

2003 holiday season begins: Advent and Thanksgiving



The Catholic Advocate

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Archbishop addresses time of crisis

BY LIESL FORES
Staff Reporter

Archbishop John J. Myers delivered the inaugural speech for the First Saturday Breakfast Lecture Series, sponsored by the Carmelite Forum of New Jersey, last month at the Teaneck Marriott at Glenpointe. The theme of the series, which will run the first Saturday of November, February, March and April, is “The Church Today: Crisis and Courage.”

After a breakfast with about 210 people, the Archbishop addressed the audience.

He opened the talk by reflecting on the notion of what the word “crisis” means and explained, “At one level, a time of crisis is a time of peril or danger, but also a time of possibility or opportunity.”

Elaborating on this perspective, the Archbishop continued that a crisis also indicates “a decisive moment, a time for judgment and critical, decisive decisions. But the judgment involved with a time of crisis is not just our judgment about the best course of future action. It also is a moment where we stand under the judgment of God for the decisions we make. In this deeper sense today is a time of crisis.

“In other words, a true crisis always calls for the virtue of courage. We must have the fortitude to look and see the situation as it really is. We must judge the situation in light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Then, and only, then, can we take decisive action to meet the challenges now facing us.”

Pointing out that “we must be attentive to both the Church and the culture (world) and the relationship between the two”—culture serving a necessary social and civil role in society—Archbishop Myers noted, however, that “our culture is thoroughly secular. And the particular form that secularism takes in America is in an undeclared war with our faith.”

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Safe environment program yields a positive response

BY JAMES GOODNESS
Director of Communications

Since the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) enacted the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People (also known as the Dallas Charter) in 2002, the Archdiocese of Newark has been actively strengthening its efforts to ensure the protection of the children and youth it serves.

In accord with the Dallas Charter, the Archdiocese has instituted a program for a safe environment that includes training for all Church personnel and volunteers, a code of conduct known and acknowledged by those with regular contact with minors, and background checks for all Archdiocesan and parish personnel who have regular contact with minors.

In late 2002 and through the first part of 2003, several thousand men and women who work or volunteer in parishes, including the majority of the clergy of the Archdiocese, had already attended Protecting God’s Children, a program that provides sobering information about the



Some 200 parish and school staff and volunteers were trained as facilitators for Protecting God’s Children on Oct. 29 and 30 to continue the program into the future.

extent of sexual abuse in society and useful ways to deal with the issue. The Archdiocese had also been involved in the development of this program over the past five years, and CYO staff participated in a pilot program in 2001.

During the week of Oct. 27, more than 7,000 additional parish and school staff and volunteers partici-

pated in the program at large venues around the Archdiocese in each of the four counties, and one for Spanish-language speakers in Jersey City. In addition, some 200 volunteers were trained to serve as facilitators in parishes and schools for those individuals who were not able to attend the training sessions and to

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Mass celebrates ministry to youth

BY WARD MIELE
Managing Editor

The Archdiocese of Newark Youth Ministry honored its young people and the adults who work with them at a special recognition Mass on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 26 at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark.

Featured at the end of Mass was a presentation of several awards. Called up to accept their awards were recipients of the Parish Youth Recognition, Parish Adult Recognition, Eagle of the Cross, For God and Youth, and Monsignor John J. Kiley awards.

Citing the Gospel story of a blind man who had his sight restored by Christ from the Sunday readings, Father Richard C. Corbett, Executive Director, Youth/Young Adult Ministries and principal celebrant of the Mass, reminded those in the Cathedral

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Father Richard Corbett congratulates Father Joseph Mancini.

Advocate photo—Ward Miele

Being receptive to God through Word and Sacrament



The Word of God is Jesus Christ—"the way, the truth, and the life." (Jn 14:6) The Apostles—the first-hand witnesses to His life, death, and resurrection—handed on to their followers what they themselves had received. Their teaching and preaching, inspired by the Holy Spirit, continues in the Church through sacred tradition and sacred Scripture. This is how the Second Vatican Council put it in *Dei verbum* (the Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation):

"Sacred tradition and sacred Scripture form one sacred deposit of the word of God, committed to the Church. Holding fast to this deposit the entire holy people united with their shepherds remain always steadfast in the teaching of the Apostles, in the common life, in the breaking of the bread and in prayers (see Acts 2, 42, Greek text), so that holding to, practicing and professing the heritage of the faith, it becomes on the part of the bishops and faithful a single common effort.... It is clear, therefore, that sacred tradition, sacred Scripture and the teaching authority of the Church, in accord with God's most wise design, are so linked and joined together that one cannot stand without the others, and that all together and each in its own way under the action of the one Holy Spirit contribute effectively to the salvation of souls."

The Word of God

The Word of God is efficacious and it is true. Faithful Catholics recognize that they do not stand in judgment of the Word of God, but rather must judge all things in light of the truth found in God's word.

Some interpreters of God's word (sadly even some Catholic priests and scholars) believe that God's words can be viewed with "scientific neutrality." This neutrality is, in fact, not really possible. Authentic interpreters of sacred Scripture always read the text within the living tradition and faith of the Church. As Father J.P. O'Donnell, past-president of the Catholic Biblical Association wrote in 1950, "Certainly then it would never be consonant with the Catholic spirit or tradition to approach the study of Scripture with an attitude of scientific neutrality detached from theological faith.... This further attitude does not mean we can contemplate the sacred text in an attitude of faith and be absolved from the duty of continued application to the problems of text, language, history, and archaeology." This approach is what is called for in *Dei verbum*.

As faithful Catholics, our lives must be rooted in the Word of God. When we live our lives in accordance with the Word of God, we entrust our very

selves to God, whose Word is always faithful. "The Lord has sworn: and will not wave." (Ps 110:4) We give ourselves to a power far greater than ourselves. We cannot underestimate the power of the Word of God. In Isaiah we read: "For just as from the heavens the rain and the snow come down and do not return there till they have watered the earth, making it fertile and fruitful, giving seed to him that sows and bread to him who eats, so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; it shall not return to me void, but shall do my will, achieving the end for which I sent it." (Is 55: 10-11)

Sincerely
in the
Lord

By Archbishop John J. Myers



The Word of God has its own power. In its proclamation, it touches us and it can transform us. When we welcome it, it enables us to enter more deeply into the mystery of Christ and to enter more deeply into communion with the Church. With its power comes great responsibility. In the Rite of Ordination of Deacons, at the moment when the Gospels are entrusted into the hands of the deacon, the bishop says, "Receive the Gospel of Christ, whose herald you now are. Believe what you read, teach what you believe, and practice what you teach."

Read, believe, teach, and practice. This is the privilege and challenge facing us today.

The loss of Catholic faith in the sacraments is perhaps the most urgent sign that belief in God's efficacious power has waned in recent time. How else to interpret the dismal record of Catholic attendance at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass (less than 1/3 attend Sunday Mass); belief in the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist (less than 1/3 accept and can express this teaching); and the acceptance of the necessity of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (the number of people seeking sacramental confession is noticeably low).

I am old enough to remember when almost every Catholic I knew or met regularly attended Sunday

Mass, when all Catholic youngsters made their First Communion and continued to receive the Eucharist on a regular basis. I remember a time as a young priest when it was a rare occasion that a couple came for marriage preparation, and one or both told me that they had not been confirmed.

The sacramental life is integral to a truly Catholic life. Yet the situation today is vastly different. Mass attendance has dropped significantly. A recent study tells us that around 40 percent of Catholics in their 20's and 30's have never received the sacrament of Confirmation. The study also shows that confirmed Catholics are more inclined to remain in and grow in the Church.

Authentic Catholics have experienced the power of the sacraments. They are committed to their baptismal promises and live in the power and grace of the new life in Christ. They have been strengthened and empowered by the gifts of the Holy Spirit through Confirmation. They know of Jesus' presence in the Eucharist. They come to each celebration of the Mass to offer themselves in union with Jesus' self-sacrifice. They receive Jesus in the Eucharist in the intimacy of love uniting themselves mind, body, soul and spirit with their Risen Lord.

Power of sacraments

They live out their sacrament of vocation—marriage and/or holy orders—in accordance with God's plan for their lives. They avail themselves of the sacraments of healing when appropriate, especially the sacrament of Reconciliation. Through frequent confession, they not only experience God's healing and forgiving love, but they also grow in grace to continue the good fight of faith in their daily life. For them, all the sacraments provide a sure and certain way to encounter the Risen Lord and His power.

We recognize an essential theological truth common to both Word and Sacrament: we must receive them as gratuitous gifts from a gracious God. This priority of receptivity runs counter to the American Spirit. We are an activist people. Give us a concrete task and we will accomplish it. But what is needed is not activity but receptivity. However, receptivity is not passivity. It is very much like receiving a guest into our homes, into our hearts, for indeed in Word and Sacrament we do receive a guest—Jesus Christ Our Lord.

But, of course, this is what a good host does: "Behold I stand at the door of your house and knock. Whoever hears me calling and opens the door, I will come in and dine with him and he with me." (Rev 3:21)

Stewardship

Disciples of Christ must follow model steward

BY ANDREW KACZYNSKI

Coordinator of Stewardship for the Archdiocese

In my continuing effort to convey the importance of reading and studying the U.S. bishops' pastoral letter titled *Stewardship: A Disciple's Response*, in order to fully understand the theology and tradition behind the stewardship way of life, this column will focus on Chapter Two of the pastoral letter, "Jesus' Way."

The basic message of this section of the document is that once we as Catholic Christians make the conscious decision to be disciples of Christ, as described in Chapter One, we need to follow His example as the model steward.

The bishops explain this as follows: "Jesus is the supreme teacher of Christian stewardship, as He is of every other aspect of Christian life; and in Jesus' teaching and life self-emptying is fundamental. Now, it might seem that self-emptying has little to do with stewardship, but in Jesus' case that is not so.

"His self-emptying is not sterile self-denial for its own sake; rather, in setting aside self, He is filled with

the Father's will, and He is fulfilled in just this way: 'My food is to do the will of the one who sent me and to finish His work.' (John 4:34)"

Jesus often speaks of following Him in terms of stewardship. (cf. Mt 25:14-30; Lk 12:42-48) In these passages Jesus refers to the fact that a steward is one to whom the owner of a household turns over responsibility for caring for the property, managing affairs, making resources yield as much as possible, and sharing the resources with others. This involves trust and accountability.

In a parable at the end of Matthew's Gospel (Mt 25:14-30), we also see insight into Jesus' thinking about stewards and stewardship. He tells the story of a man who left his wealth in silver pieces to be tended by three servants. Two of them act in a responsible manner and they are commended warmly and rewarded. The third squirrels away the master's wealth, earns nothing, and is rebuked and punished.

How does this parable relate to our own practice of stewardship? The silver pieces are a metaphor for all of God's gifts to us.

The pastoral letter explains, "All temporal and spiritual goods are created by and come from God. That is true of everything human beings have: spiritual gifts like faith, hope, and love; talents of body and brain; cherished relationships with family and friends; material goods; the achievements of human genius and skill; the world itself. One day God will require an accounting of the use each person has made of the particular portion of these goods entrusted to him or her."

What is our reward for this sacrifice and manner of living? Well, of course, the ultimate reward will be in heaven. But for the here and now, to be a Christian steward and disciple is in itself rewarding since it is a means to companionship with Christ. What a source of deep joy!

Also, those who live this way are happy people who have found the meaning and purpose of living.

Keeping all of this in mind, through our stewardship of God's great gifts, let us do good here and now for the sake of a reward in heaven and let us do good here and now for the sake of making this a better world.



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Most Reverend John J. Myers
President and Publisher

G. Gregory Tobin
Editor and Associate Publisher

Margaret Pearson-McCue
Advertising Director

J. Ward Miele
Managing Editor

Marilyn Smith
Production Supervisor

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TELEPHONES, E-MAIL AND FAX NUMBERS:

Phone: (973) 497-4200.
Fax: (973) 497-4192.
Editorial: mielejos@rcan.org.
Advertising: pearsoma@rcan.org.

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to:
171 Clifton Ave, Newark, NJ 07104

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An informed voter must first be a registered voter

This statement from the New Jersey Catholic Conference was approved by the Board of Bishops of the Province of New Jersey. It was prepared by William F. Bolan, Jr., Executive Director; George V. Corwell, Ed.D., Associate Director for Education, and Marlene Laó-Collins, Associate Director for Social Concerns.

Many members of the Catholic community speak eloquently about the need to support the Church's position on a variety of public policy issues—particularly by electing candidates who share similar positions on these issues. Thus, we sometimes make the assumption that all those who hear the Church's message are, in fact, eligible to vote in state and federal elections. However, evidence appears to contradict that assumption.

Over the last several weeks, leading up to yesterday's election, particularly on the weekends of Sept. 21 and 28, the three legislative networks of the New Jersey Catholic Conference—education, social issues and respect life—united to conduct a non-partisan voter registration effort in the Catholic parishes in the state. Results of the effort were encouraging, although much more work needs to be done.

As of Oct. 20, 226 parishes had reported the statistics from their voter

registration project out of a total of 712 parishes statewide (32 percent). Additionally, registrations were conducted within Catholic high schools in the state in order to permit students who will be 18 years of age prior to the November election to vote for the first time. Some Catholic high school principals were so enthusiastic about the project that they asked to continue the registration process in the spring when additional students will have turned eighteen and thus would be eligible for the next election cycle.

The tally for new voter registrations is as follows:

- 2,212 total voter registration forms completed on site and returned to the respective county offices
- 4,231 voter registration forms taken home to be mailed in by respective individuals
- 262 absentee ballot applications

Yesterday and future

In general, the local parish organizers of the event commented favorably about the process. There was the usual surprise that many Catholics were not registered, although this data supports a recent comment made by the president of a statewide labor union who noted that he discovered during a similar project that 30 percent of his union membership was not registered to vote.

In supporting voter registration, the Catholic Bishops of New Jersey echo the statement on political responsibility by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops titled "Faithful Citizenship: A Catholic Call to Political Responsibility." In these documents, the U.S. bishops state, "we have a responsibility as Americans and as religious teachers to speak out on the moral dimensions of public life." The bishops have made it clear that they do not seek the formation of a religious voting bloc, nor do they wish to instruct persons on how they should vote by endorsing or opposing candidates.

With that in mind, it is the hope of the New Jersey Catholic Conference that Catholics voted on Nov. 4, whether they were newly registered or have been active participants in the process for many years, and used the Gospel message as a basis for considering positions on major public policy issues.

As registered voters of the Catholic community of New Jersey, we need to keep in mind not only the needs of our own families and communities, but also the needs of those who are under-represented and whose voices go unheard in the ongoing dialogue within the arena of public policy ideas in our state on Election Day and throughout the year.

Official Appointments

Archbishop John J. Myers has announced the following appointments:



Archdiocesan Agency/Ministry

Most Reverend Edgar M. da Cunha, S.D.V.,
Auxiliary Bishop of Newark has been appointed Regional Bishop and Episcopal Vicar for Essex County, effective Oct. 15.

Reverend Thomas P. Lipnicki,
Pastor of the Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Oakland has been appointed Spiritual Director for the English Cursillo Movement in the Archdiocese of Newark, effective Oct. 14.

Dean/Hudson County

Very Reverend Carlo B. Fortunio, V.F.,
Dean of the North Hudson Deanery 8, has had his appointment as Dean extended from three to five years, ending Sept. 16, 2005.

Very Reverend Kenneth Herbster, V.F.,
Dean of the Central Hudson Deanery 9, has had his appointment as Dean extended from three to five years, ending Jan. 2, 2007.

