

THE CATHOLIC ADVOCATE

ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK

Vol. 68 No. 9 • www.rcan.org • SEPTEMBER 11, 2019

Cardinal Tobin joins hundreds of Catholics protesting immigration detention

By Rhina Guidos
Catholic News Service

Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R., blessed and then prayed near a group of Catholics that blocked a crosswalk, arranging themselves in the shape of a cross in front of Immigration and Customs Enforcement in Newark on Sept. 4 to protest the detention of children and families in immigration facilities.

Six of the protesters who formed the human cross in the middle of the street were arrested. At first, police cordoned off several city blocks and redirected traffic around the peaceful demonstrators. But after about an hour and a half, they rounded them up.

About 400 people participated in the event, which included a procession toward the ICE building as Cardinal Tobin led the crowd in a chant of “stop the inhumanity.”

“I am Joseph, your brother, who has

been heartbroken by the inhumanity,” he said.

Cardinal Tobin participated in the morning prayer service then marched in solidarity with the hundreds of protesters to the federal building. He spoke with many of them along the way, led prayers and hymns and gave rousing remarks once outside the facility.

“Children will bear the trauma wrought by immigration enforcement raids, separation from their families and indeterminate detention,” Cardinal Tobin

said. “These draconian measures are not, they are not, a solution to our broken immigration system. They are violations of human dignity and are contrary to all religious teachings and the sacred call to care for our most vulnerable populations. Unlike others, we don’t have to look up Bible verses to justify the building of walls. There are none.”

He also highlighted the work that local organizations, including Catholic Char-

Continued on page 9



Advocate photo-Jai Agnish

Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R., and about 400 Catholics demonstrated outside the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) building in Newark Sept. 4.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

CARDINAL TOBIN'S SCHEDULE	Page 6
IMMIGRATION REPORT	Pages 10-11
CLASSIFIEDS	Page 12
AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE	Page 13



Back to School Pages 15-37

Seton Hall to host two-day peace conference

SOUTH ORANGE—While deeply rooted in its commitment to Jesus' words and actions, the Catholic Church has also been challenged by the complexities of war and peace, and has at times condoned, ignored and even encouraged violence.

Since the papacy of Leo XIII (1878-1903), however, popes have emphatically, and consistently, advocated for peace, addressing issues as diverse as immigration, racism, gun violence, the arms race and climate change, which play out in the modern political arena.

On Sept. 30 and Oct. 1, an interdisciplinary group of scholars will lead a conversation dedicated to deepening the understanding of the Christian story, by focusing on Pope Francis' teachings. The gathering is part of a three-year series that stresses the continuity of teachings on peace from Roman Catholic popes since Leo XIII.

Seton Hall University's Peace Conference, which is open to the public, will use Pope Francis' teachings as a guidepost for examining what it means to live and promote peace in the context of today's cultural and social currents.

Discussions will also be informed by the Church's teaching on aspects of social and cultural life, including war, econom-

ics, education, inter-religious dialogues and health care.

Pope Francis has addressed peace and nonviolence formally through Church encyclicals and has appealed to all in his annual message to the world. He has spoken out on behalf of migrants and refugees, calling for a "spirit of compassion" for those who are forced to leave their homelands amid war, hunger, poverty and persecution.

His teachings on nonviolence have been heard in parishes around the world and in the United Nations General Assembly, where Pope Francis has addressed heads of state and international diplomats. "Bringing peace is central to the mission of Christ's disciples," Pope Francis said, speaking on World Peace Day last January. "That peace is offered to all those men and women who long for peace amid the tragedies and violence that mark human history."

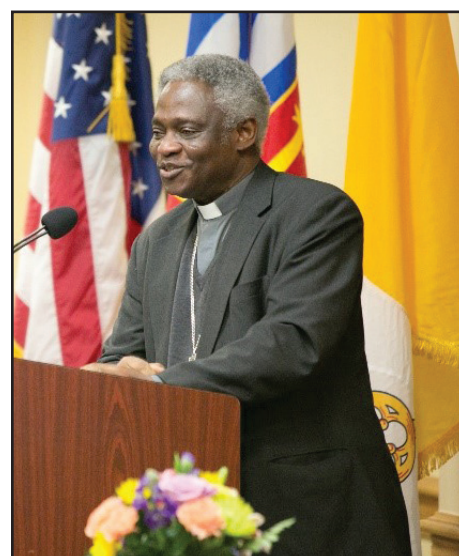
Andrea Bartoli, dean of the School of Diplomacy and International Relations, is one of the event's organizers. He views the conference as an opportunity to witness

the Church's fundamental commitment to peacemaking. "We will be challenged to discover the continuity of the Church commitment to peace and how we can embody the vocation of peace in our own lives and communities," Bartoli explained.

Cardinal Peter Turkson of Ghana will deliver the opening address on the integration of peace and human development. He has played a leading role in spreading the pope's concern for justice, peace and human rights.

Cardinal Turkson was president of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace from October 2009 until January 2017, when the competencies of that office and three others were merged into one new department within the Roman Curia, entitled The Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development. Pope Francis named him the first prefect of that new dicastery.

In addition to Cardinal Turkson, speakers will include members of Seton Hall's faculty and administration joined by scholars from outside the university. Maria Stephan of the U.S. Institute of Peace



Cardinal Peter Turkson

will provide the keynote on the effectiveness of nonviolent action. Ken Butigan, director of peace, justice and conflict studies at DePaul University, will explore the topic of the responsibility of higher education for peace, nonviolence and human development.

Seton Hall plans to host future conferences to examine the teachings on peace given by Pope Benedict XVI (Oct. 6-7, 2020) and St. John Paul II (Oct. 5-6, 2021).

Local religious to be honored at awards dinner

Father Edwin D. Leahy, O.S.B., headmaster of St. Benedict's Preparatory School in Newark, and Sister Gerardine Mueller, O.P., of the Sisters of St. Dominic of Caldwell, will be honored at the 33rd annual SOAR! Awards dinner at The New York Athletic Club on Sept 18.

The organization, which stands for Support Our Aging Religious, provides grants to congregations of sisters, brothers and priests to meet the immediate needs of their retired and infirm members. Father Leahy and Sister Gerardine will each receive a special award for the contributions they've made to consecrated life and its communities.

Father Leahy became the 23rd headmaster of St. Benedict's Prep in 1972. Also an alumnus of the school, he continued his education at Seton Hall University and Woodstock College at Union Theological Seminary in New York. In 1966, he took his first vows as a monk of the Benedictine

Abbey of Newark and was ordained to the priesthood in 1972.

The same year he was ordained, St. Benedict's suspended operations. Father Leahy was named to direct the efforts of monks, parents, alumni and friends to re-open the school. Under his direction, St. Benedict's re-opened in 1974 with 89 students and 14 faculty members. St. Benedict's has now grown to more than 600 young men and 58 faculty members, with 100 percent of recent graduates accepted to college.

In 2014, a documentary about the school was released. In recognition of his efforts, among other awards, Father Leahy received the first Robert F. Kennedy Award for Urban School Leadership from the organization National Schools that Can.

Sister Gerardine has dedicated her life to sacred art and training and mentoring students of all ages in the arts. Her range of work includes calligraphy and illumination, printmaking, wood carving, sculp-



Father Edwin D. Leahy, O.S.B.

ture, pottery, silver-smithing, glass etching and stained glass.

Her work can be found all around the campus of Caldwell University, in the motherhouse and buildings of the Sisters of St. Dominic of Caldwell, in private collections and in Latin America. Sister Gerardine served on the liturgical commission of the Archdiocese of Newark as



Sister Gerardine Mueller, O.P.

well as other committees for designing.

Sister Gerardine has lectured throughout the state and abroad. She proposed and was the first to receive the first bachelor of fine arts degree at Caldwell University. She also received a master's degree in art from the University of Notre Dame and an honorary doctorate from Caldwell University.

THE CATHOLIC
ADVOCATE



USPS-008-380
ISSN# 1084-3213

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PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT:

The Catholic Advocate is published 10 x per year (Jan. 23, Feb. 20, March 13, April 17, May 15, June 19, July 17, Sept. 11, Oct. 16 & Nov. 13) 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 2019:

PRINT: JANUARY 23, February 20, MARCH 13, April 17, MAY 15, JUNE 19, July 17, September 11, October 16 & November 13
ONLINE: August 21, December 18

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 5K OKTOBERFEST

FORT LEE—It's a day of family fun to help fight cancer. The 4th annual Knights of Columbus 5K Oktoberfest will be held at Madonna Parish on Saturday, Sept. 28. The event will feature food trucks, a craft beer and wine garden, inflatable kid zone and live music. The all-day event will benefit Tackle Kids Cancer and Madonna Parish.

The day begins in the church parking lot with participants arriving at 8 a.m. to receive their race bibs and the official T-shirts. A kids' race will be held at 9:30 a.m. with the main run at 10 a.m. Approximately 2,000 attendees from the tristate area are expected to attend the daylong Oktoberfest.

The first 5K was held in 2015 to help 12-year-old Briana Lopez, a Fort Lee resident diagnosed with leukemia. Through prayer, bone marrow donors and the staff at Hackensack University Medical Center, Briana is now cancer-free.

The 3.1-mile course, which is certified by USA Track & Field, will start at Madonna Parish and traverse through the streets of Fort Lee along Abbott Boulevard before returning to the finish line in the church parking lot.

When runners cross the finish line, the Oktoberfest consisting of 8-10 gourmet food trucks will be ready to feed hungry participants and their guests. The beer and wine garden will feature local breweries and an assortment of wines. Attendees will also enjoy a range of music, including classic rock, Christian contemporary, reggaeton and more. Headlining the event is the award-winning Arato Brothers Band.

For more information and to register, visit kofc1863.org/5koktoberfest. Registration for the race is currently \$35 for adults and \$10 for kids 6-17. Children 0-5 are free. Sign up online by Wednesday, Sept. 25, and use coupon code: **CatholicAdvocate** to save \$25 per registration, with kids 17 and under being free.



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Challenges to seal of confession attributed to clergy sex abuse scandals

By Chaz Muth
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS)—For centuries, the Catholic Church has maintained that what a penitent says to a priest in the confessional is strictly confidential, but in 2019 that rite continues to be challenged by governments.



CNS photo

Church scholars assert the concept of the seal of confession was given to the apostles by Jesus, eventually morphing into the sacrament of penance, providing the faithful with an opportunity to confess their sins and to be reconciled with God.

The soul-cleansing, sacred practice is private, confidential and repeatable.

Governmental leaders have challenged the priest-penitent privilege of the seal of confession since at least the 14th century, prompting priests to sacrifice their freedom and sometimes their lives protecting that confidentiality.

In the wake of renewed attention on the clergy child sexual abuse scandals, 21st-century lawmakers in Australia, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Chile and the U.S. have introduced measures that would compel priests to report to civil authorities information related to child abuse and neglect learned in the confessional.

"There have been terrible sins and crimes that have been committed, including by members of the hierarchy," said Father Ronald T. Kunkel, theology professor at Mundelein Seminary at the University of St. Mary of the Lake in Illinois, near Chicago. "But, I think in many

cases this is being used as an excuse in order to further marginalize the Church in our society today."

That reaction has been echoed by countless theologians, canon lawyers, priests and penitents throughout the U.S., particularly in California, where a bill making its way through the state legislature attempts to amend its mandatory reporting laws to require priests to provide civil authorities with information about child abuse or neglect confessed by priests or co-workers during the sacrament of penance.

Critics of that legislation, S.B. 360, call it governmental overreach that clearly violates religious freedoms enjoyed in the U.S., as well as its tradition of separation of church and state. Some also fear that authorities could send someone in to confess to abuse in order to prosecute the priest for failing to report it.

Supporters of the California bill say it closes a loophole in a law that provides cover for pedophile priests and other criminals who receive absolution from the sin of child sexual abuse without being held accountable by society. They believe it emboldens such penitents to continue to victimize others.

Laws making it an offense for a priest's

failure to report the confessions of child sex abuse have already been passed in three Australian states and similar acts are being considered in Chile.

Pope Francis' universal Catholic law *Vos estis lux mundi* (You are the light of the world), released in early May, says that every priest or member of a religious order who knows of a case of clerical sexual abuse of a minor or who has good reason to believe that such abuse took place must report that abuse to the bishop of the place where the abuse occurred; if the accused abuser is a bishop, the report must be made to the metropolitan archbishop or the Vatican nuncio.




Because the Code of Canon Law states the penalty for a priest who violates the seal of confession is automatic excommunication, which can only be lifted by the pope himself, most members of the clergy would go to jail rather than comply with these laws, said Father Thomas V. Berg, professor of moral theology at St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers, N.Y.

