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The Catholic Advocate



Vol. 67 No.7

The community newspaper of the Archdiocese of Newark

July 18, 2018

Interfaith leaders welcome Muslim community

By Melissa McNally
Editor

Father Joseph D'Amico, pastor of Our Lady of the Lake in Verona, and a few of his parishioners attended a dinner last month to welcome some new neighbors. The recently-opened Verona Islamic Center, on the site of the former Congregation Beth Ahm synagogue, invited members of local Christian communities to *iftar*, a meal that breaks the fast during the holy month of Ramadan.

The group of about 30 people included representatives from the First Congregational Church of Verona, Holy Spirit Episcopal Church, First Presbyterian Church of Verona and congregants of the Islamic center, or mosque. Egyptian native Dr. Montaser Awad, a Verona resident for 20 years and professor at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, organized the creation of the mosque and extended an invitation to the faith leaders.

In a letter signed by clergy of the four faith communities, it stated they "extend a word of welcome, peace and inclusion to our new Muslim neighbors. With this message, we welcome you to our lovely township and look forward to being companions of faith as we journey together in holiness."

After a brief introduction, the visitors were invited to a Muslim prayer service followed by a dinner celebration.

"There was an incredible feast waiting for us," Father D'Amico said. "Members of the Islamic center said they were excited to work and pray with us. The bottom line is that the Muslim community wants to be seen as prayer partners and co-worshippers."

The pastor also pointed out that in this recent political climate, the dinner provided an opportunity to come together and try to understand one another. "All of us sharing a meal at the mosque humanized the diversity in the United States," Father D'Amico explained. "It is not often that we get to sit down and



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Guests at the interfaith *iftar* dinner received gifts from the Verona Islamic Center.

share a meal with our Muslim neighbors. It was a time of prayer, fellowship and comradeship."

As a show of appreciation for the visit, guests received a fruit basket handed to them by children from the mosque.

"We are common believers in one God," Father D'Amico said. "We are all children of Abraham and Sarah."

The similarities between the faiths were highlighted during the prayer service. "Our hosts gave us an English translation of the prayer and, to my surprise, it was related to the story of Zachariah and the birth of John the Baptist," said Kathy Van Benschooten, a lifelong parishioner of Our Lady of the Lake.

"I think the meeting went over well," added Patrick Pontoriero, who's been a parishioner of Our Lady of the Lake for more than 45 years. "They told us a little about their faith and we told them about ours."

Pontoriero and his wife, Dorinda, have traveled to Turkey and Israel in the past and have "open feelings" toward the Muslim community. "The people we met at the Islamic center were mostly profes-

sional, like doctors that travel to different countries to work," he said. "Everyone was very friendly and we left on a cordial note. All of us at the dinner intended to stay in touch."

Each year, the different religious communities in Verona host an interfaith Thanksgiving service. This year, Our Lady of the Lake will host the event, and Father D'Amico hopes congregants of the mosque will join them. "We will be sure to include a prayer in Arabic."

Joann Barker, who has lived in Verona for years, said the dinner opened her eyes to people in her own neighborhood. "I didn't know so many Muslims lived in our town," she said. "Before the Verona Islamic Center opened, they would

travel to other towns and worship."

Barker has always been interested in learning about other religions and went to the meeting with an open mind. "You don't have to believe in my religion as long as you have a belief system and are a good person. It was a lovely evening with pleasant conversation where we discussed the town, faith and our lives."

Linda Rachel thought the dinner was "a pleasant surprise" and that the Muslim community, like the Christian communities, just wants a space to practice their faith.

"It was enlightening to learn more about Islam," Rachel said. "The Muslim community are peaceful people, not some radical group. We are all one family."

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Singer, theologian and warrior in the fight against addiction

By Michael Ricciardelli

Keaton Douglas was a vocalist of some repute and range. Noted for her versatility, she regularly performed operatic works, jazz ballads and Big Band swing in some of the finest venues in the country, including two presidential inaugurations, a number of top-line hotels in Las Vegas and Atlantic City, Virginia's Busch Gardens, New York's Birdland and, as a lead vocalist with the New Jersey Pops Symphony Orchestra, all throughout the Garden State.

But Douglas was called to more.

And that calling brought her to the Master of Arts in Theology program at Immaculate Conception School of Theology at Seton Hall University. In a recent conversation with the school's associate dean, Diane Traflet, J.D., S.T.D., Douglas noted that she had begun to speak to various church audiences about her experience in "finding her way back to the cross." She would tell the story of how she had been "put back together" through her faith and the joy she had found in being a "re-vert."

Powerful and well-received, her talks, however, were the talk of personal journey. She gave witness to the power of faith in her life, and that witness was moving. But when people asked for more—if she could, for example, return to speak on topics such as how her journey relates to St. Paul's themes of for-

giveness in his epistles—she had to respectfully decline, as she "had no background in theology."

