage stamp, which will be released Sept. 2, two days before Pope Francis officially declares her a saint.

The Vatican Philatelic and Numismatic Office announced the stamp's release Aug. 5 and distributed initial images of it.

The 95-cent stamp features a wrinkled but radiant Mother Teresa smiling in her blue-trimmed, white sari. Overlaid on the design by Patrizio Daniele is another image of her holding the hand of a small child.

The philatelic office will print and sell a maximum of 150,000 sheets of 10 stamps each.



The Vatican will anticipate the canonization of Blessed Teresa of Kolkata with this special postage stamp, which will be released Sept. 2, two days before Pope Francis officially declares her a saint. (CNS photo/courtesy Vatican Philatelic and Numismatic Office)

Why ‘Vikings’

From Page 7

himself oddly but unmistakably changed by the sacrament. In short, we find all of the confusion, fascination, explosive violence, and truly creative dialogue that we might expect from a real confrontation between faiths.

I would like to close with a third and final observation, this time about Rollo. Though the makers of the series have fudged things a bit for dramatic purposes, the historical Rollo, in point of fact, became a convinced Christian and established himself as leader in the northwest region of present day France. Since he and his fellows were “northmen,” the area became known as Normandy, and Rollo's great-great-great-grandson was William the Conqueror, who would have an unsurpassed influence on the

cultural development of Christian England. Indeed, Queen Elizabeth II, who carries the title “Defender of the Faith,” is ultimately descended from William and hence from Rollo. As Athelstan demonstrates, Christianity has always, at its best, had the power of assimilation, the ability to adapt to itself what is good, true and beautiful in other religions and cultural forms. How wonderful that “Vikings” manages to show this.

So if you're a bit tired of the dreary secularism that dominates so much of contemporary entertainment and politics, I might invite you to watch a program that makes religion — and Christianity in particular — the central theme.

Bishop Barron, also, is founder of Word on Fire Catholic Ministries.

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Athens — Father Martin J. Holler, a Diocese of Steubenville priest who is retired from active parish ministry, will celebrate the 10 a.m. Mass, Aug. 14, at Christ the King University Parish. In celebration of his 50 years of ordination to the priesthood, a reception will follow at Holy Family Center.

Caldwell — New officers for St. Stephen CWC will be installed Aug. 16, following the celebration of the 6:30 p.m. Mass, at St. Stephen Church. Installed for 2016-18 will be Carolyn Estadt, president; Lori Minyo, vice president; Sylvia Capello, treasurer; Jean Lowe, secretary; Sharon Hill, auditor; Connie Stiers, historian; Darlene Minosky, spirituality; Krista Schoeppner, leadership; and Beth Bridgman, service.

Cambridge — Father Matthew W.J. Gossett, parochial vicar to Father David L. Huffman, pastor of St. Joseph and St. Lawrence O'Toole parishes, Ironton, and administrator of St. Mary Mission, Pine Grove, will celebrate Mass at 5 p.m., Aug. 20, at St. Benedict Church, Cambridge. Prior to Father Gossett being ordained a priest for the Diocese of Steubenville earlier this year, he served in the summer of 2015 and on weekends during his final year of seminary formation as a deacon at Christ Our Light Parish. Following Mass, a light reception will be held in St. Benedict Church social hall.

Cambridge/Lore City — "Sundaes for Seminararians" will be held in the St. Benedict Church social hall, following the celebration of the 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Masses, Aug. 14, at St. Benedict Church, Cambridge, and in Sts. Peter and Paul Oratory social hall, Lore City, Aug. 21, following the celebration of the 12:15 p.m. Mass.

Gallipolis — Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults sessions, for anyone interested in learning more about the Catholic Church and Catholic faith, will be held at 11:15 a.m., Sundays, at the St. Louis Church Parish Center. For additional information, telephone the church office at (740) 446-0669.

