

**NJ bishops' legislative agenda in full next issue**



# The Catholic Advocate



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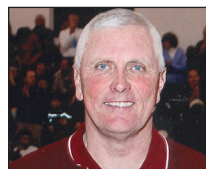
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## Catholic educators meet President Bush during centennial symposium of NCEA

**BY GREG TOBIN**

*Editor & Associate Publisher*

More than 250 of the nation's top leaders of Catholic education, including seven from the Archdiocese of Newark, attended a symposium in Washington, DC, held as a centennial-year activity of the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA). The educators met President George Bush in the East Room of the White House on Friday, Jan. 9.

The president addressed the NCEA delegates, who were led by Most Rev. Gregory Aymond, Bishop of Austin, TX, board chair of the NCEA. President Bush praised Catholic educators for their "commitment to serving what our society calls the disadvantaged student, regardless of religious affiliation."

He said, "Catholic schools have a proven record of bringing out the best in every child, regardless of their background. And every school in America should live up to that standard. We want our public schools to live up to the standard you have set in Catholic schools."

Sister Dominica Rocchio, Secretary for Education and



CNS photo

President George W. Bush speaks to members of the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) at the White House Jan. 9. Behind him is Michael Guerra, President of the NCEA. Catholic educators, including a delegation from the Archdiocese of Newark, were in Washington for a symposium and NCEA centennial gala.

Superintendent of Schools, headed the Newark delegates at the symposium, including Ronald L. Pihokker, M.A., Director of the Catechetical Office, Archdiocese of Newark; Sister Donna Marie O'Brien, O.P., Principal, St. John the Apostle School, Clark; Father John Serio, S.D.B., Principal, Don Bosco Preparatory School, Ramsey; Sister Mary John Kearney, O.P., Ed.D.,

Associate Professor of Education, Caldwell College; Catherine Martin, Ph.D., Chair of the Department of Philosophy/Theology, College of Saint Elizabeth, Morristown (formerly of St. Raphael Parish, Livingston), and Rev. Msgr. Robert J. Wister, Seton Hall University.

The purpose of the symposium was to create a vision for the future of

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## Celebrating a century

Planning for the NCEA's centennial began almost 10 years ago when John Augenstein, Ph.D., Dean of the College of Education of Marquette University, and Msgr. Robert J. Wister, D. Eccl. Hist., Associate Professor of Church History of Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology and Fellow of the John C. Whitehead School of Diplomacy of Seton Hall University, South Orange, were named co-chairs of a steering committee to plan observances of the event.

"Dr. Augenstein and I worked with three NCEA presidents and continually changing committee members over this period. It was a lengthy and time-consuming process, but the final event was most worthwhile," explained Msgr. Wister, who is also a former executive director of the Seminary Department of NCEA.

"Together with Dr. Augenstein and Christopher J. Kauffman, Ph.D., a professor at Catholic University, I edited 'One Hundred

Continued on page 22

## Immigrants' 'journey' in faith

**BY LIESL FORES**

*Staff Reporter*

National Migration Week was commemorated recently in the Archdiocese of Newark with a Mass celebrated by Archbishop John J. Myers at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark.

Established by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) in 1980, the goal of National Migration Week is to educate the public and raise awareness of the positive aspects and contributions of immigrants and refugees in this country.

This year's theme, "Together on the Journey," is drawn from a recent pastoral letter issued jointly by the Catholic bishops of Mexico and the United States, which addresses the circumstances of migration within the

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Two of the Beh children, who came with their family a few months ago from Liberia through CCS' Refugee Resettlement and Immigration Assistance Programs, shake hands with Archbishop John J. Myers, after bringing up the offertory gifts.



Advocate photos- Frank Wood

Ellen O'Neill, dressed in traditional Irish step-dance attire, participates in the liturgy as an altar server.



# Chancery administration receives overhaul, new direction for 2004

**BY GREG TOBIN**  
*Editor & Associate Publisher*

Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny.  
Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on."