Coincidentally, she saw an announcement in *The Beacon* for a one-day seminar at Seton Hall on Spiritual Theology and Public Speaking. She called to sign up for the class but soon found that the timing of the seminar conflicted with her work schedule.

Perhaps sensing something more, Dean Traflet and Diane Carr, coordinator of graduate admissions at the School of Theology, invited Douglas in for an interview.

After a two-hour conversation, they all decided that there was, indeed, something more. And when Keaton left the office, it was as a graduate student "gung-ho" to be pursuing her master's degree in theology and taking her first class.

On her second day of class, she met Father Aro Nathan, who was then a seminarian. A Missionary Servant of the Most Holy Trinity, he served out of the Shrine of St. Joseph in Stirling.

Founded nearly a century ago, the international community of the Missionary Servants of the Most Holy Trinity uses its 39 missions to work with the poorest of the poor, the marginalized and the addicted.

St. Joseph's serves as a regular meeting place for 12-step recovery groups such as Alcoholics Anonymous, holds "recovery Mass" and uses its campus for "recovery retreats." The retreats give those in recovery from alcohol and drug



Submitted photo

addiction a chance to focus on and strengthen their recovery as they cultivate their spirituality over a period of days amidst the wooded acres of the shrine.

Douglas "found a home" at St. Joseph's, and as she became further enmeshed within the community, she was one day asked to speak to a group of women on retreat from a treatment facility; the women suffered from substance abuse disorders. Douglas balked.

Yes, she said she had "witnessed" before, and yes she had a story that people had found compelling. But she had never suffered from addiction, nor had anyone in her family. She didn't see how this

could work, how she could be relevant.

"The gentleman who was running the recovery programs at St. Joseph's at the time put it plainly," she recalled. "He said: 'These folks aren't only going to speak with other addicts and alcoholics the rest of their lives—is there nothing they can learn from you?'"

He then said, "Do you think that there is nothing you can learn from them?"

It was a humbling moment and she shared her story with the women. She told how she had been broken, how she had been healed, her witness, her joy and her faith. And

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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 8x per year (Jan. 24, March 14, April 11, May 16, June 20, Sept. 12, Oct. 10 & Nov. 14) 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: *The Catholic Advocate*, 171 Clifton Ave., Newark NJ 07104-1019

OFFICE HOURS:

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

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FREQUENCY FOR 2018:

PRINT: JANUARY 24, MARCH 14, April 11, MAY 16, JUNE 20, September 12, October 10 & November 14

ONLINE: February 14, July 18, August 15, December 19

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as she spoke she started to cry.

When she looked up from her tears she saw “that each of those beautiful women were crying too. And later, when I talked about the joy of healing and I laughed, they laughed too. And I realized that the driving truth was not the fact that they were alcoholics and addicts and I was not; the fact was that we had all shared in the commonality of being broken at some point in our lives. And that was what mattered.”

Her talk that day went so well that she was invited to become part of the team that worked with women in treatment on retreat at St. Joseph’s.

And it wasn’t just the women in treatment for whom the day went well.

Douglas said she left the shrine “with a feeling of euphoria,” adding, “I don’t think I’d ever felt like that before or since. I felt something change in me.”

“Thoroughly beside myself, I called a close friend from the Legion of Mary,” said Douglas. “And she said it sounded like I had received my calling. It took me a moment to register, but as I thought about it, I knew she was right.”

She continued to work with women in recovery at St. Joseph’s, leading weekend retreats that focused on the 12 Steps and spirituality.

As the years went by and one of her mentors at St. Joseph’s retired while another left on sabbatical, she found herself with additional responsibilities and ultimately was named program coordinator for the addiction recovery initiatives at St. Joseph’s. She retired from singing in 2014 to better focus on her calling.

But with death and devastation mounting daily in the opioid crisis,

Douglas knew, again, she had to do more. First she prayed.

Then she created I THIRST, which is an acronym for The Healing Initiative—Recovery, Spirituality and Twelve Steps. And, of course, it’s some of the last words Christ spoke while on the cross.

“If you know someone who has a problem with addiction, you know what a terrible cross it can be,” Douglas said. “The physical compulsion can be relieved relatively quickly. But much of the addict’s suffering is spiritual in nature. So I THIRST offers a spiritual solution.”

I THIRST seeks to give people

in recovery the spiritual tools they need to stay clean and lead the faith-based fight against substance-use disorders, especially opioid addiction. It also educates the clergy and laity about substance abuse disorders so the church might be a resource for the afflicted and their families. Called Catholic Recovery Coaching, participants are trained to mentor individuals in recovery and work with their families.

“Training includes the development of a recovery plan for the individual, while focusing on Catholic spirituality and how that spirituality can help individuals navigate their own lives by practicing prayer, turning one’s life to God, creating a moral inventory and learning and keeping close to the sacramental life of the church,” Douglas explained.

There is also a monthly Mass for people in recovery and their families. The homily is tied into Scripture and the 12 Steps. A Re-

covery Bible Study is held weekly.