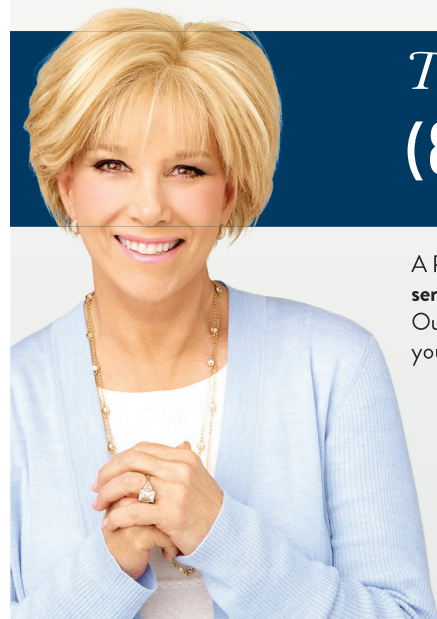
There are currently seven U.S. states that have laws requiring priests to report criminal information gained in the confessional: New Hampshire, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas and West Virginia.

There are no reports that priests in those states have reported to civil authorities information learned in the confessional and to date no members of the clergy have been charged with failing to do so.

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Archdiocesan chancellor to speak at women's conference

Sister Donna Ciangio, O.P., chancellor of the Archdiocese of Newark, will be a breakout session presenter at the Women of the Church conference held Oct. 18-20 at St. Mary's College in South Bend, Ind.

The inaugural Women of the Church conference was held in 2016 by the Sisters of St. Benedict of Ferdinand, Ind., in partnership with St. Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology.

Building on its success, this year's conference will focus on the diverse work of Catholic women in the Church and in the world, examine how women's leadership is a source of strength and knowledge, and imagine new possibilities for women as leaders in the Catholic Church.

Sister Donna will present "Women in Church



Sister Donna Ciangio, O.P.

Leadership," a workshop highlighting the role of women in the Church today. In the very early Church, women were leaders of house churches. As ministries developed, some were ordained as deacons. They assisted at baptisms, catechized women and children, even served as deacons at Mass. In more recent history, major diaconal works of the Church are performed by women religious. Sisters founded and led schools, universities and hospitals. They were—and are—nurses, teachers and pastoral associates. Sister Donna's presentation will discuss the desire of the people in the pews to restore women to the ordained diaconate.

For more information about the conference, visit www.womenofthechurch.org.

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



Sunday, Sept. 15

Noon
175th Anniversary Mass
St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Elizabeth

Friday, Sept. 20

4 p.m.
Red Mass
Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark

Tuesday, Sept. 24

11 a.m.
Mass
Academy of Our Lady of Peace, New Providence

6 p.m.
Conversation reflecting on the papacy of Pope Francis
New York Athletic Club, New York City

Sunday, Sept. 29

Noon
Mass celebrating the 105th World Day of Migrants and Refugees
Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark

Tobin discussion on Pope Francis

America magazine and the American Bible Society will host Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R., for an evening discussion on the vision of Pope Francis and the present state and future of the American Catholic Church on Sept. 24 at 6:30 p.m. Matt Malone, S.J., editor-in-chief of *America* magazine, will serve as the moderator for the evening. The event, held at the New York Athletic Club in Manhattan, is sold out. However, a livestream of the event will be available at www.americamagazine.org.

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Local parishes to participate in national Rosary Congress

By Jai Agnish
Communications Manager

Churches throughout the Archdiocese of Newark will participate in the 2019 Rosary Congress in October. It's the first year local parishes will get involved in this national prayer and adoration event scheduled over seven days and nights.

"I think it's very important to introduce the people to the prayer of the rosary," said Father Giovanni Rizzo, pastor of the St. Theresa Parish in Kenilworth.

St. Theresa is one of 16 churches participating in the Congress. "For the people who never experience it, they have an idea of the rosary as something boring, and then when they experience it, they collect beautiful fruits of meditation, and reflection and communion with the Virgin Mary and with the saints," he continued.

Between Oct. 6 and Oct. 12, the rosary will be recited once per hour at churches over a 24-hour period. Also central to the event is perpetual Eucharistic Adoration. There will be Masses to begin the day, which will also include confession, and processions.

"Those who submit themselves to these kinds of prayers harvest the fruit of humility, which is a greater intimacy with

Jesus Christ," said Father Rizzo.

Other participating parishes include: Holy Family, Nutley; Assumption, Emerson; St. Aloysius, Caldwell; Immaculate Conception Chapel at Seton Hall University, South Orange; St. Bartholomew, Scotch Plains; Our Lady of Sorrows, South Orange; St. Teresa of Avila, Summit; St. John the Apostle, Linden; St. John, Orange; Our Lady of Peace, New Providence; St. Joseph of the Palisades, West New York; Our Lady of Lourdes, Mountainside; St. Paul, Ramsey; St. Leo, Irvington; and St. Peter, Belleville.

Each hour of the week, there will be prayer and adoration in at least one of the 16 churches engaged in the Congress, some simultaneously.

"One of the attractive things about this event is that it's happening on the national level," said Father John Gordon, vicar for Pastoral Life/Evangelization. The Office for Evangelization organized the event in collaboration with the local parishes.

Participants will be joining churches in 13 other states in prayers for reparation, life, peace, healing, renewal, families and for the country and Church.

"This kind of an event reminds us of being connected to something beyond the physical place where you are," Father Gordon said. "That's one of the genius aspects of Catholicism."

For more information, visit
www.rcan.org/rosary_congress and www.rosarycongressusa.org.

PARTICIPATING PARISHES • DATES & TIMES:

Holy Family, Nutley: Oct. 6, Sunday, 7 p.m. to Oct. 7, Monday, 7 p.m.

Assumption, Emerson: Oct. 7, Monday, 7 p.m. to Oct. 8, Tuesday, 6 p.m.

St. Aloysius, Caldwell: Oct. 7, Monday, 8 a.m. to Oct. 7, Monday, 8 p.m.

Immaculate Conception Chapel at Seton Hall University, South Orange: Oct. 7, Monday, 5 p.m. to Oct. 8, Tuesday, 5 p.m.

St. Theresa, Kenilworth: Oct. 8, Tuesday, 9 a.m. to Oct. 9, Wednesday, 9 a.m.

St. Bartholomew, Scotch Plains: Oct. 8, Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. to Oct. 9, Wednesday, 8:30 a.m.

Our Lady of Sorrows, South Orange: Oct. 8, Tuesday, 7 p.m. to Oct. 9, Wednesday, 7 p.m.

St. Teresa of Avila, Summit: Oct. 9, Wednesday, 7 a.m. to Oct. 9, Wednesday, 7 p.m.

St. John the Apostle, Linden: Oct. 9, Wednesday, 7 p.m. to Oct. 10, Thursday, 7 p.m.

St. John, Orange: Oct. 10, Thursday, 8 a.m. to Oct. 11, Friday, 8 a.m.

Our Lady of Peace, New Providence: Oct. 10, Thursday, 7 p.m. to Oct. 11, Friday, 6 p.m.

St. Teresa of Avila, Summit: Oct. 10, Thursday, 7 a.m. to Oct. 10, Thursday, 7 p.m.

St. Joseph of the Palisades, West New York: Oct. 11, Friday, 7 p.m. to Oct. 12, Saturday, 7 p.m.

Our Lady of Lourdes, Mountainside: Oct. 11, Friday, 7 p.m. to Oct. 12, Saturday, 7 p.m.

St. Paul, Ramsey: Oct. 12, Saturday, 7 p.m. to Oct. 13, Sunday, 7 a.m.

St. Leo, Irvington: Oct. 12, Saturday, 5 p.m. to Oct. 13, Sunday, 4 p.m.

St. Peter, Belleville: Time to be determined.

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+++Ad Multos Annos+++

Archdiocesan pilgrims head to Washington Oct. 26

By Jai Agnish
Communications Manager

There is still time to join the archdiocesan pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. This special event, which attracts thousands of parishioners, is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 26.

The shrine is considered "America's Catholic Church," and is the largest Roman Catholic Church in the United States and North America. Parishioners make the journey every three years.

Designated by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops as a national sanctuary of prayer and pilgrimage, the basilica is the nation's preeminent Marian shrine, dedicated to the patroness of the United States—the Blessed Virgin Mary under her title of the Immaculate Conception. It is also known locally as "Mary's House."

The pilgrimage is a personal and communal journey, said Msgr. Richard Groncki. He has coordinated the event since the 1970s. Pilgrimages have been part of Catholic devotional practice throughout the world for years, he added.

"It's communal because we're all traveling to the shrine together with the people from different parishes throughout the

archdiocese," he continued. "It's a symbolic journey that leads us from home to eternity—to our eternal home."

Archdiocesan pilgrims are set to arrive at the shrine from 10 a.m.-noon. The day includes the sacrament of penance, an outdoor Carillon concert, an organ concert in the upper church and a procession of parish banners followed by a welcome from shrine staff.

Msgr. Groncki said visitors will enjoy the recently completed Trinity Dome and the new Rosary Garden. "The dome is really spectacular," he said.

The spiritual aspect of the pilgrimage is a tribute to Mary, Mother of the Church. The bus trip itself is planned as a Marian devotion, beginning with prayers to Our Lady for a safe trip, the rosary and Marian hymns. Parish promoters will be arranging these spiritual activities.

"We have a lot to pray for in the Archdiocese of Newark," Msgr. Groncki said. "Our parishes have been hurt by scandals and abuse, and this is a time to come together and ask the Church of Newark to not only make reparation but also petition for a way out of all this."

Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R., will participate as the principal celebrant of the Mass, concelebrating with the bishops and priests of the archdiocese. Pilgrims are expected to depart at 5:30 p.m.



Advocate file photos-Deacon Al Frank

Visit www.rcan.org/pilgrimage2019 or call the Office of Divine Worship at 973-497-4345 for more information about the event.

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Protesting immigration detention

Continued from page 1

ities, has done for immigrants. “Here in Newark, Catholic Charities, assisted by parishes and parishioners of the archdiocese, has helped refugees from Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo to resettle, comply with the stringent requirements of the vetting process that is coordinated by the Department of Homeland Security. We hope to welcome others who seek to better their lives,” the archbishop noted.

A 27-year-old named Liborio Adorno, who said he was brought to the U.S. as a 7-year-old without legal documents, spoke to the crowd.

“It’s pretty sad for me to see the pictures of children and babies because I identify with them,” he said. “I came when the immigration crackdown wasn’t

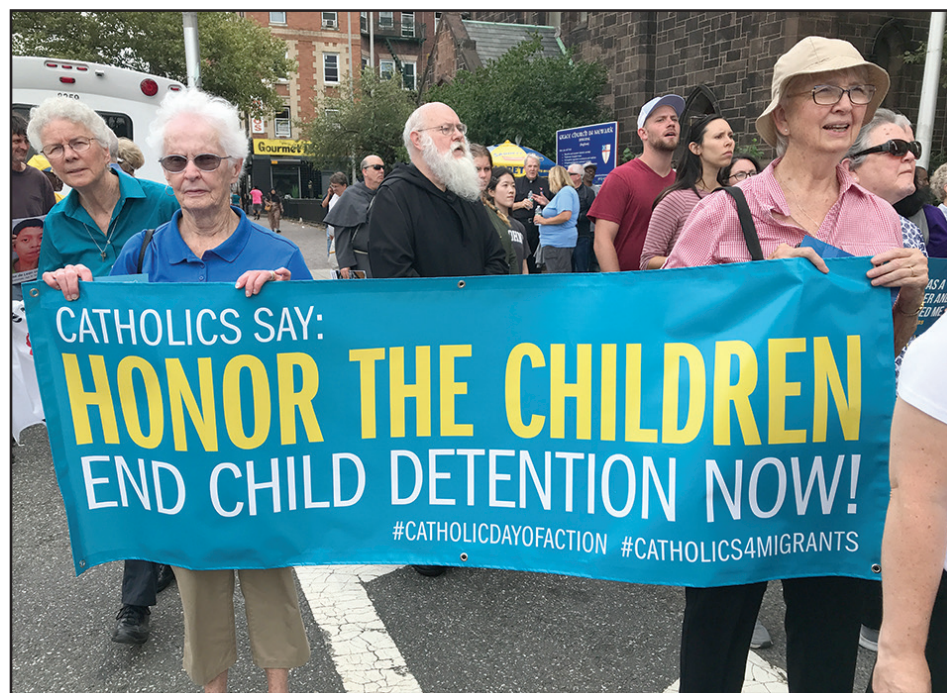
as bad, and it forces me to think: What if I had crossed later?”

He organizes communities via the Co-secha Movement, a nonviolent movement fighting for permanent protection, dignity and respect for the 11 million undocumented immigrants in the United States. Adorno said he hopes that others recognize the humanity of those like his family.

“A family is something holy. An attack on a family is an attack on religion,” he said. “How long must we endure this pain before people act? That is my question ... I ask everybody present to stay strong in your prayer but stay strong in your action.”

Though Cardinal Tobin was the only prelate present, several groups of women religious and lay groups attended, including the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, the Sisters of St. Joseph, the Sisters of Bon Secours, the Ignatian Solidarity Network and several Franciscans and Jesuits, among others. They had first gathered at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Newark, a parish founded to serve working-class Irish and German immigrants who worked in the city’s factories.

