



www.rcan.org
Vol. 66 No.6
May 10, 2017

The Catholic
Advocate

The community newspaper of
the Archdiocese of Newark

Answering the call



On Saturday, May 27, seven new priests will be ordained by Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin in front of a joyous crowd at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark. The Class of 2017 includes, left to right, Father Philip Micele; Father Richard De Brasi; Father Jesus Carlo Leonardo Merino; Father Juan Alexander Ortega-Ortiz; Father Patrick J. Seo and Father Michele Mario Pedroni.

Advocate photo—Jennifer Brown

Father Kevin Valle Díaz,
inset, was in Rome
when this cover photo
was taken.



Marist High School to remain open

BAYONNE—On April 29, Head of School Alice J. Miesnik was notified that Marist High School will remain open. “This was the best phone call I have ever received,” Miesnik said.

This good news comes after the Marist Brothers announced on March 21 that the high school would close. The brothers could no longer financially sustain the school’s operating budget. On that same day, Friends of Marist Inc. launched the Save Marist NJ campaign to raise the necessary funds. The campaign to date has raised \$755,571. “The brothers were so impressed with the school community for their excellent efforts in fundraising and their tremendous hard work in meeting the challenges of the past month,” Miesnik said.

In a statement by the Marist Brothers, they acknowledged the school’s success: “The Provincial Council recognizes the tremendous hard work and effort the school put forth in its recent Save Marist NJ campaign. While the campaign did not reach its goal of \$1.5 million, it did raise a significant amount which has secured the school to be open for the next academic year.”

At Miesnik’s latest meeting with the school community, she emphasized that although the school proved it could “sprint,” they now have to commit to the marathon. The next step will be the formation of a long-range strategic plan that will pave the way forward. “While Marist High School has made con-



Submitted photo

Marist seniors, left to right: Daniel Ankunda-Mbayiki, Rebecca Skalski, Chynna Williams and Christ Hernandez.

siderable efforts to secure its future, the campaign to keep Marist High School a viable option for education in Hudson County will need continued diligence in three critical areas: increasing student enrollment, increasing fundraising efforts and continued collection of student tuition,” the Marist Brothers stated.

“Over the next month, the school administration and school board will work to develop a comprehensive strategic plan that will

address these needs and secure Marist’s future,” Miesnik explained. “Marist High School will do whatever it takes to ensure that the Marist mission of ‘making Jesus known and loved through the Christian education of youth’ continues.”

Miesnik expressed her heartfelt appreciation to everyone who helped save Marist High School. “Words cannot describe my gratitude to the parents, students, faculty and staff, alumni, board

members, community partners and the many, many friends of Marist who contributed to the success of the campaign. None of this would have been possible without them,” she said. “This is a special place, and the last month has shown that. Marist High School has emerged from this miracle month stronger than ever and, based on the support from this campaign, I am confident that Marist will remain open for years to come.”

The Catholic Advocate
PRINT & ONLINE

NJPA
New Jersey Press Association



USPS-008-380
ISSN# 1084-3213

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PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT:

The Catholic Advocate is published 7x per year (Jan. 4 & 25, April, May, June, Sept. & Oct.) by the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Newark at 171 Clifton Ave., Newark NJ 07104-9500. Periodical postage is paid at Newark, NJ and at additional offices.

Postmaster: Please send address changes to: P.O. Box 9500, Newark, NJ 07104-0500

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday thru Friday • 8:30 am to 4:30 pm • Tel: 973- 497-4200 • Fax: 973-497-4192 • Web: www.rcan.org

ADVERTISING:

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FREQUENCY FOR 2017:

PRINT: JANUARY 4 & 25, April 12, MAY 10, JUNE 14, September 13, October 11

ONLINE: February 15, March 15, July 19, August 16, November 15, December 20

Saint Anthony High School to Close Doors June 30

By James Goodness
Director of Communications

Despite a valiant effort by faculty, staff and stakeholders of the storied urban Catholic high school, the board of trustees of Saint Anthony High School in Jersey City, advised the archdiocese on April 4 that the school no longer was able to build enrollment or provide for a long-term financial support to sustain itself as a viable educational institution, and would cease operations on June 30.

In announcing the decision, President Bob Hurley said: "Those of us who have been involved in Saint Anthony's had weathered challenges to continue to remain open in years past. But even with the financial and moral support that we have received, it has become more and more clear that maintaining the school was becoming too difficult. We have decided, then, to look toward the best interests of the students now with us and help them find alternate Catholic school

choices for the remainder of their high school years."

In fall 2016, Saint Anthony's administration undertook a significant fund-raising initiative designed to provide a long-term source of tuition assistance and financial stability for the school. However, even after a cooperative effort with the Showtime cable television network, the response from potential donors was not sufficient to meet the existing obligations of the school during this current year.

In addition, only 11 students sought to enroll in Saint Anthony's freshman class for September 2017, resulting in a projected total enrollment of some 140 students for the coming fall. Over the last 10 years, enrollment at Saint Anthony's had declined by some 40 percent.

A number of factors contributed to this drop. Fewer school-age children in urban settings, the rising cost of education and the significant expansion of free charter schools placed Saint Anthony's in a less competitive position to attract the



kind of students that it had served traditionally.

In addition to general fund-raising sources, Saint Anthony's has been able to meet its annual operating costs over the past decade only after the archdiocese absorbed close to \$2 million costs for such major areas as pensions, insurance and health care for staff and operations expenses.

Since the announcement on April 4, school administration and the Archdiocesan Schools Office have been working with parents of Saint Anthony students to assist with the transition to other Catholic schools within the archdiocese. Current faculty members will be placed on a preferred eligibility list for positions at other archdiocesan schools.

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National Day of Prayer and Remembrance for Mariners and People of the Sea

WASHINGTON—The National Day of Prayer and Remembrance for Mariners and People of the Sea will be celebrated on May 22. The day is observed in conjunction with National Maritime Day in the U.S., which has been celebrated since 1933 to honor those who serve as merchant mariners and to recognize the benefits of the maritime industry.

Bishop J. Kevin Boland, bishop emeritus of Savannah, Ga., and Apostleship of the Sea (AOS) promoter, is encouraging dioceses to mark the national day by remembering the men and women of the sea in homilies and including special petitions during Mass. When Mass is celebrated, the text for the Votive Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Star of the Sea, is also encouraged.

Apostleship of the Sea is a worldwide Catholic maritime ministry that reaches out to seafarers, fishers, their families, port personnel and all who work or travel on

the high seas, regardless of race, color or creed. The maritime ministry shows the Church's care and concern to seafarers who are often away from home for many months because of the nature of their work. A network of AOS port offices and Catholic chaplains provides spiritual and practical assistance that accommodate a seafarer's unique lifestyle and needs.