All of these facets of the program are intended to supplement traditional treatments and are not considered a replacement. The program provides spiritual guidance and tools for those in treatment or in early post-treatment facilities.

So far, the program is working and, because of its success, is now expanding to other parts of the country.

Douglas has taught the I THIRST program of pastoral care for addiction to clergy and laity in the Archdiocese of Boston, and is scheduled to do the same in Mary-

land and then Costa Rica, where she’ll teach the men in formation in the community of priests and brothers of the Missionary Servants of the Most Holy Trinity.

“Far too often, the first meaningful contact with the addict and their family is at the funeral. I am prayerful that someday every di-

ocese might have an I THIRST trained representative so that we might be of more help to the afflicted and their families by offering guidance, community, a path to recovery and spiritual consolation,” said Douglas. “The devastation that is addiction is spreading throughout every corner of the country—we must too.”

One participant in the program who has found a long-sought success in abstinence said: “This time in recovery, I have built a relationship with God and have a better understanding of him. I gave my life over to his care. The transformation has been unbelievable. For now, I don’t have any cravings for drugs or alcohol. God has relieved me of that compulsion.”

For Keaton Douglas, that itself is something more.

Those interested in learning more about the I THIRST program and how they can receive training or help, visit www.ithirstinitiative.org, contact Keaton Douglas at keaton@ithirstinitiative.org, or call 973-370-DRUG (3784).

Michael Ricciardelli is associate director of media relations at Seton Hall University.

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'Sterile hypocrisy' behind mistreatment of migrants, pope says

By Junno Arocho Esteves
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Hearts that are closed to welcoming migrants and refugees are similar to those of the Pharisees, who often would preach sacrifice and following God's law without exercising mercy to those in need, Pope Francis said.

Jesus' rebuke of the Pharisees' "insidious murmuring" is "a finger pointed at the sterile hypocrisy of those who do not want to 'dirty their hands,' like the priest or the Levite in the parable of the good Samaritan," the pope said in his homily during a special Mass for migrants July 6. The Mass also commemorated the fifth anniversary of his visit to the southern Mediterranean island of Lampedusa, which became a symbol of mass migration from North Africa.

"This is a temptation powerfully present in our own day. It takes the form of closing our hearts to those who have the right, just as we do, to security and dignified living conditions. It builds walls, real or virtual, rather than bridges," he said.

According to the Vatican, an es-

timated 200 migrants, refugees and rescue volunteers attended the Mass, which was celebrated at the altar of St. Peter's Basilica. Pope Francis greeted each person present after the Mass ended.

In his homily, the pope recalled his visit to Lampedusa and repeated "that timeless appeal to human responsibility, 'Where is your brother? His blood cries out to me.'"

Sadly, he said, "the response to this appeal, even if at times generous, has not been enough, and we continue to grieve thousands of deaths."

The pope said that Jesus' invitation to those "who labor" to find rest in him is a promise of freedom for all who are oppressed. However, "he needs us to fulfill his promise."

"He needs our eyes to see the needs of our brothers and sisters. He needs our hands to offer them help. He needs our voice to protest the injustices committed thanks to the silence, often complicit, of so many," he said.

Solidarity and mercy, the pope continued, are the only components of a reasonable response to the mi-



CNS Photo

gration crisis that is "less concerned with calculations than with the need for an equitable distribution of responsibilities, an honest and sincere assessment of the alternatives and a prudent management."

Speaking in Spanish to representatives of rescue teams stationed in the Mediterranean Sea, Pope Francis thanked them "for embodying in our day the parable of the good Samaritan, who stopped to save the life of

the poor man beaten by bandits."

He also encouraged those who have been rescued to be "witnesses of hope in a world increasingly concerned about the present, with little vision for the future and averse to sharing."

"With respect for the culture and laws of the country that receives you, may you work out together the path of integration," Pope Francis said.

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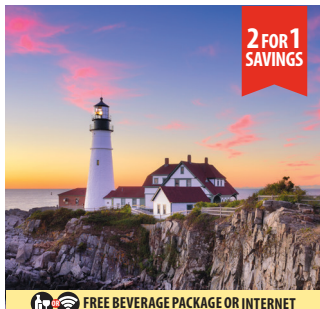
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Supporting students in our digital world

By Ann Oro

Technology has been used in elementary and high schools for over 30 years since the advent of the TRS-80 and Apple computers. Students originally learned to program computers and then progressed to using them as tools for word processing and the creation of spreadsheets. Eventually, programs like Math Blaster and The Oregon Trail helped students practice skills and experience the hardships of our country's expansion to the west. With the arrival of the internet, teachers and students began to search for information using websites such as Google. The challenge in 2018 is to help students learn to put their best digital foot forward in social spaces, learn to use the internet as a tool to continually learn new skills, and be able to communicate and collaborate with others to benefit society.