—Mark 12: 41-44

Deacon Joseph A. Dwyer, Jr.'s appointment as Vice-Chancellor for Administration by Archbishop John J. Myers became effective Oct. 1, 2003. Since that time he has substantively reorganized the various departments and functions that report to him, including development, human resources and numerous temporal concerns.  
The purpose of the reorganization is, simply, "to better serve the pastors, parishes and faithful" of the Archdiocese of Newark, he said.  
"We must adhere to the Gospel of the 'widow's mite,' in our respect for every single financial contribution that

we receive and every budgeting decision we make," Deacon Dwyer stated. "We must perform due diligence with every dollar, and with each action we take here at the chancery."  
There are so many ways in which the offices and departments at the Archdiocesan Center "touch the parishes," for example, the property management department, now headed by Steve Belloise; the finance department, headed by Carol Purcell, which includes the auditing group that works with parishes, and the development office itself, which is charged with raising funds through the Archbishop's Annual Appeal, directed by Carla Gonzalez, and other means, including planned giving, now directed by David Osborne.  
Deacon John J. McKenna, the director of the human resources department, reports to Deacon Dwyer.  
The office of legal counsel, with Janice Falivena, Esq., the in-house counsel; computing services, directed by Robert Kennelly; cooperative purchasing, under Steven E. Michalek, Jr., executive director, and research and planning/stewardship development, under the direction of Joseph A. Vancio, report to the Vice-Chancellor for Administration under the new arrangement.



Deacon Joseph A. Dwyer, Jr.

The Catholic cemeteries group executive director, Andrew Schafer, continues to report to Carol Purcell, Finance Officer.  
"This is an opportunity for these departments and employees to evaluate work habits, best practices, how we raise and spend money from the generous contributors in the Archdiocese," Deacon Dwyer commented.  
He stressed that he likes to look at the organization he leads as a team, with emphasis on teamwork as the best way "to serve the Church that was left to our care by Christ."  
Deacon Dwyer grew up in Nutley and has attended Holy Family Parish there "my entire life." He and his wife Geralynn have two children, Joseph and Jenna. He was ordained a permanent deacon on June 1, 2002, one of a class of 30 men of the Archdiocese ordained on that day.  
Since joining the chancery staff as Director of Stewardship in 1999, he has served in various positions, most recently as Executive Director of Development. His professional experience includes more than 15 years in product development and sales, as well as labor relations, at Bell Atlantic, and he holds a B.S. in chemistry from Rutgers University.

The organizational change he has been charged to implement creates opportunity for all involved, Deacon Dwyer noted, an opportunity to seek better ways to serve, to identify efficiencies within the organization, to move in new directions. For him, it is a matter of respect—for self and others.  
"It is an honor for each of us that we have been called to serve, that we have this opportunity—an awesome and humbling responsibility—to come here every day with a zeal to serve the Lord," he noted.  
"Everything we do to that end is a beautiful way to serve the Lord. This is my priority and will be the priority of the administrative organization. We approach our task humbly. None of us are above reproach or criticism.  
"And there is so much for us to do, practical goals to achieve and strategic directions we can take, all with the ultimate aim of improving the spirituality of this local Church."

## Stewardship It's a 'lifestyle' of gratitude

**BY ANDREW KACZYNSKI**  
*Coordinator of Stewardship for the Archdiocese*

"The rule of no realm is mine, great or small. But all worthy things that are in peril as the world now stands, those are my care. And for my part I shall not wholly fail of my task, if anything passes through this night that can still grow or bear fruit and flower again in days to come. For I am also a steward. Did you not know?" – From J. R. R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*  
Tolkien refers to the practice of good stewardship in this quote from his legendary book, now an extremely popular trilogy of motion pictures. In this passage, he writes of the importance of caring for "worthy things" that are in need in hopes that the love and care given will remove any problem or peril that exists.  
Following the stewardship way of life involves a commitment of giving of our time, talent and treasure to the Church and community. It has been emphasized over and over again that stewardship is not another fund-raising program that the Church has developed, but a lifestyle of gratitude to the Lord for all He has given us.  
However, while giving of our treasure is certainly not the main emphasis of stewardship, it is an important part, because giving of our treasure is an accountable way we can financially assist the many needs of the Church and community.  
Here in the Church of Newark we have many ministries and social outreach programs that need our financial help and, in reference to the quote from