In the United States, AOS is present in 53 maritime ports in 26 states and in 48 dioceses. Priest chaplains, deacons, religious and lay people extend hospitality by providing a "home away from home" for seafarers. AOS has 10 Stella Maris centers and more than 100 chaplains and pastoral teams, which provide many services, including: Mass, Communion, confession and other sacraments, assistance to seafarers in distress, ship visits, transportation to business centers, cell phones and phone

cards, as well as facilitating access to services that others provide.

On his love of the sea and ministry to the people of the sea, Bishop Boland said, "the needs of the invisible and silent merchant mariner, fisherman, seafarer spouse and retired seafarer to quality pastoral care are as needed as an inner-city community needs a pastor who is

a good community organizer, or a new subdivision needs a new parish... the Catholic Church's ministry to the people of the sea is not a marginal ministry, but is an essential ministry of the Church." He encourages dioceses with maritime personnel to ensure there is an active, viable Apostleship of the Sea ministry, and to ensure AOS port chaplains and pastoral agents have the proper training and support for this ministry.

More information, visit:
www.usccb.org/aos.

Pope: 'Vatican media reform must embrace the challenge of change'

(Vatican Radio) Pope Francis urged members of Vatican media platforms not to be afraid of reform, and to embrace the challenge of change that will enable them to bring the message of the Gospel to all.

Addressing representatives of the Secretariat for Communications (SPC) gathered for its first plenary assembly, the pope said that to "reform is not just to white-wash things; it's to give them a different form and organization."

Headed by Rev. Msgr. Dario Viganò, the new department was created by Pope Francis two years ago with the mandate to unify all Vatican communications platforms: the Vatican Television Center, the Vatican Publishing House, *L'Osservatore Romano* newspaper, Vatican Radio, the Holy See Press Office, the Vatican Photographic Service, the Vatican Internet Service, the Vatican Printing Press and the former Pontifical Council for Social Communications.

Describing the issues addressed during the plenary as "very dear to his heart," Pope Francis said the work taken on by the SPC aims to "find new criteria and new ways of communicating the Gospel of mercy to all peoples and cultures making use of the new digital culture at our disposal."

He highlighted the fact that the reform is not about coordinating or merging the various platforms, but sets up something completely new with a single and unified management that will be able to better respond to the needs of the Church's mission.

For instance, the Vatican newspaper is called to find a new and different way to reach a much higher number of readers than it does through its printed format.

Pope Francis encouraged the SPC to bring the reform to completion with an apostolic and missionary spirit, and asked there be a special regard and attention for situations of need, poverty and difficulty within the knowledge that they must be faced with adequate solutions:

"Let's all be team players in order to better respond to the new communication challenges posed by culture today without fear and without foreseeing apocalyptic scenarios."



CNS photo

Gospel message spreads with the Catholic Communication Campaign

WASHINGTON—The Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC) collection is an annual national appeal to support evangelization through the internet, television, radio and print publications. This year's collection will be taken up in many dioceses the weekend of May 27-28.

"At its core, this collection is a way for all of us to be evangelizers," said Bishop Joseph J. Tyson of Yakima, Wash., chairman of the CCC subcommittee. "The message of the Church is one of hope and mercy—that God walks with us and does not leave us to face our suffering alone. With the collection, this is the message that we share."

The Catholic Communication Campaign supports projects in the U.S. and in developing countries where the local Church lacks resources to spread the Gospel message.

One project consists of pro-

viding access to the daily Mass readings on the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' website. The collection also shares the travels and daily ministry of Pope Francis through its support of Catholic News Services' Rome bureau.

In addition, the Catholic Research Resources Alliance is preserving Catholic history in the U.S. thanks to a grant to digitize more than 87,000 pages of Catholic news content that will be available online free to researchers and educators. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, a Catholic Communication Campaign grant is enabling Radio Maria to expand to the Diocese of Goma to further the evangelization mission of the Church.

Fifty percent of funds collected remain in each diocese to support local Catholic communication projects.

For more information, visit:
www.usccb.org/cc.

Former Saint Joseph Regional High School students assist alma mater

MONTVALE—In 2015, Saint Joseph Regional High School enjoyed its most successful robotics season, qualifying for a national competition on the strength of six competition awards in local events. The Baskayan twins, Lucas and Eric, who are currently studying engineering at the Stevens Institute of Technology in Jersey City, were the leaders of that 2015 team.

Two years later, they returned to Saint Joe's to guide a young Green Knights Robotics team through its 2017 schedule. Their return was the result of a chance meeting with Saint Joseph President Barry Donnelly at the Marist Retreat House in New York.

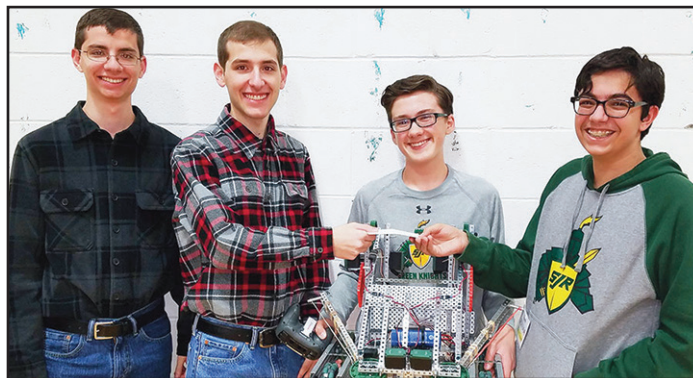
"We were there to assist the brothers on something that had nothing to do with robotics," Lucas said. "We met Mr. Donnelly, who thought our past experience with the VEX (a robotics company) program could be helpful to this year's team. We met Mr. Norm Myatt, the current moderator, and we basically became assistant coaches for the rest of the year."

Myatt said their contribution was invaluable. "They were able to help teach our freshmen and sophomores

the basics of robot design, as well as the techniques for building different types of robots," he said. "They were also able to explain to students how the actual competitions were laid out, and how to avoid some of the more common mistakes."

The result was a season in which the team garnered enough competition points to qualify for the New Jersey state VEX competition, where it finished 22 out of the 48 competing teams, which is impressive for a squad composed entirely of freshmen and sophomores.

"Without a doubt, the most rewarding aspect of our work this year was being able to see these guys, who knew very little in November, learn how to tackle the problems they would face in competition in a logical and rational way," Eric said. "Our experience at Stevens was a big help in this regard, since we have been taught that the engineering process is a sort of step-by-step procedure that must be followed to solve more complex problems. In addition, our two years at Stevens gave us enough basic knowledge to steer team members away from some of the mechanical and electri-



Submitted photo

Left to right: Saint Joseph Regional alumni Eric and Lucas Baskayan received an honorarium for their work with the robotics team from members Chris Flug and Sebastiano Rivero.

cal roadblocks that plagued us when we were building our first robots."

The Baskayans' willingness to give back extends to their grammar school, the Academy of Saint Paul in Ramsey. The brothers helped a group of eighth graders with their Future City project, a national competition that has students build the best city of tomorrow by overcoming engineering and scientific challenges.