In our Catholic schools, teachers have an opportunity to share Gospel values and faith connections with our students in their digital world. A modern-day battle at home revolves around how much time is too much time with cell phones and video games. We are able to support our students in considering that they

show respect for their parents' wishes as they pay heed to the commandment to honor their father and mother. Through collaboration, students explore the virtue of justice and being fair to others in respecting everyone's contributions. In digital communication, students consider the gift of the spirit of self-control when they decide how many selfies they really want and need to post in a given day.

With access to appropriate technology, teachers can provide many forms of support for all of our learners in elementary and secondary

classrooms. The ability to access educational content through speech-to-text tools, modifying screen displays, customized practice, and the ability to differentiate the ways students can show what they know can be supported with a variety of tools.

Another aspect of our digital world is the concept of digital equity. This means that we are giving all students equal access to the opportunities that bring knowledge and skills through a wide variety of tools as well as resources that can help both in and out of school. An important part of our mission is to provide students with access to technology

superintendent of schools EDUCATION OUTREACH

and prepare them for post-secondary life. We want our high school graduates to enter their freshman year in college feeling prepared for the many challenges that await them.

Students must be able to know how to use learning management systems to retrieve and turn in

work from professors, use their cell phones to create working groups, perform online research, and respond appropriately to emails. Students who move directly into the working world need to be able to search for inventory online, respond appropriately to text and email messages, and maintain a professional social media image.

There is an assumption that our students are naturals at using technology. They can use devices, but not necessarily for the purpose of learning, collaborating and controlling their impulses in a world that allows them to publish any image, video or text in an instant. For these reasons, teachers across the Archdiocese of Newark created a set of skills that we expect our students to master from preschool through senior year of high school. This collaborative effort provides a broad vision of what it means to be a digitally prepared citizen of the world. You can view our technology skills on the Schools Office website at <https://catholicschoolsnj.org/technology-maps> then select the appropriate grade level.

Ann Oro is director of K-12 instructional technology.



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Holy Cross Cemetery receives preservation award

NORTH ARLINGTON—Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Newark was recently presented with the 2018 Bergen County Historic Preservation Award. It received the award in the category of Continuing Preservation and Use for its Holy Cross Cemetery 1936 Office Building Preservation Project in North Arlington. The Bergen County Historic Preservation Awards are presented annually by Bergen County Executive James J. Tedesco III, the board of chosen freeholders, the Department of Parks, the Division of Cultural and Historic Affairs and the Bergen County Historic Preservation advisory board. Joseph Verzi, assistant executive director of Catholic Cemeteries, was on hand to accept the award.

"The essence of historic preservation is exemplified uniquely in our cemeteries because they serve as a primary place of remembrance of those we loved," Verzi said. "The names we place on cemetery markers, monuments and walls of

columbaria and mausoleums indicate where the remains of our loved ones reside, and we can find them and tell others how to find them in our historic office building at Holy Cross Cemetery."

Holy Cross Cemetery's office building was added to the cemetery grounds in 1936, almost three decades after farm owners sold the property to the Archdiocese of Newark to help establish a final resting place for the area's Catholic community. Little did the farmers know that one-fifth of North Arlington, or roughly 208 acres, would become part of the largest Catholic Cemetery in New Jersey, with more than 300,000 memorials. This equates to about 20 interments for every single living person in the town. Central to the cemetery's operations has been the historic Holy Cross office building.

By 2012, the building was showing its age from 80 years of wear and tear resulting from water infiltration, acid rain and nonexistent



Submitted photo

Assistant Executive Director of Catholic Cemeteries Joseph Verzi (center) accepted the Bergen County Historic Preservation Award in the category of Continuing Preservation and Use.

insulation. Additionally, the vast and continuously growing number of archives required additional interior space to safeguard the records of those who had passed on. The building, just steps from busy Ridge Road, had been a familiar comfort to generations of Catholics. Understanding this, the archdiocese decided to fully commit to the preservation of this cemetery records office building.

Within 3 ½ years, the project was planned and designed and preservation of the original building and construction of its addition were

completed. The original building was brought into compliance with modern building codes, thereby extending the structure's useful life into the foreseeable future. The building reopened in 2017 and continues to be a central resource for genealogists researching the Holy Cross Cemetery archives. As stated in the Historic Preservation Awards program, "the new addition would not compete with the beauty of the 1936 building, but would extend its useful life and use materials and architecture sympathetic to the dignity of the original."

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50th anniversary of *Humanae Vitae*

By Jill Cherrey

On July 25, we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the papal encyclical *Humanae Vitae* (Of Human Life) written by Blessed Pope Paul VI in 1968. We don't normally celebrate papal encyclical anniversaries in dioceses across the country, so what is special about *Humanae Vitae*?

The encyclical is a reflection on married love as a free, total, faithful and fruitful gift and an expression of God's love in the world. Specifically, though, Blessed Paul VI wrote in depth about the significance of fruitfulness in marriage, how a couple can faithfully manage their fertility in light of this meaning and what consequences they could expect if God's design was not honored. Due to cultural changes at the time, most expected new modern contraceptive technologies to be embraced as useful and licit within the document.