*The Lord of the Rings*, they are "worthy things" that we can assist and care for through our practice of good stewardship.  
One way that this can be accomplished is to make a financial commitment to the 2004 Archbishop's Annual Appeal (AAA).  
In a conversation I had with Carla Gonzalez, Director of the AAA, she reaffirmed this by stating that "one of the many missions of the Archbishop's Annual Appeal is to assist the poor through various programs, ministries and social outreach activities. It helps to provide a future to urban children through the financial assistance to many Catholics schools. It funds programs that promote vocations to the Church to help spread God's Word and provide the faithful with spiritual guidance."  
These examples are but a few of the "worthy things" that the AAA supports. Others include support of campus ministry, financially impacted schools and parishes, family life programs, seminary costs and priest retirement needs.  
Ms. Gonzalez also told me that the needs of God's people are increasing each and every year and that because of this, Catholics in this Archdiocese should prayerfully consider "joining together to serve the Lord and one another," as the 2004 AAA theme so appropriately suggests.  
Giving generously to the 2004 Archbishop's Annual Appeal on the upcoming pledge weekend of Jan. 31-Feb. 1 can fulfill this call, and it can be another way that the faithful in our Church demonstrate commitment to the stewardship way of life.



*Following the stewardship way of life involves a commitment.*

### Archdiocesan School Board seeks qualified nominees

Pastors throughout the Archdiocese have been notified by the Schools Office to search for qualified candidates to serve on the Archdiocesan School Advisory board (ASAB). The ASAB consists of members who represent the diverse communities served by our Catholic schools.

All candidates should be practicing Catholics who have the approval of their pastors. The Board is seeking members of the professions, business community and higher education. Anyone interested in becoming a nominee or nominating a member of his or her parish should contact the pastor.

Membership on the ASAB involves attending several meetings of the full Board during the year as well as active committee participation.

For further information or to submit a nomination, please contact Brother Ralph Darmento, F.S.C., Deputy Superintendent of Schools at the Archdiocesan Center, 171 Clifton Ave., Newark, NJ 07104, no later than Feb. 6.

*The Catholic Advocate* will publish the Archdiocesan list of Bloustein Scholars in an upcoming issue.



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# Catholic bishops release 2004-05 legislative agenda

The New Jersey Catholic Conference (NJCC) has announced the publication of its legislative agenda for 2004-05.

According to Archbishop John J. Myers of Newark, President of NJCC, “This document will be distributed widely in brochure form to legislators, public officials, the Catholic press and interested parties. It outlines the current major public policy concerns of the Catholic community.”

Issues addressed in the 2004 agenda are: human life, children and families, social justice, health and environment, the economy and unemployment, education and housing and homelessness.

William F. Bolan, Jr., Executive Director of the New Jersey Catholic Conference, noted that the Catholic bishops formulated the agenda in consultation with the Public Policy Committee of NJCC.

Members of the committee from the Archdiocese of Newark are Most Rev. Edgar M. da Cunha, Vice Chairman of the Public Policy Committee; William J. Birtwistle; Janice Falivena, Esq.; Albert T. Forsythe; Catherine Furlani; James Goodness; Sheri Rickert, Esq.; Sister Vivien Jennings, O.P.; Msgr. Richard M. McGuinness; Maricela Quntana; Sister Dominca Rocchio, S.C., and Leonie S. Watson, M.D.

The Catholic Advocate will print the agenda in full in the next issue, Feb. 4.

Copies of the legislative agenda are also available from the New Jersey Catholic Conference, 211 N. Warren Street, Trenton, NJ 08618.

# AAA funds charitable mission of the local Church of Newark

**BY CARLA GONZALEZ**  
*Director of Archbishop's Annual Appeal*

*Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.*  
— 1 Peter 4:10

As the Archdiocese of Newark celebrates its 150 years of service to the people of God, we reflect upon the many ministries and programs that have supported communities through numerous generations.

For example, during the past year I have seen photographs of orphanages, nursing homes, hospitals and so much more that were spearheaded and funded by this great Church over a century and a half.

The 2004 Archbishop's Annual Appeal (AAA) continues that history and that mission. It provides a safe alternative for so many children living in urban areas, providing assistance to our many financially strapped Catholic schools. The Appeal also helps to support many programs that care for the poor.

The AAA is fundamental in the effort to continue priestly vocations and to provide a comfortable retirement for the many priests who have served the people and helped spread God's Word.