Among the students they worked with was Quinn Burns, who made a

presentation of Saint Paul's "future city" at the Archdiocesan STEM fair at the end of March. Quinn will be a member of the Saint Joseph Regional High School Class of 2021 in September.

While both brothers said the future is bright at Saint Joseph's, especially with the introduction of a new robotics elective next year, they agreed that moving the program forward would depend on more student involvement.

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May 12

Office of Family Life

Ministries, Archdiocese of Newark, 30th annual liturgy for those whose children have died, at Notre Dame Parish in North Caldwell, 7:30 p.m., call Lauren Egan at (973) 497-4327 or e-mail eganlaur@rcan.org.

May 13

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Parish, Wallington, Mass of Healing, 10:30 a.m., (973) 778-7405.

May 16

Lumen Center, Caldwell, "Contemplative Prayer and Contemplative Color," begins with breakfast at 9:30 a.m., \$35-\$45, call (973) 403-3331 ext. 25 or e-mail lumencenter@caldwellop.org.

Madonna Parish, Fort Lee, annual carnival, through May 21, featuring rides, games, food and music, call (201) 944-2727 or e-mail info@madonnachurch.org.

May 18

Lacordaire Academy, Upper Montclair, annual used book sale, 4-8 p.m., May 19 from 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m.-5 p.m., call (973) 744-1156 ext. 27 or e-mail LacoBookSale@msn.com.

May 19

St. Joseph by the Sea Retreat House, South Mantoloking, "Blessings or Burdens" weekend retreat, through May 21, 6 p.m., \$210, (732) 892-8494.

Archdiocesan Youth Retreat Center, Kearny, Genesaret Weekend, retreat that

caters to spiritual and physical needs of people with life-changing illnesses, through May 21, free of charge, call Hilare Reinold at (732) 566-7237 or e-mail momr9@optonline.net.

May 20

St. Nicholas School, Jersey City, class reunion (1950-1990), 5 p.m., e-mail Carol Whelihan at cwhelihan@snsjc.com or Principal Bernadette Miglin at principal@snsjc.com.

May 24

Office of Family Life Ministries, Archdiocese of Newark, Natural Family Planning information night at St. Cassian Parish in Upper Montclair, 7:30-9 p.m., call Jill Cherrey at (973) 497-4325 or e-mail jillc@joyfilledmarriageenj.org.

Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry, Archdiocese of Newark, dialogue on youth ministry at the Archdiocesan Youth Retreat Center in Kearny, featuring guest Speaker Roy Petitfils, 7-9:30 p.m., RSVP to Rich Donovan at (201) 998-0088 ext. 4150 or e-mail donovari@rcan.org.

June 3

New Jersey Choral Society, Ridgewood, "Monteverdi Vespers 1610," at Immaculate Concep-

tion Parish, Montclair, 8 p.m., \$35 for adults/\$30 for seniors and students, call (201) 379-7719 or e-mail music@njs.org.

June 5

Lumen Center, Caldwell, "Soul Collage," begins with breakfast at 9:30 a.m., \$50, call (973) 403-3331 ext. 25 or e-mail lumencenter@caldwellop.org.

St. Catharine Parish, Glen Rock, summer bereavement support group, meet on Monday evenings from 7:30-9 p.m., eight consecutive weeks through July 24, (201) 444-9718.

June 8

Assumption Parish, Roselle Park, St. Anthony's Family Feast, featuring food, music, raffles and more, through June 11, from 6-11 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, Sunday 2-10 p.m., (908) 245-1107 or visit www.assumptionrp.com/feast.html.

June 15

Office of Family Life Ministries, Archdiocese of Newark, information session for couples interested in presenting new Pre-Cana program, at the Archdiocesan Center, 7:30 p.m., call Deacon James Detura at (973) 497-4324 or e-mail deturaja@rcan.org.

Obituaries

Sister Marion Farrell, S.C.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated April 18 at The Villa at Florham Park for Sister Marion Farrell, S.C., 74, who died April 9.

Born in Hackensack, Sr. Marion entered the Sisters of Charity on Aug. 18, 1997 and was a member for 19 years. She graduated from Clara Maass School of Nursing in Belleville.

Sr. Marion served in the health ministry in New Jersey and New York. She also served as a social worker in Fox House, NY. She was an administrator at Saint Francis Residence in Paterson, and an administrator in training at Preakness Healthcare Center in Wayne. Sr. Marion was director of health and wellness at Saint Joseph Rest Home in Paterson and director of social services at Lincoln Hill Village in West Milford.

Before her illness, Sr. Marion served as administrator at Saint Anne Villa in Convent Station.

Sister Elizabeth Cahill, S.C.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated April 26 at Holy Family Chapel, Convent Station, for Sister Elizabeth Cahill, S.C.,

81, who died April 23.

Born in Weehawken, she entered the Sisters of Charity on Aug. 20, 1959 and was a member for 57 years. Sr. Elizabeth attended the Academy of Sacred Heart in Hoboken, and graduated from Jersey City State College with a bachelor's degree in primary education and a master's degree in special education. She earned a master's degree in theology from Immaculate Conception Seminary in Darlington.

Sr. Elizabeth served as a teacher at the Academy of Saint Elizabeth, Convent Station; Saint Thomas School, Bloomfield; and Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament School, East Orange. She was parish director of religious education at Saint Thomas Parish in Bloomfield, and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Ridgewood.

Sr. Elizabeth was associate director for catechist formation for the Archdiocese of Newark and pastoral associate at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Scotch Plains. She also served as councilor and treasurer for the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth, Convent Station. Most recently Sr. Elizabeth served Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish in Maywood, as the pastoral associate for the homebound and the sick.



Cemeteries to celebrate Memorial Day Masses

On Monday, May 29, Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Newark will join with approximately 1,000 other Catholic Cemeteries nationwide to celebrate "Serving God and Country: A Memorial Day Salute to our Heroes." All Masses will be held at 11 a.m. at the following locations:

- **Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R.**, will be the main celebrant at Holy Cross Cemetery in North Arlington.
- **Rev. Msgr. Robert E. Emery** will be the main celebrant at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in East Hanover.
- **Rev. Msgr. Thomas P. Nydegger** will be the main celebrant at Maryrest Cemetery in Mahwah.
- **Bishop Manuel A. Cruz** will be the main celebrant at Saint Gertrude Cemetery in Colonia.
- **Rev. Msgr. Gregory J. Studerus** will be the main celebrant at Holy Name Cemetery in Jersey City.
- **Bishop John W. Flesey, S.T.D.**, will be the main celebrant at Christ the King Cemetery in Franklin Lakes.
- **Father Philip J. Waters, O.S.B.**, will be the main celebrant at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in East Orange.

For more information, visit www.rcancem.org

Saint Dominic glee club wins at festival



Submitted photo

The Saint Dominic Academy Glee Club, led by director Joseph Napoli, performed in Myrtle Beach.