Very Reverend Kevin E. Carter, V.F.,
Dean of the Jersey City North Deanery 10, has had his appointment as Dean extended from three to five years, ending Nov. 9, 2005.

Dean/Union County

Very Reverend Matthias T. Conva, V.F.,
Dean of the North Union Deanery 23, has had his appointment as Dean extended from three to five years, ending Jun. 15, 2007.

Very Reverend Benedict Worry, O.S.B., V.F.,
Dean of the Southeast Union Deanery 24, has had his appointment as Dean extended from three to five years, ending Jun. 15, 2007.

Dean/Essex County

Reverend Monsignor Robert M. Chabak, V.F.,
Dean of the North Essex Deanery 16, has had his appointment as Dean extended from three to five years, ending Mar. 1, 2007.

Very Reverend Michael M. Walters, V.F.,
Dean of the Central Essex Deanery 17, has had his appointment as Dean extended from three to five years, ending Mar. 1, 2007.

Reverend Monsignor Joseph P. Plunkett, V.F.,
Dean of the North Newark Deanery 19, has had his appointment as Dean extended from three to five years, ending Mar. 14, 2006.

Very Reverend Joseph F. Ambrosio, V.F.,
Dean of the Ironbound Deanery 21, has had his appointment as Dean extended from three to five years, ending Apr. 22, 2007.

Very Reverend Theodore W. Osbahr, V.F.,
Dean of the South Essex Deanery 18, has had his appointment as Dean extended from three to five years, ending Mar. 1, 2007.

Pastor/Bergen County

Reverend Joseph P. Pietropinto,
Pastor of the Church of Our Lady Queen of Peace, Maywood, has been appointed Pastor of the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Secaucus, effective Dec. 1.

Reverend Stanley S. Kostrzomb,
Parochial Vicar of the Church of St. Casimir, Newark, has been appointed Pastor of the Church of St. Michael the Archangel, Lyndhurst, effective Nov. 15.

Pastor/Essex County

Reverend Minhyun Cho,
Parochial Vicar of the Church of St. Luke, Hohokus, has been appointed Pastor of the Church of St. Andrew Kim, Orange, effective Nov. 1.

Administrator/Bergen County

Very Reverend Charles J. Miller, V.F.,
Pastor of the Church of the Sacred Heart, Lyndhurst, has also been appointed Administrator of the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Secaucus, effective Oct. 23, 2003 and ending Nov. 30, 2003.

Parochial Vicar/Bergen County

Reverend David Erwin Aguilar,
Parochial Vicar of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Orange, has been appointed Parochial Vicar of the Church of St. Matthew, Ridgefield, effective Oct. 11.

Parochial Vicar/Essex County

Reverend James Muntz,
Parochial Vicar of the Church of St. Francis, Hoboken has been appointed Parochial Vicar of the Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Orange, effective Oct. 20.

Parochial Vicar/Hudson County

Reverend Christopher Renaldo Panlilio,
Parochial Vicar of the Church of St. Michael, Union has been appointed Parochial Vicar of the Church of St. Francis, Hoboken, effective Oct. 20.

Other/Essex County

Reverend Monsignor Augustin Park,
Archdiocesan Coordinator of the Korean Apostolate has been appointed Senior Priest of the Church of St. Andrew Kim, Orange, effective Oct. 16.

Other/Union County

Reverend Venantius Fernando,
Pastor of the Church of Christ the King, Hillside has been appointed Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus, Rev. Thomas F. Cauty Council, No. 3197, effective Oct. 14.

November 6

Aquinas Academy, Livingston, will hold inquiry sessions for the 2005 academic year on Nov. 6 at 9 a.m. and Nov. 20 at 7:30 p.m. Call (973) 992-1587.

November 9

Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Jersey City, Music Ministry, “Feel the Spirit: A Musical Celebration of 40 Years of Parish Life,” at 3 p.m., as part of a yearlong anniversary celebration. Call Father Marty Jacinto at (201) 434-7500.

November 10

Immaculate Conception, Elizabeth, Rosary Society will feature Theresa Bockskopf, a local culinary expert, demonstrating her creative cooking techniques. A video will be shown on the life of Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Call (908) 352-6662.

St. Philomena Parish, Livingston, will sponsor an Adult Enrichment Series from 7:30 – 9 p.m. in St. Joseph

Hall. The topic will be “The Process of Annulment,” presented by Sister Catherine Mary Raymond, J.C.L. Donation is \$5. Call Deacon Joe Francione at (973) 992-0994.

November 14

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Wallington, will hold a tricky tray auction at 6:30 p.m. in the church auditorium. Donation is \$5. Call Eleanor Baran at (973) 777-3377.

November 15

St. Antoninus Parish, Newark, “The End Times,” teachings by Father Bill Halbing and Father Albert Holtz, O.S.B. from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Bring lunch, drinks provided. Call (973) 623-0258.

St. Teresa of Avila Parish, Summit, the Faith and Life Society is sponsoring a glass Christmas ornament sale to support local crisis pregnancy centers, from 5 to 7 p.m. and Sunday, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call (908) 273-3194.

St. Aloysius Parish, Jersey City, 130th anniversary Mass for members of the Sodality of the Children of Mary of St. Teresa. Reception will be held at the Casino in the Park Restaurant after Mass. Reservations are \$50 and are being accepted by Katherine Crossan at 185 Murlboro Road, Glen Rock, NJ 07452 or call (201) 689-1471. The deadline is Nov. 7.

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Bloomfield, Anna Graziano, c.S.D., will present “Finding Meaning in the Mystery of Suffering.” Offering is \$20. Call (973) 338-9538.

Immaculate Heart of Mary, Wayne, will host the Catholic Alumni Club of North Jersey for Catholic singles. After 10:30 a.m. Mass, there will be brunch at Grand Chalet, Wayne. Call Kathy M. at (201) 288-4187.

St. Stephen Parish, Kearny, concert by the St. Peter-by-the-Sea Orchestra conducted by Father Alphonse Stephenson, at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$25. Call (201) 998-3314.



November 16

Saint Cassian Parish, Upper Montclair, as part of their “Concerts at Saint Cassian” series, the Encore Chamber Players will offer a program of Haydn, Bach and Danzi at 4 p.m. The suggested donation is \$15. Call (973) 744-2850.

Holy Spirit, Union, Bereavement Ministry is presenting a free seminar at 1:30 p.m., on “Coping with Loss During the Holiday Season.” Guest speaker is Barbara

Rubel, nationally recognized author of the book *But I Didn’t Say Goodbye*. Call Maryellen at (908) 686-4481 or Holy Spirit rectory at (908) 687-3327.

St. Stephen Parish, Kearny, to celebrate Developmental Disabilities Day beginning at 10:30 a.m. Mass. All are then invited to share lunch, games, crafts and dancing in the church hall until 2 p.m. Call (201) 998-3314.

November 20

St. Teresa of Avila Parish, Summit, “The Diary of St. Faustina Comes to Life!” presented by Mother of Mercy Messengers, and outreach of the National Shrine of Divine Mercy, from 7 to 9 p.m. Free. Call (908) 277-3700.

Our Policy

To publicize an upcoming event at your parish, school or organization on the “Around the Archdiocese” page, please note:
• Submissions must include the name of the sponsoring organization, a phone number for the contact person and event specifics, including the date, place and time.
• Deadline for submission is 10 days prior to publication date.
The Catholic Advocate publishes submissions as space allows and cannot print an item more than once.
• Contact by **email:** mielejos@rcan.org, **fax:** 973-497-4192, or **mail:** The Catholic Advocate, Around the Archdiocese, 171 Clifton Ave., Newark, NJ 07104

Local Highlights

Spiritual

• Family Life Ministries, Archdiocese of Newark, has scheduled a Healing Mass in Spanish at the Archdiocesan Center, Newark, on Friday, Nov. 14, 7:30 p.m. Celebrant is Father Fernando Guillen. The Mass is for those dealing with divorce, abortion, family illness or similar emotional crises.

• The Shrine of St. Joseph, Stirling, Pathways to a Deeper Spirituality series, Wednesday Nov. 5, 7:30 p.m., with Father David P. Reid, S.S.C.C., former professor of Sacred Scripture at the Washington Theological Union, Washington, DC. The topic will be the Gospel According to Luke. Call (201) 647-0208.

• The Newark Archdiocesan Ultreya will be held Friday, Nov. 14, 7:30 p.m., at the Kearny Youth Center. Call (201) 863-5787 or visit www.mycursillo.com.

Natural Family Planning

• The second of four classes sponsored by Natural Family Planning of the Archdiocese of Newark will be held on Sunday, Nov. 16 from 2 to 4 p.m. at St. John the Apostle Parish, 1805 Penbrook Terr., Linden and Wednesday, Nov. 5 from 8 to 10 p.m. a.m. in Rosarii Hall of Holy Name Hospital, 718 Teaneck Rd., Teaneck. For additional information contact NFP Coordinator Damon C. Owens at (201) 833-3121.

Retreat

• Xavier Retreat Center, Convent Station, a Quilting Retreat, on

Monday, Nov. 10 at 1 p.m. and Tuesday, Nov. 11 at 1:30 p.m. A sewing machine, seam ripper and scissors are needed. Quilting tools and fabric provided. Cost \$145 which includes overnight accommodations and three meals. Deposit is \$50. To register or for additional information call (973) 290-5100 or email xaviercnt@aol.com.

Blood drive

• Columbus Hospital, 495 North 13th St., Newark, on Friday, Nov. 14 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Donors must be at least 18 to participate and have a signed or picture identification card along with their Social Security number. Those who are 17 must have parental or guardian permission. Persons taking medication should call the Blood Center of New Jersey at (800) NJ BLOOD, ext. 140.

Cultural

• The Cathedral Concert Series, now in its 35th season, presents an organ recital by Anthony Newman on Sunday, Nov. 16 at 4 p.m. in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark. Featured will be the world premier of newly discovered J.S. Bach pieces written for the flute clock.

• Saint Patrick High School, Elizabeth, presents *The Music Man*, Junior, on Friday, Nov. 7 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 9 at 2 p.m. The Sunday performance will also be the 50th reunion of the Class of 1953. Tickets are \$4 in advance and \$5 at the door. For reservations call (908) 353-5220. The school is located at 221 Court St.

Lectures and workshops

• Xavier Center, Convent Station, Saturday, Nov. 15, 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., Revelation of the Earth Part I. Cost \$25, deposit \$10; Sunday, Nov. 16, 2 to 4 p.m., a program on spiritual direction. For additional information or to register call (973) 290-5100 or email to xaviercent@aol.com.

• The Archdiocese of Newark and the American Jewish Committee will address two topics on Monday, Nov. 17 beginning at 7:45 p.m. in the parish center of St. Philomena Parish, Livingston. Rabbi James A. Rudin, will speak on Passion Plays and Movies... Past and Present while Father Lawrence E. Frizzell, Director of the Institute of Judaeo-Christian Studies at Seton Hall University, will speak on Catholic Piety and the Passion of Jesus. Saint Philomena Parish is located at 396 South Livingston, Ave., Livingston. Open to the community, there is no admission charge. For additional information call the American Jewish Committee at (973) 379-7844.

• College of Saint Elizabeth, Morristown, will present *Time Magazine's* selected spiritual innovator of the new century, Father Virgilio Elizondo, and author, Bishop Robert Morneau, as keynote speakers at the college's first Mega-Predaching Conference, Nov. 15 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Saint Joseph Hall gymnasium. There will also be two sessions of six workshops led by theologians, spiritual writers and pastoral experts from around the country. For additional information or to register call (973) 290-4300/4364 or visit www.csespirit.org.

Seminars

• The Cathedral Healthcare System's Institute for Nursing Excellence is sponsoring Nursing: Balancing Ethics, Law and Humor, on Wednesday, Nov. 12 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Holiday Inn, 1 Rt. 46 West, Totowa. Open to all health care professionals, specifically registered nurses, the fee is \$75 for non-Cathedral Healthcare professionals and \$30 for nursing students. Call Amy Prince at Saint Michael's Medical Center, Newark, (973) 877-2992.

Schools marketing

• Two Catholic School Management workshops are being sponsored by the New Jersey Catholic Schools Marketing Council on Tuesday, Nov. 18 and Wednesday, Nov. 19. Contact the Archdiocesan Schools Office, at (973) 497-4260.

Meetings

• The Bayley-Seton League of Seton Hall University will meet Tuesday, Nov. 11 in the Chancellor's Suite at 1:15 p.m. Mass will be celebrated for living and deceased members in the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception at noon followed by a luncheon. Deacon Francis McQuade will speak on the 150-year history of the Archdiocese of Newark. For reservations call Rose Soriano at (973) 375-9332. The m

• The Sodality of the Children of Mary of St. Teresa meet Friday, Nov. 7 at 3:15 p.m. in the Chapel of Saint Peter Hall, 2652 Kennedy Blvd, Jersey City. Members will meet for recitation of the Little Office followed by Mass at 3:30 p.m. The

Councilors will meet after Mass. On Saturday, Nov. 8, also at Saint Peter Hall Chapel, members will recite the Rosary at 8:40 a.m. followed by Mass at 9 a.m.

Social events

• St. Phil's Singles, will play volleyball in the gym of St. Philomina's School, Livingston, on Saturdays Nov. 8 and Dec. 13 at 7:30 p.m. and will hold a Games Night in St. Joseph's Hall, Saturday, Nov. 15 at 7:30 p.m. Call (973) 340-4001 or log onto www.homestead.com/stphilssingles.

• Catholic Alumni Club of North Jersey for Catholic singles, Christmas Dinner Party at Que Pasta, Saddle Brook. Cost is \$28 and includes all you can eat buffet, soda, coffee, tea and dessert. Call Mike at (973) 248-0352 or mail a check to Mike Chinni, 615 Hamburg Tpk., Apt. 302, Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442-1436.

Fund raisers

• The Felician College Student Government will hold an International Fashion and Talent Show for charity on Thursday, Nov. 6 at 7 p.m. in the Breslin Auditorium of the Main College Building on the Lodi campus. Tickets, which can be purchased at the door, are \$5. For additional information call (201) 559-6144.

• Diane Cismowski, a parishioner at Immaculate Conception Parish, Secaucus, recently ran in her fourth New York City marathon to raise funds for Kairos North Jersey, an interdenominational prison ministry headquartered in Florida. The New Jersey Kairos team goes into state prisons throughout the year and has two annual retreats. Donations should be sent, with checks, payable to Kairos, to Diane Cismowski, P.O. Box 1931, Clifton, NJ 07105.

Pastors are appointed

Three new pastors have been appointed by Archbishop John J. Myers.

Father Minhyun Cho, Parochial Vicar of St. Luke Parish, Hohokus, has been appointed pastor of St. Andrew Kim Parish, Orange, effective Nov. 1.

After his ordination in May 1999, Father Cho was assigned to St. Luke's.

He served in the Korean Army, 1987-89, and was a construction worker, 1990-91, before entering Immaculate Conception Seminary. He also earned a master's degree from Drew University in 1997. Father Cho was born in Seoul, Korea, to Nae-Seo Cho (father) and Sung-Ja Cho (mother).

Father Stanley S. Kostrzomb, Parochial Vicar of St. Casimir Parish, Newark, has been appointed pastor of St. Michael the Archangel Parish, Lyndhurst, effective Nov. 15.

Father Kostrzomb graduated from Immaculate Conception Seminary and was ordained in May 1977. After ordination, he was appointed parochial vicar of Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Maywood. In January of 1989, he was appointed parochial vicar of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Parish, Linden.