“This city is a city of immigrants go-



Advocate photos-Jai Agnish

Six protesters who blocked a crosswalk, arranging themselves in the shape of a cross in front of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, were later arrested.

ing back to 1666, way before the country was even formed,” said Father Edwin Leahy, headmaster of St. Benedict Prep and a monk at the Benedictine Abbey in Newark. A service was held at the Abbey Church of St. Mary before protesters began their march. “It’s an issue that we always need to be concerned about. It’s a city of immigrants. That’s who we are. That’s what makes us up as a community and we need to be concerned about issues of immigration, about others who want to come and participate with us.”

Sister Ann Scholz, S.S.N.D., associate director for social mission for the Maryland-based Leadership Conference of Women Religious, spoke of the history of women religious as members of immigrant communities who also served those communities. Their action in the modern immigration battle is a continuation of work that began long ago, she said.

“We have joined the tens of thousands who are outraged at the horrific treatment of immigrant children and families by our own government,” she said. “We are here today to say loudly and clearly, stop the inhumanity. The mistreatment of children, the separation of families, the denigration of our immigrant brothers and

sisters done in our name must stop.”

Though they didn’t attend physically, several bishops sent statements supporting the Newark event, which the group Faith in Action said is part of an ongoing national campaign “developed by a Catholic coalition of organizations to pressure the Trump administration and Congress to end the policies and practices that routinely traumatize children, particularly the policy of child and family detention.”

The first event took place in Washington on July 18 and a third gathering is set for Oct. 11-13 in the border town of El Paso, Texas, said Eli McCarthy, director of justice and peace for the Conference of Major Superiors of Men.

Cardinal Tobin urged the faithful to reach out to legislators on behalf of immigrants. “I ask all Catholics and others of good will to contact their local, state and federal elected officials and urge them not to manipulate these families as political pawns,” the cardinal said. “As a nation, we must come together for immigration reform that defends the family, protects human dignity and the sacredness of life.”

Additional reporting by Jai Agnish, communications manager for the Office of Communications and Public Relations.



THE ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK AND IMMIGRATION

How we became who we are

Msgr. Robert J. Wister recently published a series of essays about the history of immigration in the Archdiocese of Newark on Seton Hall University's blog. The Catholic Advocate will be re-printing excerpts of his work in upcoming issues. For the complete text, visit <http://blogs.shu.edu/archdiocese-immigration>.

By Msgr. Robert J. Wister

Immigrants established the Church in New Jersey and have sustained it for more than three centuries. Most of these immigrants arrived in two waves separated by an interim period of light immigration. Immigration to New Jersey began long before the establishment of the Diocese of Newark. It was the major factor leading to the creation of the see. The first great wave of immigration extended roughly from 1840 to 1920. A "pause" in immigration lasted from 1920 until 1965, when the second wave began.

These periods, these "waves of immigration," had similarities and differences. There were more similarities than differences. In retrospect, the interim period between the two waves appears quite placid, although it was not. It marked the beginning of a vast Latino migration into the archdiocese.

The following patterns characterize both waves of immigration and, to some extent, the "pause":

- Immigration was simultaneously multiethnic, from many countries, not one;
- Many pastoral initiatives came from groups of lay men and women;
- Ethnic-based or "national" parishes were a significant part of pastoral care;
- Immigrant priests and religious sisters served most, but not all, immigrant groups;
- Large numbers of priests and sisters from religious communities and orders engaged in pastoral parish work;
- Continuing progress in the technology of transportation facilitated immigration;
- There were diverse motivations for migration, one constant being a desire to improve the lot of the family;
- Immigrants often were not welcomed, even by their fellow Catholics; and
- Various political and economic crises, as well as famines and natural disasters, encouraged people to migrate.

THE FIRST CATHOLICS IN NEW JERSEY

The Colonies of East and West Jersey did not welcome Catholics. At best, they tolerated them. In the early 18th century,



"IN THESE ESSAYS, I PLAN TO REVIEW THE IMMIGRATION EXPERIENCE AND THE PASTORAL RESPONSE OF THE CHURCH IN NEW JERSEY. THIS WILL HELP US TO UNDERSTAND WHERE WE ARE NOW AND HOW WE ARRIVED HERE; AND EVEN MORE IMPORTANTLY, WHO WE ARE AND HOW WE ARE THE LOCAL CHURCH OF NEWARK."

Catholic laborers came from Germany to work in the new iron and glass industries in southern New Jersey. They crossed the Delaware River to attend Mass in Philadelphia. Catholics in the northern part of the state traveled by ferry across the Hudson to attend Mass in Manhattan. In addition, Jesuits from St. Joseph Parish in Philadelphia and circuit riding priests, such as Ferdinand Steinmeyer, known as "Father Farmer," cared for their spiritual needs. Father Farmer's registers include Irish, English, French and German names. The primary characteristic of the Catholic Church in New Jersey was present from the first years; it was a multiethnic Church.

After independence, New Jersey maintained its anti-Catholic attitude. Its 1776 state constitution continued the colonial practice of restricting state offices to Protestants. A later state constitution finally removed this provision in 1844.

Modest numbers of French Catholics fleeing the anti-religious turmoil of the French Revolution that began in 1789 added to the number of Catholics in New Jersey. A few Irish rebels escaping after the abortive United Irishmen Rebellion of 1798 arrived soon after. The numbers were not great, and they would not increase until the political situation in Eu-

rope settled after the end of the Napoleonic Wars in 1815.

In the United States, the early 1800s were a time of rapid industrial and commercial development. This expansion needed workers. It immediately attracted Catholic immigrants from Germany and Ireland who worked on the construction of railroads and canals and in the new factories.

By 1814, the number of Catholics in Trenton had increased sufficiently to build a small church. Its origin is rather curious. Neither an immigrant group nor a diocese built the first church in New Jersey, St. John the Baptist. Artist and businessman Giovanni Battista Sartori provided the funds to build the church. A successful executive, he lived in the Trenton area and served as a papal diplomat, the papal consul in Philadelphia. Thus, a layman, who eventually returned to his native Italy, built the first church building in New Jersey, naming it after his own patron saint. He was a true entrepreneur. The records of one of his enterprises show that he sold macaroni to Thomas Jefferson.

celebrated Mass. They formed a corporation called "St. John's Church." They petitioned the bishop of New York, who then had jurisdiction over northern New Jersey, for a priest and he sent Father Gregory Pardow to them. Under his direction, the first church in Newark was built between 1827-1830. It was enlarged by his successor, Father Patrick Moran, in 1840. Most of St. John's parishioners were of Irish heritage.

THE FIRST WAVE OF IMMIGRATION 1840-1920

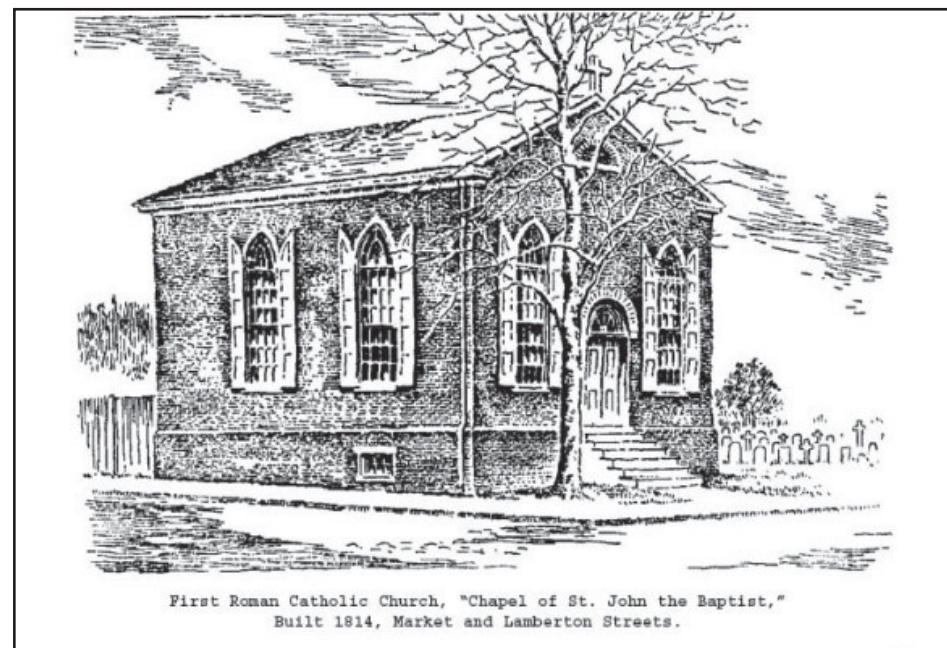
The Irish and the Germans

Beginning in the 1840s, immigration to New Jersey increased dramatically. Initially, about 80 percent of the new arrivals, like those just before, were from Germany and Ireland. They supplied needed workers for the state's growing industries.

Nineteenth century technological progress in transportation facilitated immigration. Larger, faster and safer passenger ships moved across the ocean in shorter time and with increasing frequency. Then, and in the future, advances in transportation would facilitate immigration.

As always, diverse motivations spurred immigration. Political instability, economic opportunity and occasional religious persecution stimulated German immigration. On the other hand, the Irish came mostly out of desperation. In the 1840s, a blight destroyed the potato crop in Ireland. The resultant famine, the "Great Hunger," killed more than 1 million people and drove more than 1.5 million Irish to emigrate. This pattern, immigration fueled by human tragedies

About 10 years later, in 1826, Newark's first parish, St. John's, was established. The genesis of the first church in Newark followed a more conventional pattern. Newark Catholics had been meeting in private homes where an itinerant priest



A rendering of the Chapel of St. John the Baptist, Trenton.

Archive photos

overseas, was replicated in the future.

From 1820 to 1860, 1,956,557 Irish arrived in the United States, 75 percent after 1845. About 85 percent of the Irish immigrants were Catholics. Irish migrated all over the world, but the majority of Irish immigrants came to the United States, tens of thousands to New Jersey, chiefly northeastern New Jersey. By 1850, the foreign-born population of New Jersey included over 31,000 Irish, most of them Catholic, and over 10,000 Germans, many Catholics among them.

By the mid-1840s, there were over 1,500 Catholics, German and Irish, in the city of Newark. This sudden increase in the Catholic population strained the facilities of St. John Parish on Mulberry Street. In 1842, St. Mary Parish (now Newark Abbey) was established to care for the growing German population of Newark.

This relieved the pressure on St. John's, but the enormous Irish immigration required additional measures. After proposals to enlarge the church failed, Father Patrick Moran, pastor of St. John's, decided to build a new church.

In 1850, shortly before the establishment of the Diocese of Newark, the bishop of New York created the city's third parish, St. Patrick's Pro-Cathedral, out of St. John's to meet the growing needs. These three parishes set the stage for the enormous growth of the future. They also established a pattern of recognizing the immigrant cultures and provided distinct churches to meet the pastoral needs of specific ethnic groups, in the case of St. Mary's, the Germans; St. Patrick's, the Irish. Most of the territorial parishes continued principally to serve the Irish population. In time, Catholics in New Jersey called them the "Irish parishes." So-called "national parishes" served the successive ethnic groups. Some parishes, from their beginning, included more than one ethnic group; others would later develop in a multiethnic direction.

The influence of lay groups, like those in St. John's who petitioned for a priest, would continue as various new ethnic and racial groups brought their needs to the attention of the bishop.



James Roosevelt Bayley

The Diocese of Newark

In 1850, the bishops attending the American Church's Seventh Provincial Council recognized the mushrooming immigrant Catholic population. They recommended to Rome the creation of several new dioceses, among them, Newark.

James Roosevelt Bayley became the first bishop of Newark in 1853. The new diocese encompassed the entire state of New Jersey. The best estimates at the time counted approximately 30,000 Catholics in the new see, most of Irish and German birth, and concentrated in the northeastern part of the state.

Anti-Catholicism was endemic to the United States in the mid-19th century. The so-called "American Party," known as the "Know-Nothings" because, when asked about their beliefs, its members responded, "I know nothing"—saw immigrants as a danger to their definition of American identity and values.

On Sept. 5, 1854, the Orange Association, also known as the American Protestant Association, marched 3,000 strong through Newark. They attacked and looted St. Mary Parish on High Street. Within St. Mary's, a damaged statue of the Blessed Virgin remains as a mute reminder of this outrage. The sisters at St. Patrick's gathered the orphans into the church, locked the doors and remained there through the night. Father Bernard John McQuaid, the rector of St. Patrick, walked among the crowds and did his best to persuade angry Catholics to disperse. Later, he unsuccessfully demanded prosecution of the attackers, but succeeded in seeing responsibility for the violence placed on the Orangemen.

Italians

The Italians were the next major immigrant group to come to New Jersey in great numbers, beginning in the 1870s. Between 1900 and 1930, 5 million Italians immigrated to America. The European revolutions of the mid-19th century and the struggle for Italian unification destabilized the economy of Italy, particularly southern Italy. The government of newly unified Italy, dominated by northern interests, did little to relieve the plight of the south. It is not surprising that the great majority of Italian immigrants came from southern Italy and Sicily.

Their religiosity was quite different from their Irish and German predecessors. Their exuberant outdoor religious processions and festivals were a source of wonder to the Irish Americans and confusion to the German Americans.