JERSEY CITY—The Saint Dominic Academy Glee Club and Dominoes once again captured first place in the Open Division April 23 at the “Fiesta-val Invitational Choral Festival” in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

In the treble choir results, the

glee club averaged a “superior rating.” The Dominoes also earned a superior rating in the chamber choir category. The glee club’s accompanist, sophomore Christina Lai-Le, received an Outstanding Achievement Award.

On April 28, the Dominoes

performed at Saint Malachy’s, the Actors’ Chapel in New York City. Their performance was part of the National Catholic High School Choral Festival sponsored by Pueri Cantores, the official choral organization of the Catholic Church, under whose sponsorship members

of the glee club and Dominoes sang at the Vatican last New Year’s Day. Two days later, the glee club and Dominoes presented their annual Spring Concert, “A Girl’s Garden,” which choir director Joseph Napoli referred to as “a literary feast for English teachers.”

Children’s author inspires a love of reading at Oak Knoll

SUMMIT—To celebrate creativity, an award-winning author of more than 60 nonfiction books recently visited Oak Knoll’s elementary school with a special guest from the K-9 Unit of the Union County Sheriff’s Office.

Linda Bozzo, who has written books on service animals, in addition to books on dog breeds and the military, spoke to students for the school’s annual Author’s Day. Her presentation was followed by a demonstration by K-9 Officer Tim O’Grady, Detective Anthony Gialanella and Marco, a German shepherd.

Bozzo, who described the publishing process as well as subjects of her books, encouraged the students to visit their local library and fully embrace a love of reading, especially if they aspire to write someday.

“I am really convinced that the more reading you do, the better writer you will become. I was an avid reader when I was your age and I am an avid reader now,” Bozzo said.

Bozzo also encouraged any interested students who hope to become authors to start out small, noting how her own career began with



Linda Bozzo

writing in magazines.

Elinor Takenaga, Lower School librarian, praised Bozzo’s presentation, adding that the experience allowed the writing and publishing process to come to life for the students.

“We have so many aspiring young writers and for them to be able to connect these books to the person who wrote them helps them believe they can be a writer,” Takenaga said. “It just shows the kids the breadth of what’s possible.”



Submitted photos

Detective Anthony Gialanella and Marco

Celebrate Mary's Immaculate Conception



After 35 years of baby-saving work, Several Sources Shelters cordially invites you to attend a very special Open House, which will honor Mary's Immaculate Conception and explain how, by doing so in your community, many more innocent preborn lives can be saved.

When God taught us that Mary's soul was conceived without sin, then Mary must have had a soul at the moment of her conception. Therefore, does it not follow that each one of us is given a soul at the moment we are conceived? It is our faith and our belief that all preborn babies possess a soul from the moment of conception. Pregnant women are the custodians of their physical and spiritual components of the unborn child. We pray that they pray as they consider the fate of that unborn child.

We've been blessed to have young people from as close as Jersey City to as far away as China, suggest that this message should be spread throughout the world.

We hope, by visiting our Garden of Life, you will be inspired to create one in your home/school/church or own backyard.

Please visit our Garden of Life Website and watch the 11 minute video that explains the importance of the garden. Be sure to click on the sign on the upper left and have your sound up before you begin.

<http://www.severalsources.net/several-sources-gardenoflife.html>

Founder Kathy DiFiore invites you to our
Several Sources Shelters Open House
300 Airmount Ave. • Ramsey, NJ 07446

Sun. June 4, 2017 2-6 PM

Mon. June 5, 2017 2-7 PM

PO Box 157 • www.severalsources.net • e-mail: info@severalsources.net

MISSION STATEMENT

Through God's Grace, we save babies' lives and shelter their young mothers while providing ongoing compassionate support services including our Pregnancy Sonogram Center. We further teach our young mothers "Theology of the Body".

We also operate a daytime shelter for women who are homeless, sick and elderly as we help them to restore their dignity. *Several Sources is a registered 501-C3 Charity.*



11th July, 1989

Dear Kathy,

I thank God for your zeal for the lives of the unborn and your love for them are indeed manifest in all that you have been doing to awaken and create awareness of the sanctity and preciousness of the life of the pre-born.

*God bless you
Lee Teresa me*

Learn more about how to save God's innocent preborn



As mentioned previously, each one of us is given our soul at the moment of our conception.

Please visit <http://www.ourgiftofhope.com/> and watch the video entitled "**Learn How the Abortion Pill Lies**" where you will meet Rosemary Garrett, our Manager of our baby saving Sprinter and Sonogram Center. Rosemary previously worked for Planned Parenthood and now through your generosity is saving hundreds of preborn babies. She will be at all of our celebrations giving tours of our Several Sources Sonogram Sprinter.



At the invitation of Prof. Justin Anderson from Immaculate Conception Seminary at Seton Hall University, Kathy DiFiore Several Sources Founder, Sonogram Manager Rosemary Garrett and one of our pregnant moms, Alexis, visited the Seminarians on April 5th. We've invited these Seminarians to our Celebrations of Mary's Immaculate Conception as well. Each of these 9 Seminarians entered the Sprinter and viewed the sonogram of Alexis' 20 week old preborn baby boy. And each of these young Seminarians allowed us to videotape their thoughts immediately after seeing the baby's sonogram. We will be showing highlights of these interviews at our Celebration of Mary's Immaculate Conception.

The single most important thing we can learn and communicate to others is that God gives each of us our immortal souls at the moment of our conception. Therefore, these seemingly "innocent pills" are truly destroying God's precious little children and breaking His commandment, "Thou Shall Not Kill".



Congratulations
and
God's Blessings
to all
the newly ordained



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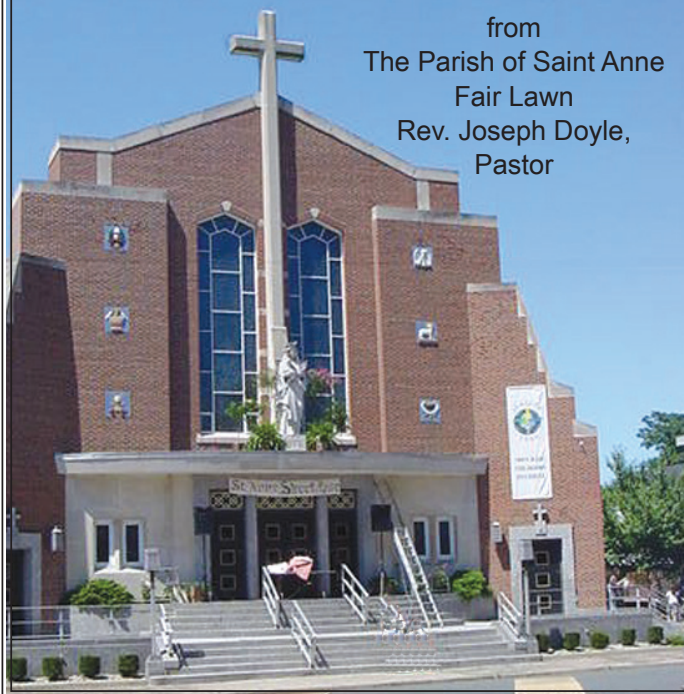
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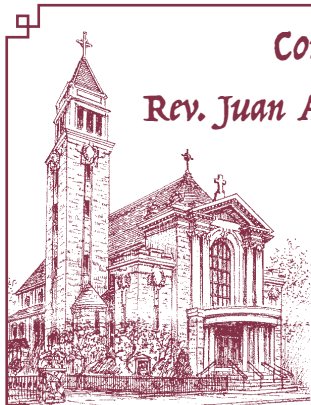
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Rev. Kevin Valle Diaz, may you receive every good blessing on this special occasion



from
the parish and families of Immaculate Conception,
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Reverend Jorge Chacon, Pastor