This year's video, which will be shown on Pledge Weekend, Jan. 31-Feb. 1,



Carla Gonzalez

captures all of these images from the past and present — and many more.

Our task in the Office of Development of the Archdiocese is not only to generate funds through the AAA, but to educate people on the ministries and programs made possible through their support of the local Church of Newark. We want people to know how their generosity affects the lives of people in need.

We are grateful for all those who have participated in the past and made such a huge difference in the quality of life of so many.

So, I invite you to share in this commitment to our community — more importantly, to continue the Lord's mission in sharing our Time, Talent and Treasure as we live out the stewardship way of life. Through each of us, as God's messengers, He is able to bring blessings to those who are most in need.

I ask for your prayerful consideration in supporting the Archbishop's Annual Appeal on Pledge Weekend, Jan. 31-Feb. 1. Sign up at your parish — every gift is appreciated. You may make a lump sum commitment or choose to make monthly contributions.

For more information about the Archbishop's Annual Appeal, please call (973) 497-4126 or visit our website at [www.rcan.org/aaa](http://www.rcan.org/aaa).



Novarcensis: A Look Back at Our History

138 years ago...

January 13. St. Cecilia Parish, Englewood, incorporated.

133 years ago...

January 2. The land for the present Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart purchased by Bishop Bayley.

132 years ago...

January 17. St. Joseph Parish, East Rutherford, founded.

129 years ago...

January 24. Dominican Fathers establish residence in Newark at invitation of Bishop Corrigan.

115 years ago...

January 15. St. Andrew Parish, Westwood, incorporated.

105 years ago...

January 15. St. Columba Church, Newark, dedicated.

103 years ago...

January 5. Most Rev. Winand M. Wigger, third Bishop of Newark, died.

102 years ago...

January 11. Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, Newark, incorporated.

92 years ago...

January 21. Dedication of St. Cecilia Church, Englewood.

65 years ago...

January 8. Solemn blessing of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Montclair.

52 years ago...

January 26. St. Paul Parish, Ramsey, founded.

51 years ago...

January 21. Contract with George A. Fukller Co. signed by Archbishop Walsh to complete construction of Sacred Heart Cathedral.

51 years ago...


January 14. Most Rev. Thomas A. Boland installed as the second Archbishop of Newark in Sacred Heart Church, Vailsburg.

35 years ago...

January 9. Twenty priests charge Archbishop Boland with lack of leadership in racial matters. (After a meeting with him, priests say they would not consider him a “racist.”)

14 years ago...

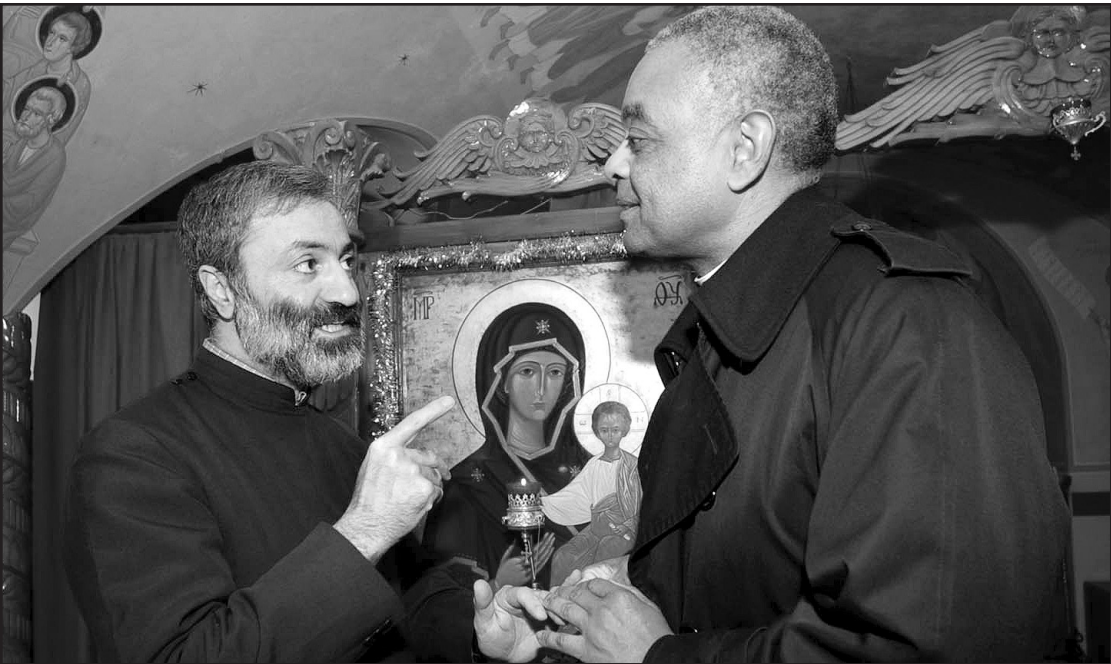
January 23. Future Archbishop of Newark, John J. Myers installed as Bishop of Peoria, IL, having been ordained as coadjutor bishop in 1987.