Priests who were not Italian began much of the pastoral work among the Italians of Newark. Father James Hanley built the first Italian church in the diocese, Holy Rosary in Jersey City, and Father Conrad M. Schottholder founded the first three Italian churches in Newark. The first Italian national parish in Newark was St. Lucy's, established in 1891.

Italians also settled in suburbs, leading to the establishment of Italian national parishes in Montclair and Garfield.



St. John's, Newark

The number of Italians grew at an amazing rate. Between 1880 and 1920, Newark's Italian-born population grew from 400 to 27,000. By the latter date, another 36,000 were children of Italian parents. Those of Italian birth and parentage made up 15 percent of the city's population and had become Newark's largest ethnic group.

Polish immigration and Catholics from the empires of Europe

While some Polish immigration began earlier, heavy Polish immigration began in the 1870s and massive immigration in the 1880s. It continued until the outbreak of World War I in 1914. Since they came from the Polish regions of Germany, Austria and Russia, it is difficult to determine the exact number. They regularly were conflated with other nationalities from these empires. It is reasonable to estimate that about 1.5 million Polish people immigrated during this period. They faced the problems of all immigrants, but were better organized ecclesiastically than the Italians and quickly established parish institutions.

The great wave of Polish immigration

to New Jersey began in the 1880s. Nearly all of the Polish people who came to the United States were from rural areas but settled primarily in cities like Newark and Jersey City. The Polish were generally zealous Catholics who contributed liberally to their churches.

In 1882, the Polish in Newark founded their first fraternal organization, the Jan III Sobieski Society, named for the heroic Polish king. Just seven years later, in 1889, the first Polish parish was founded, St. Stanislaus. St. Casimir's followed not long after, preceded by a fraternal organization, the White Eagle.

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Catholics arrived in New Jersey from other countries as well. Census records are not always helpful, as many came from the Russian, Austrian and German Empires that contained many nations. In any event, the diocese established national parishes for Slovaks, Lithuanians and Hungarians, as well as parishes for Eastern Rite Ukrainian Catholics.

Coming up in the Oct. 16 issue of *The Catholic Advocate*, Msgr. Wister will address the "pause" in immigration from approximately 1920 to 1965.

Robert J. Wister, *Hist.Eccl.D.*, is a faculty member at Immaculate Conception Seminary in South Orange.

For more information, visit
<http://blogs.shu.edu/archdiocese-immigration>.

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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.

September 13

Don Bosco Preparatory High School, Ramsey, "Friday Night Cinema Under the Lights," featuring a motivational speech by Daniel "Rudy" Ruettinger followed by a screening of the film "Rudy," 5:30 p.m., \$10, VIP passes for \$100 include priority field seating and a meet and greet, call Jennifer Passerino at 201-327-2049 ext. 126 or email jpasserino@donboscoprep.org.

September 14

Academy of the Holy Angels, Demarest, Angels in the Arts hosts benefit art auction, proceeds will go toward renovations of the academy's auditorium, 21 and over, artworks presented by Marlin Arts, collection will feature various genres and price points, visit www.holyangels.org/artauction or call 201-768-7822.

September 22

Knights of Columbus Council 3428, North Arlington, annual fall BBQ, at the Columbian Club Hall, 1-4 p.m., \$20 for adults, \$10 ages 6 to 11 and \$50 for a family of four, attendees are asked to donate non-expired, non-perishable canned goods for food pantry, call 201-988-0183.

September 26

Sacred Heart Parish, Haworth, carnival, featuring food, games and rides, 6 p.m., also Sept. 27 at 6 p.m., Sept. 28 at 3 p.m. and Sept. 29 at 1 p.m., call 201-387-0080.

September 27

Seton Hall University, South Orange, Forum on Modern Slavery: 21st Century Solutions, featuring keynote address by 2018 Nobel Peace Prize winner Nadia Murad, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., contact Gwen Debenedetto at diplomacy.events@shu.edu or 973-275-2562.

September 28

Knights of Columbus Council 1863, Fort Lee, 4th annual 5K & Oktoberfest, kids races, 3.1 mile run/walk, Oktoberfest follows with gourmet food trucks, beer and wine garden and live bands, \$35, event benefits Tackle Kids Cancer, 10 a.m., visit <http://kofc1863.org/5koktoberfest>.

October 1

Caldwell University, discussion with JP Morgan Chase executive Alma DeMetropolis, "10 Lessons in Career Development," 5 p.m., contact Melissa Cook by Sept. 30 at mecook@caldwell.edu.

October 2

Archdiocese of Newark, Scholarship Fund for Inner-City Children, golf outing at Canoe Brook Country Club in Summit, 8 a.m. registration, 9 a.m. shotgun start, 1:30 p.m. lunch, contact Barbara Cortes at 973-497-4278 or barbara.cortes@rcan.org.

October 3

Archdiocese of Newark, Office for Evangelization, Mass for Our Country, 7 p.m., at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Bloomfield, call 973-497-4137 or visit www.rcan.org/evangelization.

October 4

Mother Seton Regional High School, Clark, Gala Evening of Celebration and Recognition, at The Westwood in Garwood, 6:30 p.m., call 732-382-1952 ext. 175 or email gala@motherseton.org.

Community of God's Love, Rutherford, "From the High Tor Mountains to Newark Bay—the Hackensack River and Its Keeper," presented by a Hackensack riverkeeper, 7:30 p.m., call 201-935-0344 or email lampstand@thecgl.org.

Archdiocese of Newark, African American, African and Caribbean Apostolate, 2019 Bishop Francis

Scholarship Dinner Dance, at Hanover Manor in East Hanover, featuring 50/50 raffle and open bar, 6-11 p.m. \$75, contact Father Emeka Okwuosa, S.D.V., at 973-497-4304 or okwuosem@rcan.org.

October 11

Knights of Columbus Council 3428, North Arlington, Elvis dinner show, featuring performance by Anthony Ligouri, at the Columbian Club Hall, 6:30 p.m., dinner and beverages included, \$35 per adult, \$10 for children (ages 6 to 10), proceeds benefit special needs programs, call 201-988-0183.

October 16

Archdiocese of Newark, Office for Evangelization, "An Evening with Jeff Cavins," discussing his new book "When You Suffer," at St. Elizabeth Parish in Wyckoff, co-sponsored by Family Life Ministries and Catholic Cemeteries, 6 p.m., \$10, call 973-497-4137 or visit www.rcan.org/evangelization.

Cristo Rey Newark High School, 2019 President's Gala, at Nanina's in the Park in Belleville, 6 p.m., includes cocktail reception, buffet and silent auction, \$150 per ticket, call 973-483-0033 or visit www.cristoreynewark.org.

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Submitted photo

Hundreds of guests attended a special Mass Aug. 16 at Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament/St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Newark to celebrate Father Peter Iwuala's 10th anniversary as a priest. A reception in his honor was held at Sacred Heart Church in Irvington following Mass. Father Iwuala is chaplain of Clara Maass Medical Center in Belleville.

Sister Marguerite Brennan, S.C.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Aug. 26 at Holy Family Chapel in Convent Station for Sister Marguerite Brennan, S.C., 81, who died Aug. 13.

Formerly Sister Mary Bernice, Sister Marguerite was born in Orange. She entered the Sisters of Charity on March 6, 1955, and was a member for 64 years.

Sister Marguerite graduated from the College of Saint Elizabeth, and earned a master's degree in education from Seton Hall University.

Sister Marguerite was an educator in New Jersey, New York, Virginia and the Virgin Islands. She served as a teacher at Sacred Heart School, Jersey City; Epiphany School, Cliffside Park; and All Saints School, Jersey City.



Father James Stephen Behrens, O.C.S.O.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Aug. 21 at the Monastery of the Holy Spirit in Conyers, Ga., for Father James Stephen Behrens, O.C.S.O., 71, who died Aug. 15.

A monk of 25 years and a priest of 45 years, he served as a priest of the Archdiocese of Newark for over 20 years before entering the monastery in 1994.

Born in Brooklyn, most of his youth was spent in Montclair. He was the author of six books, including the bestseller "Portraits of Grace," and his writing has appeared in various Catholic publications.

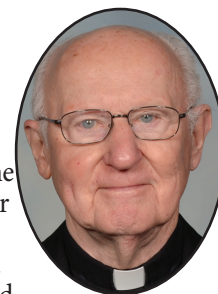


Father Timothy J. Horgan

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Aug. 27 at St. Luke Parish in Toms River for Father Timothy J. Horgan, 89, who died Aug. 19.

Father Horgan was ordained June 4, 1955. He served as parochial vicar at Our Lady of All Souls Parish in East Orange from 1955 to 1967 and St. Thomas Moore Parish in Fairfield from 1967 to 1977. He was pastor of St. Mary Parish in Nutley (1977-1993) and St. Matthew Parish in Ridgefield (1993-1999).

Father Horgan retired in 1999. He served as chaplain at Fort Dix/McGuire Air Force Base near Trenton until his death.

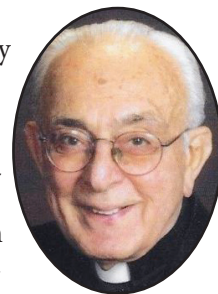


Father Francis M. Gaetano, S.A.C.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Aug. 24 at Our Lady of Grace Parish in Fairview for Father Francis M. Gaetano, S.A.C., 97, who died Aug. 20.

A New York native, Father Gaetano was ordained on Feb. 2, 1948, at the age of 25, at All Saints Parish in Brooklyn and was later assigned there. He then relocated to the now-defunct St. Philip Neri Parish in Newark. He later served in his home state before arriving at Our Lady of Grace in 1975 as parochial vicar.

During his years in Fairview, Father Gaetano was a pastor at the church, bursar and provincial consultor of the Pallottine Province. He continued to serve the parish as parochial vicar until his death. He was also the chaplain of the Fairview Fire Department for 38 years.



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Inside this issue:

New Administrators	16 & 18
Seton Hall University	17
Open House Listings	20-21
Academy of the Holy Angels	22
Oratory Preparatory	24
Don Bosco Preparatory High School	25
Mother Seton	26
Caldwell University	27
Living Our Faith	28
Immaculate Heart Academy	29
Mount St. Mary Academy	30
Mount St. Dominic	33
St. Joseph Regional High School	34
Cristo Rey	35
Oak Knoll	37

English

science

research

understand
question

ARCHDIOCESE WELCOMES 10 NEW ADMINISTRATORS

By Christine Lombardo

For most of us, summer tends to have a fleeting quality. In the blink of an eye, uniforms start to make their way back to the front of the closet and supply lists suddenly demand our focus. Amid the bustle and excitement every new school year brings, this fall we also welcome enthusiastic new leaders to 10 of our schools.

ELEMENTARY ADMINISTRATORS

Roseann Citro, Principal Our Lady of Czestochowa School, Jersey City

Roseann Citro comes to Our Lady of Czestochowa with an impressive 25 years of public school experience—12 as a teacher and 13 as a principal—in addition to prior career experience as a human resources manager.



A certified school leader, she also holds teaching endorsements in bilingual/bicultural education, ESL, Spanish and elementary education. Her educational preparation includes a bachelor's degree in Spanish and communications from Douglass College of Rutgers University and a master's in education from The College of New Jersey.

Thus far, Citro has been amazed by her staff's dedication, referring to them as "caring and passionate educators" who view their work as "a vocation rather than a job." Citro herself entered the profession with a desire to make a difference in the lives of children by impacting "the whole child, every child." She believes that a safe, supportive and nurturing environment is essential to that end, and has made school security a priority for the coming year.

Going forward, Citro will continue to instill Catholic values in her students, while introducing inquiry- and project-based learning, STEM and other innovations in math and science education.

Sister Lou Ann Fantauzza, F.M.A., Principal

St. Theresa School, Kenilworth

Having originally entered the field of education in 1981, Sister Lou Ann Fantauzza, F.M.A., leads the pack in terms of experience in this cohort of new administrators. Like her counterparts, she has held many roles, beginning as an elementary and early childhood teacher, center director, summer camp director, principal and, most recently, assistant principal at St. Theresa for the last two



years. She earned a bachelor's in elementary education and a master's in administration and supervision.

As a Salesian Sister of St. John Bosco, Sister Lou Ann has had the opportunity to work in Salesian schools in several states, leading to her certification in New York, Florida and New Jersey. Asked of her decision to become a teacher, she explains that while "it was a vocational choice as a Salesian Sister," she believes in "education as a way of impacting the future of our Church and our world."

While many with Sister Lou Ann's experience would be heading toward retirement, she enters this school year with nothing but enthusiasm for the future. Looking ahead, she intends to spread the message of all that St. Theresa's has to offer, including its family environment and strong faith formation.

Jason Feliciano, Principal St. Anne School, Fair Lawn

Born in Washington Heights, N.Y., Jason Feliciano has been a Bergen County resident most of his life. A product of Catholic education himself, Feliciano grew up in Cliffside Park and was actively involved at Our Lady of Grace in Fairview. Once a student and youth group member at Academy of Our Lady of Grace, Feliciano returned in adulthood as a teacher, youth group leader, coach and assistant principal.