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Rev. Juan Alexander Ortega Ortiz

From St. Aloysius Parish
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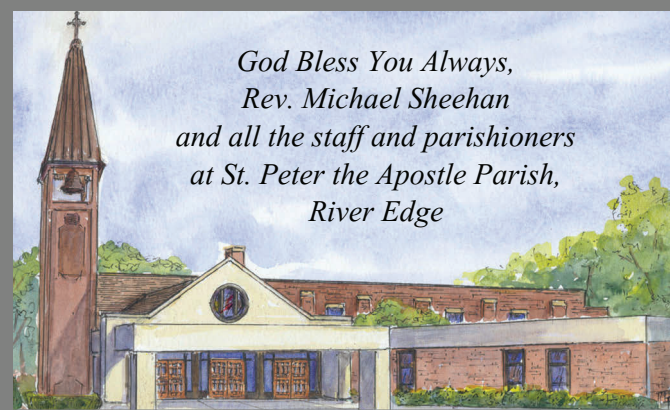
Reverend Richard De Brasi



*With prayers and
best wishes as you
are consecrated to
a life of service to
the people of God.*



*God Bless You Always,
Rev. Michael Sheehan
and all the staff and parishioners
at St. Peter the Apostle Parish,
River Edge*



Seven faithful men answer the call to priesthood

By Al Frank and Melissa McNally

Seven men are to be ordained priests of the Archdiocese of Newark on May 27, at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark.

Four of this year's class of priests were born overseas, hailing from countries including Colombia and the Philippines. All but two are over the age of 30.

From diverse backgrounds, the Class of 2017 will join some 700 other priests in serving the Archdiocese of Newark's 1.5 million Catholics in Bergen, Essex, Hudson and Union counties. Various factors influenced the new priests in answering God's call to serve His people.

Father Richard De Brasi

Age: 33

Place of birth: New York City

B.A. in English literature and music from Hunter College, New York City

Home parish: Our Lady Queen of Peace, Maywood



On his journey to priesthood, Fr. DeBrasi took a leave of absence from the seminary in 2011. During his three-year period of discernment, he served as a catechetical leader and had a moment of clarity about his true calling. "Priesthood felt natural, a calling that was similar to parenthood, with the further need to be childlike in depending on God yet mature the way a good theologian or philosopher is in the attempt to reflect light on a sometimes dark world."

Father Kevin Valle Díaz

Age: 27

Place of birth: San Salvador, El Salvador

B.A. in philosophy from Seton Hall University; S.T.B. from Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome

Home parish: Saint Mary of the Assumption and Immaculate Conception, Elizabeth



At the age of 15, Fr. Díaz and his family moved to Elizabeth from El Salvador. Later in life, he made another big move—he traveled to Rome to earn a degree in sacred theology. "One of the challenges of being away from the diocese is not to be able to interact with the people that I will minister to during my time of formation. Moreover, there is a special grace to study in Rome right now under the papacy of Pope Francis since I am able to personally hear all his catechesis and audiences. I believe that his invitation to the clergy to be spiritual fathers has really

touched the base of our ministerial core. We are not God's employees; instead, we should truly live our personal encounter with the incarnate Jesus in order to bring souls to His kingdom. I look forward to bringing my personal testimony of Jesus to the people I will minister to in the archdiocese."

Father Jesus Carlo Leonardo Merino

Age: 37

Place of birth: Taytay, Philippines

B.A. in humanities from University of Asia and the Pacific, Philippines; B.A. in theology from University of Navarre, Pamplona, Spain; B.A. in pastoral ministry from Seton Hall University

Home parish: Our Lady of Mercy, Jersey City



Following a music career in the Philippines, Fr. Merino joined the seminary in Spain before attending Immaculate Conception Seminary in South Orange. The death of his mother, who always supported his decision to join the priesthood, played a strong role. "My deep conversations with her through FaceTime, the memory of her voice, were spiritual consolations I received in prayer when she passed away. My mother suffered a lot of pain before she passed away; through her suffering, I came to experience a world that is vulnerable to suffering, and what suffering and death meant in the light of our faith. Through the suffering and death of my mother, my vocation to the priesthood assumed a dimension of life that meant nothing to me before. This painful event in my life shaped my conviction to become a priest and gave it a deeper meaning."

Father Philip Micele

Age: 27

Place of birth: Jersey City

B.A. in philosophy from Boston College

Home parish: Saint Bartholomew the Apostle, Scotch Plains



Fr. Micele believes serving in hospital ministry greatly impacted his vocation. "The most influential and inspirational people for me, both before and during my time in the seminary, are the ones to whom I've ministered in various settings—they always remind me in such powerful ways of my vocation to communicate and embody God's love to His people, especially the poorest and the neediest in our midst. My time in hospital ministry was a very profound experience, as it gave me the opportunity to work with people from a wide variety of cultures and religious backgrounds, and to experience the all-embracing scope of God's love in a very concrete and real way."



Photos by Jennifer Brown

Father Juan Alexander Ortega-Ortiz

Age: 34

Place of birth: Piedecuesta, Colombia

B.A. in philosophy from Seminario Mayor Arquidiocesano - Bucaramanga, Colombia

Home parish: Saint Aloysius, Caldwell



The eldest of four children, Fr. Ortega-Ortiz worked as an English and religion teacher at an elementary school in his home country of Colombia. Throughout his life, he felt God's call to the priesthood and entered the seminary in 2007. "Since I was a kid, I always liked to participate in everything at church, so much so that I even became an altar server. Little by little, I became closer to our priest and volunteered for different activities at church such as missions, Holy Week and Christmas. My pastor asked me to take part in a monthly meeting with some other guys and at the end of my last year of high school, I confirmed my decision to enter the seminary. I was so happy because that was what I wanted to do, to become a priest."