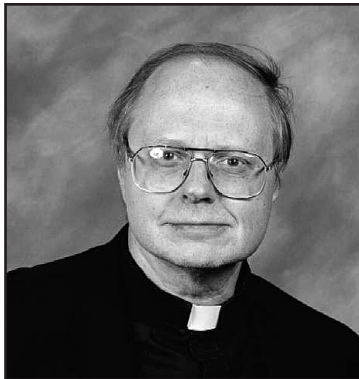
In June of 1995, Father Kostrzomb was named parochial vicar of the Church of St. Anthony Parish, Jersey City. In June 1998, he was appointed parochial vicar of the Church of St. Casimir's.

Father Joseph P. Pietropinto, Pastor of the Church of Our Lady Queen of Peace, Maywood, has been appointed pastor of the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Secaucus, effective Dec. 1.

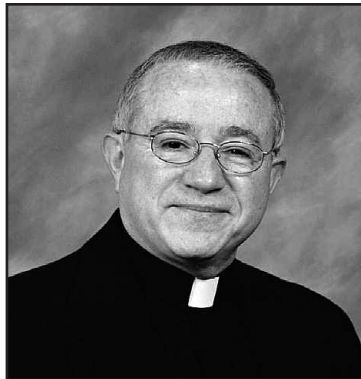
Born in Elizabeth, Father Pietropinto was ordained in May 1970. He was parochial vicar at St. Joseph Parish, East



Father Minhyun Cho



Father Stanley S. Kostrzomb



Father Joseph P. Pietropinto

Orange, from 1970-1980. He earned a master's degree in pastoral counseling in 1974.

Father Pietropinto served as parochial vicar at St. Andrew Parish, Westwood, from 1980-1990. From 1990-1996, he served as parochial vicar at Notre Dame Parish, North Caldwell. In 1996, he was appointed pastor of Our Lady Queen of Peace.

Corrections

The Oct. 15 edition of The Catholic Advocate received a very positive response from readers throughout the Archdiocese. Also, some careful readers called out attention to a few editing and proofreading errors. We apologize for any errors of fact and ask readers' forbearance for errors of omission, because we simply could not incorporate everything we wanted to include in this commemorative edition of the newspaper.

Note, from the listing of parish foundings, mergers and closings: All Saints Church merged with Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Jersey City in 1979; Holy Trinity/Epiphany Parish, Newark merger took place in October 2002; Saint Stephen's Church, Newark closed in 1968; Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Irvington closed in 1993; St. Ann (Lithuanian) Church, Jersey City closed in December 1974.

On Page 35: Pope Paul VI concelebrated with Archbishop Peter L. Gerety of Newark at the Mass to mark the canonization of Mother Elizabeth Ann Seton.

Page 42. Bishop Winand Michael Wigger's name was misspelled.

Page 49. Bishop Paul G. Bootkoski's name was misspelled.

One reader queried the inclusion of a picture of old St. Joseph's Church, Philadelphia, in 1734, on Page 73. We included this picture as a representation of one of the earliest churches in the entire region, in the missionary period before the founding of the Diocese of Newark.

Another reader queried the picture on Page 1 of St. John's Church, Newark, in 1851, claiming that this is, indeed, a picture of St. John's Church, Orange, from around the same period. Our sources do not conclusively prove one position or the other.

Due to a proofreading error, a sentence on Page 63 stated: "132 years ago the number of Catholics" in New Jersey. It should have read "181 years ago," and the final clause should have read: "and their economic condition was so low that they could not form a diocese of their own."

A reader pointed out that the Franciscan Friars left Sacred Heart Parish, Rochelle Park, in 1990. "Diocesan priests continue to serve our parish to the present day," he wrote.

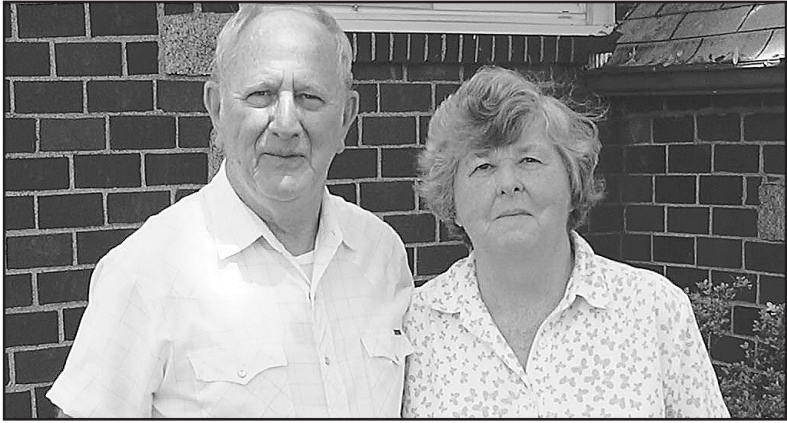
Corrections for the Oct. 22 edition of The Catholic Advocate:

Page 1. Brother Ralph Darmento is the Deputy Superintendent of Schools of the Archdiocese of Newark.

Page 15. A photograph of Father James Sheehan, referred to in the caption, was mistakenly dropped before printing.

Page 25. The pastor of St. Casimir Parish, Newark, is Father Gerald A. Bajek. The parish celebrated its 95th anniversary at a special Mass on Sunday, Sept. 14.

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New cardinals named

The 30 new cardinals named by Pope John Paul II in an Oct. 21 consistory come from the following geographical regions: 18 in Europe (Italy, France, Spain, Croatia, Scotland, Czech Republic, Poland, Belgium, Switzerland, Hungary); five in the Americas (Mexico, United States, Canada, Guatemala, Brazil); three in Africa (Nigeria, Sudan, Ghana); three from Asia (Japan, India, Vietnam), and one in Oceania (Australia). The previous public consistory was held in 2001 when 42 new cardinals were created (the highest number ever). In nine consistories John Paul II has created a total of 231 cardinal.

- 1. Cardinal Jean-Louis Tauran, secretary of the Secretariat of State for the Relations with the States
- 2. Cardinal Renato Raffaele Martino, president of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace
- 3. Cardinal Francesco Marchisano, archpriest of the Vatican Basilica
- 4. Cardinal Julián Herranz, president of the Pontifical Council for Legislative Texts
- 5. Cardinal Javier Lozano Barragán, president of the Pontifical Council for Health Care Workers
- 6. Cardinal Stephen Fumio Hamao, president of the Pontifical Council for Migrants and Travelers
- 7. Cardinal Attilio Nicora, president of the Administration of the Patrimony of the Holy See

- 8. Cardinal Angelo Scola, patriarch of Venice, Italy
- 9. Cardinal Anthony Olubunmi Okogie, archbishop of Lagos, Nigeria
- 10. Cardinal Bernard Panafieu, archbishop of Marseilles, France
- 11. Cardinal Gabriel Zubeir Wako, archbishop of Khartoum, Sudan
- 12. Cardinal Carlos Amigo Vallejo, archbishop of Seville, Spain
- 13. Cardinal Justin Francis Rigali, archbishop of Philadelphia, U.S.
- 14. Cardinal Keith Michael Patrick O'Brien, archbishop of Saint Andrews and Edinburgh, Scotland
- 15. Cardinal Eusebio Oscar Scheid, archbishop of Sao Sebastiao do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- 16. Cardinal Ennio Antonelli, archbishop of Florence, Italy
- 17. Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, archbishop of Genoa, Italy
- 18. Cardinal Peter Kodwo Appiah Turkson, archbishop of Cape Coast, Ghana
- 19. Cardinal Telesphore Placidus Toppo, archbishop of Ranchi, India
- 20. Cardinal George Pell, archbishop of Sydney, Australia
- 21. Cardinal Josip Bozanic, archbishop of Zagreb, Croatia
- 22. Cardinal Jean-Baptiste Pham Minh Man, archbishop of Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
- 23. Cardinal Rodolfo Quezada Toruño, archbishop of Guatemala City
- 24. Cardinal Philippe Barbarin, archbishop of Lyon, France
- 25. Cardinal Peter Erdö, archbishop of Esztergom-Budapest, Hungary
- 26. Cardinal Marc Ouellet, archbishop of Quebec
- 27. Cardinal Georges Marie Martin Cottier, O.P., theologian of the Pontifical Household, from Switzerland
- 28. Cardinal Gustaaf Joos of the Diocese of Ghent, Belgium
- 29. Cardinal Tomas Spidlik of the Czech Republic
- 30. Cardinal Stanislas Nagy of the Priests of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Poland

Century celebrated

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Twenty new members of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas pledged to serve their church as more than 1,000 women from across the country gathered to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the laywomen's organization at an Oct. 18 Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Catholic Daughters of the Americas is the oldest national Catholic lay women's organization. It was formed to "herald their unity and charity in Christ and among each other."

Uniformity sought

WASHINGTON (CNS) — In an effort to overcome centuries of division, the North American Orthodox-Catholic Consultation has called for "uniform practice" with regard to the ancient Nicene Creed. This means Catholics would use translations only of the original text, dropping the subsequently added "filioque" ("and the Son") clause, when reciting the Creed at Mass or using it for catechetics. The dialogue group also called on each side not to describe the other as heretical and said a 13th-century Western council condemnation aimed at the Orthodox should be declared "no longer applicable." It urged new joint study and in-depth Catholic-Orthodox dialogue "on the theology of the Holy Spirit, based on the Scriptures and on the whole tradition of Christian theology." It said this study and dialogue should "distinguish, as far as possible, the theological issues of the origin of the Holy Spirit from the ecclesiological issues of primacy and doctrinal authority in the Church."

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‘Blessed’ minister

Editor,
Thank you for your wonderful article about Msgr. Manuel Cruz, Director of Pastoral Care at Saint Michael’s Medical Center and newly appointed Archdiocesan Director for Hospital Ministry.

Msgr. Cruz is a beloved advocate and role model for not only patients, but also for medical students and physicians. He is also an extraordinary educator in neuropathology at this medical school, formerly Seton Hall College of Medicine, where he serves on committees verifying that human research is conducted in an ethical way. He was elected a full member of Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society, was presented the New Jersey State Governor’s Award/UMDNJ Many Faces, and was promoted to the academic title of Assistant Professor of Pathology on the voluntary faculty.

Msgr. Cruz, this Archdiocese is blessed to have your inspirational presence!

R.A. Schwartz M.D., M.P.H.
Professor and Past Faculty President, NJ Medical School

Camila Kryszicka Janniger M.D.
Clinical Professor, NJ Medical School

Answer to letter

Editor,
I would like to respond to R.J. Randy Kowalik’s comments in the Oct. 8 issue of *The Catholic Advocate*.
Mr. Kowalik was offended by John J. Bishoff’s letter in support of Msgr. Gilchrist’s column in which he reflect-

ed on the pallbearers’ attire at a funeral Mass he celebrated.

It seems Msgr. Gilchrist was familiar with the derelict lifestyle of these men and their usual shoddy mode of dress. However, when called upon to serve as pallbearers for their friend’s funeral they were mindful of the dignity this honor required and dressed accordingly.

I didn’t think Msgr. Gilchrist was judging the spiritual commitment of those who dress, at times, inappropriately for the celebration of the Eucharist, but rather for the times when outward dress lends to the dignity and respect for the occasion.

June Holmstrom
Cliffside Park

Good point made

Editor,
I want to comment on a recent letter to the editor written by R.J. Randy Kowalik of Dunellen in response to a recent column by Msgr. John Gilchrist.

He made a good point in referring to the many teenagers who are devout and respectful. I know that outer clothing does not define who or what a person is in their hearts.

However, I do not see what could be wrong in wearing modest attire as an outward sign of our respect for the Lord while in His house. Do we not don our best attire to attend other events?

Where a beggar is concerned, I would hope that we, as a people, would allow for the fact that he, or she, may not have the advantages many of us have.

Dorothy McGuire
Cliffside Park

Youth ministry celebrates successes

“Kids today...” Adults who are too quick to lament young people with that often erroneous generalization should have been at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart for Youth Ministry Recognition Sunday.

In an uplifting and joyous atmosphere, often marked by applause, the accomplishments of teenagers and their adult mentors from throughout the Archdiocese were honored with awards.

Such recognition is welcome, deserved and needed.

More often than not the younger generation only gets noticed, especially in the media, when they get in trouble. That is a reality that is not about to change any time soon.

Such events as Youth Ministry Sunday reaffirm the essential decency, goodness and selfless commitment to service that teenagers with a strong faith have made as an important part of their daily lives.

Just look at some of the activities of the four county recipients of the prestigious Eagle of the Cross award.

While meeting the challenges of just being a teenager, these exemplary young people still find time to get involved with Students Against Drunk Driving, volunteer at nursing homes, work with children, assume parish leadership roles, attend youth retreats and excel in high school.

Somehow or other it is generally accepted that there is some kind of wall between young people and adults. If that were true, youth ministry would find it difficult if not impossible to function. Fact is youth ministry has as its lifeblood the commitment of young people and adults to each other.

So next time the phrase “Kids today...” is heard, just remember that the young people of youth ministry are “kids” who are assuring a bright future for the Church, and society as a whole.

Sacred Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples

Your Excellency,

It is with particular gratitude that this Congregation acknowledges the contribution from the Archdiocese of Newark for the year 2002 to the work of the Pontifical Mission Societies.

The offering from your people of \$694,732 for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith and \$11,878 for the Society of Saint Peter Apostle is an effective reflection of their realization that they are called to continue the mission of Jesus Christ, “...even to the ends of the earth.” Gratitude is offered as well for the contribution of \$20,104 for the work of the Holy Childhood Association, through which the young are enabled to take their rightful place in the universal mission of the Church.

In light of the economic situation in the United States and other “First World” countries, this 2002 dona-

tion takes on a more-than-ever sacrificial character. It will be used carefully to ensure that the Church may continue to proclaim the Gospel, offer the message of the fullness of life in Christ, and serve the people of the young churches of the world.

In providing for this work, of prime importance is the encouragement of each Bishop for the Diocesan Director and for the programs of the Pontifical Mission Societies, central of which is the celebration of World Mission Sunday. For your effective efforts on behalf of the missionary task, I thank you.

Again this year, in fraternal solidarity, I assure you of prayerful remembrance of you and of the generous people you serve in the name of Christ.

Sincerely in the Lord,
Crescenzo Cardinal Sepe
Prefect

Office to Aid the Catholic Church in Central and Eastern Europe

Editor,
As the new director of this office, I wish to express my profound thanks to Archbishop John J. Myers and the people of the Archdiocese of Newark for the generous gift of \$298,275 to help rebuild the Catholic Church in Eastern Europe.

In Central and Eastern Europe, the roots of faith, tested by years of oppression, are quite strong. At the same time, the faith there is fragile and in need of nurturing. The Church relies for help in this work on the unstinting generosity of American Catholics. We can point to important progress, especially in the areas of priestly and religious formation, religious communication and evangelization, catechesis and social ministry.

While much has been done already, there is so much more yet to do. We are most grateful for the support. I take it as a particularly positive sign that in these difficult and uncertain times, American Catholics give concrete witness of their compassionate concern for the universal Church. Their support year after year of the still fragile restoration of the Church in Central and Eastern Europe fills Catholics there with confidence and Gospel hope.

My thanks once again for this sign of solidarity with a people so much in need.

Rev. James M. McCann, S.J.
Executive Director

Strong faith takes championship!

In the local media’s post-mortem of the Yankees’ stunning World Series loss to the underdog Florida Marlins, an interesting fact emerged that has nothing to do with batting averages or ERAs.