St. Louis Parish will sponsor a spaghetti dinner from 4-8 p.m., Aug. 27, in St. John Paul II Parish Center. The menu will consist of spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, dessert and beverage. Cost for adults to eat is \$8; children, 12 years of age and under, eat for \$4; children, 3 years of age and under, eat for free. A raffle will be held at the event; entertainment will be provided by Gene France.

Ironton — Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults classes will be held for anyone interested in learning more about the Catholic Church, on Wednesdays, beginning Sept. 7, at 7 p.m., in St. Joseph Church undercroft. For additional information, telephone (740) 532-0712.

Marietta — In celebration with Pope Francis in this year of mercy, Sister of Charity of Nazareth, Kentucky, Luke Boiarski will speak on her missionary work of carrying out the corporal works of mercy, by bringing dignity and hope to those in need. Her presentation will take place Aug. 18, at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption. Sister Boiarski served at St. Joseph Parish, Tiltonsville, until she returned to her order's headquarters, in Kentucky. Msgr. John Michael Campbell, rector of the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, will celebrate Mass at 6 p.m., at the basilica. A complimentary dinner, which requires reservations to Robin Cleveland, (740) 568-8932, will be served at 7 p.m. Sister Boiarski's talk will begin at 7:30 p.m.

An inquiry session pertaining to Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults classes, which explain more about the Catholic faith and the practices of the Catholic Church, will be held at 7 p.m., Aug. 22, at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption social hall. Telephone (740) 373-3643, for additional information.

Marietta — In celebration of 120 years of St. Mary School, an open house will kick off festivities from 1-4 p.m., Aug. 21, in the Msgr. Kakascik Parish Center at the school, which is located at 320 Marion St. For photos and information on events throughout the year, visit www.stmaryscatholic.org/120. Email old photos or



"Cave Quest" was the title of vacation Bible school at St. Bernard Parish, Beverly, where Msgr. Robert J. Kawa, seated center, is pastor. Father Timothy J. Kozak is parochial vicar to Msgr. Kawa. Sixty-five youth registered for the July "Cave Quest," during which more than 30 teenagers were crew leaders and 15 adults assisted. Yvonne Huck, the parish's religious education coordinator since 1999, standing front, right, has orchestrated the yearly vacation Bible school for 14 years. (Photo by Angela Erb, St. Bernard parishioner)

memorabilia to 120years@stmaryscatholic.org.

St. Clairsville — Mass will be celebrated in Spanish at 2:30 p.m., Aug. 21, at St. Mary Church. The sacrament of reconciliation will precede Mass at 2 p.m.

A marriage preparation workshop will be held from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Oct. 15, at St. Mary Church Marian Hall. At the close of the workshop, the couple's engagement will be blessed. The workshop fulfills the diocesan requirements for marriage preparation. For additional information or to register for the class, telephone (740) 695-9993.

Steubenville — Two Rite of Christian Initiation

of Adults inquiry sessions, for anyone interested in learning more about the Catholic Church, will be held in the Marian Room at Holy Rosary Church, at 7 p.m., Aug. 28 and Sept. 1. For additional information, telephone (740) 264-6177.

Pre-Cana classes will be held in Holy Rosary Church Marian Room Oct. 7-8. For additional information, telephone Triumph of the Cross Parish office, (740) 264-6177. The class fulfills the diocesan requirements for marriage preparation. The application form can be found online at <http://www.triumphofthecross.org/new/sacraments/Marriage.asp>.

Around and About

Carrollton — A second annual St. John's Villa car and craft show will be held Aug. 27, at the Villa, which is located at 701 Crest St. Registration begins at 9 a.m. The car show will begin at 11 a.m. and continue until 3 p.m. Registration fee for the car show is \$10. New this year is a peddle car/tractor show. The craft show will begin at 9 a.m. and continue until 3 p.m.; tables are available for \$20. There will be concessions available throughout the event, as well as a 50/50 raffle. For additional information or to register for either event, telephone Susan DeChiara or Danielle Snider at (330) 627-9789.