Amidst an active involvement in his church and community, Feliciano has found time for missionary trips to Mexico, Belize, New Orleans, Kentucky and West Virginia.

Feliciano holds a bachelor's degree in communications with a minor in organizational leadership from Rutgers University and a master's degree in educational leadership from St. Peter's University.

Now living in Elmwood Park with his wife and their children, Feliciano was already familiar with the community of St. Anne School in nearby Fair Lawn. He cited the impressively "rich history and family culture that are so evident around the school and the church" as being what attracted him to the position. With such a strong foundation to build upon, he seeks to further enrich students' lives by inspiring them with the same sense of faith, respect and servant leadership he gained through his own education so they, in



turn, may lead by serving others.

Tracy Graham, Principal Academy of St. Paul, Ramsey

Over her 24 years in education, Tracy Graham has held numerous roles, including lead teacher, grade level leader, district liaison, curriculum specialist and coach. She began as a middle school science teacher, remaining in the classroom for 17 years. Most recently, Graham served as academic dean at St. Mark the Evangelist in New York City.

Graham, another product of Catholic schooling, attended St. Joseph's School in Greenwich Village and Cathedral High School on the Upper East Side. She later graduated magna cum laude from Touro College with a bachelor's degree in education and went on to earn a master's in science education from the City College of New York. She is now a doctoral candidate at Concordia University, where her research focuses on students' perception of their teachers and its effect on their education.

Graham is a member of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish in Tappan, N.Y., where she lives with her family. She is an avid volunteer who enjoys reading, dancing (flamenco and ballet), kickboxing, karate and is a classically trained opera singer.

Asked what motivates her work, Graham said she was led to education by a love of children and her own positive learning experiences. Of her new post, she stated, "I love that Academy of St. Paul has a school culture that is rooted in strong Christian values with high academic expectations in a structured, yet loving environment. I plan on building on the success of the school by strengthening the technology department so that our students can continue to compete globally."

Carol La Salle, Principal Academy of Our Lady, Glen Rock

Carol La Salle brings with her to the academy over two decades of experience in education: first as an elementary and junior high school teacher for over 10 years, and most recently as a principal for 13 years. A certified school leader with teaching credentials in both elementary and early childhood education, La Salle earned her Bachelor of Arts in education from Caldwell University and later completed a master's in educational leadership at Seton Hall University.

Unwavering in both her faith and her vocation, La Salle never doubted her



calling. "As far back as I can remember, my career path led me to education, in particular, Catholic education," La Salle said. "My love for children and my desire to create an environment of spiritual and intellectual formation for (them) led me on (this) path." With the same sense of purpose and conviction, she has fully immersed herself in her new role, noting how impressed she is by the commitment and dedication of both faculty and parents.

Looking ahead, La Salle said she hopes to build upon the school's active service learning program, and she will "work toward linking the school's mission statement with the traditions the academy holds sacred."

Maura Triebenbacher, Principal Aquinas Academy, Livingston

Raised in the suburbs of Philadelphia, where she attended St. Philomena School and Archbishop Prendergast High School, Maura Triebenbacher knows firsthand how Catholic schools shape the lives and futures of their students.

She credits her Irish Catholic parents' emphasis on the importance of education to explain her life pursuits. She earned a bachelor's degree in English and education from La Salle University and later a master's degree in education leadership and administration from Immaculata University, both in Pennsylvania.

Since starting as a teacher in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, Triebenbacher has added experience as a principal, learning specialist and adjunct professor to her skillset.

Stepping into her work at Aquinas, she noted the existing strength of the community and Catholic values, two things she hopes to build upon. On the academic side, she intends to introduce teaching strategies to promote reflective learning, critical thinking and synthesis to foster students' ability to self-monitor their learning and achieve a deeper understanding of the content.

Barbara Verdonck, Interim Principal Academy of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Tenafly

Prior to assuming the role of interim principal, Barbara Verdonck had a successful career for over 30 years in Catholic schools, working primarily in math



Continued on page 18



Submitted photos

Seton Hall University students were welcomed by a bunch of furry friends on the first day of classes. The student activities board hosted a free animal petting zoo on the campus green Aug. 26. On their way to class, students and faculty were greeted with baby bunnies, chicks, goats, sheep, a cow, an alpaca and a mini mule. The animals were brought by Mountainside Stables, a traveling entertainment business from Sparta. "The petting zoo is a way for students to get rid of those first-day jitters," said activities board president Samantha Innamorato, a senior visual and sound media major with a minor in public relations. "A lot of students, especially freshmen, are really anxious and nervous on their first day of classes, so we want them to have a positive first-day experience and to feel welcomed on our campus." Freshmen Kristianne Caldon (left) and Jackie Vander Zee (right) pose with a cow and their new goat friend.



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10 NEW ADMINISTRATORS

Continued from page 16

SECONDARY ADMINISTRATORS

education and later administration. Most recently, she served as a faculty member at the school. Verdonck earned both her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of the Rockies in Colorado Springs, Colo.

In her experience, Verdonck finds that "if students are engaged, they will love to learn," and she believes in challenging her students while also "encouraging them to take risks and learn from their successes and their mistakes." Her decades of experience as a Catholic educator have also given her a deep appreciation for Our Lady of Mount Carmel's mission of "helping students see God in themselves, in each other and in the world around them."

As interim principal, Verdonck intends to spark an ongoing conversation around growth mindset, or the idea that we are always growing and learning. In her own words, "Despite obstacles that may arise, we must always believe in our ability to rise above challenges and come out stronger on the other end."

**Ermanno Morelli, Principal
Don Bosco Preparatory High
School, Ramsey**

It's no coincidence that many of Catholic education's biggest supporters are themselves alumni of Catholic schools. Don Bosco Prep's newest principal, Ermanno Morelli, '02, is a testament to this fact.

After graduation, Morelli earned a bachelor's degree in history with minors in theology and Italian from Boston College in 2006, followed by a master's in teaching and curriculum from Harvard University just two years later. In 2016, he returned to graduate school for a master's in educational leadership from Ramapo College.

Morelli said the interaction between his Catholic upbringing and education, natural love of learning and passion for



the service of others is what helped him discern a career in teaching. He spent 11 years as a middle and high school teacher before becoming dean of students at Regis High School in New York City.

Returning to Don Bosco Prep as principal has proven to be an extraordinary homecoming. "There's a diversity of passions that often fly under the radar," he noted. "We have robust programs in robotics, theater, arts, media and service trips, not to mention academics marked by impressive college acceptances."

As the new principal, Morelli hopes to take in as much as he can: "I plan on using this year to learn more about the students, staff and culture, and from there, to assess how I can help advance the teaching, learning and the Salesian charism at Don Bosco Prep."

**Mike Malkinski, President
Immaculate Conception High
School, Montclair**

This month marks the beginning of Mike Malkinski's first full school year in the role as president of Immaculate Conception, which he assumed in January 2019. While the title is new, Malkinski said he feels very much at home on campus since his own graduation with the Class of 1973.

The oldest of seven Malkinskis to attend Immaculate Conception, his ties run deep, and said the "shining star on Cottage Place" holds a special place in his heart. In addition to leading the Immaculate Conception High School Foundation, he's been an active football coach at the school for four decades.

Malkinski earned a bachelor's degree in business administration and marketing from Montclair State University. After retiring from AT&T with 40 years of experience in engineering, project management, marketing and sales roles, the school's board of trustees invited him to bring his business skills, strong alumni connections and school pride to this opportunity.

"God definitely had a plan for me, and I feel very blessed to have this opportunity to help Immaculate Conception strengthen its mission," he said. He looks forward to his future work with an experienced and dedicated staff and generous alumni and friends so they may continue to be "inspired every day by their bright and hard-working students."



Ahead of the new academic year, Paramus Catholic High School hosted a retreat for faculty and staff on Sept. 3 at the Park Ridge Marriott. Father John Gordon, vicar for Pastoral Life/Evangelization for the Archdiocese of Newark, was the main celebrant at Mass. "The beauty of Catholic education is that it is the truth," Father Gordon explained.

"Truth is a person. Jesus says, 'I am the light, the way and the truth.'"

He is the master teacher. Catholic education is a spiritual journey; it is about the inner self." In the photo at right, Father Gordon is flanked by Paramus Catholic chaplains and theology teachers Father Dheo Layosa, left, and Father Donald K. Hummel, right.


**Joan Tyburczy, Principal
St. Vincent Academy, Newark**

After 19 years on the freshman instructional team at St. Vincent Academy, it should come as no surprise that Joan Tyburczy made an excellent candidate to tackle the complex role of principal.

Tyburczy holds a bachelor's degree in English from Siena College and a master's in educational leadership from The College of St. Elizabeth. A lifelong learner, she recalls always wanting to be an educator, and credits her parents for instilling in her from an early age the value and importance of education. After college, Tyburczy tried her hand at other fields and found herself uninspired by all. She knew if she wished to find fulfillment, she must return to education.

In her tenure at the academy, she has become an integral part of its community, which she described as being permeated by the mutual respect and support bestowed to it by its founders, the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth. Nearly two decades later, Tyburczy remains inspired by the sisters' mission and their commitment to uphold it.

Looking ahead, Tyburczy will preserve and look to "build on the sense of community that is already well established" and to find new ways to encourage students to feel "confident to share their many talents."

Christine Lombardo is the director of school enrollment, communications and marketing of Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Newark.



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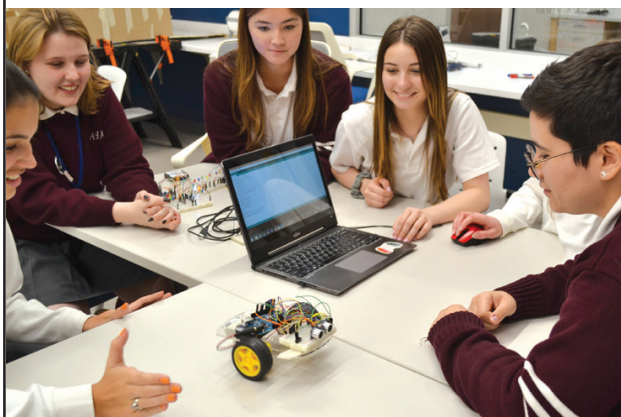


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Immaculate Conception High School ichslodi.org	10 October 20 October
Saint Joseph Regional High School saintjosephregional.org	29 September 6 November
Bergen Catholic High School bergencatholic.org	22 September 29 October 20 May
Paramus Catholic Regional High School paramuscatholic.org	6 October 29 October 15 January 6 May
Don Bosco Preparatory High School donboscoprep.org	26 September 27 October 7 May
Saint Mary High School stmaryhs.org	29 September 22 October 28 April
Immaculate Heart Academy ihanj.com	20 October 24 October 29 April

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Hudson Catholic Regional High School hudsoncatholic.org	20 October 26 January 26 April
Saint Dominic Academy stdominicacad.com	29 September 9 October 22 April
Saint Peter's Preparatory School spprep.org	20 October 3 May

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Benedictine Academy benedictineacad.org	6 October 5 November 12 December
Roselle Catholic Regional High School rosellecatholic.org	20 October 26 January
Union Catholic Regional High School unioncatholic.org	9 October 22 April
Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child oakknoll.org	19 October 16 November
Oratory Preparatory School oratoryprep.org	29 September 24 October
Koinonia Academy School koinoniaacademy.org	Contact for Dates

ESSEX COUNTY OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE 2019-2020

Mount Saint Dominic Academy msdacademy.org	2 October 27 October 2 April
Immaculate Conception High School ichspride.org	3 October 27 October
Cristo Rey Newark High School cristoreynewark.org	19 October 9 November 11 December 8 January
Saint Benedict's Preparatory School sbp.org	12 October 9 November 14 December
Saint Vincent Academy svanj.org	9 October 20 October 3 November 29 January
Seton Hall Preparatory School shp.org	27 October
Lacordaire Academy lacordaireacademy.com	20 October 4 December 28 January

Holy Angels unveils collegiate schedule

DEMAREST—This fall, as the Academy of the Holy Angels celebrates its 140th year of educating young women, the school's leaders have implemented a "70 flex schedule." The administrative team anticipates that this collegiate-style schedule will enhance learning, help alleviate student stress and prepare them for modern challenges.

The rotating block schedule features an eight-day cycle that allows students to take eight courses without altering the length of the school day. Students will have 70-minute classes a few times a week, rather than meet for shorter sessions every day. Teachers will be able to go into greater depth in their various subject areas and provide time for student reflection.

"This is an appropriate time to implement innovative scheduling for our students because it reflects our 140 years of continual educational innovation developed with the idea of educating the whole person," Principal Jean Miller noted.

"We are learning that students are prioritizing academics at the expense of important aspects of their personal lives, such as sleep, exercise, family time and developing healthy relationships with peers, which, in turn, is greatly affecting their

physical, mental and social health. When general health and well-being decline, so does the capacity for genuine learning," Miller explained.

Miller said the new schedule provides additional time for some advanced placement classes, improves course selection and reduces the number of adjusted schedules.