However, Pope Paul VI gave a true and abiding gift to the faith-

ful by going deeper than popular thinking. As a description of church teaching on human sexuality, it was far from a list of rules; rather, it was about the body being ordered toward a marital expression of self-donative love that reflects and participates in the love of the Holy Trinity. God chose man and woman to image him in a particular way, miraculously including participation in his creative nature. Thus, in expressing divine love, conjugal love will be free, total, faithful and also procreative. Pope Paul VI draws us to the deeper spiritual awareness that holding the elements of unity and procreation together is necessary for authentic love.

Encountering *Humanae Vitae* decades later can leave the reader a bit startled by its accurate predictions. If the separation of procreation from conjugal love became accepted as the norm, the pope anticipated an increase in infidelity and general lowering of morality, man may forget the reverence due a woman, governments may impose contraceptive use on their populations, and

society will assume an unlimited dominion over the body divorced from respect for the human person. It is easy to recognize these themes as pervasive and escalating in the news over the decades; today, the pope's predictions become an invitation to examine the truth and significance of accepting God's original design for human sexuality.

Above all, *Humanae Vitae* is a positive, beautiful, pastoral and productive encyclical. It celebrates prayerfully practicing "responsible parenthood" through generosity in growing the family, or through postponing a pregnancy for serious reasons. While offering faithful ways a couple could space children through the use of infertile times and periodic continence, the pope also called for scientific development of methods to help regulate births. That call was answered, and today, scientific advances have allowed natural family planning and the fertility science of NaPro technology to be highly effective and a blessing to couples in many situations.

In respecting God's intention and design for the transmission of life, the pope acknowledged couples would face challenges. Instead of seeing that as a reason to abandon divine design, he en-

couraged couples that self-discipline doesn't interfere with love; it transforms it. Virtues will be strengthened that touch many other spheres of marriage. The document continues to encourage married couples everywhere to find the physical, emotional and spiritual support to live the challenges of authentic love.

The wisdom of this encyclical still guides 50 years later. The Catholic vision for married love remains as beautiful as it is true and, amid societal confusion, *Humanae Vitae* brings us back to the original meaning of human sexuality. Couples that embrace the joy and the challenge of natural family planning with support, dedication to sacrifice and good humor see the strengthening of their marriages over time, which is a bright witness to the world today.

As we look forward as a church to his canonization in October, may we pray for the intercession of Blessed Pope Paul VI that all married couples may seek the true love of their vows.

Humanae Vitae is available on the Vatican's website, w2.vatican.va. For more information, call the natural family planning office at 973-497-4325.

Jill Cherrey is the natural family planning coordinator for the Office of Family Life.



Submitted photo

Loyola Jesuit Center, a sacred space for spiritual growth, prayer and reflection located in Morristown, held its seventh annual Evening in the Loyola Prayer Gardens fundraiser June 14. Nearly 300 guests attended, raising more than \$95,000 to help Loyola continue its mission. "We are truly blessed. The generosity of our friends is absolutely amazing. The support of all of our sponsors and the dedication of our Jesuit and lay staff, board of trustees and volunteers is what makes this event such a success," said Director Renee Owens. "These financial gifts allow Loyola to provide meaningful spiritual retreats and experiences for people from all walks of life and all faiths, and they secure the center's vitality for future generations."

Presentation undergoes massive renovation

UPPER SADDLE RIVER—Over the last 55 years, Church of the Presentation has grown from a small country parish of 270 families to more than 4,000 families from over 100 zip codes. The parish continues to attract people of all ages, with 200

new families joining the community this past year. While its mission and membership has grown, the physical space lagged behind.

Parish growth has forced Presentation into what is essentially two separate worship spaces. The auditorium, once intended to serve as overflow space, has become a permanent fixture. Additionally, the campus no longer provides enough space for the needs of its growing faith formation programs, ministries or numerous social events.

To further accommodate the influx of new parishioners and bustling parish activity, Presentation is in the midst of a massive renovation and building initiative.

"We are modifying our current worship space to create 'one church' without the need to build a new one," said Father Bob Stagg, pastor of Church of the Presentation. "This plan



Submitted photos

Construction of the new narthex.



A rendering of the new church exterior.

makes maximum use of infrastructure in place while creating a worship space that reflects our parish mission, i.e., dedication to welcoming others and commitment to future generations. It is the first addition to this parish plant in 28 years."

Groundbreaking for the renovation was held last November. The project includes a new narthex, or inside gathering space, which will increase from 200 square feet to 3,000 square feet. More pews will be installed, offering parishioners an unobstructed view of the altar. The new façade, visible from the road,

will feature a covered walkway and a major entry that is handicapped accessible. More sacred space is being constructed, including a meditative area for Eucharistic devotions, small group prayer and a comfortable place for parents with active toddlers, as well as a 'bride's room.'

Wayne-based Donnelly Construction Company leads the three-phase renovation project that costs approximately \$7 million. The current phase of the construction should be completed by December with the final stage—the parish's ministry center—to be completed in 2019.