New Jersey native Jack McKeon, the oldest manager in the majors, is a devout Catholic who credits God with his team’s impressive victory over the Bronx Bombers.

The day after the Marlins celebrated on the Yankees’ turf, McKeon walked a few blocks from his hotel to attend Mass. He has been going to daily Mass since high school. McKeon admitted to some heavy praying during the World Series.

It may be tough for the many Yankee fans in the Archdiocese of Newark to accept, but the better team won.

Looking back on one of the ‘all-time greats’

Important people from all over the world have taken note of the 25th anniversary of John Paul II as Pontiff of the Roman Catholic Church, our pope. Oceans of ink have been used to describe and debate his tenure as the Holy Father. I could not begin to match anything that has been written or said.

However, I would like to give my basic impressions of this man of God. I’ve never met him. I have seen him three times at a distance. But I ask, “What are the characteristics that make him Pope John Paul II?” Here is what I see.

First, this is one tough man.

He was born in 1920. He grew up to be a rugged five foot-ten inch, 175 pounder who loved to swim, ski, hike and kayak. He was strong enough to break rocks in a quarry when the Nazis dominated Poland.

As a boy he was hit by a streetcar and later by a bus. He was left with a slight stoop in one shoulder.

As pope, he dislocated a shoulder and broke his thigh. He needed a femur replacement. He was shot with two bullets. He had a grapefruit-size tumor removed from his stomach. He now has Parkinson’s disease. He is 83. His mind is like a steel trap, but he somehow forces his body to keep moving.

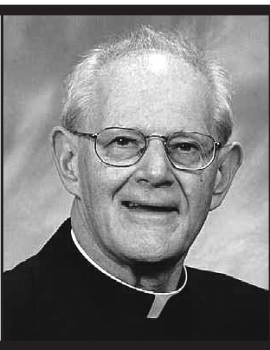
On top of that he has made more than 100 trips to 129 countries. His daily schedule is relentless. This John Paul II has an iron will.

Secondly, he is brilliant.

He has produced 14 major encyclicals, 42 apostolic letters, 13 Apostolic Exhortations and 11 Apostolic Constitutions. He has delivered countless thousands of speeches, including his Wednesday and Sunday homilies, and an enormous number of diplomatic and private talks. In addition he has written three books and is working on a fourth. Add to that the fact that he speaks eight languages fluently and can handle 16 more. The pope is no light-

Voices

By Msgr. John Gilchrist



weight. He holds two doctorates.

No pope in history can match him in the quantity and diversity of literary output. And all of it has relevance. It has influenced not just the Catholic Church but the world. It will take 50 years for scholars and historians to begin to evaluate his effect on the 20th century.

Thirdly, he is courageous.

He was no sooner elected than he marched into Poland and challenged face-to-face the Communism that was oppressing people. Once, when asked if he was afraid, the pope is reputed to have replied, “No, they should be afraid of me.”

The assassination attempt in May 1981, if anything, made him more determined to continue on his path of destiny. They had to force him to use the Popemobile—a bulletproof car. But he still mingled with the people he loved. Nothing could daunt him.

When he didn’t like certain aspects of liberation theology, he marched right into the middle of revolution-ridden South America and told them about it. He went to Cuba and talked to Fidel Castro. He fears no man nor any regime on earth. He will go where angels fear to tread.

Lastly, he is driven by faith.

He inherited a demoralized, confused Church, a

Church driven by dissent and controversy. It was a Church that had lost a huge number of priests and Religious. Vocations were dropping. The Vatican was caught in a terrible financial scandal. There was dissent everywhere over reproductive and sexual issues. Divorce, birth control, abortion, celibacy, women priests and homosexuality are still neuralgic areas in the Church.

Pope John Paul took on any and all issues with patient dogged determined faith. He gives no quarter to the right or to the left. His Catholicism extends to the love of every human being. He has a pure love for God and for humanity. He reached out to all—Jews, Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists and others—yet maintains his absolute deep faith and love for Our Lord in the Eucharist. People who attend his Mass in private speak of his holy demeanor and are touched by his deep spirituality.

*‘A giant on the earth’...
he will go where angels
fear to tread.*

His devotion to the Blessed Mother is legendary. Ali Agca who shot him said to John Paul, “I don’t know how I missed killing you.” He had taken dead aim at the pontiff. John Paul is convinced that Mary deflected the bullet, and he went to Fatima in gratitude.

So this is how I see Pope John Paul II—tough, brilliant, courageous and driven by faith. In all of our Christian history there has been no pontificate quite like this one. In the future they will say, “There was a giant on the earth in those days. His name was John Paul II.”

Msgr. Gilchrist is pastor of Holy Cross Parish in Harrison.

Lateran Basilica played major role in Church history

Plautius Lateranus of the Roman nobility was caught conspiring to assassinate the emperor Nero in A.D. 64. Along with several co-conspirators he was executed, and his sprawling estate, at the foot of Rome’s Coelian Hill, was confiscated.

The Lateran tract remained state property until 313 when the emperor Constantine, soon after his historic Edict of Milan, made a gift of it to the Bishop of Rome, St. Miltiades, for use as his episcopal residence. The great reception hall of the palace was converted into a basilica and became the official church of the bishop, i.e., his cathedral. It was this pope who hosted here the Church council, which was assembled to deal with the Donatist heresy.

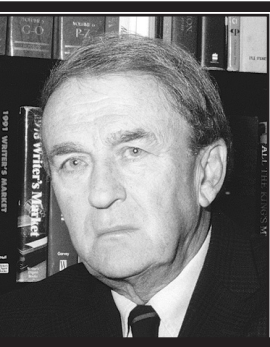
From a vision of Pope St. Sylvester (314-337), to whom appeared a picture of Our Lord borne by two angels, the cathedral was given the name of the Church of the Most Holy Savior. Somewhere around the ninth century it was renamed as the Basilica of St. John Lateran, honoring both the Evangelist and the Baptist. This name change notwithstanding the basilica has always retained its dedication to Christ.

*‘Of all churches in the city and
the world, the Mother and Head.’*

This site continued to be the papal household for almost a millennium until, in 1305, Pope Clement V decided to rule the Church from Avignon, in the south of France. When some 70 years later, Pope Gregory XI brought the Holy See back to Rome he chose to make his home in the Vatican Palace adjacent to St. Peter’s.

A View
from
History

By Frank J. Korn



Legends tell of the splendor and marvelous treasures of the original palace and basilica, many of them gifts from Constantine. These included the Ark of the Covenant, which Titus had supposedly brought back from his conquest of Jerusalem. There were also precious relics such as the coarse garments of the Baptist and the tongs with which the Evangelist was tortured. There was a canopied main altar with four pillars of gilded brass which once adorned the Temple of Jupiter. When Genseric pillaged Rome in 455 he carted off much of the rich ornamentation of the Lateran Basilica.

Pope St. Leo I the Great (440-461) restored the interior. In the eighth century Pope Hadrian repaired other damage wrought by time and by man. An earthquake all but leveled the Lateran in 904, necessitating a complete rebuilding of it by Pope Sergius II. He incorporated as much as possible of the old structure into the fabric of the new.

During the Avignon period the cathedral fell into a dreadful state of decay from negligence and abandonment. In fact, the desolation moved the poet Petrarch to tears. In one of his many letters to Pope Urban V (1361-

1370) he remonstrated bitterly: “How can you relish the attractions of your dwelling on the flowery banks of the Rhone? How can you enjoy banqueting in halls with ceilings of gold while the roofless Lateran lies exposed to wind and rain?”

Urban sent large sums of money from the pontifical treasury at Avignon to finance the restoration of the venerable edifice.

In preparation for the Holy Year of 1750 St. John’s was given its present magnificent exterior under Clement XII from designs by Antonio Galilei. Crowning the travertine façade are nineteen-foot-high statues of Christ and His apostles. Their silhouettes etched against the deep blue Roman skies can be seen from all points of the city.

The interior is also graced by colossal effigies of the twelve apostles by Borromini. In an elaborate reliquary above the high altar repose the skulls of SS. Peter and Paul.

The cathedral stands as an oasis of serenity in the heart of a pulsating city. This Sunday, Nov. 9, is the Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica. It is altogether fitting that we thus commemorate the event. For this sacred temple has played a major role in the long story of Christianity.

Twin plaques with this inscription (in Latin) flank the main portal and remind us just how important the edifice is: “This is the most holy Lateran Basilica. Of all the churches in the city and the world (this is) the Mother and Head.”

Frank J. Korn is an assistant Professor of Classical Studies at Seton Hall University. His latest book is Hidden Rome (Paulist Press).

[See Father Lawrence Frizzell’s Scripture reflections on the opposite page for more on this topic.]

Religious life a witness in today's world

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope John Paul II said fraternal Religious orders offer an important witness of charity and poverty to the modern world.

The pope made the remarks in a message to Franciscan Capuchin friars, who were meeting to reflect on their future ahead of a plenary council. The Vatican published the papal message Oct. 29.

The pope reminded the Capuchins that the original desire of St. Francis was to form a community of brothers who would live as true disciples of Jesus. Today, this kind of Religious life can offer a form of “spiritual therapy” for humanity, he said.

“This form of life in fraternity constitutes a challenge and a proposal for the current world, which is often torn by ethnic hatred or by homicidal madness, filled with contrasting passions and interests, eager for unity but uncertain about which road to take,” he said.

“This form of life in fraternity constitutes a challenge and a proposal for the current world.”
- Pope John Paul II

The pope said the Capuchins and similar orders can carry out “a type of globalization of charity” through their presence and works in many countries.

Through their example, they can remind modern men and women that they belong to a “great family without borders” and invite them to work for the “development and liberation of the whole person,” he said.

The pope encouraged the Franciscans of the 21st century to remain true to their founder’s emphasis on poverty and closeness to the “humble and simple people.”

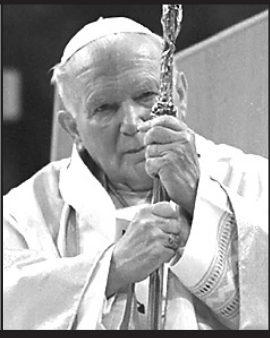
He also asked them to show love and obedience for the Church with the same spirit as St. Francis.

In reflecting on the future of their order, the pope said, the friars should keep in mind especially a basic Gospel teaching about conversion to Christ — that a change of heart requires a true change of life.

Without such true conversion as a goal, the effort to devise spiritual and apostolic plans and programs would turn out to be wasted energy, he said.

The Pope Speaks

Pope John Paul II



Rosary is peace

Dear brothers and sisters,

During the Year of the Rosary, the whole Church has contemplated with Mary the face of Christ and sought to become a genuine school of prayer.

In the face of war, violence and tension, praying the Rosary is a conscious expression of faith: Meditating on Christ, we implore the gift of peace through the intercession of Mary, and we ask her for the strength to be peacemakers, especially in the home.

I encourage you all to continue to pray the Rosary along the path of holiness. There you will find the peace of Christ.

I extend a special welcome to the English-speaking visitors and pilgrims here today, including the groups from England, Ireland, Finland, Japan and the United States. May Mary, Queen of the Rosary, protect you and lead you ever more closely to her son.

The Church: people and building

Readings: Ezekiel 47:1-12; Psalm 84; 1 Corinthians 3:9-17; John 2:13-22

The church building is a space for the people of God in a given community. In a consecration (or dedication) ceremony the edifice is set apart for the sacred purpose of worshiping God and celebrating the sacraments. The day of the ceremony is commemorated annually by the parish or, in the case of a cathedral, by the entire diocese. On Nov. 9 each year the consecration of the Cathedral of Rome is celebrated by the universal Church.

Some might think that this feast should refer to St. Peter’s in the Vatican, the magnificent basilica built on the place of the first Pope’s martyrdom. However, a decade before Emperor Constantine financed the construction of a church on this site, he had provided Pope Miltiades (also Melchiades) (311-314) with a property (belonging originally to the Lateran family) for a church and papal residence.

Originally dedicated to the Savior, this cathedral was also linked with Saints John the Baptist and John the Evangelist.

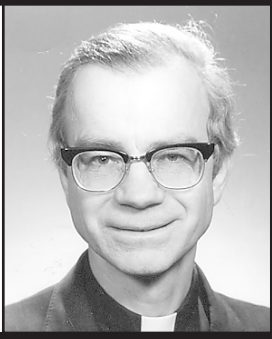
The dedication of a church reminds us that both space and time are seen as divine gifts. The rhythms of each day, week and year are to be consecrated by community and personal prayer. As we worship publicly, the ideal is to move from the setting of our daily activities into a place set apart as the Lord’s House (*kyriakon*, from which the English word “church” is derived).

The prototypes for the Christian church are the tabernacle constructed by Moses in the wilderness and the Temple of King Solomon. The destruction of the beautiful Temple by the Babylonian army in 587 B.C. brought a major crisis of faith for the survivors of this defeat. During the exile, prophets like Ezekiel helped them to restructure their lives, teaching them to pray and hope for restoration to the land promised long before to their ancestors. They had been taught that the earthly edifice was modeled after the Temple of the heavenly court. Moses had been instructed: “You shall erect the Dwelling

Sunday Readings

Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome (November 9, 2003)

By Father Lawrence Frizzell



according to the pattern shown to you on the mountain” (Ex 26:30). Ezekiel completed his prophetic work with the vision of a new Jerusalem and Temple that would correspond most wonderfully with the heavenly reality. Because water is the symbol of life and rainfall is its only (but uncertain) source for the Land of Israel, the prophet portrayed God’s presence in the new Temple as the perennial source of life for the chosen people.

Beginning in 538 B.C. people returned from the Babylonian exile, and by 515 a modest Temple was completed under the encouragement of Haggai and Zechariah. Renovation and new construction was initiated by King Herod (37-4 B.C.), called “the Great” because of his building projects. This had been underway for several

decades when Jesus “cleansed” the Temple. This dramatic action was a prophecy to remind people that ideals must not be compromised in this House of the Lord. Probably Jesus also intended to have the authorities think of Zechariah’s prophecy: “On that day there shall no longer be any Canaanite (merchant) in the House of the Lord of Hosts” (14:21). Money changers were rendering a necessary service so that Jews could pay the half-shekel Temple tax in coins that did not have an image on them. On the final day, however,

Buildings are intended to serve the human need for symbols and a framework in which to experience the divine Presence.

Zechariah declared, there would be no distinction between sacred and profane realms of human activity. After sin is conquered, all creation will be taken directly into God’s service.

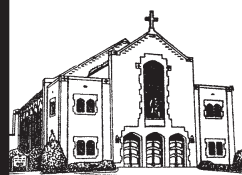
Just as John the Baptist had declared that Jesus is the Lamb of God (Jn 1:29, 35), the victim of the perfect Sacrifice, so now Jesus declares that his Body is the Temple (2:19-22; see 1:51).

Following the biblical precedence for seeing the people of God as a spiritual Temple, St. Paul encouraged Christians, as a community (1 Cor 3:9-17) and as individuals (6:15-20), to recognize that God dwells in them. This truth is rooted in the teaching that God created two earthly realities according to a heavenly model, the tabernacle (Ex 26:30) and the human person (Gn 1:26-28). This potential for intimacy with God is activated in a unique way by Jesus, who invites human beings to a new life of freedom from alienation of sin (Jn 8:32). United with the eternal High Priest, the Good Shepherd who lays down his life and takes it up again (Jn 10:11, 18), they can worship the Father in the Spirit of Truth (4:23-24; 14:17).