St. John Villa's second annual "Jon Capri Memorial Classic Golf Outing" will be held Sept. 16, at Edgewater Golf Course, 2401 Fox Ave., Minerva. The day will begin at 8 a.m. with registration, coffee and donuts; the shotgun scramble will begin at 9 a.m. The event will conclude with a steak dinner and awarding of trophies. Telephone Susan DeChiara or Danielle Snider at (330) 627-9789, to register for the event.

Carrollton — Knights of Columbus Our Lady of Carroll County Council 15401 will be selling "Ohio Knights Football Sweepstakes" tickets. Each ticket provides a chance to win part of the \$2,500 awarded each week for 10 weeks. To purchase a ticket, telephone Dan Hitchcock at (330) 324-7635 or Joe Yoder, (330) 627-0534. Proceeds will be used to fund Knights' programs.

Churchtown — Vendors are being accepted for a Sept. 16-17 Knights of Columbus Council 4617 craft show, which will be held at the K of C hall, 17784 Ohio Route 676. Cost is \$20 for a table and two chairs; an additional table costs \$10; if electric is required, there will be a \$5 fee. Setup will be from 5-8 p.m., Sept. 15. A euchre tournament will take

place Sept. 16-17 at the hall. The craft show will be held Sept. 17, from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Food will be available for purchase both days. For more information, telephone Dean Brooker at (740) 749-1605.

North Canton, Ohio — Mary Queen of Heaven and Earth Chapter of Magnificat will sponsor a 50th breakfast celebration Sept. 10 at Walsh University, Barrette Center, 2020 E. Maple St. Doors open at 8:30 a.m.; breakfast will be served at 9 a.m. Cost is \$18; make checks payable to Magnificat of Stark County and mail to Debby Bentivegna, 5575 East Blvd. NW, Canton, OH 44718. Reservation deadline is Sept. 3. Mass will be celebrated in Our Lady of Perpetual Help Chapel, Walsh University, at 8 a.m. For additional information, telephone Shirley DeOrio at (614) 620-3169.

Steubenville — AIM Women's Center will sponsor a "Hero 5K Run/Walk" Sept. 3 at Jim Wood Park, Canterbury Boulevard. Participants can dress as their favorite superhero. Registration will begin at 7 a.m. The morning will include a competitive 5K run, at 8 a.m.; a free 1K fun run for children, at 8:45 a.m.; and a 2-mile walk, at 9 a.m. Visit www.crowdrise.com/AIMHERO5K, to register or to make a donation. For additional information, telephone (740) 283-3636 or (740) 346-6006.

Steubenville — A vigil Mass, to honor the Blessed Mother in preparation for the feast of the Assumption, will be sponsored by Knights of Columbus councils and the Father Bigelow Fourth Degree 803 Assembly Aug. 14 at Sacred Heart Villa, 36 Villa Drive. The celebration will begin at dusk, approximately 8:25 p.m. Father John J. "Jack" McCoy, pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Amsterdam, and St. John Fisher Parish, Richmond, will be the celebrant.

Steubenville Catholic War Veterans provide special Bible for Armed Forces

STEUBENVILLE — As a service to the men and women in the Armed Forces, Steubenville Post 1970 of the Catholic War Veterans is providing a special edition of the New American Bible to those in active service.

This is labeled by post members as not just an ordinary Bible, but one with the additions of essential Catholic prayers.

Included in the book is a letter to those in service from Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio, archdiocese for the United States Armed Forces. The letter concludes: “May all of those who take this volume in their hands, also be consumed by the word of God and with enthusiasm for making the presence of his kingdom known among the men and women of our time.”

Steubenville Post 1970 members said the American Bible society is supplying the Bibles at no charge to those in active service; the actual value of the book is approximately \$10-\$12.