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Obituaries

Sister Nancy Anne Haarer, S.C.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated June 19 at Holy Family Chapel in Convent Station for Sister Nancy Anne Haarer, S.C., who died June 14.



Formerly Sister Anne Imelda, she entered the Sisters of Charity on Sept. 6, 1956, and was a member for 61 years.

Sister Anne graduated from the College of Saint Elizabeth in Convent Station and earned a master's in art from the University of Notre Dame. She served as a teacher at Immaculate Conception High School in Montclair. She also served as an instructor, chairwoman and associate professor of art at the College of Saint Elizabeth.

Sister Robert Clare Swarts, S.C.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated June 28 at Holy Family Chapel in Convent Station for Sister Robert Clare Swarts, S.C., who died June 23.



Sister Robert entered the Sisters of Charity on Aug. 20, 1959, and was a member for 58 years. She graduated from All Souls Hospital School of Nursing in Morristown and from Seton Hall University. She attended New York University and received her master's in medical/surgical nursing and nursing administration.

Sister Robert served as an assistant vice president, assistant administrator and director of an adult medical day care program at St. Vincent Nursing Home in Montclair. She was nursing supervisor at Cusack Care Center in Jersey City and served in hospitals throughout the state.

Sister Robert had a passion for prenatal and maternal care and was a fellow with the American College of Childbirth Education. With this certification, she provided birthing classes for pregnant women and served as an adjunct professor at Essex County College in Newark. In 2010, she assumed the position of case manager and coordinator of health/lifestyle transition services for the Sisters of Charity in Convent Station.

Sister Helen Del Carpine, M.P.F.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated June 27 at the St. Lucy Chapel in Villa Walsh, Morristown, for Sister Helen Del Carpine, M.P.F., who died June 24.



Born and raised in New York City, Sister Helen entered the Religious Teachers Filippini on July 7, 1940. She received her religious habit a year later and made her final religious profession on Aug. 27, 1944.

For more than 45 years, Sister Helen taught at elementary schools in the Archdioceses of Newark, New York and Philadelphia. She also served the Dioceses of Trenton; Camden; Scranton, Pennsylvania; Brooklyn, New York; Cleveland, Ohio; Baltimore, Maryland; and Ogdensburg, New York.

Sister Helen's assignments in the Archdiocese of Newark included Assumption, Roselle Park; Our Lady of Mount Carmel School, Newark; St. Rocco School, Newark; St. Joseph School, East Orange; and Holy Family School, Nutley.

Sister Helen spent her last years in active retirement at Holy Family in Nutley. After spending a year at Our Lady Queen of Peace in Maywood, she entered St. Joseph Hall at Villa Walsh in 2011.

Sister Monica Socinski, O.P.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated July 14 at St. Dominic Parish in Proctor, Vermont, for Sister Monica Socinski, O.P., who died June 25.



Sister Monica entered the novitiate of the Dominican Sisters of Newburgh, New York, in September 1956, made her first profession in June 1958 and final profession in August 1961. She graduated from Mount St. Joseph Academy in Vermont and Trinity College of Vermont. She earned master's degrees from the Middlebury College French School in Vermont and Fairfield University in Connecticut.

Sister Monica was involved in education and music ministry in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. She was music director at Assumption Parish in Emerson and chaired the theology department

Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R., is scheduled to appear at the following upcoming events:



Saturday, July 21

5 p.m.

Mass celebrating the 95th anniversary of parish/65th anniversary of school
St. James, Springfield

Wednesday, July 25

7:30 p.m.

Love and Responsibility Series
Closing Mass
Sacred Heart Chapel
St. John Paul II Youth Retreat Center, Kearny

Saturday, July 28

6 p.m.

Mass for the Salvadoran community
Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark

Thursday, August 23

World Meeting of Families 2018

Dublin, Ireland
Moderator of "When Plates Fly: Pope Francis on the Reality of Love in Family Life"

at St. Joseph of the Palisades High School in West New York.

Sister Monica taught French and theology at St. Joseph Regional High School in Montvale, where she created and executed a creative arts honors course for senior electives and provided music for the liturgies. Sister Monica had also been a world language and substitute teacher at Visitation Academy in Paramus.

Sister Winnifred A. Kelly, S.C.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated July 2 at Holy Family Chapel in Convent Station for Sister Winnifred A. Kelly, S.C., who died June 26.



Formerly Sister John Madeline, she entered the Sisters of Charity on Sept. 6, 1961, and was a member for 56 years.

Sister Winnifred graduated from St. Raphael School of Nursing in New Haven, Connecticut, and Pace University in Westchester, New York. She also pursued a master's in public administration in health care from Long Island University.

Sister Winnifred was a nurse in hospitals throughout New York and Connecticut. She served in the health ministry at St. Anne Villa in Convent Station and throughout New Jersey.

She was also website manager for the Passionist Community in Union City. Sister Winnifred was

a project consultant and worked in data integration/medical billing at the Senior Care and Activities Center in Montclair. She was an advocate for the elderly and frequently contacted elected officials about funding and legislation that impacted the lives of senior citizens and persons in extended care facilities.