These passages help us to clarify an ambiguity in

English, since we use the term “church” to designate the building and the worshipping community. In Greek the community is called the people (*laos*, from which the word “laity” comes) of God and the convocation (*ekklesia*, from the root “to be called out of” the darkness or alienation of sin) created by God’s Word. Thus we understand that the buildings are intended to serve the human need for symbols and a framework in which to experience the divine Presence. Thus uplifted, we then carry Christ into the fabric of our daily lives, preparing for the day when God will be everything to everyone. (1 Cor 15:28)

Father Lawrence Frizzell is Director of the Institute of Judaeo-Christian Studies at Seton Hall University.



Saint Michael Parish, Union

BY LIESL FORES

Staff Reporter

Saint Michael the Archangel Parish in Union is one of the largest parishes in the Archdiocese of Newark, with 4,650 families registered. What's really impressive, however, is what it does with all its "human resources."

This multicultural parish makes a priority of encouraging stewardship through its myriad ministries, welcomes new families on a monthly basis, and takes special pride in tending to the needs of its young people with an extensive youth ministry program. Striving to engage all its members, Saint Michael's is an active parish, representative of its vibrant community.

To celebrate its 75th anniversary, Saint Michael's is hosting two dinners, inviting all the ethnic groups present in the parish (Irish, Italian, Polish—both American-born and recent immigrants—German, Slovakian, Hungarian, Nigerian, Hatian, Filipino, Portuguese, Hispanic—from many countries—Chinese, Vietnamese and Indian) to bring a traditional dish from their country to "celebrate our diversity," said Father Matthias T. Conva, Pastor.

Each group "brings their own faith and different spiritualities from their cultures," he empha-

sized, adding that it is important to "learn about these different customs and encourage them."

A special anniversary Mass will also be celebrated Nov. 22 at 5:30 p.m., followed by cake and coffee in the lower church.

Describing this large community as nonetheless close-knit, Father Conva stressed, "We're proud of fact that so many people of different backgrounds all get along here." He also pointed out that members of all ethnic groups present in the parish are involved in ministries.

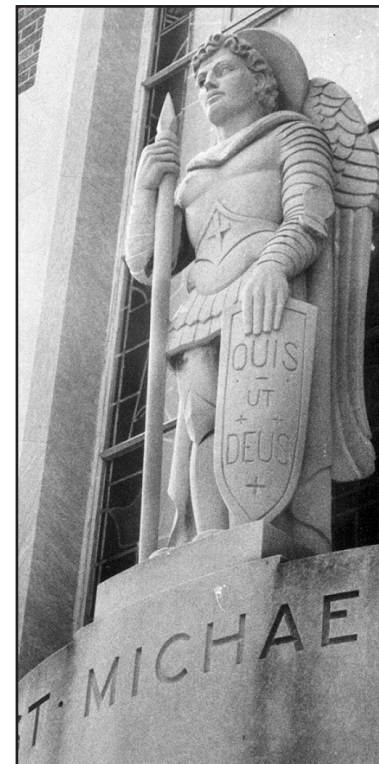
"Enabling lay ministry as best we can; calling people forth into ministry through our stewardship program to commit a year to any ministry—besides their own prayer life—and to the community," is something that the parish takes most seriously, asserted the pastor. "The result is lots of people involved in the parish."

The fruits of these efforts are perhaps most apparent in Saint

Core teams of students, two representatives and two officers from each grade, are responsible for helping to plan all social events as well as retreat and other activities.

A large part of the Youth Ministry is the Confirmation preparation program. All ninth graders are assigned a mentor, junior or senior class members of the group. Candidates for Confirmation meet several times during the year with mentors, their sponsors and as a group themselves for talks and other preparation to receive the sacrament. There is also an interview process before they receive Confirmation in the spring. For 2004 there are 115 candidates.

When asked why he thinks this program is so attractive to youths in the parish and Union area, Father Conva, referring to the full-time youth minister, Philip Matrale, replied, "He knows everyone by name; he really cares



Advocate photos - Frank Woods

The imposing figure of St. Michael the Archangel looks out over the main doors of the church.



All teens in Saint Michael's Youth Ministry participate in community service. Pictured are some members working at South Mountain Health Care Nursing Home.

Michael's Youth Ministry. "I think it's one of the best in the state, if not the country," Father Conva commented, depicting it as the parish's "showcase program."

Every Tuesday, approximately 400 high schoolers gather for topic nights, which center around guest speakers or group discussions on relevant themes. On Thursdays, smaller groups gather for community service, each week alternating so that all members participate in these social ministries, which include visits to a group home for paraplegics and to area soup kitchens and homeless shelters, among other things.

Once a year a weekend retreat is planned for 200-250 participants. And there are numerous social activities throughout the year as well: an annual ski trip and dances are just a couple

about each one."

This aside from all the activities and opportunities for spirituality and friendship available to them on a regular basis. The group attends Mass together once a month and "they pray together," noted Father Conva.

Matrale attributes the program's success to its holistic approach, addressing kids' spiritual, family, self-identity, community and personal needs. "In every activity that we plan, we try to touch upon more than one aspect of their identity," he said. He pointed out too that no events are organized solely by adults; group members are involved in all planning, along with help from adult assistants. This gives them a sense of "ownership" of their program, Matrale asserted.

The parish also serves younger

children in the Pre-K through 8 school, headed for the past 27 years by Sister Margaret William McDonald, O.P. (now retired), with its 320 students (90 percent of which are parishioners), and the religious education program, 550-600 students strong (also mostly parishioners), replete with a full time CCD pastoral associate, Carol A. Skrocki, and 60 catechists. Sacramental programs are organized together for parochial and CCD students, enhancing the community bond between everyone, students, parents and other parishioners alike.

There is even a children's choir that sings at every 9 a.m. Sunday Mass.

However, ministry goes beyond the youth at Saint Michael's. All parish members are encouraged to participate. To facilitate this, there is a common registration for new comers in which every last Saturday of the month, ministries are discussed. According to the pastor, often 11 or 12 new members will attend these monthly meetings.

Some of those ministries include Eucharistic Ministers, lectors, a liturgy committee, senior citizens group, Catholic Daughters group, widows and widowers group, baptismal ministry, RCIA and adult enrichment and Bible study, as well as social concerns ministries, guided by pastoral associate Sister Ann Dominic Vano, O.P., involving distribution of food to the poor, bringing of the Eucharist to the

Continued on page 11



The Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament was fashioned from the marble of the church's old altar and sanctuary.

Parish kept pace with growth of booming Union community

The roots of Saint Michael the Archangel Parish, Union, go back to the fall of 1928.

It was a time of rapid growth in the community. Saint Michael's was a mission parish of St. James, Springfield, which had been formed from St. Rose of Lima Parish, Short Hills, two years earlier.

While construction of a combination church/school was under way, Mass was celebrated at the Union Theater on Stuyvesant Avenue.

A block of land was donated by the Kelly Family, in memory of Michael A. Kelly, the first Union resident to die in World War I. The only request of the family was that the church be dedicated to their son's patron saint.

Staffed by Sisters of Saint Dominic of Caldwell, the school opened in 1931. When the school opened, the sisters lived for a time in what are now two classrooms in the middle of the building. Before long, however, the men of the parish built the first convent across from the church/school complex. Today the building is a private residence.

The church itself was located in the middle level of the building. It remained the place of worship until 1954.

Union continued to grow, even during the Great Depression, and was transformed from a farm town to a suburb. Father Thomas Larkin, Pastor of Saint James/Saint Michael, lived in Springfield. He and his associate cler-

gy traveled between the two churches. Father Edward Begley became the first resident pastor in 1936 when he moved into a new rectory.

Previous population growth was outdone by that of the post World War II era. The parish rolls reflected that influx of many families.



Saint Michael the Archangel Parish is a "grandchild" community, having been established in 1928 after a population surge at St. James Parish in Springfield, which itself had originated from St. Rose of Lima Parish in Short Hills.

It became evident that the existing buildings were simply inadequate. At Sunday Mass, parishioners filled every inch of the church, spilled onto the stairwells and even at times onto the lawn in front of the church.

Today's convent was built 51 years ago. It was also called the parish center. The new building, which accommodates 22 sisters, alleviated over-

crowding in the old convent.

Dedication of the present church took place in the mid 50s.

The church, designed by the Paterson architectural firm of Fanning and Shaw, is of modified Norman architecture to harmonize with the existing parish buildings. The seating capacity at the time of dedication was 960.

But within just three years it became inadequate to handle the large numbers of parishioners. As a result, the basement was renovated into a fully equipped lower church. Mass was celebrated simultaneously upstairs and downstairs.

The overcrowding was alleviated somewhat in the early 60s when Holy Spirit Parish became the sister parish of Saint Michael's.

In 1967 Msgr. Edward Begley, who had served 31 years, died. He is buried next to the church.

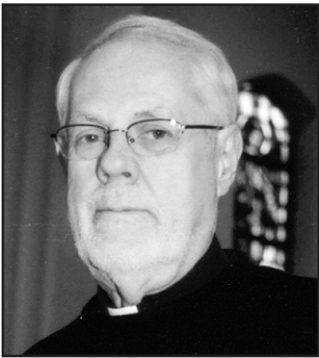
Succeeding Msgr. Begley was Father Thomas Grant who served for a decade before retiring. Serving another ten years was Msgr. Thomas Tuohy.

Father Ronald Rozniak became the next pastor. Two years later he was succeeded by Father Kenneth Herbster.

At about the same time, a much needed renovation of the church was initiated in order to follow the guidelines of the Second Vatican Council. The current pastor, Father Matthias T. Conva, was appointed six years ago.

From the ranks of Saint Michael the Archangel Parish have come 17 priests and many more women who have entered the Religious life.

Meet the Pastor



Father Matthias T. Conva

- Age:** 67
- Date of Birth:** December 19, 1935
- High School:** St. Rose High School, Carbondale, PA
- College/Seminary/Graduate School:** St. Francis College, Loretto, PA (B.A., seminary); La Salle College, Philadelphia, PA (M.A.); Union College, Schenectady, NY (M.S.T.)
- Favorite Saint:** St. Francis of Assisi
- Favorite Sport:** College basketball
- Favorite Food:** Italian, fish
- Favorite Subject in School:** Philosophy
- Favorite Movie:** *The Lion in Winter*
- Proudest Moment:** Baptisms of my great-nieces and nephews
- Last Book Read:** *The Human Condition* by Thomas Keating
- Occupation if I weren't a Priest:** Teacher

Reaching out

Continued from page 10

sick and homebound and blood drives, to name a few.

Presently ministering at this sizable parish, besides various pastoral associates, are parish priests Fathers Charles B. McDermott, Bartley P. Baker and Anthony Onyekwelu.

Father Conva, who has been pastor at Saint Michael's since 1997, says there is high turnover of parishioners, though at least half of the congregation has been there for a significant amount of time. Either way, he concluded by saying, "it's always been a very welcoming and friendly parish. We hope to keep that whole attitude of welcoming everyone that comes to us." And surely, sharing with them all the many spiritual and social riches it has to offer.

Saint Michael the Archangel Parish is located at 1212 Kelly Street in Union.



In the fall of 1978, Father Joseph Driscoll, Pastor of St. Andrew Parish, Westwood, recalled his years as a parochial vicar (or curate) at Saint Michael's during a 50th anniversary Mass. Archbishop Peter L. Gerety was the principal celebrant. He was flanked on the altar by, left to right, the pastor at the time, Msgr. Thomas Tuohy, and retired pastor, Father Thomas Grant.

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Marist H.S. peer leaders are installed

The administration, faculty, staff and students of Marist High School, Bayonne, recently installed student peer group leaders during a Mass of the Holy Spirit. Father Peter Galdon, Pastor of St. Vincent Parish, Bayonne, home parish of Marist High School, was the celebrant.

The theme of the homily dealt with all people taking responsibility for all aspects of life and reflecting upon personal actions. Students took an active role in the Mass, serving as cross bearer, readers, gift bearers, and choir accompaniment under the direction of Brother Bob Warren, F.M.S.

Sister Mary Fallon, Director of Guidance Services, and David White, Guidance Counselor, installed the peer leaders at the end of the ceremony. Peer group leaders are trained to work under the direction of Guidance Services to provide support to fellow classmates. Brother Steve Schlitte, F.M.S., spoke to the student body and new peer leaders about the "importance of prayer, respect and caring for one another as members of the Marist family."

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Students target breast cancer

Students at Saint Michael School, Union, recently held a special dress-down day to raise funds for breast cancer awareness. The 330 students, normally in uniform clothing, honored the Levi's Challenge to wear jeans to school, as encouraged by their student council. The funds they raised, however, were put aside for a different organization.

The new principal, Adele K. Ellis, donated the \$400 raised by the students at the Susan G. Komen 5K Race last month in Princeton.

Ellis runs the race each year in honor of her sister, Susan Bierman, who is a two-time breast cancer survivor. Last year, Ellis' husband represented the sister as Ellis ran in memory of Barbara Costa, the mother of a student of St. John Vianney School who died of breast cancer a week before the race.

For Make-A-Difference Day on Oct. 26, the student council encouraged others to give with a Book and Bake Sale. Proceeds were donated to the American Cancer Society.

Mother Seton statue is given a new home

John Michura, a 1980 alumnus of Seton Hall Preparatory High School West Orange, recently completed a unique personal project when he transported to the high school a long-forgotten statue of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

The six-foot statue had stood on the grounds of the now closed St. Vincent Hospital, Montclair. It was erected during the early part of the last century in memory of a local—Purcell Carroll Tiernan.

Michura, a Montclair resident, could not help but notice on almost a daily basis that the statue had been left uncared for since the hospital run by the Sisters of Charity, (who have since relocated to Wayne) ceased operations.

The statue and its pedestal had an uncertain future at best.

Michura's affection for "The Prep" compelled him to ask the Archdiocese of Newark if he could assume ownership of the statue.

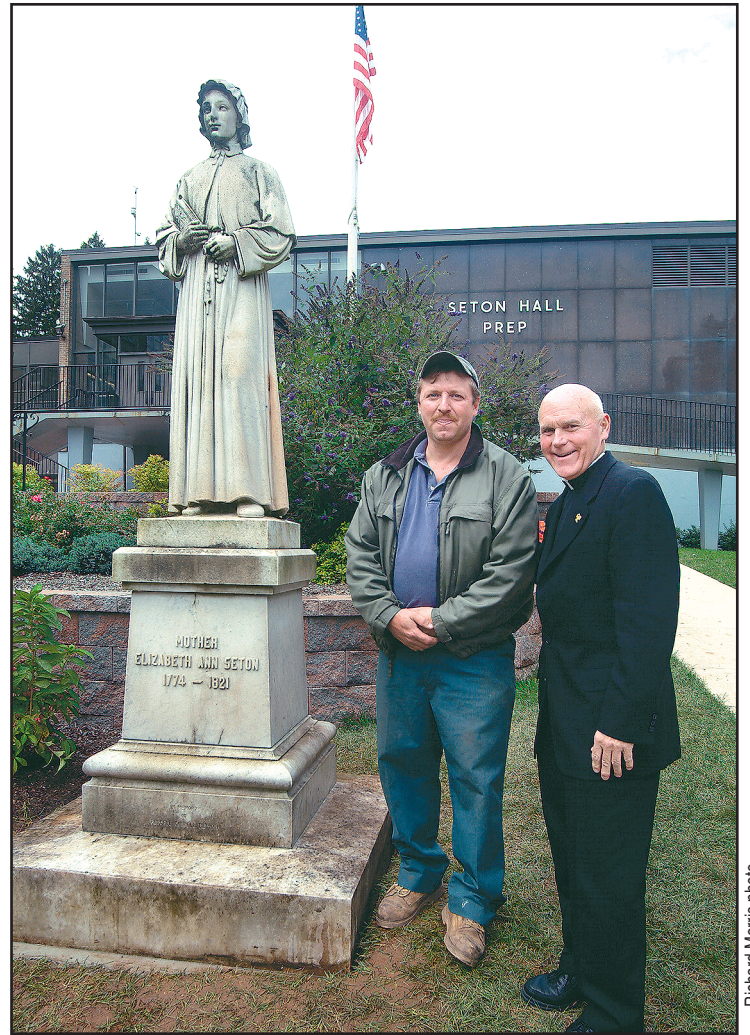
Archbishop John J. Myers

released the statue to Michura, who then undertook the challenging logistics of moving it to the school lawn on Northfield Avenue. He bore the \$4,200 costs of removal and relocation of the statue.