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





Father Mtanois Haddad talks with U.S. Bishop Wilton D. Gregory of Belleville, IL inside a chapel at a Greek Orthodox convent in Bethlehem, Jan. 13. The president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops was among bishops from Europe and North America attending a conference in the Holy Land. On their agenda was the social situation of the Palestinian people.

CNS photo

Defend marriage

BOSTON (CNS) — Archbishop Sean P. O’Malley of Boston urged members of the legal profession in Massachusetts to have the courage of St. Thomas More, the patron saint of lawyers, who “lost his life defending the sacredness of marriage.” Speaking Jan. 11 at the annual Red Mass in Boston’s Cathedral of the Holy Cross—a liturgy that invokes blessings on the legal community—the archbishop implored the congregation to be “witness to the truth about marriage,” and defend traditional marriage in the commonwealth. “We live in such an age... where our courts have undermined the value of life itself and now attempt to dilute the meaning of marriage,” Archbishop O’Malley declared. “In diluting the meaning of marriage, we risk diminishing our own humanity.” Archbishop O’Malley went on to say that “part of our mission as disciples of Jesus Christ must be to defend the sacredness of life and the sacredness of marriage.”

Palestinians. Patriarch Sabbah told the group, which included bishops from the United States, Canada and England, that without the support of the international Church community the region’s Christian character could be “obliterated by the political aspect of the conflict.” At the bishops’ opening session Jan. 12, the patriarch emphasized that he was not asking world churches to support one side over the other. “Reconciliation... is also the best way to help the Christian presence in this land,” he said. He also called for continued solidarity through actions such as pilgrimages. Bishops from Europe and North America met Jan. 12-15 in Jerusalem and Bethlehem in a conference coordinated by the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales. The theme of the meeting was “The Universal Church in Solidarity with the Church of the Holy Land.”

Prevention stressed

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The next stage in a fighting clergy sex abuse for Religious communities in the United States is a good dose of preventative medicine, according to those who work in the field. This involves creating standards that stop abuse before it starts and training people to recognize telltale signs ranging from identifying predators to recognizing what is improper touching. The aim is “to get everybody up to snuff,” said Marist Father Ted Keating, Executive Director of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men. Past policies were virtually limited to what to do after the fact, when an accuser came forward, he said. “Now, we are setting up prevention standards well back before something happens,” said Father Keating. The Conference of Major Superiors of Men, known as CMSM, is an umbrella group for 317 Religious communities in the United States and has been authorized by its membership to adapt the U.S. bishops’ 2002 policies on clergy sex abuse to Religious orders and communities. Father Keating has expressed the hope that reconciliation programs involving victims, abusers and leaders of religious orders become a hallmark of the way religious apply the bishops’ policy.

Church threatened

OTTAWA (CNS) — The charity work of the Catholic Church and church-run organizations in Canada could be crippled if the Supreme Court of Canada rules that the Church can be sued, a lawyer said. Such a decision would mean “every Catholic organization, whether it’s corporate or unincorporated, whether it’s lay or Religious, will be subject to being sued as one corporate entity,” said lawyer William Sammon. Sammon is representing the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops in a case on whether the Church can retain its legal immunity. The case was to be heard by the Supreme Court Jan. 15. If the court rules against the Church, the decision would “expose the assets of all of these charitable organizations to the endless liability involved in the Indian residential school litigation and other litigation,” he said.