A notable change is the addition of "community time" in the morning, which will provide greater instructional continuity. Teachers will be able to pull minutes from this period to administer tests or finish a lesson on days when Masses or assemblies are scheduled. According to Miller, the sessions will help faculty and staff build better relationships with the students, and will include opportunities for students to get extra help. This period will also permit teachers to collaborate and participate in professional development.

Miller noted that some students and families have expressed concerns regarding stress levels, students working late into the night on school projects and increases in absenteeism and anxiety.

Academic Dean Francesca Tambone-Puzio said the new schedule should help reduce stress throughout the

building, since students will only have to prepare for four classes every day, rather than six.

"The new schedule responds to the needs of our students by providing an environment with reduced stress while creating a culture of personal growth and responsibility. It creates opportunities for our students to effectively manage their time and explore their interests. It also protects the integrity of instructional time and promotes durable learning," Tambone-Puzio explained.

Miller pointed out that the increased minutes per class period in the new schedule will foster more active classrooms, since there will be opportunities for project-based learning, group projects, discussion and interdisciplinary learning experiences. Students will have more relevant and choice-infused class time, and there will be time for relationships to grow, the educator added.

When class time is limited, Miller continued, students can become overloaded with information, and the classroom experience can tend toward "test-tell-repeat."

The goal, Miller said, is to emphasize understanding, rather than the memorization of facts. Because classes will not meet every day, students will have time to reflect and retrieve information from the previous lesson before the next class begins. This allows for emotional and cognitive engagement, Miller said.

When the students were asked what they wanted during their school day,



Submitted photo

Miller reported that they asked for a quiet room where no one was talking and a place where they could work on SATs with other people who were engaged in the same activity.

The new schedule will address the students' wishes and will include study time, wellness activities, such as yoga and meditation, an advisory period for staff members to work with students and designated hours for college counseling assemblies and information sessions.



Submitted photos

St. Thomas the Apostle School's robotics team, the Brainstormers, completed its season with a trip to the FIRST LEGO League (FLL) Mountain State Invitational at Fairmont University in West Virginia this summer. Sixty-two teams from 11 countries got together for three days to show off their robotics skills, share ideas and meet new friends. The Bloomfield-based Brainstormers are one of four robotics teams that represented St. Thomas at this year's FLL North Jersey regional competition at Clifton High School. From there, the Brainstormers progressed to the state finals, winning the first place trophy for teamwork among 88 teams. In addition, they were selected to display their robotic skills during Engineering Week at the Liberty Science Center in Jersey City.



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Submitted photos
Oratory Prep School welcomed students back to its Summit campus on Aug. 28. To help students better prepare for the academic year, the school offers study skills, time management and organization courses for anyone in grades 7-12. Students will be instructed on how to manage papers and assignments, plan projects and homework, set short and long-term goals, stress management techniques, test taking strategies and more. This year, the school will offer compact "crash courses," or seminars, to better accommodate more fall athletes and to allow students to spend additional and necessary after school time on their studies.



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Don Bosco Prep makes faculty changes

RAMSEY—Don Bosco Preparatory High School has named a new athletic director. Marcin Szorc, the former assistant athletic director and head trainer, will take over the job. The former athletic director, Brian McAleer, was recently named director of alumni relations.

“As our new athletic director, Marcin brings integrity and a strong work ethic to this position that will align with our Sale-

sian charism,” said Robert Fazio, president of Don Bosco. “He has brought many new 21st century programs to our athletic department and training facility since coming here. He has a strong sense of community and is extremely well respected by the students, the coaches, the parents and the athletic community in general. This provides Don Bosco with a seamless transition to continue the national excellence that is expected at our school.”

Szorc has been a part of Don Bosco’s athletic program for the past eight years. After attending Montclair State University, he worked at Ridgefield Memorial High School for three years before coming to Don Bosco Prep in 2011 as head athletic trainer. In 2013, Szorc also added the position of assistant athletic director to his duties.

“I am excited to partner with Marcin as the new leader of our athletics programs,” said Principal Ermanno Morelli. “It was clear that Marcin is committed to fostering a growth mindset among our student-athletes. He brings with him the respect and relationships of student-athletes and their families, as well as institutional knowledge that will be invaluable as we continue to move Don Bosco forward.”

“I am elated and grateful to take on this new challenge,” Szorc said. “I look

forward to working with the school’s administration with anticipation to bring growth and success to this department within the upcoming year and future.”

McAleer, who has been a part of Don Bosco Prep’s administration for almost 20 years, is moving to the office of institutional advancement. “Brian has been a significant influence in the lives of students and their families at Don Bosco Prep, first as director of admissions for 11 years and then as athletic director for nine years,” said Father James Heuser, S.D.B., director. “His natural gift for forming relationships and his connections to numerous alumni will be an asset for our office of advancement.”

Fazio agreed that McAleer will be a great asset in his new role. “Brian McAleer has demonstrated a level of excellence through his ability to put us on the national stage in his athletic role, and I believe he will be able to bring that skill set to alumni relations with the same enthusiasm and passion.”

The sudden death of Richard Wisniewski this past June, who was the director of alumni relations for 20 years, left a void in the advancement office. Don Bosco’s alumni base is over 12,000, and McAleer’s experience engaging the Don Bosco community is a good fit for the position.



Brian McAleer



Marcin Szorc

“It has been an honor to serve as the director of athletics since the fall of 2010,” McAleer said. “I am proud of what our coaches and student athletes have achieved during those years. High school athletics play a very large role in a young person’s life, and it has been an absolute privilege to help guide my coaches and, most importantly, the student athletes. I have made lifelong friendships with my coaches, student athletes and colleagues from the Big North Conference. I look forward to this new challenge and to assisting the Don Bosco Prep community in another capacity.”

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Mother Seton principal retires

CLARK—After 51 years of dedicated service to the school and its students, co-principal of Mother Seton Regional High School Joan Barron has retired.

Barron was first hired to teach at the high school in 1968, after graduating from Georgian Court University. She wore many different hats during her tenure. In addition to teaching English, sociology and U.S.

history, she also taught electives, including law and psychology. She was also the woman behind the camera lens, photographing important moments on campus.

She earned a master's degree in education and social studies from Seton Hall University and became a certified principal and supervisor. In 1980, Sister Regina Martin Keane, S.C., named Barron an as-

sistant principal. She went on to become a co-principal with Sister Jacquelyn Balaria, S.C., after Sister Regina's death.

Over the years, Barron has moderated many extra-curricular activities, including student ambassadors and senior class advisors. She was also the school's tennis team coach and named tennis coach of the year many times.



Joan Barron

Legal Advertisement

FISCAL YEAR 2020 COUNTY WIDE PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

The ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK SCHOOLS announced today that low cost, nutritious school lunches and/or breakfasts and/or milk are available to all children enrolled in the school. In addition, meals, snacks and/or milk will be provided free or at a greatly reduced price to children from households whose gross income are at or below those shown for their household size on the income scale below. Applications for Free and Reduced Price School Meals are sent to the households of all children enrolled in the school districts.

EFFECTIVE FROM JULY 1, 2019 TO JUNE 30, 2020

(As announced by the United States Department of Agriculture)

HOUSE-HOLD SIZE	FREE MEALS OR MILK					HOUSE-HOLD SIZE	REDUCED PRICE MEALS				
	Annual	Monthly	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly		Annual	Monthly	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	16,237	1,354	677	625	313	1	23,107	1,926	963	889	445
2	21,983	1,832	916	846	423	2	31,284	2,607	1,304	1,204	602
3	27,729	2,311	1,156	1,067	534	3	39,461	3,289	1,645	1,518	759
4	33,475	2,790	1,395	1,288	644	4	47,638	3,970	1,985	1,833	917
5	39,221	3,269	1,635	1,509	755	5	55,815	4,652	2,326	2,147	1,074
6	44,967	3,748	1,874	1,730	865	6	63,992	5,333	2,667	2,462	1,231
7	50,713	4,227	2,114	1,951	976	7	72,169	6,015	3,008	2,776	1,388
8	56,459	4,705	2,353	2,172	1,086	8	80,346	6,696	3,348	3,091	1,546
Each Additional Household Member	5,746	479	240	221	111	Each Additional Household Member	8,177	682	341	315	158

Application forms are available at the school's website and at your child's school. Applications can be submitted at any time during the school year. If a household member becomes unemployed or the household size or income changes during the school year, parents are encouraged to contact the school so that all children receive the proper benefits. For the school officials to determine eligibility, the household must provide the following information listed on the application: names of all household members; household income received by each household member; type of income; frequency of income such as weekly, every two weeks, twice a month or monthly; and the signature and last four digits of the social security number of an adult household member certifying that the information provided is correct. The information provided by parents on the application will be kept confidential and will be used only for determining eligibility.

Foster children, Head Start enrollees, homeless, migrant and runaway children, as defined in 7 CFR 245.2, are categorically eligible for free meals or free milk. Households receiving assistance under NJ SNAP or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) for their children will be notified of their eligibility for free benefits unless the household notifies the school that it chooses to decline benefits. Households receiving assistance under NJ SNAP or TANF should only submit an application if they are not notified of their eligibility by a specified date determined by the school. Households with children that are certified participants in SNAP or TANF may submit school meal applications for their children using the abbreviated information as indicated on the school meal application and instructions. WIC participants may also be eligible for Free and Reduced Price meals. Parents/guardians should contact their child's school for more information.

The school will advise parents of their child's eligibility within 10 working days of receipt of the application. Any parent dissatisfied with the eligibility determination may contact the school to request an informal conference or may appeal the decision by requesting a formal hearing.

For up to 30 operating days into the new school year (or until a new eligibility determination is made, whichever comes first) an individual child's free or reduced price eligibility status

from the previous year will continue within the same LEA. In addition, when children move to a new LEA, either at the beginning of the new school year or during the summer months, the new LEA is encouraged to use the former LEA's eligibility determination from the previous school year and carryover the child's eligibility status.

Once determinations are completed, school officials are required to verify three percent of the approved free and reduced price applications on file. For additional information, contact _____ at _____.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

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To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
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This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

The following schools participate in one or more of the following School Nutrition Programs:
National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, After School Snack Program, Special Milk Program.

Name of School	Town in which School is located	Name of School	Town in which School is located
St. Joseph the Carpenter School	Roselle	St. Joseph School	Jersey City
Sacred Heart School	Lyndhurst	Immaculate Conception HS	Montclair
St. Peter School	Belleville	Marist High School	Bayonne
Good Shepherd Academy	Nutley	Cristo Rey Newark HS (Christ the King Prep)	Newark
St. Nicholas School	Jersey City	St. Benedict's Prep./St. Mary's Elementary	Newark
St. Augustine School	Union City	St. Francis Xavier School	Newark
St. Michael School	Cranford	Sacred Heart School	Jersey City
Our Lady of Help Christians School	East Orange	Our Lady of Czestochowa School	Jersey City
St. Joseph School	East Orange	St. Vincent Academy	Newark
St. Michael School	Newark		

Sept. 11, 2019

St. Peter's University partners with medical school

JERSEY CITY—St. Peter's University announced it has signed an agreement with Ross University School of Medicine to create an educational pathway program. The partnership will make it easier for St. Peter's graduates to study at the medical school, which has a campus in Barbados and administrative offices in Florida with affiliate teaching hospitals throughout the country.

Through the agreement, qualified St. Peter's students who earn full acceptance into the medical school will receive a scholarship covering full tuition for the first semester. The partnership was developed in an effort to drive diversity in the U.S. physician workforce, particularly among the country's Hispanic population. St. Peter's has been designated a Hispanic-serving institution for more than 20 years.

"Student success is not only measured by what our students accomplish while they are here but what they go on to accomplish after graduation," said Dr. Eugene J. Cornacchia, president of St. Peter's. "This partnership with Ross University School of Medicine exemplifies our mission to find new pathways to employment and career advancement for our diverse student population."

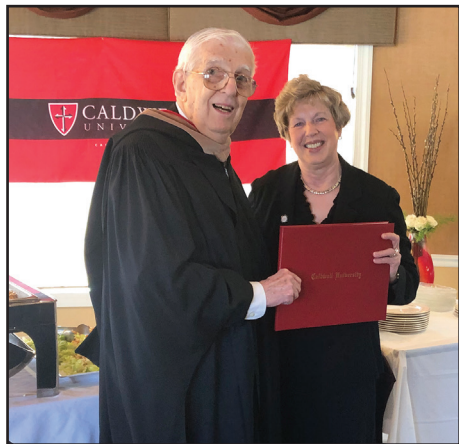
"The U.S. needs more Hispanic and Latino physicians if the medical profession is to serve our communities effectively," said Dr. William F. Owen Jr., dean and chancellor of Ross University School of Medicine. "The lack of a diverse physician workforce negatively impacts health care outcomes in Hispanic communities and communities of color that are typically prone to high rates of chronic diseases. We're working to address that long overdue challenge."

Man in his 80s earns graduate degree from Caldwell University

By Melissa McNally
Editor

Gerard Toohey Sr. is a prime example to never give up on your dreams. The 87-year-old recently received his master's degree in accounting from Caldwell University. He is the oldest known graduate of the program.