Michura is president of J's Lawncare Service in Montclair. He was assisted in the transfer agreement by Kevin Comp of Plant Services for the Archdiocese of Newark.

Also lending a helping hand were Mike Ferlutto of Precision Monument Setters, Inc., and Ralph Rullis of Lincoln Monument. Both are Montclair firms.

The statue portrays then Mother Seton. Born to an Episcopalian family, she converted to Catholicism in 1805 following the death of her husband. She went on to found the American Sisters of Charity. In all she founded six religious communities. In 1975 she became the first American-born saint when canonized by Pope Paul VI.



Richard Morris photo

As a beaming John Michura looks on, Msgr. Michael Kelly, Headmaster of Seton Hall Prep, admires the school's new centerpiece.



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tal bed-sides,” stated Michael Maron, President and Chief Executive Officer at the recent opening of a new nursing unit. On the new unit, physicians and nurses are able to access—securely—a variety of hospital information systems. The high-tech bedside station was installed in Holy Name’s 5 Marian nursing unit as part of

Phase I of the hospital’s five-year Millennium Project, a facility-wide renovation that is expected to be completed in 2008. The “PatientStation” consists of multipurpose flat-screen monitors that are positioned an arm’s length from each bedside. Each monitor—which resembles a television screen—provides clinical information for caregivers, an entertain-

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Help for those suffering from invisible wounds

BY LIESL FORES
Staff Reporter

There is a healing ministry in the Archdiocese of Newark that doesn't have to do with hospital chaplains or the Anointing of the Sick, per se. Rather, it involves the spiritual and psychological healing that comes with forgiveness.

Rachel's Vineyard and Project Rachel are two endeavors that help women and men suffering from the after-effects of abortion. While Project Rachel is one-on-one counseling with a priest or Project Rachel-trained counselor, Rachel's Vineyard is a private weekend retreat, with others who have been through similar experiences.

Though Project Rachel has the advantage of privacy between the participant and counselor, and being able to begin sessions immediately, instead of having to wait for a planned weekend retreat, Rachel's Vineyard offers a "group dynamic," according to Msgr. Richard M. McGuinness, S.T.L., Ph.D., Director of the Archdiocesan Respect Life Office. "You're with people who have been through the same thing you have; there's group support. You have all the elements of Project Rachel in a Rachel's Vineyard weekend," plus the benefits of healing with others in an atmosphere of spirituality and prayer, he asserted.

These retreats are also highly confidential, Msgr. McGuinness stressed, adding that even the people who prepare meals and clean the facilities are not present with attendees.

The entire weekend is geared toward helping participants accept responsibility for their actions, grieve the loss of their child or children and ask forgiveness of God and those children to help them heal from the trauma of abortion.

The retreat involves several aspects: "living Scriptures," re-enactments of Scripture stories in which participants have an opportunity to experience the



reality of Christ in an intimate way, and respond to Him; Eucharistic Adoration is offered, allowing an optional, personal Holy Hour in the middle of the night to pray and talk with God; listening to everyone's story and telling one's own; a living Scrip-

ture in which one names his or her baby or babies and writes them a letter; sacraments of Anointing of the Sick, Reconciliation and the Holy Eucharist are offered; and a memorial Mass is celebrated for their children who never received a funeral or proper burial, helping the parents to know "their baby is with God," the Monsignor emphasized. Weekend teams consist of two or three priests, one counselor, one facilitator and members who have been through the weekend as participants and have returned to assist.

Rachel's Vineyard Ministries was founded by Theresa Karminski Burke, M.A., Ph.D., DAPA, NCP, LPC, a scholar and psychologist who has studied

post-abortion trauma and healing extensively throughout her career. Rachel's Vineyard retreats and programs are administered internationally.

While Project Rachel became active in the Archdiocese of Newark in the early 1990s, the first Rachel's Vineyard weekend was held in 1997. Since then it

has been held four times a year in Linden.

"I've been to almost all the Rachel's Vineyard weekends. Each time, we can almost guarantee miracles; physically and psychologically, [participants] leave different than when they arrived," observed Msgr. McGuinness.

Continued on page 27

Newark Abbey Fall Roundtables

"The Rule of Benedict: Spirituality for Everyone"

Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2003

"To Live is Christ"

The Life of Bl. Columba Marmion, O.S.B.

Rev. Albert Holtz, O.S.B.

Newark Abbey



Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2003

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A few good chaplains...remembered as heroes

The following story first appeared in the 150th anniversary edition of The Catholic Advocate last month. We reprint it here in honor of Veterans' Day 2003.

During its 150 years, the Archdiocese of Newark has produced

three "chaplain heroes."

Perhaps the most famous is Father John P. Washington, 1908-43, the third pastor of St. Stephen's Parish, Kearny. Father Washington was appointed a chaplain in the United States Army shortly



Father John P. Washington, Pastor of St. Stephen's Parish, Kearny, and chaplain during World War II.

after Pearl Harbor.

He was aboard the *USAT Dorchester* in February 1943, during World War II, when it was sunk by a German U-boat.

Father Washington and three other clergy of different faiths gave their life jackets to four young soldiers. Arms linked, the clergymen were heard praying as the ship went down.

In 1948 the United States Post Office issued a commemorative stamp honoring the four chaplains of the Second World

War. Father Washington is the only alumnus of Seton Hall University and Immaculate Conception Seminary to have been so honored.

Father Charles Watters, 1927-67, was awarded the Medal of Honor during the Vietnam War. Father Watters exposed himself to both friendly and enemy fire between two forces in order to recover two wounded soldiers.

Later, when the battalion was forced to pull back into a perimeter, Father Watters noticed several wounded soldiers lying outside the perimeter. He left the perimeter three times in the face of small arms, automatic weapons and mortar fire to carry and assist the injured men to safety.

He then began to assist the medics. Father Watters was giving aid to the wounded when he was killed.

Father Thomas M. Reardon, U.S.N.R. (1909-87) was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Newark in 1934. He was the first chaplain to go ashore with the Marines at Guadalcanal, one of the most bitter battles of World War II. His exploits were featured in the book and film *Guadalcanal Diary*. Msgr. Reardon later served as Regent of the School of Law of Seton Hall University and pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Bloomfield.



This column will commemorate important dates in the history of the Archdiocese of Newark, which celebrates its 150th anniversary this year. We welcome suggestions and anecdotes.

Novarcensis: A Look Back at Our History

169 years ago...

October 12. Rev. Anthony Cauvin, the first pastor of Our Lady of Grace Church, Hoboken, was ordained a priest in Italy.

150 years ago...

October 30. The episcopal ordination of James Roosevelt Bayley as first Bishop of Newark was held in Old St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York City.

November 1. Installation of Bishop Bayley as the first Bishop of Newark in St. Patrick's Pro-Cathedral, Newark.

142 years ago...

The cornerstone of St. Peter's Church, Newark, was laid. The church is now called Queen of Angels.

125 years ago...

November 10. Dedication of Our Lady of Grace Church, Hoboken by Bishop Michael A. Corrigan. At the time it was the largest church in the Diocese of Newark.

49 years ago...

October 19. The solemn opening of the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Newark, on ground broken in January 1898 by Bishop Wigger. Archbishop Thomas Boland received the pallium of his office from Archbishop Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the U.S.

Novarcensis is compiled and edited by Rev. Msgr. Francis R. Seymour, Archivist of the Archdiocese of Newark.

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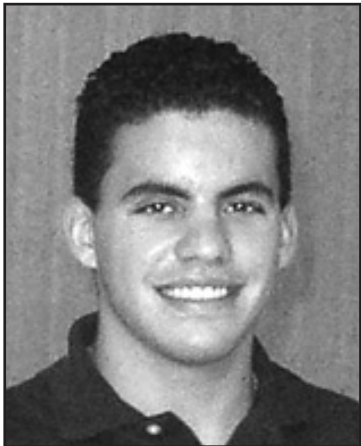


'Harvard man' returns to the halls of Union Catholic High School

When Joseph Torella of Edison received an invitation to apply to the Harvard University Summer School Program for Secondary School Students he was both excited and honored.

With the support of his parents, he applied and was accepted into the program and spent eight weeks there this summer. His acceptance was based on his overall academic excellence, SAT scores, extracurricular activities and his responses to a series of short essay questions.

Torella entered his senior year this September at Union Catholic High School. An outstanding and well-rounded student, he was ranked number one in his junior class and held a GPA of 4.166 at the end of his junior year. He recently took the standard SAT and received a score of 1510 with a perfect math score of 800. Joseph is enrolled in advanced placement



Joseph Torella

courses at Union Catholic and scored a perfect 5 on the Chemistry, English and U.S. History AP placement exams taken in the spring. Torella is a member of the National Honor Society and has achieved the distinction of earning first honors in every marking period.

He was the recipient of the Rensselaer Medal, awarded to

the junior student who has been identified as the most promising science and math student.

In addition to academic excellence, he is involved in numerous extracurricular activities. The Students in Action Club (SIA) is a service and charity organization of which he is the founder and president. In its first year, SIA raised \$4,000 and completed 500 hours of community service. The club has 87 active members, who represent over 10 percent of the school's student population.

He is also a member of the Union Catholic Performing Arts Company (PAC), and has earned a lead role in every spring production for the last three years.

While at the Harvard Summer Program, he applied and received an internship at the Harvard-Radcliffe Summer Theater.



Don Bosco Preparatory High School, Ramsey, has established the FDNY Battalion 6 Chief John P. Williamson Memorial Scholarship. Chief Williamson, the parent of a Don Bosco student, lost his life in the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center. Available to a freshman, the scholarship is being offered, in cooperation with Mrs. Mary Williamson, through 1975 alumnus Daniel Kane. Announcing the new scholarship were, left to right, Kane, Mrs. Williamson and Father John Serio, S.D.B., the principal. For additional information call the alumni office at (201) 327-2049.

Felician professor is cited

Dr. Marc LaBella, Professor of Psychology at Felician College, has been granted an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree by Regis University for his work in the field of adult education. He received the degree because of his work with his alma mater, Concordia University, to establish alternative assessment criteria for EuroPACE, the future

accrediting body of universities in the European Union.

Dr. LaBella has been invited to go to Brussels in January to address EuroPACE with regards to online and alternative assessment. During the summer, Dr. LaBella, who has a Ph.D. in psychology, also completed a second Ph.D. in educational measurement and statistics.

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Saint Peter's College junior makes history

Gov. James McGreevey has appointed Saint Peter's College junior Jenny Buontempo to a one-year term on the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education.

Buontempo, President of the Student Senate, is a math and international business major with a minor in French.

Nominated by the members of the college's Student Senate, Buontempo is the first Saint Peter's student to serve on the commission. She was sworn in Oct. 24 in Trenton. She and Princeton University senior Rishi Jaitly were the only students appointed this year.

"Having served for two years myself on the Commission on Higher Education, I know that Jenny will learn a great deal about higher education in New Jersey, both public and private," Father James N. Loughran, college president, said.

Buontempo, who has full voting privileges, will serve with college and university administrators and business leaders on the commission to provide coordination, planning, policy development and advocacy for the state's higher education system.

"I'm excited to be part of the Commission, and it is a great

honor to be working on issues that impact on all college students in New Jersey," Buontempo said.



Jenny Buontempo

"I never thought I would have such an opportunity," she

went on. "Life as a college student is very complex. We go to class, we study, we work to pay for tuition and fees and we often take unpaid internships to give us real world experience. Students need to have a voice to make certain that our government leaders think about us as often as possible, especially when funding issues are discussed.

"I hope the broader perspective I'll see at the state level will help me impact change at Saint Peter's to benefit my classmates."

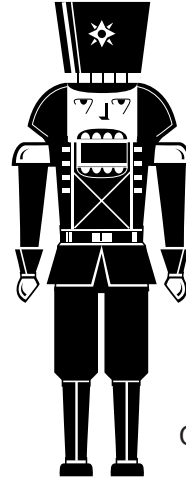
Saint Peter's College Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. Eileen Poiani believes Governor McGreevey made a good choice in selecting Bountempo.

"The college students of New Jersey will be well repre-

sented on the commission by Jenny Buontempo," Dr. Poiani said. "Jenny is a leader. The mission of Saint Peter's College

is to develop leaders for today and tomorrow in the Jesuit tradition of being men and women willing to serve others."

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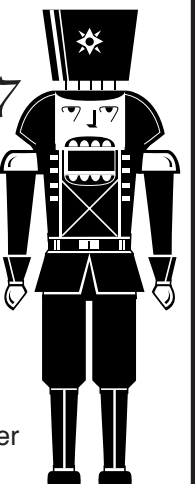
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This year's program is called *100 Years of Hollywood*—an evening of music from the Golden Age of Hollywood to Contemporary Classics.

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Opportunity

Continued from page 1

Outlining cultural changes in the country, especially during the 1950's, 60's and 70's, in relation to distrust of authority, the sexual revolution, drug culture, hedonism, radical feminism, moral relativism and philosophical skepticism, he made a parallel with what he described as a fallacy: "Underlying all these changes is the absolutizing of freedom as understood as personal autonomy. This ideology, by definition, tends towards radical individualism and the pursuit of self-fulfillment through self-aggrandizement."

The Archbishop admitted that Catholics, who at this point of flux were just emerging into the general American culture, which beforehand had been "vaguely Protestant (and mildly anti-Catholic)," deferred to this increasingly secular culture. "Catholic leaders, lay and clerical, hesitated to be overly critical of the greater society fearing that this would violate ideas of 'dialogue' and 'cooperation,'" leading to numerous instances of the Church in the United States moving away from traditional values and teachings and tending

toward a secular point of view.

Specifically addressing the issue of sexual morality, he said, "In the priesthood and Religious life, an uncritical acceptance of the therapeutic society led to all kinds of mischief (including some that directly or indirectly contributed to the scandal within the Church of the last few years.)"

However, Archbishop Myers believes that "this 'bad news' is not the end of the story." Citing the leadership of Pope John Paul II and the "genuine goodness of Catholic Americans," he stressed a tendency of recent generations back towards "traditional religious belief and practice" and away from the excesses of the previous few generations.

He pointed to a "huge opportunity" for Catholics to disprove the idea of radical autonomy. "We are social creatures. There is no such thing as a completely private action. One does not invent or choose the meaning of existence; one discovers it. There is a meaning built into existence. There are some actions and choices that ought not be tolerated. All this is true and is part of what one can know through right reason. And it is part of what one discovers when one discovers Jesus Christ

and His Church. In other words, the time is ripe for the 'new evangelization.'"