Father Michele Mario Pedroni

Age: 34

Place of Birth: Leno, Italy

B.A. and M.A. in theology; M.Div. from Seton Hall University, South Orange



Home parish: Sts. Peter and Paul, Gottolengo (Italy)

A native of Italy, Fr. Pedroni joined the Neocatechumenal Way in 2003. He moved to the Archdiocese of Newark and began attending the Redemptoris Mater Seminary in Kearny in the fall of 2006. "By participating in the life of the small Christian community of the Neocatechumenal Way, I began to discover more deeply that I was loved by God in his son Jesus Christ through the Word of God, the sacraments and the life in the community. In fact, prior to that I was living in an existential crisis with a meaningless life—I had everything but I had nothing."

Father Patrick J. Seo

Age: 32

Place of birth: Brooklyn, NY

B.A. in liberal arts from Thomas Aquinas College, Santa Paula, CA

Home parish: Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark



Before joining the seminary, Fr. Seo was interested in becoming a Carthusian monk. After a visit to their monastery, a diocesan priest helped guide him to priestly life. "I realized that the silence and solitude of Carthusian life was something toward which I was already naturally inclined, but there were aspects of my life in which I felt fearful, particularly public speaking, which the silence of the Carthusians would not have served to strengthen me in my weakness. I pray the Lord will fill me with His spirit so that I might better serve the people of His church and get my whole self into heaven."

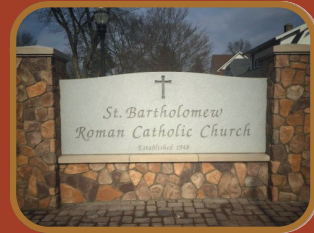


May God
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in your
priestly
ministry!

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Rev. Philip Joseph Micele

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(Rite of Ordination to the priesthood)

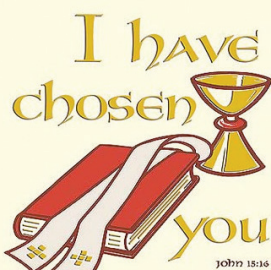
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The Parish Family
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extends prayerful congratulations to
Rev. Mr. Patrick J. Seo
upon his ordination to the priesthood.

*We are grateful, Deacon Patrick,
for your example of joyful service
of God and His People.*

Ad multos annos!

Rev. Msgr. Timothy J. Shugrue, Pastor

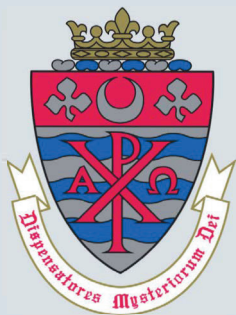


Congratulations

Father Richard De Brasi on your
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Reverend Richard De Brasi
Reverend Jesus Merino
Reverend Philip Micele

Reverend Mr. Gabriel Perdomo
Reverend Mr. Sebastian Valencia
Reverend Juan Ortega
Reverend Patrick Seo
Reverend Kevin Valle

May God bless you in your future ministry.

Ad multos annos!

Mother Seton engineering project selected 'top prototype'

CLARK—The engineering design process class at Mother Seton Regional High School recently built prototypes of disaster-resistant sustainable houses. Led by instructor Katherine Sullivan, six groups of four students chose a country and researched natural disasters and resources available in each location.

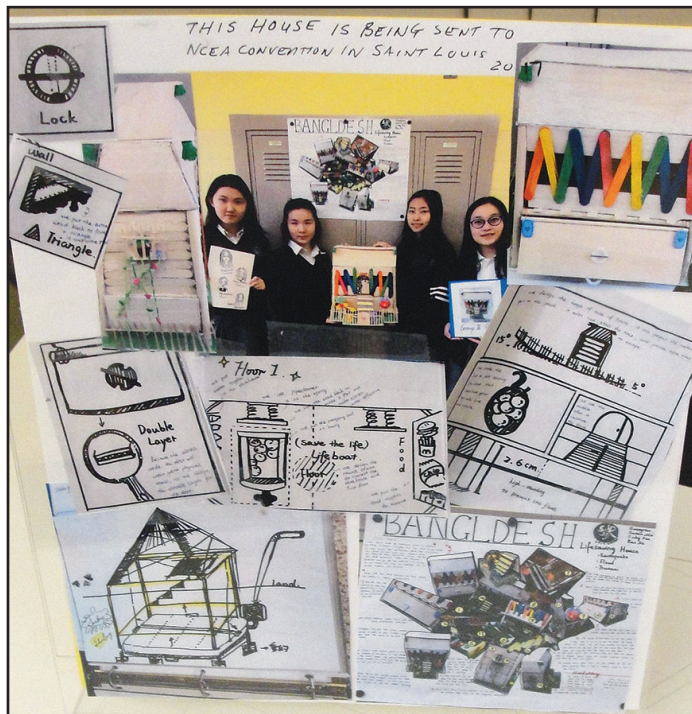
Of the six houses built, the Bangladesh prototype was selected by the Archdiocese of Newark Schools Office to be displayed at the National Catholic Educational Association Convention last month in St. Louis, Mo. The model included a turbine that would raise the home one story in the event of a disaster, while releasing two fully-stocked life boats that could be released by an indoor lock.

In Sullivan's class, each of the student groups kept an engineering notebook that chronicled their process. Each member of the group was given a specific job title as either project manager, structural en-

gineer, design engineer (architect) or marketing manager. Each student listed her own specific job responsibilities. The groups brainstormed various designs, built a prototype of the chosen design and tested each house to see if it could withstand a specific natural disaster.

Students also researched the customs of the people in each country in order to design comfortable homes that fit their lifestyles. Prototypes were made for homes in China, Ecuador, Fiji, Japan and Thailand. They were designed to withstand earthquakes, tsunamis, floods and strong winds. The unique characteristics of the homes and the cost of materials used were presented in marketing posters as a culmination of each engineering project.

The Bangladesh sustainable home represents the best prototype of all the high schools in the archdiocese participating in the engineering design program.



Submitted photo

Felician University hosts business symposium

RUTHERFORD—Felician University School of Business recently held its seventh annual Business Symposium. The subject of the event was "Lessons in Leadership," inspired by the new book of the same name by moderator and featured speaker, Steve Aduabato. He was joined by panelists Kevin Cummings, CEO, Investors Bank; Bill Heller, senior vice president and general counsel, NY Giants; and Dr. Anne Prisco, president, Felician University.

"I am not a scholar of leadership," Aduabato said. "I am a practitioner of leadership. At Felician, I believe that the teaching of leadership is grounded in practicality."

This session discussed many aspects of leadership, and the panel provided practical examples of how to deal with success and failure, the impact of technology and the importance of communications.

The symposium was meant to enhance the classroom experience by providing direct exposure to



Submitted photo

Steve Aduabato engages with students in the audience at Felician's seventh annual Business Symposium as panelists look on.

leaders of the business community. "Felician students gained valuable lessons and inspiration as they listened to stories about

real-life leadership challenges and solutions," said Bob Evans, dean of the Felician School of Business. "The symposium provided

our students with practical tips and tools as they prepare to join the workforce and become the leaders of tomorrow."