The volume contains a mapping of Bible references to read the essential Christian teachings in 100 days. Each of these sections is introduced by a catchy, humorous

phrase, such as, “Nice Kitty, Kitty, Kitty” – see Daniel, Chapter 6, Verses 1-29, said Steubenville Post 1970 members.

Also, there is an explanation of the method of studying Scripture, known as “lectio divina,” included in the Bible.

In addition, this special addition has Mass readings to the year 2043, along with Bible references for different types of help and circumstances.

For a Bible readied for mailing to someone in the Armed Forces, telephone a member of the Catholic War Veterans post – Charles Menk at (740) 283-4568; Tim Allen (740) 381-2508; or Dan Grose (740) 346-0850.



Steubenville Post 1970 members Michael Sherman, Colleen Mackey, William Demjan, Jeff King, Mary King, Tim Allen, Father John J. “Jack” McCoy, pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Amsterdam, and St. John Fisher Parish, Richmond, Paula Grose, Dan Grose and Henry Portocarrero ready Bibles for mailing. (Photo provided)



Vacation Bible school was themed “Mercy Is Flowing: A Year of Mercy Jungle Adventure” at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption in Marietta. The 100 students in prekindergarten through grade five, 49 teen helpers in grades six through 12 and 30 adult volunteers relax after the Aug. 1-4 “adventure” at St. Mary School, Marietta. The vacation Bible school concluded with Mass and lunch. Joseph A. Schmidt, in back at right, is pastoral associate at the basilica; Msgr. John Michael Campbell, in back second from left, is basilica rector; Father Thomas A. Nelson, in back left, is parochial vicar to Msgr. Campbell. (Photo provided)

Steubenville Diocese native celebrates 70th jubilee as a Sister of St. Francis

STELLA NIAGARA, New York — A native to the Diocese of Steubenville is celebrating her 70th jubilee as a religious sister.

Sister M. Susanne Humpe, a Sister of St. Francis, is the celebrant.

Born in 1922, she is the daughter of Henry and Hedwig Krisch Humpe of

Steubenville. They were members of Holy Name Cathedral Parish in the See City.

Sister Humpe received her early education at Holy Name School in Steubenville.

In 1944, she entered the Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity at Stella Niagara, New York. She made her final profession in 1946.

Sister received her degree in education from Ohio Dominican College (now Ohio Dominican University) in Columbus, Ohio.

She taught in various schools and missions in Ohio, New York, South Carolina and West Virginia. While serving in the Diocese of Steubenville, she ministered at

a hospital – St. Mary’s – in Nelsonville.

A resident of her provincial motherhouse in Stella Niagara, now, Sister Humpe at 93 is the second oldest member of her community and the last of the 10 children of Henry and Hedwig Humpe, said her nephew, Joseph Humpe of Richmond.

Steubenville residents’ program on EWTN radio

STEUBENVILLE — Steubenville residents Greg and Lisa Popcak’s radio program has been added to the EWTN lineup, according to the couple.

The Popcaks have been informed their radio program “More 2Life” will air at 10 a.m. Eastern Standard Time and 9 a.m. Central Standard Time, beginning Aug. 15.

Members of Holy Family Parish in Steubenville, the Popcaks have led marriage enrichment for the Diocese of Steubenville. He has psychology and theology

degrees, a master’s in clinical social work and a doctorate in human services with a specialization in pastoral counseling. Greg Popcak, also, is an adjunct professor at Franciscan University of Steubenville. Together, the Popcaks have authored books and founded CatholicCounselors.com, a tele-counseling practice.

“We’re excited to be expanding our listenership,” the couple said.

Locally, they can be heard on God’s Love Radio 97.9 FM.

Obituaries

Dorothy Bonitati Bottegai, 96, Toronto, St. Francis of Assisi, July 31.

Thomas A. Brockmeier, 89, Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption, Marietta, July 21.