Through practicing and preaching the Word of God, through the sacraments and by being receptive to God's gift of grace, the Archbishop emphasized, Catholics can take action: "Right acting flows from right thinking, and right thinking happens through the renewal of our minds... This call to go deeper must be heard and put into practice if we are to bring authentic renewal to our Church and nation. We are called to evangelize and change our culture, but that begins when we allow God to transform ourselves. Then and only then can we hope to be the 'leaven' and 'salt' for societal renewal..."

"Authentic reform of our Church and our world depends on the acceptance of the call to holiness by the members of Christ's Church."

A concrete step towards this reform is the protection of children, Archbishop Myers stated. Claiming that "today the safest place for any child is in our parishes, schools and institutions," referring to the recent implementation of the program Protecting God's Children, the Archbishop said it is "the most comprehensive and wide-ranging program for the protection of children from sexual abuse and sexual predators that one can imagine."

He also mentioned a developing theological presentation

of God's plan for human sexuality, the "theology of the body." Catholics will be in a position to share this plan with the wider society, he asserted, when it "awakens to the inadequacies of the current prevailing sexual ethic."

And living our faith, he insisted, is the best way to teach others and transform the Church today: "I believe that we owe our culture the best and most authentic vision of our faith. We must live our faith fully and bring it with us into every aspect of our lives. In particular the lay faithful must endeavor to make holy—to sanctify—the world. Our first witness will be the witness of our lives. If we are living our faith we will exude peace and joy. This in itself is a powerful witness..."

"While times may seem difficult to many of us, we are blessed with the gifts of faith, hope and love. We must respond generously at this moment of crisis to God's call... All of us must be willing to pledge our lives and our fortunes to Jesus Christ and His Church."

Archbishop Myers concluded his lecture by stressing, "Jesus does not ask us to be successful... He does ask us to be faithful—to be faithful to Him and to His teaching. He promises to be with us until the end of time. Let our legacy be that we were faithful to Jesus Christ and Him crucified in season and out. Then we will have done what we are called to do."

Youth Mass

Continued from page 1

Basilica of their own "spiritual blindness at times."

The Msgr. Kiley award went to Father Joseph Mancini, Parochial Vicar at St. Stephen Parish, Kearny. Since coming to St. Stephen, he has made youth ministry one of his priorities.

Accepting his award, Father Mancini noted that some say working with young people is "part of the job." It is more than that he asserted, saying youth ministry is part of the "life of service" of a priest.

The Eagle of the Cross is the highest award conferred on high school youth by the National Federation of Catholic Youth Ministry and the Archdiocese of Newark. This year's recipients are: Junior Payano, Paramus Catholic High School, Bergen County; Carolyn Pascual, St. Joseph Parish, West Orange, Essex County; Emily Tan, Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Jersey City, Hudson County; and Stacey Hagenbush, St. James Parish, Springfield, Union County.

Representing their counties with the For God and Youth award are: Justin Fatica, Paramus High School, Bergen County; Jose Santos, Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Newark, Essex County; Celeste Zieniuk, St. Henry Parish, Bayonne, Hudson County; and Hilary Mulligan, St. Bartholomew Parish, Scotch Plains, Union County.

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Environment

Continued from page 1

continue to provide training for new staff and volunteers in the future.

This past week's sessions, held at Paramus Catholic High School, the Park Theater in Union City, Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Jersey City, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in West Orange and Union Catholic High School in Scotch Plains, were a considerable change from the original plan for this education and information program. Protecting God's Children had been scheduled to take place in parishes and schools directly, and over a period of some ten months, in order to permit the local parish and school communities to experience the program together.

Pastors and principals were notified in late August about the original program and asked to schedule a convenient time for their participation. However, auditors from USCCB rejected this schedule and advised Archbishop Myers that training needed to be implemented and completed by early November. As a result, the parish/school-based plan was abandoned, and the large venue program was adopted.

Professionals from Praesidium, Inc., a consulting organization that developed the Protecting

God's Children Program, and Virtus/The National Catholic Risk Retention Group, which sponsors Protecting God's Children, were contracted to conduct the sessions.

The launch of this second phase was not without its mishaps. In Essex County, for example, over-attendance meant that several hundred people had to stand during one three-hour training session. A severe downpour on Monday night prompted a drop in expected attendance at several of the scheduled sessions. The training session for additional facilitators in the CYO Youth Retreat Center in Kearny faced the challenge of equipment problems.

Promoting child safety

Yet despite these and other minor issues, the sessions produced significant positive responses and directions from attendees about the importance of the Archdiocese's efforts to create and promote a safe environment.

Brian Long, a volunteer at St. Therese of Lisieux Parish, Cresskill, found the program to be very educational. "It was a good opportunity for all of us," he said. "More people should be exposed to the information about this program. Kids should be, too." Long also thought that the program's straightforward approach to talking about child sexual abuse through interviews with victims

and perpetrators emphasized that abuse "is everywhere, not just in the Church. It's good that the Archdiocese is addressing this issue for all of us, because it needs to be addressed."

Pat Pula, the religious education director at St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish, Saddle River, who also serves as a parish facilitator for Protecting God's Children, said, "It is an opportunity for people to learn about perpetrators, to become aware of why children don't tell. Obviously, having people come together quickly created a mixed bag of reactions. But I think most people are thrilled that Protecting God's Children is here in the Archdiocese. It's a positive sign, and once they see the tapes, I think they begin to understand the need for measures like background and reference checks."

During the time that the Archdiocese was preparing for the audit by USCCB this past September, the Archdiocesan staff distributed a number of directives and pieces of information about the three elements of the safe environment program.

The rush to produce this information did create confusion and many people brought to these sessions some of that confusion. Some also brought tension because of the requirement that all who work with children in the

Archdiocese need to attend this program and undergo the background checks.

"Many of my parishioners feel that changes in plans and so much information to digest in a short time created problems. Many also felt that the idea of background checks, especially for those who have worked for the Church for a long time, was difficult," said Father Joseph Ferraro, Pastor of St. Anthony Parish, Belleville. "I admit I did, too. The Protecting God's Children program brought all of this into perspective. I understood why it's necessary for all of these important steps to be in place, and the reaction from parishioners has been supportive as well."

Taking 'prudent steps'

Father Sean Cuneen, Pastor of Our Lady of Peace Parish, New Providence, also admitted that the initial attitude among many attendees to Protecting God's Children was negative.

"I have to say that once we were presented with the information, it became clear that the Church is taking prudent steps to protect children, and that the entire background checks process was confidential and designed not to identify anyone, but to add strength to the Church's efforts to keep predators away from children," Father Cuneen said. "They

saw the sense in what has been taking place."

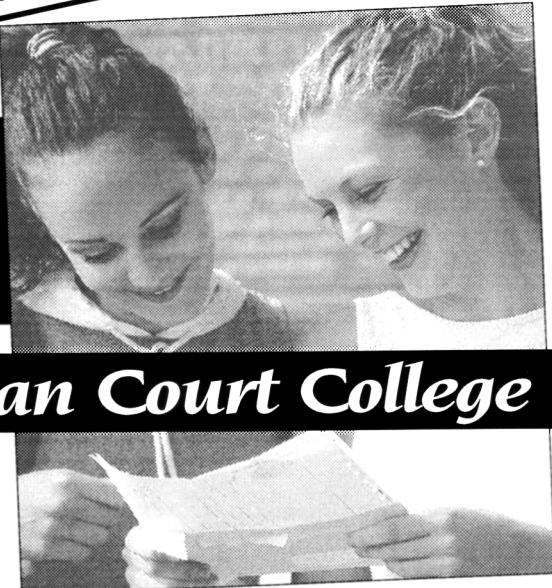
The process of obtaining and verifying background checks of all people in the Archdiocese who work with children is now underway, and it will be several months before the initial program is completed. Similarly, several thousand additional staff and volunteers in schools and parishes still need to complete the Protecting God's Children training.

That training will take place with the assistance and talents of the 200 recently trained facilitators.

In the middle of this past week Bishop Arthur J. Serratelli, Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia of the Archdiocese, sent to all pastors a letter for distribution at Masses. In the letter, Bishop Serratelli wrote, "We are most grateful for the understanding, the patience, the ready cooperation of the men and women of our Archdiocese in working toward the safest possible environment. We recognize the sacrifices made in meeting deadlines. And we acknowledge their indispensable service to the Church and their example to society. May the loving Lord who said, 'Whatever you do to the least among you, you do it to me,' bless all who are responding so generously in caring for our young children."

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El Santo Padre, Juan Pablo II, publica una exhortación apostólica sobre las funciones de los obispos

Ciudad del Vaticano.- Sorriendo y visiblemente mejorado de salud, Juan Pablo II comenzó la celebración de su vigésimo quinto aniversario el 16 de Octubre con un regalo suyo a la Iglesia: una exhortación apostólica sobre las funciones del obispo. Sentado en su silla móvil en el aula de Pablo VI, el Papa firmó su exhortación apostólica "Pastores Gregis". El documento recopila las conclusiones del sínodo del año 2001 sobre la misión de los obispos.

Después de la firma de la exhortación, el Coro de la Capilla Sixtina entonó el "Alma Redemptoris Mater" y a continuación la audiencia rompió en aplausos mientras muchos de los presentes ondeaban pañuelos. Juan Pablo II interrumpió su discurso para explicar que la exhortación apostólica nos recordaba que el obispo "es llamado a ser padre, maestro, amigo y hermano de todos los seres humanos, siguiendo el ejemplo de Cristo."

Acompañando al Papa estaban 149 cardenales, 7 patriarcas de las Iglesias Orientales, 109 presidentes (no cardenales) de las conferencias episcopales, 28 cardenales-designados y varios oficiales de la Curia Romana. Nueve mil peregrinos llenaban el salón.

"Siendo fiel de esta manera, él alcanzará santidad, una santidad que no crecerá junto a su ministerio sino a través de su ministerio," dijo el Romano Pontífice, reforzando uno de los tópicos más importantes del documento.

El documento tiene 196 páginas y está dividido en una introducción, siete capítulos y una conclusión.

El Capítulo Primero, titulado "El Misterio del Ministerio de los Obispos" trata de la fundación del ministerio episcopal, la naturaleza colegial de ese ministerio, y el carácter misionero y unitario del mismo.

El segundo capítulo discute "La Vida Espiritual del Obispo"; en el tercer capítulo el Papa escribe sobre el obispo como "Maestro de la Fe y Heraldo de la Palabra", y el

"Ministerio de la Gracia y el Alto Sacerdocio" es el tema del cuarto capítulo.

Juan Pablo II titula el capítulo quinto "El Gobierno Pastoral de los Obispos". Este capítulo contiene 13 secciones que enfocan temas como la autoridad del obispo, el estilo pastoral de su gobierno, los elementos de cada Iglesia particular, la formación de los candidatos al sacerdocio y los laicos confiados al cuidado pastoral de los obispos.

Los últimos dos capítulos son "En la Comunión de las Iglesias" y "El Obispo ante los Retos del Presente". El Papa se refiere a las relaciones del Obispo y su Diócesis con la Santa Sede y a otros tópicos importantes tales como el obispo como promotor de la justicia y la paz, el diálogo inter-religioso, la vida económica y civil, el ministerio del obispo en el campo de la salud, y el cuidado pastoral del obispo para con los inmigrantes.

Más tarde, ese mediodía, durante una Misa solemne a la que asistieron 50,000 feligreses y que fue concelebrada con miembros del Colegio de Cardenales, arzobispos y obispos, así como párrocos de iglesias de Roma, Juan Pablo II recordó con emoción el momento de su elección 25 años antes, el 16 de Octubre de 1978.

Para evitar mayores fatigas, después de varios días de muchas actividades, el Papa solamente leyó el primero y el último párrafo del discurso que había preparado, leyendo el resto el Arzobispo Leonardo

Sandri, de la Secretaría de Estado del Vaticano.

El obispo deberá ser "un profeta de la justicia y de la paz, defensor de los derechos de los pequeños y de los marginados", decía el discurso preparado por el Papa. "Él deberá proclamar el Evangelio de la vida, de la verdad y del amor, y deberá atender con predilección a la multitud de los pobres que habitan la tierra." Y le dijo a todos los obispos: "El Papa está con ustedes."

Junto al Papa estaban los cardenales que le habían ayudado en la preparación del Sínodo y del documento: Jan Pieter Schotte, Secretario General del Sínodo; Giovanni Battista Re, Prefecto de la Congregación para los Obispos; Bernard Agré, Arzobispo de Abidjan, en Ivory Coast; Ivan Diaz, Arzobispo de Bombay, en la India; Edward Egan, Arzobispo de New York; y Jorge Mario Bergoglio, Arzobispo de Buenos Aires. Al final del discurso, mientras el coro cantaba el "Cantate Domino", el Papa entregó una copia de la exhortación apostólica a los cardenales presentes, a los relatores generales y a cinco obispos que representaban los cinco continentes. El "Padre Nuestro" y la bendición papal pusieron el toque final a la ceremonia.

Más tarde ese día el Santo Padre presidió una Misa de Acción de Gracias por su elección como Sucesor de Pedro.

(Esta relación fue recopilada de reportajes proporcionados por el Servicio de Información del Vaticano y la Agencia Zenit).

Muchas gracias, Santo Padre, por sus 25 años

POR EL OBISPO JAVIER ECHEVARRÍA

Prelado de Opus Dei

Las fotografías del Papa durante los últimos años enseñan algo que ha cambiado y algo que no ha cambiado. Según pasa el tiempo vemos el cuerpo de un hombre que lenta pero seguramente se va quebrantando. Pero lo que también percibimos con gran claridad es la imagen de las mismas multitudes con el mismo fervor alrededor de él, en todas partes a donde va.

Muchos han tratado de explicar el misterio del magnetismo de Juan Pablo II. En general, ellos han tratado de encontrar una respuesta en la esperanza que mueve a tanta gente hacia él. Por ejemplo, con todos los conflictos que ensangrientan al mundo, hay un deseo muy intenso por la paz y Juan Pablo II ha declarado continuamente que el camino hacia la paz verdadera se encuentra en practicar el perdón que evita las divisiones. Otros dicen que lo que nos mueve a buscar al Papa es la sed de verdad que siente una sociedad cansada de las mentiras y de las tendencias que no duran nada: la voz del Papa proclama sin miedo y de manera incansable una verdad perenne, una moralidad incorruptible, que se levanta en defensa de la dignidad del hombre.

Pero debemos ahondar más profundo si de verdad queremos entender la extraordinaria atracción de Juan Pablo II. Debemos atender a lo que la teología llama "sensus fidei": una especie de instinto de fe que envuelve la mente y el corazón de los Católicos.

Desde esta perspectiva, vemos una Iglesia agrupada alrededor del Papa, una Iglesia incapaz de distanciarse de su supremo Pastor, una Iglesia que entiende la imposibilidad de llegar a encontrarse sin él. Y vemos a un Papa que vive para la Iglesia, un Papa en quien la Iglesia ve la faz de Cristo.

Todo el que lo escucha siente que él habla con una autoridad que viene de lo alto, de ese Evangelio que no desaparecerá "hasta que el cielo y la tierra pasen" (Mt 5:18). Estando cerca del sucesor de Pedro sentimos un lazo de comunión más fuerte que cualquier otra unión basada en la historia o en la cultura. Ahí estamos tocando el misterio que hace a la Iglesia parte de la familia de Dios y convierte a cada persona en hija o hijo de Dios.