Rev. Brother James Austin Finnegan, C.F.C., K.C.H.S.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated July 2 at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Scarsdale, New York, for Rev. Brother James Austin Finnegan, C.F.C., who died June 27.



Brother Finnegan attended Iona College in New Rochelle, New York, and earned a master's degree in student personnel services from Montclair State University. He entered the Edmund Rice Christian Brothers on July 1, 1962, and took his final vows on Aug. 27, 1969.

Brother Finnegan was assigned to Bergen Catholic High School in Oradell and was vice principal at Essex Catholic High School in Newark. He was associate superintendent of schools for the Archdiocese of Newark. He also served in schools throughout New York and Massachusetts.

Brother Finnegan was also a member of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem.

Official Appointments

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

ARCHDIOCESAN AGENCY/MINISTRY

Very Reverend John F. Gordon, V.F., has been appointed acting vicar for Pastoral Life, effective July 1.

PASTOR

Reverend Piotr S. Haldás, S.D.S., parochial vicar of St. John Paul II Parish, Bayonne, has been appointed pastor of St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish, Garfield, effective July 1.

PAROCHIAL VICARS

Reverend Brian Henden, O.Carm., has been appointed parochial vicar of St. Therese of Lisieux Parish, Cresskill, effective immediately.

Reverend Lukasz Kleczka, S.D.S., has been appointed parochial vicar of St. John Paul II Parish, Bayonne, effective July 1.

Reverend Andrzej Kujawa, S.D.S., parochial vicar of St. John Paul II Parish, Bayonne, has been appointed parochial vicar of St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish, Garfield, effective July 1.

Reverend Agustinus Agung Wahyudianto, O.Carm., has been appointed parochial vicar of St. Anastasia Parish, Teaneck, effective July 1.

TRANSITIONAL DEACON

Reverend Mr. Anthony Armstrong, O.Carm., has been assigned to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Tenafly, effective July 1.

CHAPLAINS

Reverend Francisco Mendonca has been appointed chaplain of the Livingston Police Department, effective immediately.

Reverend Zachary Swantek, faculty at Seton Hall Preparatory



School, West Orange, has been appointed chaplain of the Interprofessional Health Sciences campus of Seton Hall University, Nutley, effective Aug. 1.

CAMPUS MINISTRY

Reverend James Chern has been appointed archdiocesan director of Campus Ministry, effective July 1, while remaining campus minister at Montclair State University.

RELEASED

Reverend James G. Tucker, parochial vicar of Epiphany Parish, Cliffside Park, has been released to pastoral ministry in the Diocese of Metuchen, ending July 1, 2021.

RETIREMENT

Reverend Monsignor Thomas J. McDade has been granted retirement, effective July 1.



Corrections

On page 39 of the June 20 issue of The Catholic Advocate, Rev. Msgr. Thomas P. Lipnicki's name was misspelled.

On page 39, an incorrect photo of Rev. Michael J. Moran was used.

On page 41, Rev. James J. Reilly was incorrectly referred to as a monsignor.

The Catholic Advocate regrets the errors.

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Around the Archdiocese

July 18

St. JP II Youth Retreat Center, Kearny, Love and Responsibility 2018, "Destiny," presented by Eni Honsberger, 7:30 p.m. in Sacred Heart Hall, visit www.facebook.com/lrnewjersey.

July 20

Community of God's Love, Rutherford, movie and pizza night, featuring screening of "The Shack," 7:30 p.m., at Visitation House, call 201-935-0344 or email secretary@thecgl.org.

July 21

The Alliance of Filipino Catholic Charismatic Prayer Communities (AFCCPC), East Atlantic Region, healing conference, at St. John the Baptist School in Jersey City, through July 22, featuring guest speaker Bishop Manuel A. Cruz, call Mario and Purita Vazquez at 201-737-0757.

July 25

St. JP II Youth Retreat Center, Kearny, Love and Responsibility 2018, 50th anniversary of Blessed Pope Paul VI's encyclical *Humanae Vitae*, closing Mass with Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R., 7:30 p.m. in Sacred Heart Hall, reception to follow, visit www.facebook.com/lrnewjersey.

July 26

Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, Washington Township, "Hearing and Sharing God's Good News" summer seminar, Thursdays through Aug. 16, 7 p.m., contact Brigid at 201-741-4646 or 201-722-1248.

St. Nicholas Parish, Palisades Park, feast day Mass in honor of St. Anne, 8 a.m., a holy relic of the saint will be venerated following Mass, call 201-944-1154.

Advocate Publishing Corp. receives Catholic Press Awards

Catholic journalists, media professionals and communication specialists from across the country and Canada gathered last month in Green Bay, Wisconsin, for the 2018 Catholic Media Conference. The four-day event included speakers, workshops and exhibitions.