Dr. Nancy Blattner, president of the university, officiated a special commencement ceremony at Crane's Mill Continuing Care Retirement Community in West



Submitted photos

Gerard Toohey received his diploma from Caldwell University President Dr. Nancy Blattner in an April 13 ceremony.

Caldwell where Toohey resides. Among the family and friends in attendance were Toohey's wife of 58 years, Marie, and three of their five children.

Bernard O'Rourke, professor of business and former associate dean of the School of Business and Computer Science, had Toohey in class and noted he was an exceptional student. "We were thrilled that Jerry could add this master's degree to a lifetime of accomplishments," he said. "He is a critical thinker, driven, motivated and a caring individual who has been devoted to pursuing excellence in business and supporting his church and the community, in addition to being a longtime supporter of the university."

Toohey is the founder and former president of manufacturing company General Valve Corporation. Originally located in East Hanover, he launched the business in 1972, with his wife serving as vice president. The company moved to Fairfield and flourished, with Toohey eventually selling the business in 1995.

"Jerry is one of the entrepreneurs who pioneered the so-called low-end product revolution in the 1970s," explained Dr. Anatoly Kandel, the economics chair and business professor at Caldwell. "This revolution has led to creation of countless new small markets that offered no-nonsense simplified versions of very expensive tech-

nologically cutting-edge products."

With all of his successful business acumen, Toohey never completed his college education. Between enlisting in the U.S. Navy Reserves, managing a successful company and raising a family, he simply could not find the time. "I encouraged him to finish his undergraduate degree at Caldwell University about 20 years ago," his daughter Frances Toohey said. He completed his bachelor's degree in 2003 and then went on to earn his master's.

Toohey decided to study accounting because it "was involved in everything." He particularly enjoyed his professors. "(They) have a great ability to communicate. They are professional and have great experience," he said.

He also appreciated the Catholic mission of the university. "I liked seeing a cross in the classroom," Toohey explained.

Faith has always been a priority throughout the Tooheys' lives. The family regularly attended St. Aloysius Parish in Caldwell and the children were educated at the elementary school, now Trinity Academy. "When we went anywhere, we would pray the rosary in the car. My parents used to go to daily Mass," Frances Toohey recalled.

Today, Toohey and his wife still keep Christ at the center of their marriage. Marie resides in the skilled nursing unit at the

health center at Crane's Mill, with Gerard right below her in the assisted living unit. They spend most of the day together, often holding hands, enjoying music and other activities at the facility. Toohey leads a little prayer group in Marie's room each night with the two aides who assist them. Frances often joins them.

The couple first met almost 60 years ago while both working in Newark. Jerry said he "first noticed her beautiful blue eyes." Marie first asked Jerry for his "name, rank and serial number" as he walked up to her desk.

Toohey often credits his wife for all that he has accomplished. "God gave me a gift in Marie," he said.



Marie and Gerard Toohey, who have been married for 58 years.



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Catholic schools are 'anchors of truth'

By Msgr. Robert E. Harahan, S.T.D.

The summer came and so quickly seems to be gone. We can continue to enjoy something of its warmth and spirit. No doubt its allotted time has given us energy, vigor and purpose. In a Catholic school, we also return with faith. Our schools are as unique as personalities. But the common denominator of our faith focuses our attention as educators on Christ-centered teaching and learning.

As we embark on a new school year, we take on serious challenges: remaining faithful to our Catholic mission; serving our students through our teaching vocation; creating a climate of hard work and accomplishment; forming a culture of character, respect and mutual support; inculcating a desire to serve others; and communicating a love of faith and the Church. All this builds on the words we speak, the values that infuse our teaching and the daily example embodied in our lived vocation as teachers.

Catholic schools provide the opportunity to challenge and form our students, to open their minds and hearts to the wisdom we teach and the eternal wisdom we together seek. In a world of moral confusion and the fragmentation of knowledge, the message of Christian hope is crucial. Catholic schools play a critical

and profound role in the lives of our students and families. Given the culture we live in and its influences on us, we must forge our schools as anchors of truth and the inspiration to love and serve as Christ's followers in the world today.

Every Catholic school has a mission. We might say that every Catholic school is a mission. The mission is about growing our students in faith, learning and service. Students remind us of hope and the future. We also need to teach about self-discipline, responsibility and resilience. Our students today know about discouragement, brokenness and even violence. The Catholic school places hope at the heart of wisdom. Our schools draw from the heart of Christ the truth that leads to peace and healing.

In June 2018, *The Wall Street Journal* had an editorial entitled "The Catholic School Difference." Self-discipline and the power of religion are among the positive benefits of the Catholic school, according to the study analyzed. The editorial concludes, "Though the authors offer no easy prescriptions, they do say 'it is a tragedy for the nation' that so many Catholic schools continue to close when they are most needed. Their lessons are worth preserving." Our schools are plac-

es where formation has taken priority over information.

Cardinal Robert Sarah recently said: "... I was deeply moved spiritually by a photograph published the day after the fire at Notre Dame of Paris. In the photo, the interior of the church is visible, heaped with debris and still smoking. But above these heaps of shattered stones, the luminous cross installed by Cardinal Lustiger is still standing! *Stat Crux, dum volvitur orbis*—the Cross stands while the

world turns." For the Catholic school, the cross is wisdom that shatters the temporal and holds up the eternal. Whether in AP history or third-grade math, the path to learning is always through the truth. In religion and theology classes there is the particular challenge to shine the light of the cross on the urgent questions of faith and human experience. Above the scattered stones and debris, the cross stands as the unfaltering witness not only to who we are but what we are called to do. On the cross is the One whose love is our mission, whose life is our teaching. The Catholic school is the environment where what we learn emanates from Christ and can be carried into the world by students and teachers.

Parents and parishioners are partners with Catholic schools. Catholic schools



require these bonds of love and support to function and thrive. This shared discipleship nurtures the search for the good, the true and the beauty in all of us, especially our children and students. Not only their present experiences but their future challenges and eternal hope are at stake.

St. Augustine's words remind us of the nobility of the teaching task. They sum up its singular urgency for the Church: "We who speak and you who listen acknowledge ourselves as fellow disciples of a single teacher."

Msgr. Robert E. Harahan, S.T.D., is headmaster of Seton Hall Preparatory School in West Orange.

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Immaculate Heart hosts first Gospel conference

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP—After noticing a lack of young female voices at a local Catholic conference, the faculty and students at Immaculate Heart Academy took matters into their own hands.

“When we received the (youth conference) lineup, we realized that on a team of five speakers, there was only one woman,” recalled Sarah Shutrop, the academy’s director of formation. “We found it difficult to justify taking our young women to a Catholic conference where they wouldn’t hear voices similar to their own.”

Shutrop considered this dilemma and eventually came to the conclusion that constructing a new, women-centered conference, tailored to Gospel-focused personal development, would be the most beneficial solution.

About 100 people attended the inaugural BELIEVE. Conference held Aug. 15-17 at Icona Diamond Beach Resort in Wildwood Crest. Young women from all grade levels spent three days listening to guest speakers, bonding with each other and enjoying the beach.

Starting from scratch to create a conference required planning far in advance. After finding the perfect venue for the event, Shutrop and her team of student leaders

reached out to a series of dream speakers for the girls—and they all said yes.

The conference kicked off with a formal “sisterhood dinner” that took place under a tent on the beach. Students heard from keynote speaker Katie Prejean McGrady, U.S. delegate to the Synod on Youth and a Catholic author. After her presentation, the girls roasted marshmallows and made s’mores over beach bonfires.

The next day featured Lisa Cotter, founder of the Made to Magnify ministry and author of “Dating Detox.” Cotter touched on the various types of friendship, the importance of not competing with or comparing ourselves to one another and how to pray both for and with each other.

Recent alumna Isabella Somera was also a guest speaker, and she encouraged the students to be “daughters of light” after graduating.

Shutrop concluded the conference by sharing her thoughts about cheering on one’s fellow sisters. The closing Mass was then celebrated by Father Matthias Kumar, O.S.F.S., parochial vicar of Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish in Cape May.

The event’s organizers did not know exactly what to expect when it came to interest in the newly launched conference.



Submitted photo

“I never expected this conference to be as popular as it was, but the fact that we sold out in the first 48 hours and needed to add more spaces should’ve tipped me off,” Shutrop said. “The energy of the girls was incredible, and it was such a gift to witness 100 Immaculate Heart students come forward as women who want to dive deeper into becoming the best versions of themselves.”

Victoria Bertussi, who graduated in June, said she was excited for the event, especially as it was her last opportunity to attend the conference as a student. “The fact that this was my first and last BELIEVE. Conference definitely influenced my desire to attend because I knew it was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that I just couldn’t miss,” she said. “During the conference, the fact that I was heading to college so soon was dangling

over my head. But I continued to refocus myself and realized that there is no better way to spend my last weekend home than with my sisters, re-establishing the fundamental values of sisterhood, faith and empowerment that are the essence of who I am that I am taking to college with me.”

Bertussi appreciated the opportunity to hear from influential women and discuss faith and female empowerment with her Immaculate Heart sisters, especially younger students. “When the underclassmen got wholeheartedly engaged in our conversations, it made me so excited and hopeful for their future and the future of the Immaculate Heart community,” she said. “It demonstrated that they truly understand what it means to be, as Lisa said in her motivational speech, a ‘daughter of light,’ which they can then pass on to those who come after them.”

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Mount St. Mary senior receives highest Girl Scouts award

WATCHUNG—Alexa Mistichelli, a senior at Mount St. Mary Academy, recently earned a Gold Award, the highest achievement recognized by the Girl Scouts of America.

"I decided to pursue the Gold Award in my sophomore year of high school," she said. "There were many reasons I decided to do this: my troop leader's enthusiasm, my desire to push myself and help the community. I had already received my bronze and silver awards and I really wanted to pursue the highest award a Girl Scout can earn."

A Girl Scouts senior ambassador, Mistichelli created the dance club at Mount St. Mary Academy so students could "express themselves creatively through movement," she said. "Not only does dance inspire new ideas but it helps to relieve stress and helps foster a sense of community. It was very important to me that everyone would be able to take part in this art form."

The club has now become a competitive dance ensemble, with a large following and a competition to look forward to in the spring of 2020.

Mistichelli said she chose the project because she wanted others to have the opportunity to benefit from dance as she had, and she wanted to "give girls a new avenue to express themselves that was not previously available."

She is grateful for the support she has received from her mentors and peers. "My Gold Award project helped me to become a better

leader," she said. "I became more organized, as I had to plan and schedule meetings, communicate with my project advisor and create meeting plans with my co-president while keeping on top of my schoolwork. I also became more confident in my teaching abilities because I had to learn the best way to teach girls who are new to dancing. I had to create new combinations almost biweekly."

Mistichelli credits the Girl Scouts with helping her set and achieve long-term goals. She hopes to pursue a career in the medical field, possibly as a physician's assistant.

At Mount Saint Mary Academy, she is a member of many clubs and organizations, including the National Spanish Honor Society, peer ministry club and student council.

Mistichelli is a pre-professional dancer with the Washington Rock Ballet Company and Washington Rock Modern Company. She participated in the Somerset Youth EMS Program and the Monmouth University Field Hockey Camp. She was also a dancer at the Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers Summer Senior Conservatory. She earned the St. Michael's College Book Award for Scholarship and Service.

Mistichelli's community service experiences include the JusticeworX service program, Washington Rescue Squad as a Cadet EMT, altar server and volunteer at Children's Specialized Hospital in Mountainside.



Alexa Mistichelli



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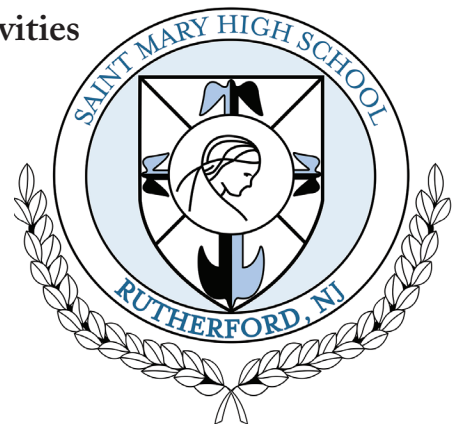
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Grieving for ordinary times

By Lucia A. Silecchia

In 2002 or 2003, I was set to teach an early morning class on Sept. 11. Shortly before class, a student emailed to ask if I would devote a few minutes of class time to pray for all whose lives were snatched from them at that very time of day in 2001. With a pang of regret that I had not thought to do so before he did, I assured my student that I would—and we did.

The horrors of that anniversary were still freshly raw in our minds. In my hometown of New York City, I had worked in the Twin Towers during my teen years. After I



Advocate file photo

Scouts placed American flags around the walkways of St. Stephen Parish in Kearny in remembrance of first responders who lost their lives on 9/11.

moved to Washington, whenever I took the train back to New York, the towers were the first sign I saw in the distance to tell me I was almost home. New York's skyline without them still startles me after all these years. In a far greater loss, my hometown high school, parish and neighborhood were home to many who never came back that day.