Georgian Court and Immaculate Conception High School sign guaranteed admissions agreement

MONTCLAIR—Georgian Court University is making it easier for students at Immaculate Conception High School to get into college. A new guaranteed admissions agreement, signed on April 5, offers Immaculate Conception students a seamless transition from high school into the Lakewood-based university.

"This is an important relationship for Georgian Court, not only because you're Lions and we're Lions; we share a mascot, but we also share a mission. It's important to continue to expand Catholic education to give students the opportunity to continue their journey into higher education through Georgian Court," University President Dr. Joseph R. Marbach said.

Immaculate Conception High School President Celia Honohan told her students this was a "historic day." She added: "It's redefining how we do admissions. We are looking at your future because it is right around the corner."

In addition to ensuring access to a quality education, both institutions are equally concerned about making sure students graduate and take their education to the next level.

"The guaranteed admissions agreement directly benefits Immaculate Conception students who are looking to continue their education by providing seamless admissions and financial aid processes, early academic advising and increased scholarships," explained Justin G. Roy, Georgian Court dean of admissions.

"I am thrilled and honored to enter into this partnership with Georgian Court, an outstanding Catholic college on a beautiful campus," said Immaculate Conception Principal Michele Neves. "I know the fine work done at the university, and even more than that, I am impressed by the care Georgian Court takes of all of its students. I look forward to a long, healthy and happy partnership. May God continue to bless both of our communities."



Submitted photo

Left to right: Immaculate Conception High School Principal Michele Neves; Immaculate Conception President Celia Honohan; Georgian Court University President Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D.; and Georgian Court Dean of Admissions Justin G. Roy.

The new agreement reflects the institutions' shared commitment to providing meaningful, viable options for those pursuing higher education.

"You may be the first person in your family to go to college. At Georgian Court, we celebrate that. More than 40 percent of our students

are the first in their family to go to college," Marbach said.

"Just for being a student and graduating from here, you're eligible for \$10,000 to \$19,000 per year to start. We have other scholarships on top of that, depending on what you're involved in," explained Roy.



Advocate photos- Melissa McNally

At the Archdiocesan Center in Newark, members of the Restoration Workshop from Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in West Orange presented gifts to this year's ordination class that once belonged to deceased archdiocesan clergy. Workshop volunteers restore and refurbish religious items, including rosaries and artwork, to give back to the young priests. Photos at left, Father Michele Mario Pedroni receives a gift from Lisa Westheimer as Rosalinda Sanieles looks on. Above photo, Father Philip Micele.

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Official Appointments

Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R. has announced the following appointments:

PASTORS

Very Reverend Robert G. Laferrera, Pastor of Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Parish, Roseland, has been granted an extension to his pastorate ending June 30, 2019.

Reverend George J. Ruane, Pastor of Holy Rosary Parish, Edgewater, has been granted an extension to his pastorate ending June 30, 2019.

CHAPLAINS

Reverend John M. McCrone has been appointed chaplain of the Saint Rose of Lima Council #6386 Knights of Columbus, Short Hills, effective immediately.

Reverend James F. Spera, has been appointed chaplain of the John Dawson Gilmory Shea Assembly Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus, Roselle Park, effective immediately.

OTHER

Reverend Zbigniew Kukielka, has been appointed formator to the faculty of the Redemptoris Mater Archdiocesan Missionary Seminary, effective June 21.

RESIDENCE

Reverend Doroteo B. Layosa, II, serving at Paramus Catholic High School, has been assigned to residence at Our Lady of Visitation, Paramus, effective July 1.

RETIREMENTS

Reverend Joseph S. Bejgrowicz, has been granted retirement, effective July 1.

Reverend Matthew L. Fonseka, has been granted retirement, effective July 1.

Very Reverend Charles P. Granstrand, has been granted retirement, effective July 1.

Reverend Peter Phong Cao Vo, has been granted retirement, effective March 1.

RENEW International to host gala June 8

RENEW International, a Catholic not-for-profit organization based in Plainfield, will hold its 18th annual fund-raising gala on June 8 at the Pleasantdale Chateau in West Orange. Sr. Terry Rickard, O.P., RENEW International's president and executive director, will present awards to four notable Catholics whose lives reflect the values embodied in RENEW's mission of empowering communities and individual women and men to live out their faith in daily life.

Former U.S. Representative Tony Coelho will be honored with the Spirit of RENEW Award. Coelho sponsored the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, which was signed into law on July 26 of that same year. "When I left Congress I did not leave ministry," Coelho said. "I continue to counsel young people with disabilities facing suicide, serve on many boards and most recently created the Center for Persons with Disabilities at Loyola Marymount in Los Angeles."

Sue and Dave Janazzo of New Providence will receive the President's Award. Both are engaged members of Our Lady of Peace Parish.

Rev. Msgr. Edward J. Ciuba will be honored with the Msgr. Thomas A. Kleissler Award. Msgr. Ciuba is a former professor and rector of Immaculate Conception Seminary and is the author of "Creation at the Crossroads," RENEW's resource for small groups—a response to Pope Francis' exhortation *Laudato Si*.

RENEW International's gala raises funds each year to support the organization's mission of building dynamic communities of faith. RENEW has pastoral services for parishes and campuses in the United States and beyond.

For more information, contact Sr. Honora Nolt, O.P., at (908) 769-5400 ext. 162 or visit www.renewintl.org/gala.

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This individual will be responsible for serving the Diocese of Trenton in areas relating to Catholic Social Services in the four counties of the Diocese as well as any new initiatives to be proposed and/or established.

The Executive Director of Catholic Social Services will be a member of the Diocesan Curia and report directly to the Bishop; serve as the Diocesan representative and delegate of the Bishop to all offices, agencies and organizations in the Diocese of Trenton that administer diocesan and parish based social services; may serve as a member of the Board of Trustees of designated Catholic agencies; convene meetings of Catholic Social Service agencies and parish outreach ministries; work with the New Jersey Catholic Conference (NJCC) to organize for effective legislative advocacy within the Diocese; raise awareness about the social mission of the Church and to develop a sense of shared responsibility among all Diocesan constituencies.

The successful candidate must be a practicing Roman Catholic in good standing with a Master's Degree in Social Work (MSW) and 3-5 years of human services and/or not-for-profit work experience with increased levels of responsibility, specifically in a Leadership role.

The preferred candidate must have a valid driver's license and a willingness to conduct site visits when needed. This individual will also possess strong verbal and written communication skills, excellent management and leadership skills and be able to collaborate effectively with others in ministry, including interfaith partners when necessary.

The Diocese of Trenton offers competitive salary/benefits. No telephone calls will be accepted. Qualified individuals should submit a resume and a cover letter with salary requirements, professional and personal references, and a time frame for availability to:

Angela Gitto
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Email application to Msgr. James T. Mahoney, S.T.M., Ph.D., Pastor, Corpus Christi Parish, at jmahoney@corpuschristi.org with subject line: APPLICATION. The application should include the name and address of the applicant's parish and pastor.