During the conference, the 2018 Catholic Press Awards were also handed out. The Advocate Publishing Corp. staff is proud to announce it won second place in the magazine division for Best Seasonal Issue or Section for the December 2017 issue of New Jersey Catholic, which featured a closer look at the cathedral choir.

The judges noted: "High-quality cover layout and interior design. Cover photo is bright and colorful. Photos and art used in the magazine's interior are also top notch and attention grabbing. The magazine features a nice variety of articles tied to the Christmas holiday in a highly readable layout."

Associate Publisher Kelly Marsicano won third place in the magazine division for Best Photography-Portrait. Her photograph, "Student on a Mission," appeared in the September 2017 issue of New Jersey Catholic.

The staff also received honorable mention in the all member business division for Best Special Supplement or Special Issue with Advertising Emphasis for its October 2017 pallium issue of New Jersey Catholic. Another honorable mention was earned in the all member digital division for Best Illustration with Graphic Design or Art Work for the April 2017 Easter cover of The Catholic Advocate.

We're also pleased to announce another local winner—Caldwell University. The school received second place in the magazine division for Best Personality Profile for its story, "Bernie O'Rourke: An Irishman's Passion for Business," which appeared in the school's alumni magazine. O'Rourke is the associate dean of Caldwell's School of Business and CIS.

For a list of all the winners, visit www.catholicpress.org/2018awardwinners.

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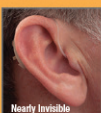


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Local affiliate of international charity to make appeal

The Archdiocese of Newark is welcoming the charity Mary's Meals into three of its parishes this summer. The organization's U.S. affiliate is located in Bloomfield. Representatives from the charity will speak during weekend Masses at Immaculate Conception Parish in Elizabeth on July 21-22, St. Rose of Lima Parish in Short Hills on Aug. 11-12 and Holy Rosary/St. Michael Parish in Elizabeth at a date yet to be determined.

The international organization was founded in Scotland in 1983. Its mission is to provide one good meal per day to children in school settings, both to help alleviate poverty and to provide nutrition and positive reinforcement for children seeking education and a better future.

Mary's Meals feeds more than 1.2 million children in 15 countries across Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean. In October 2017, the charity served its one-billionth meal.

To learn more about the organization and how you can help, visit www.marysmealsusa.org, call 1-800-385-4983 or email info.usa@marysmeals.org.



Photo courtesy of Mary's Meals

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Announcement

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Seton Hall dedicates new building in honor of former university president

SOUTH ORANGE—Seton Hall University dedicated its newest campus building, Bethany Hall, as a tribute to Rev. Msgr. Robert Sheeran in a ceremony June 20. Sheeran served the university for 30 years, including 15 years as president.

Msgr. Sheeran requested the new welcome center be named Bethany Hall, after the Biblical village where Mary, Martha and their brother Lazarus received Jesus into their home, as a place of friendship and community.

"I see this name as an acknowledgement of much that Seton Hall represents. For Jesus, Bethany was a place of welcome and hospitality that embodies our mission at Seton Hall as 'a home for the mind, the heart and the spirit,'" said Msgr. Sheeran. "Bethany Hall will serve as an outstanding venue of welcome and engagement for both visitors and students, offering multipurpose space and meeting rooms for campus events."

More than 100 donors contributed \$7 million, including a gift of \$3.5 million from board of regents member James O'Brien and his

wife, Judy, to honor Msgr. Sheeran.

"My family and I have been fortunate for many years to first have engaged with the warmth and caring of Msgr. Sheeran ministering to us as a priest and pastor, then experiencing his vision and leadership as a university president. His life's actions for us and many families at Seton Hall are resonant with the lessons of Bethany," O'Brien explained.

Msgr. Sheeran enrolled in Seton Hall University in 1963. Graduating four years later with a bachelor's degree in classical languages, he went on to study in Rome and was ordained in 1970, receiving a licentiate degree in theology from Pontifical Gregorian University in 1971. He received his doctoral degree in sacred theology from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (the Angelicum) in 1979.

Returning to Seton Hall in 1980, Msgr. Sheeran spent the next 15 years serving in a number of positions, including rector of St. Andrew's College Seminary, assistant provost, associate provost and executive vice chancellor before his



Submitted photo

From left: Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R., Interim President Mary Meehan and Msgr. Robert Sheeran.

investiture as president in 1995. His presidency would last for 15 years, the second longest tenure in university history.

"Bethany Hall represents all the best about Seton Hall in so many ways," shared Interim President Mary Meehan, who has known Msgr. Sheeran for more than 30 years. "The building itself will be the first point of entry for future Pirates, welcoming young people just begin-

ning their lifelong relations with Seton Hall. We gratefully acknowledge the generosity of our donors, alumni and friends like Jim and Judy who demonstrate the impact our graduates continue to have long after graduation. And, of course, dedicating the building to Msgr. Sheeran, who has devoted his life in service to God, to others and to Seton Hall, speaks volumes about the tremendous gratitude we all hold for him."

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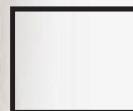
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