In my adopted town of Washington, I shared a university family and a parish with those who perished at the Pentagon. I watched colleagues and students anxiously await word from their loved ones on that morning whose sunny glory belied the horror that was unfolding.

At the time, I had no personal link to Pennsylvania—or so it seemed. That last flight was reportedly heading for the Capitol, a stone's throw from where I work and just above the subway where I was commuting that morning. I have often wondered whether, unknown to me, I owe my own life to those who stopped that deadly act with their heroism in the skies above a quiet field.

Now, 18 years have passed. I am struck by the fact that this year's college freshmen were born the same year as that deadly day and, thus, have no memory of it. Yet, I hope they never see that day as mere history to be studied with the mind but not felt with the heart. As events recede further back in time, it is all too easy to teach the next generation about the dates, facts, details, context and consequences of events—and to lose sight of the real people at the heart of these events. There

is a sacred obligation to make sure that those whose lives ended that morning, and in the aftermath of that morning, are remembered as this new generation learns what happened then.

Those who died that day were living the ordinary times so often taken for granted. The police, firefighters, first responders, chaplains and members of the military were doing what they do each and every day—ready to give up their lives for others. The airline pilots and flight crews were engaged in the awesome responsibilities they have when, around the clock, passengers entrust their lives to them.

The thousands who went to work for the last time that day were parents, seeking to earn a living and return home to the embrace of their children. They were grandparents, working in the last year or two of their careers, anticipating the family times they thought lay ahead. They were young people, the same age as my students, starting their first jobs in the hopes of a bright future. They were those working hard at the top rungs of the ladder of success, and they were those working hard, minimum wage jobs so that their children would not have to do the same. They were newlyweds in the spring of new love, and those who cherished the spouse whose hand they held for decades. They were women carrying their children within them, in eager anticipation of holding newborns in their arms in a few short months or weeks. They were those, perhaps, for whom 2001 was a difficult time in their lives and others for whom 2001 may have seemed to be the best year they had ever known.



Now that the infants of 2001 have become the young adults of 2019, I hope that they will learn about all of these people, about the lives they led and about the sacred fragility of life. I hope that they will not let the enormity of the loss hide the fact that each of those thousands of people had a unique place in the world that no one else could fill. While some were or became well known in the aftermath of that day, most lived the quiet hopes and dreams of ordinary lives. I hope that history and humanity, together, will keep the next generation aware of all that was lost that day. I hope they will understand that so many among us still mourn their loved ones with a sorrow that is fresh. Most of all, I hope that many, like my student from yesteryear, will pray for those lost that day and for their loved ones left behind whose hearts still grieve for just one more moment of ordinary time.

Lucia A. Silecchia is a professor of law at the Catholic University of America.

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Mount St. Dominic students volunteer at border

CALDWELL—Just a short drive from the border between the United States and Mexico, the Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley Humanitarian Respite Center is often the first point of contact in the U.S. for many refugees and immigrants after they are released from immigration detention centers operated by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. According to the organization, refugees who visit the center are primarily from Central America, fleeing their home countries to escape human traffickers, domestic violence, organized crime, gang violence and extreme poverty.

Last month, six students from Mount St. Dominic Academy, along with two members of the school's faculty, traveled to McAllen, Texas, for a weeklong mission trip at the center, a charitable branch of the Diocese of Brownsville, Texas.

With the goal to provide compassionate care in a safe environment and to help prepare them for the next stages of their journeys, visitors to the respite center typically stay less than 24 hours, and receive legal orientation and general information, along with many simple things most did not have along their long trek to America—warm meals, safe drinking water, hygiene products, a warm shower, a clean change of clothes, safe temporary shelter, medical supplies and care and transportation services.

For the senior volunteers, the journey to

McAllen served as an extension of the service work they do as students at Mount St. Dominic. The school's Dean of Academics Dr. Marissa Muoio and Campus Minister Sister Lena Picillo, O.P., both mission trip chaperones, make sure to incorporate service into the academy's curriculum.

After celebrating Mass with the local community at the Basilica of Our Lady of San Juan del Valle and enjoying a traditional Texas barbecue the evening they landed, the students and chaperones began their first day of service just as a new group of refugees was arriving at the center. "During the course of our conversations with the refugees that first day, we learned they primarily came from Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala," noted Muoio. "They traveled to the United States by raft via the river, rather than crossing the bridge in Mexico by foot, which can be extremely dangerous because of the heat, as well as the risk of being kidnapped and trafficked, raped or murdered by the cartels."

The volunteers spent their time at the respite center performing various tasks: helping individuals and families (including a group of 12 expectant mothers from Cuba) select a few items of new clothing, serving warm meals, entertaining the children and, perhaps most importantly, listening to the stories of those they met. In just one week, the group from Mount St. Dominic crossed paths with close to 1,000 people.



Submitted photo

Volunteers from Mount St. Dominic included, left to right: Caila Przyhocki; Siobhan Lavery-Loos; chaperone Sister Lena Picillo, O.P.; Carmen Aguirre; Edith Zurita; Emma Clifford; Cecilia McKiernan; and chaperone Marissa Muoio.

"You truly do not know what is going on down there unless you see it, and to be able to do that is extremely eye-opening," student Emma Clifford said.

Muoio reflected on a conversation the students had with one 14-year-old girl who was traveling with her 8-year-old sister and their father. Their journey had taken over 45 days, and she had not seen her mother in over a year and a half.

In addition to their work at the respite center, the students spent one morning with young adults and other parishioners of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church

in Sullivan City, Texas.

"We are so proud of our students, from the kindness and empathy they showed for the refugees and immigrants, to the thoughtful way they are processing everything they saw, heard and learned while we were in Texas," Muoio explained. "In that respite center and along the border, you aren't thinking about the politics or the perceptions, you're only thinking about the people and the humanity. I know our students will carry that message forward, and we will all be forever changed by this experience."

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ST. JOSEPH STUDENTS VOLUNTEER AT DAY CAMP

MONTVALE—A group of students from St. Joseph Regional High School recently made an eight-hour road trip to help at-risk youth in Buffalo, N.Y.

Students were joined by other teens from Detroit and Cleveland while they volunteered at Kids of the Kingdom day camp for children from broken homes and families.

During the weeklong trip, the St. Joseph's group took the campers to an indoor trampoline park, down to the riverfront and explored a local go-kart track and mini golf course.



Submitted photos

"Some of the children suffer from emotional issues and don't know how to communicate their excitement or happiness. Some act out because of this," explained Director of Campus Ministry Joe LoGiudice. "Overall, I am proud of the guys for their efforts to get to know their campers each day and care for them, as well as help them to have fun in a safe way."

The trip wasn't without some down time. The group visited the Erie Canal, a U.S. Navy museum and viewed Niagara Falls with a ride on the Maid of the Mist.

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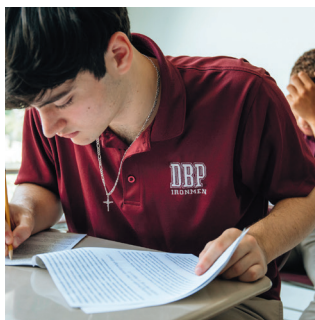
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Submitted photos
Rain didn't dampen the spirits of Cristo Rey Newark High School's incoming freshmen and transfer students as they participated in their "team building" day in July. This activity is part of the Business Training Institute that Cristo Rey Newark hosts each summer to prepare their students to be "work ready" come September. This work component is a unique aspect of a Cristo Rey education, where each student works one day a week in a corporate setting to help offset tuition costs.



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Submitted photos

The newest students at Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child's Lower School in Summit enjoyed a few treats and a special sneak peek of the year ahead before the official first day of school. The school describes its kindergarten program as "academically based" with opportunities for play. The kindergarten curriculum includes physical education classes and sessions of music, drama, dance, computer art and time in the library for a full week of activities.



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Teens, parents learn values of service, teamwork and reflection

By Maxim Almenas

Among the trees and flowers, visitors at Holy Cross Cemetery and Mausoleum in North Arlington occasionally discover unique birdhouses.

The small, colorful structures are designed by local teens who give up a week of their summer vacation to volunteer in soup kitchens, parishes and bird sanctuaries for Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Newark.

"I love this week. It's such an awesome time for the teens of our archdiocese to give back to the parishes and sites right here in their own backyard," said Tom Conboy, director for the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry. "Seeing the smiles on their faces each morning as they left, really pumped up to go out and help make a difference, was exciting to see."

The archdiocesan Summer Work Camp Week, from July 14-19, hosted 85 teens and an additional 16 adults. Youth groups came from Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Ridgewood, St. Peter's Preparatory School in Jersey City, Holy Trinity and St. Helen Parishes in Westfield and St. Michael Parish in Cranford. Some teens came as far away as St. Eleanor Parish in Collegeville, located in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

Attendees volunteered each day at eight different locations, including St. Ann Soup

Kitchen in Newark; Catholic Charities sites in the Archdiocese of Newark and the Diocese of Paterson; the St. John Paul II Youth Retreat Center in Kearny; Sacred Heart in Bloomfield; St. Michael Parish in Cranford; St. Rose of Lima Parish in Newark; and Holy Cross Cemetery in North Arlington.

They gathered each evening to unpack their volunteer experiences and share how building birdhouses and preparing and serving food at the soup kitchen for the homeless changed their perspective on life.

"Look around and you see how happy everyone is. My first time (volunteering) I didn't know a single person," said Cranford High School graduate Josh Furer, who has volunteered in the work program for the last four years. He plans to join a service group as a freshman at Seton Hall University. "When I was a (high school) freshman I was shy. By the end of the week, I was high-fiving everyone from the kids to the staff."

"That's just the social aspect," Furer added. "When you go into the cemetery, although you don't see the difference you make at first, the more times you come back, the more you realize you're making a difference."

As the teens glued and painted the wooden sections of their birdhouses into different architectural styles and shapes,

many reflected on who they would commemorate by adding a name plaque to the birdhouse.

For Maeve Kahora, a sophomore from Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, it was more than just her first volunteer experience for her confirmation service project, it was an opportunity to connect deeper within her faith and with a former art teacher.

"When she died it was a really bad time," explained Kahora, who dedicated her birdhouse in her art teacher's memory. "I was really young, but I still remember it. That was like the first funeral I ever went to. But everybody was lively. Nobody was sad. Everyone was focused on being joyful. Everyone was singing and being happy. We bonded over arts and crafts. She was always calm and collected. I really liked that about her."

While the birdhouses were given time to dry before their final coats of paint, volunteers and their chaperones were given a tour of Holy Cross Cemetery. At one of the entrances, everyone marveled at the 15-foot marble Pietà Rondanini imported from Italy and inspired by Michelangelo's final sculptural masterpiece.

Much like his son and the other teens on the tour, Ashok Maliakal, a chaperone from St. Helen Parish in Westfield, was inspired by the mausoleum, its art and the



Photo courtesy of Catholic Cemeteries

stories behind the names and images of those laid to rest.

"As you walk through and see pictures (cameos) of people, you think about the different lives and stories and nationalities," said Maliakal, who was born and raised in Massachusetts, and whose parents originated from India. "The thing that pulls us all together is our faith. That's inspiring."

Maliakal hopes his son and the other teenagers will continue learning and serving the community.

"It's hard for them to step out of their zones and away from friends," Maliakal explained. "They have anxiety about meeting new people, but pretty soon they're able to work together. They need to be exposed to new environments, new ideas and the needs of the community. If they can see that, and contribute as a team, I would say it's a successful week."

Maxim Almenas is marketing manager for Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Newark.



Submitted photos

Cheryl Riley, director of the archdiocesan Respect Life Office, and Joseph Lucia, administrative assistant in the Office of Property Management, traveled to Guatemala last month to help build houses with the organization From Houses to Homes. This was Riley's ninth trip to the Central American country and Lucia's first. The organization is dedicated to serving those in extreme poverty in the Highlands region of Guatemala through housing, education and health care.





Submitted photo



Advocate photos-Melissa McNally



Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R., visited Mercy House Aug. 23 for an ice cream social. Doors were open to everyone in the neighborhood to enjoy a frozen treat and chat with the archbishop on a warm summer day. The cardinal was also given a tour of the facility. Sponsored by the Respect Life Office, Mercy House, located at 620 Clinton Ave. in Newark, offers a welcoming space for individuals and families in need and provides emotional support and healing in a comfortable, faith-filled environment. Eagle Scout Sal Ciotti, who helped renovate the facility's chapel for a service project (see March 13 issue of *The Catholic Advocate*), was also at the event. He is pictured praying with Cardinal Tobin and Father Albert Nzeh, administrator at nearby Blessed Sacrament/St. Charles Borromeo Parish.

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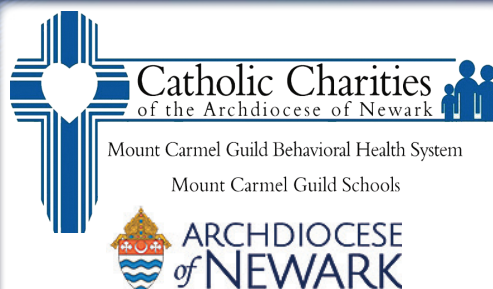
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