Nelson W. Gregor, 82, Steubenville, St. Joseph, Amsterdam, July 19.

Thomas B. Haney, 67, St. Joseph, Ironton, July 5.

Pauline B. Kolenich, 97, St. Clairsville, St. Mary, Aug. 1.

Rosalie Blua Kubat, 86, Dillonvale,

St. Adalbert, July 28.

Alfred Otte, 86, Dellroy, St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Morges, July 4.

Patricia A. Peach, 81, St. John Fisher, Richmond, July 20.

Kenneth C. Schultz, 83, Amsterdam, St. Joseph, July 18.

Gloria J. Stegner, 74, Triumph of the Cross, Steubenville, July 22.

Victor F. Zrinyi, 92, Triumph of the Cross, Steubenville, July 25.

It's not right to equate Islam with violence, Pope Francis says aboard flight

By Junno Arocho Esteves

ABOARD THE PAPAL FLIGHT FROM KRAKOW, Poland (CNS) — An economy that focuses on the God of money, not human beings, is the foundation of terrorism, Pope Francis said.

Speaking to journalists aboard his return flight from Krakow, Poland, July 31, the pope also stressed that violence exists in all religions, including Catholicism, and it cannot be pinned to one single religion.

"I do not like to speak of Islamic violence because every day when I look through the papers, I see violence here in Italy," the pope told reporters. "And they are baptized Catholics. There are violent Catholics. If I speak of Islamic violence, I also have to speak of Catholic violence," he added.

Spending about 30 minutes with reporters and responding to six questions, Pope Francis was asked to elaborate on comments he had made flying to Poland July 27 when he told the journalists that religions are not at war and want peace.

The pope's initial comment came in speaking about the murder July 26 of an elderly priest during Mass in a Catholic church in Saint-Etienne-du-Rouvray, France. Two men, armed with knives, entered the church during Mass. The attackers murdered 85-year-old Father Jacques Hamel, slitting his throat. The Islamic State group later claimed responsibility for the murder.

Although the death of the French priest was committed in the name of Islam, the pope said that it is unfair to label an entire religion violent because of the actions of a few fundamentalists.

"One thing is true. I believe that in almost all religions, there is always a small fundamentalist group. We have them, too," the pope said. "When fundamentalism goes to the point of killing – you can even kill with the tongue.

This is what St. James says, but (you can kill) also with a knife."

"I do not think it is right to identify Islam with violence. This is not right and it is not true," he said.

Instead, the pope said, that those who choose to enter fundamentalists groups, such as the Islamic State, do so because "they have been left empty" of ideals, work and values.

The pope was also asked about accusations of sexual abuse made against Australian Cardinal George Pell, prefect of the Secretariat for the Economy.

Pope Francis said the accusations are unclear, but are in the hands of investigators. He also warned against deeming alleged accusations true or false before they are investigated thoroughly.

"If I would give a verdict for or against Cardinal Pell, it would not be good because I would judge prematurely," he said. "We should wait for justice and not judge beforehand (or) a verdict by the press, a verdict based on gossip."

Pope Francis was also asked if he was all right after he stumbled and fell during Mass outside the Marian shrine of Jasna Gora in Czestochowa July 28. He missed a step as he was blessing the altar and an image of Mary with incense.

"I was looking at the Madonna and I forgot about the step," he recalled. "I had the thurible in my hand and I just let myself fall. If I had tried to resist, then there would have been consequences."



Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, the Vatican spokesman, right, looks on as Pope Francis speaks to journalists aboard his flight from Krakow, Poland, to Rome July 31. It was Father Lombardi's last occasion serving as papal spokesman. He is retiring after having served as director of the press office and Vatican spokesman since 2006. (CNS photo/Paul Haring) Haring)

Regarding his ability to speak and relate to young people, the pope told journalists that he likes to talk to them "because they tell me things that I never thought about before or that I never thought through."