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The Archdiocese of Newark takes very seriously any and all credible complaints of sexual misconduct by members of the clergy, Religious and lay staff of the archdiocese. We encourage anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct to inform the archdiocese immediately so that we may take appropriate action to protect others and provide support to victims of sexual abuse.

Individuals who wish to report an allegation of sexual misconduct may do so by calling the Archdiocesan Office of Child and Youth Protection at (201) 407-3256.

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Announcement

COURAGE

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For information, call **908-272-2307**
or **201-220-3968 (Bergen County)**
(All calls confidential)

Holy Angels students visit U.N.

DEMAREST—Three seniors from the Academy of the Holy Angels were on hand as world-renowned girls' education advocate Malala Yousafzai was named the United Nations Messenger of Peace.

Alexandra McCartha, Katherine Staff and Amanda Hernandez are leaders of Holy Angel's Girl Rising Club, which highlights the importance of education for girls. The club shares its name with a documentary that illustrates how girls in developing countries struggle to get an education. Club members recently showed segments of "Girl Rising" during the keynote portion of the school's Awareness Day, "Empowering Girls: Connecting Mind, Body and Spirit." One of the film's producers later invited the students to attend the Yousafzai's United Nations visit.

U.N. Secretary General António Guterres introduced Yousafzai, call-

ing her a hero—a description borne out by her life story.

In 2008, Malala spoke to a local press group, courageously questioning the Taliban's decision to ban education for girls in her native Pakistan. The following year, she wrote a blog (under a pseudonym) for the BBC Urdu web-site, describing the Taliban's occupation of Swat, including the destruction of more than 100 girls' schools. She was not yet a teen at the time.

She later became a peer educator and promoted journalism, debate and dialogue as vehicles for young people to make an impact. Yousafzai garnered world-wide recognition when a Taliban gunman injured the teenager during an assassination attempt on Oct. 9, 2012.

In 2014, at the age of 17, she became the youngest Nobel Peace Prize laureate. She has received



Submitted photos

Left to right: Holy Angels students Katherine Staff, Amanda Hernandez and Alexandra McCartha.

numerous other awards and honors, including the Sakharov Prize, the Simone de Beauvoir Prize, the United Nations Prize in the Field of Human Rights, the Ambassador of Conscience Award, the Mother Teresa Award and Pakistan's first National Youth Peace Prize. Her book, "I Am Malala," is an international best-seller and earned a Goodreads Choice Award in the best memoir and autobiography category.

Now 19, Malala resides in Birmingham, England. She is the founder of The Malala Fund, a non-profit organization that strives to ensure that girls receive at least 12 years of education.

"As a student in a private all-girls school, I feel privileged and fortunate to have the benefit of an excellent education where I am pushed to excel in an all-female environment," Hernandez said. "The notion that so many girls are denied the basic right to an education is

shocking and unacceptable to me.

It was inspiring to hear Malala express her views and the fact that she remains undeterred in her mission to fight for equality for all. Importantly, Malala not only stands up for the girls in her country, but she is also an important symbol to girls all around the world and her message extends beyond education."

Hernandez was inspired by the education advocate's belief in the power of young women to make a difference. "Malala believes that every girl holds an inherent power to make a change, and it need not be big. She emphasized how a small change can trickle into bigger changes," she said. "Malala explained how an educated girl has the power to change the society around her in a positive way. I was especially touched and inspired when she said, 'Your ideas are important. Your thoughts are important. Believe in them.'"



In March, Academy of the Holy Angels students Jaya Sharma and Arianne Rowe visited the U.N. to attend the 61st United Nations Commission on the Status of Women. The trip was coordinated by the School Sisters of Notre Dame.

The June 14th issue of
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Seton Hall-Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine appoints founding board of governors

NUTLEY and CLIFTON—The new Seton Hall-Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine has appointed its founding board of governors, a diverse group of leaders from the public and private sectors to help guide the school, slated to open in 2018.

With backgrounds in health care, finance, business, government and theology, the board brings a wealth of experience and strategic capability to the new school.

"We are grateful to our board of governors who will play a critical role in helping the school fulfill its mission to train physicians grounded in our Catholic values and committed to delivering the highest quality of health care to all patients," said Dr. Bonita Stanton, founding dean of the new school of medicine. "In order to maximize the health outcomes of all persons, including those historically marginalized by race or socioeconomic status, we shall ground our students in community, clinical and laboratory ex-



Submitted photo

The former Hoffmann-La Roche site in Clifton and Nutley.

periences and scholarship that will advance the horizons of medical and health science in our state and nation."

"It is an honor and a privilege to welcome Joseph Simunovich in his new role as chair of the Seton Hall-Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine board of governors, along with the entire founding

board," said Robert C. Garrett, co-chief executive officer of Hackensack Meridian Health. "Each member brings a wealth of experience and insight that will be essential as we continue to develop and look forward to training the physicians of the future."

Other board of governors members include: Edward E. Barr; Linda

Bowden; Eun-Sook "Lucy" Cho-Lee, M.D.; Mary Ann Christopher; James E. Collins; John J. Degnan; Francis J. Hager; Gordon N. Litwin; Robert O'Hara; Rev. Msgr. Joseph Reilly; Daniel E. Straus; John F. Swift; John F. Williams, M.D.; and Bonita F. Stanton, M.D., ex officio member.

The Seton Hall and Hackensack Meridian Health partnership is expected to provide a significant economic boost to the region and help curb the critical physician shortage that New Jersey and the nation currently face.

In 2016, Seton Hall and Hackensack Meridian Health signed a long-term lease agreement for a new health and medical sciences campus consisting of 16 acres and two buildings on the former Hoffmann-La Roche biomedical campus in Nutley and Clifton. In addition to the school of medicine, the new campus will also house Seton Hall's College of Nursing and School of Health and Medical Sciences.

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Caldwell nurses receive blessing



Submitted photo

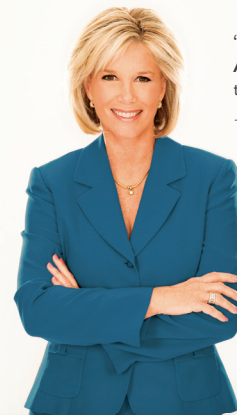
The Caldwell University nursing department recently held its annual Blessing of the Hands ceremony for junior nursing students. Dr. Barbara Chesler, vice president for academic affairs, said it was a time to celebrate “our call and gifts and to remember how much we need one another.” The blessing, she explained, “symbolizes our belief in the sacredness of our everyday lives and work.” Caldwell President Nancy Blattner reflected on the Scripture verse from Isaiah 49. She reminded the students that God holds them in the palm of His hand and, in turn, they have the important work of holding others in the palm of their hands as nurses.

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