La edad y el sufrimiento físico están debilitando su cuerpo pero están fortaleciendo su voluntad mientras él cada vez está más unido a la cruz de Jesús, la que él ama con una generosidad obvia y ejemplar.

El Papa nos ha llamado a contemplar la faz de Cristo, para que la Iglesia pueda "retomar con nuevo ímpetu a su misión evangelizadora" en el nuevo milenio (Carta apostólica "Novo Millennio Ineunte", 2). Y no podemos dejar de pensar en el ejemplo que nos da el mismo Papa en su misión como Pastor de la Iglesia universal, cuando leemos estas palabras suyas: "Los hombres y mujeres de nuestros días les piden con frecuencia a los creyentes, a veces inconscientemente, no solo que les hablen de Cristo, pero además que se lo "muestran". Y ¿no es la tarea de la Iglesia el reflejar la luz de Cristo en cada período histórico, hacer que Su faz brille ante las generaciones del nuevo milenio?" (Ibid. 16).

El sentimiento natural de afecto y gratitud que los católicos tienen para con Juan Pablo II es, fundamentalmente, un reconocimiento de que el Papa nos ha hecho redescubrir lo mejor de nosotros mismos: nuestra relación personal con Dios, quien nos ha creado y nos ha salvado con Su amor.

En su primera encíclica, el Papa escribió que el hombre "es el camino principal que la Iglesia debe tomar para cumplir su misión". La razón final para la conexión que él hace con los corazones de los creyentes es el hecho de que su pasión por el hombre tiene sus raíces en el Dios-hecho-hombre. Nos sentimos más cerca de Juan Pablo II porque él nos recuerda que Cristo está cerca de nosotros, que Él vive con nosotros, que Él le da sentido a nuestras vidas. La certidumbre de la cercanía de Cristo no necesita mayor prueba que la cruz, la cruz a la cual el Papa está también atado.

Por eso es lógico que al conmemorar nosotros el vigésimoquinto aniversario de Juan Pablo II reconozcamos la importancia y la profundidad de sus enseñanzas, y las consecuencias de sus decisiones. Y es también muy natural para nosotros que sintamos la necesidad de expresar nuestra gratitud con todo nuestro corazón. Como él recientemente pidió en Pompeya en la festividad de Nuestra Señora del Rosario, recemos siempre por él, como una muestra de nuestro filial afecto y de nuestra sincera y profunda gratitud.

Contacto:
Padre Brian Plate
Director de Vocaciones

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Jesús
se volvió,
y al ver que lo seguían les preguntó:

—¿Qué están buscando?

Ellos dijeron:
—Maestro, ¿dónde vives?

Jesús les contestó:
—Vengan a verlo.

¿Ha usted considerado seguir a Jesús como un sacerdote, hermana o hermano...?

San Juan 1:38-39

Where will the most sacred sites of the Holy Land be in two decades?

BY RAMI QUMSIEH

Christians of the Holy Land

We constantly hear in the media about the problems in the Middle East. We all hope that peace and prosperity may come to the region for all its people, including the small Christian minority who live in the Holy Land.

These Christians represent approximately 2 percent of the population. This population has declined by 10 per cent in a three-year span, since the Intifada began in September 2000. At this rate there will be no Christian presence in the Holy Land within 20 years.

Once a Christian family leaves, the Holy Land is at a loss forever.

The reason for the mass exodus is simple and twofold: lack of money and lack of security. The standard of living in the region has declined. The two primary sources of income—tourism and employment in Israel—have dried up for many because of warfare and terrorism.

What impact does this have on the reader of this article? It affects you directly because you are a Christian. Our holiest sites must always be maintained by Christians. Who is to say that the Church of the Nativity (where Jesus was born) and the Church of the Holy Sepulcher

Stars to shine

An evening of music from the Golden Age of Hollywood to contemporary classics are coming to Saint Joseph Regional High School, Montvale.

The annual Night of Broadway Stars presentation, with the theme this year of “100 Years of Hollywood,” will be Saturday, Nov. 15 at 8 p.m. Featured will be stars of Broadway putting on a benefit concert to support the school’s fine arts programs.

Neil Berg, composer of the Broadway musical *The Prince and the Pauper* is the coordinator of “100 Years of Hollywood.” He is also the musical coordinator of the school’s annual musical productions.

The fine arts program is a four-year discipline that includes chorus, an annual musical production and jazz band ensemble.

Tickets are \$45. All seats are reserved. To place an order call weekdays during regular business hours (201) 391-3300.



Some of the handmade articles for sale by local Christian families in the Holy Land to support their only Christian broadcasting station.

(where Jesus was buried) will still be there in 20 years, in time of war or time of peace and prosperity?

The only guarantee we have is to make certain that the Christian Palestinians who have been living there for 2000 years will remain.

Christian Palestinians play the crucial role of protectors of the faith in the Holy Land. They give “living presence” to Christian events throughout the year on Christmas, Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter.

Now that you see how this very real problem affects all of us directly, there is a solution to consider. That is, to support Christians of the Holy Land (CHL) in our sale of hand-carved olive wood religious articles made by local families. With such a purchase, you help to preserve the presence of Christians in the land of Christ.

Proceeds from sales go to the Al-Mahed (Nativity) television station. Established in 1996, it is the only Christian broadcasting station active in the Holy Land.

Readers may contact CHL at the toll free number, (800) 204-5898.

The Catholic Advocate

Catholic Radio

SUNDAY

Religion on the Line
6 a.m. - WABC 770 AM

Mass
6:30 a.m. - WPAT 930 AM

La Hora Católica
8 a.m. - WADO 1280 AM

Catholic Heritage Hour
9 a.m. - WSOU 89.5 FM

Voices of Our World
10:45 a.m. - WSOU 89.5 FM

The Sunday Morning Mass
11 a.m. - WSOU 89.5 FM

Proclaim the Good News
12:30 p.m. - WCTC 1450 AM

Perspectives on the News
12:30 a.m.(Mon.) - WOR 710 AM

SATURDAY

As You Think with Father Paul Keenan
9 p.m. - WOR 710 AM



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WPXN, Ch. 31
9:30 a.m. - Sunday



WXTV, Ch. 41
Santa Misa (local) 6:30 a.m. - Sunday

EWTN
Live Mass 8 a.m. and noon
Monday- Saturday

Portuguese Mass 5:30 a.m. - Sunday

Mass from Our Lady of the Angels
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Other Programming
Religion and Ethics Newsweek
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Father George A. Clyde, priest for 61 years

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Oct. 24 for Father George A. Clyde, 86.

Father Clyde, who died Oct. 20, attended Seton Hall University, Immaculate Conception Sem-

inary when it was in Mahwah and Catholic University of America, Washington, DC. He was ordained in 1942.

His service in the Archdiocese of Newark included assignments at Our Lady of Libera Parish, West New York; Holy Family Parish, Union City; Sacred Heart Parish, Haworth; St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Hillside; St. John the Apostle, Linden; St. Anne Parish, Garwood; and Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Scotch Plains.

After retiring in 1993, Father Clyde assisted at St. Luke Parish, Toms River for eight years. He also continued to officiate at family baptisms and weddings.

In 2001 he moved to the Rev. Msgr. James F. Kelley Residence for Retired Priests in Caldwell and in September to the Allendale Nursing Home.

Pray for him...

Simon Hann, father of Father Gregory Hann, Parochial Vicar at Church of the Sacred Heart, Lyndhurst, died Oct. 20.

Fr. Dennis O'Donnell, Rector, invites Married Couples, Women, and Families to a retreat at the new McShain-Horstmann Family Life Center at the Malvern Retreat House.




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Asst. Housemother

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Must possess broad knowledge of info technology and programming including MS Officesuite.

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J.L.V.

PRAYER TO ST. RITA

O powerful Saint Rita, rightly called Saint of the Impossible, I come to you with confidence in my great need. You know well my trails, for you yourself were many times burdened in this life. Come to my help, speak for me, pray with me, intercede on my behalf before the father. I know that God has a most generous heart and that he is a most loving Father. Join your prayers to mine and obtain for me the grace I desire (here mention your request). You who were so very pleasing to God on earth and are so much so now in heaven, I promise to use this favor, when granted, to better my life, proclaim God's mercy, and to make you more widely known and loved. Amen.

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R.S.

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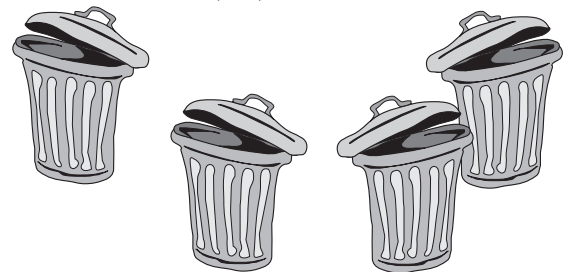
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New training center dedicated in tribute to benefactor

The state-of-the-art Nicholas G. Saingas Training Center was dedicated recently on the Oradell campus of Bergen Catholic High School.

The new two-story, 7,700-square foot building replaces the old Brother Eugene D. McKenna Weight Training Center, which consisted of 1,200-square feet of space on one level.

The McKenna Center was leveled last April to make room for the construction of the new building.

A school spokesman explained, "The building was dedicated as a lasting tribute to the late Mr. Saingas, who gave so tirelessly of his time, talent and treasure over so many years and in so many ways to Bergen

Catholic High School."

The ceremony, a culmination of a two-year effort to design and construct the building, began with a Mass celebrated in Hoehl Gymnasium. Celebrant Father James White, Campus Minister, noted in his homily that Saingas was "indeed a wealthy man, not because of his worldly possessions, but because of the vast amount of friendships that he accumulated during his life."

A plaque was also unveiled to honor the memory of John D'Amico, father of three Bergen Catholic graduates and another long-time supporter of the school. His son, Ted (a member of the Class of 1972), represented the family.

Saingas became involved in the Bergen Catholic community when his son entered the school in the fall of 1986. He eventually became the president of the Fathers' Club and Touchdown Club. Soon after Chris' graduation, Saingas' expertise continued to be sought and relied upon. He stayed close to the football program as the moderator of the Touchdown Club and joined the Board of Directors.



The new Nicholas G. Saingas Training Center as seen from Crusader Stadium field level at Bergen Catholic H.S.

He gave to the school in particular and community in general until his death in July 2001.

The first floor of the Nicholas G. Saingas Training Center houses an upgraded and refurbished weight-training center of 2,600 square feet, more than twice the size of the former facility. The second story, which abuts the school's parking lot, consists of a 3,200-

square foot wrestling practice facility, with two full-size wrestling matted areas. The room will be utilized for events and meetings when not in use by the wrestling team.

The building also contains restroom facilities that can be used by occupants of the building as well as spectators attending sporting events at nearby Crusader Stadium.

The construction and dedication of the building completes the first part of a two-phase project at the school. Additional plans call for the complete renovation of the school's cafeteria, which will create a year-round, community-wide social space for events when not in use as a lunchtime cafeteria. Cafeteria renovations are expected to take place over next summer.

Let us know...

The Catholic Advocate welcomes information about the sports teams and players throughout the Archdiocese of Newark. Send stories and photographs to: The Catholic Advocate, 171 Clifton Avenue, Newark, N.J. 07104-0500 or e-mail to mielejos@rcan.org.

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All-American Candidate Andre Barrett

Grant aimed at local schools

Roselle Catholic High School has received a \$500 grant from the Exxon/Mobil Educational Alliance program to support the school's athletic fields.

John Perrotti, of Perrotti Brothers Exxon in Roselle, worked with Roselle Catholic's principal, Brother Owen Ormsby, to secure the grant, which is one of 4,000 available to schools across the country served by Exxon or Mobil stations.

"Roselle Catholic High School works hard to make learning interesting and fun," said Perrotti. "As an Exxon retailer, I am proud to help the young people of Roselle."

The Exxon/Mobil Educational Alliance program is designed to provide Exxon and Mobil retailers with an opportunity to invest in the future of their communities through educational grants, including to Catholic schools.

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Suffering

Continued from page 15

“I see the mercy of God realized by people. My role is to be there to assist them and assure their forgiveness through the sacrament of Penance; also to mourn with that person for his or her baby...It’s very moving and highly emotional at times. The end result is that people who have been through this have been forgiven by God and can continue to grieve and heal,” he concluded.

“More and more women and men are coming forward to say that abortion is devastating to all people, not just babies,” asserted Michelle Krystofik, Associate Director at the Archdiocesan

The only way to carry on was to push the experience way down,” she explained. However she continued to experience depression, confusion and emptiness.

As the years passed, she graduated from a local college and “wandered,” as she put it, in her 20s. She met the man who would become her husband during this time and told him right away about the abortion. “He saw me as a good person,” she explained, and they were married.

Because she had scar tissue and damage from the abortion (though she says the clinic that performed the operation was clean and on all surface accounts “respectable”), Mary was told by her doctor that she would have difficulty having children. Yet, in

over the weekend, and support of others who had been in her situation, everything in a “very safe” environment, Mary said she was able to take responsibility for what she had done, grieve for her child, feel forgiven by God and her child, and get a sense of closure that enabled her to continue on a healing path. “Jesus Christ loves, heals and forgives; there’s no sin that’s unforgivable,” she assured.

“This is the beginning of a

journey, she continued. “It’s like going from darkness to light.”

After that first weekend, Mary accompanied a woman who was giving a post abortion testimonial at a high school. Listening to the woman speak, she recalled thinking, “If someone had done this when I was in high school, it might have saved me a lot of pain” and made all the difference.

Believing God was calling her to share her story with other people, she has been giving her own

testimonial for four years now.

“I believe that every woman who has experienced an abortion is in pain but may not recognize it...To take responsibility for what you’ve done is very hard...Life starts at conception, and there is no bond stronger than that between a mother and child.”

For more information about Rachel’s Vineyard or Project Rachel and for training sessions, call the Archdiocesan Respect Life Office at (732) 388-8211.



A memorial Mass is celebrated during the retreat for babies lost to abortion.

Respect Life Office, of participants in Rachel’s Vineyard retreats. “We’re seeing what the pope predicted,” she added, referring to his belief stated in his encyclical, *Evangelium vitae* (The Gospel of Life), that those who are suffering because of an abortion will become “the most eloquent defenders of life.”

Mary, a post-abortion witness who gives talks about her experience at different pro-life events and youth groups, recounted for *The Catholic Advocate* her story.

Growing up in a strict Catholic home in the 1960s, Mary started dating a boy seriously her junior year in high school. She became pregnant, and fearing her parents’ reaction, she sought out the advice of a doctor at a local clinic.

“I was told there was a ‘simple solution’ to my problem,” she said, referring to what the doctor described as “a procedure available that would remove the cells and tissue in my womb with no side effects or consequences.”

Despite her own doubts, Mary had the abortion. “Everything that was sacred inside of me died that day. I lost my baby and myself.

her 30s she became pregnant and believed God had given her a second chance.

While expecting her daughter, Mary was in a car accident and was given a sonogram to make sure the baby had not been harmed. “For the first time I saw a picture of my baby moving, and I knew this wasn’t a glob of cells and tissue...I couldn’t deny the power of life,” she stressed.

After being estranged from God for many years, unsuccessfully trying to confess the abortion to a priest, then attending therapy sessions, Mary saw an ad in a church bulletin for Rachel’s Vineyard and considered going. After some time she finally decided to try, hoping to find the healing she had been seeking for 25 years.

Extremely frightened, especially since only three people knew about the abortion, Mary approached the retreat center. But, she says, “from when I walked through the door, I felt the presence of Christ so strong that I knew despite my fear I was in the right place.”

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