He also emphasized the importance of a "dialogue between past and future" and said older and younger generations must learn to speak to and learn from each other.

"Listen to them, speak to them because they must learn from us and we must learn from them. That is how history is made, that is how we grow. Without closing them off, without censoring them," Pope Francis said.

Pope Francis calls youths

From Page 1

anyone," he said. "We have no desire to conquer hatred with more hatred, violence with more violence, terror with more terror."

Perhaps more than any event so far in the Year of Mercy, the World Youth Day celebrations focused on the traditional Catholic lists of the corporal and spiritual works of mercy: feed the hungry; give drink to the thirsty; clothe the naked; welcome the stranger; assist the sick; visit the imprisoned; bury the dead; counsel the doubtful; teach the ignorant; admonish sinners; comfort the sorrowful; forgive offenses; patiently bear with troublesome people; and pray

for the living and the dead. A year before the Krakow gathering, Pope Francis sent young people a letter asking them to prepare for World Youth Day by performing one of the works each month. And, in solemn prayer July 29, the pope and the youths meditated as the seven corporal works and seven spiritual works were paired with one of the 14 Stations of the Cross at the Krakow celebration.

"In the face of evil, suffering and sin," the pope told them, "the only response possible for a disciple of Jesus is the gift of self, even of one's own life, in imitation of Christ; it is the attitude of service. Unless those who call themselves Christians live to serve, their lives serve no

good purpose. By their lives, they deny Jesus Christ."

The reality of evil, violence and terrorism filled the newspapers in late July, strongly contrasting with the sight of young Catholics dancing in the streets of Krakow or a million of them on their knees before the Blessed Sacrament or thousands standing in line for confession in a park.

In Poland and on his return flight to Rome, Pope Francis did not ignore the signs of evil. But he made it clear his bet for a better future was on the hope-filled, energetic, courageous and open tendencies of the young. And their willingness to get to know those from another country, another race or another religion.

Pope Francis prays for peace, protection from violence, terrorism

KRAKOW, Poland (CNS) — Here is the English-language text of a prayer for peace and protection from violence and terrorism that Pope Francis recited July 30 at St. Francis Church in Krakow before heading to the World Youth Day prayer vigil:

O almighty and merciful God, Lord of the universe and of history. All that you have created is good and your compassion for the mistakes of mankind knows no limits.

We come to you today to ask you to keep in peace the world and its people, to keep far away from it the devastating wave of terrorism, to restore friendship and instill in the hearts of your creatures the gift of trust and of readiness to forgive.

O Giver of life, we pray to you also for all those who have died as victims of brutal terrorist attacks.

Grant them their eternal reward. May they intercede for the world that is torn apart by conflicts and disagreements.

O Jesus, Prince of Peace, we pray to you for the ones who have been wounded in these acts of inhuman violence: children and young people, old people and innocent people accidentally involved in evil. Heal their bodies and hearts; console them with your strength and, at the same time, take away any hatred and a desire for revenge.

Holy Spirit Consoler, visit the families of the victims of terrorism, families that suffer through no fault of their own. Wrap them in the mantle of your divine mercy. Make them find again in you and in themselves the strength and courage to continue to be brothers and sisters for others, above all for immigrants, giving witness to your love by their lives.

Touch the hearts of terrorists so that they may recognize the evil of their actions and may turn to the way of peace and goodness, of respect for the life and for the dignity of every human being, regardless of religion, origin, wealth or poverty.

O God, eternal Father, in your mercy hear our prayer which we raise up to you amidst the deafening noise and desperation of the world. We turn to you with great hope, full of trust in your infinite mercy. Made strong by the examples of the blessed martyrs of Peru, Zbigniew and Michael, who have rendered courageous testimony to the Gospel, to the point of offering their blood, we entrust ourselves to the intercession of your Most Holy Mother. We ask for the gift of peace and of the elimination from our midst of the sore of terrorism.

Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.