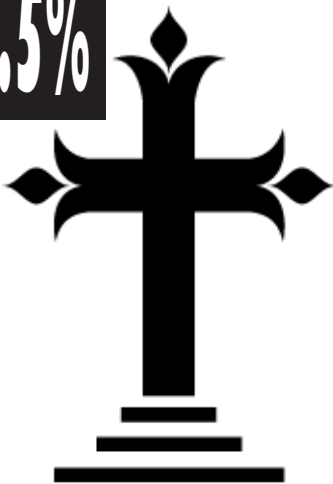
‘Christian character’

BETHLEHEM, Israel (CNS) — Latin Patriarch Michel Sabbah of Jerusalem urged leaders of 10 bishops’ conferences to help protect the “Christian character” of the Holy Land by aiding the reconciliation between Israelis and



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# Opposition to death penalty reaffirmed

(CNS) — Proclaiming that God is the only one who has the right to take human life, Bishop Paul G. Bootkoski of Metuchen told members of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Whitehouse Station, that the man charged with the murder of their former pastor, Father Florian J. Gall, should not receive the death penalty if convicted.

Father Gall, who had served the parish for nearly 20 years, and had been the episcopal vicar for Hunterdon County since 2001, was one of possibly 40 people allegedly murdered by 43-year-old registered nurse Charles Cullen of Bethlehem, PA.

Cullen is charged with giving Father Gall a fatal dose of digoxin, a medication that slows the heart rate. Father Gall died June 28 of heart failure in Somerset Medical Center, where Cullen was working at the time.

In a homily at a Mass Dec. 21, Bishop Bootkoski told Our Lady of Lourdes parishioners that he had come to “see how we can console each other.”

Bishop Bootkoski emphasized, “God is the author of life,” and pointed to the tragedies that emerge when people take human life into their own hands.

“This man (Charles Cullen) is accused of playing God, of deciding for himself who will live and die,” he said. “That same thinking has found its way into our laws, particularly with this new law just passed that will, in effect, allow human cloning.”

Taking Cullen’s life is not what the Church now teaches, the bishop said. “Is that the Gospel message? You took Florian’s life, now we’re going to take your life?” Recognizing that it is a natural and very human response to seek vengeance, the bishop reminded the congregation that God didn’t take vengeance but sent His only Son to redeem all sinners.

“Catholicism is a tough religion,” the bishop added. “Forgiveness is the foundation of our faith. We are therefore called to be compassionate, to love those who sin against us.”

The death penalty has not been ruled out, although Cullen’s court-appointed public defender, Johnnie Mask, has said the accused will offer no further cooperation with the ongoing investigation unless prosecutors agree not to seek the death penalty.

Cullen told prosecutors in mid-December that he was responsible for as many as 40 deaths that took place in 10 medical facilities in New Jersey and Pennsylvania over his 16-year nursing career.

Bishop Bootkoski suggested that a life sentence, without parole, would be a more fitting punishment for Cullen if found guilty.

Addressing the circumstances surrounding Father Gall’s death, Bishop Bootkoski stressed that God’s plan is not always known or understandable.

“Perhaps this was God’s plan for Florian, who even in his death had a ministry to fulfill,” he said. “As his life ended, he made known his suspicions and then the domino effect took over. His death may have saved many more lives.”

Despite the tragic loss of their pastor, the Our Lady of Lourdes

community has much to be thankful for, Bishop Bootkoski said.

“We have Father Gall to thank for the rebirth here in this parish, for making Jesus real,” he said. “And we must thank God for the gift of our faith, the gift of this community and the gift of Florian Gall.”



## Accident injures priest

ORLANDO, FL (CNS) — Father Benedict Groeschel, a founder of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal and a prolific author and evangelist on the Eternal Word Television Network, was critically injured in Orlando Jan. 11 when he was hit by a car near the Orlando International Airport.

At press time Father Groeschel was listed in critical condition in intensive care at Orlando Regional Healthcare in downtown Orlando. Joe Brown, a spokesman for the hospital, said that at the request of Father Groeschel’s family and as a result of new patient privacy laws, he was unable to comment further on the priest’s condition.

Brown did say the hospital’s Catholic chaplain, Father Bill Gohring, had been contacted to assist with the patient’s pastoral care. In a brief telephone conversation Jan. 13, Father Gohring said he was involved “a little bit” with the case and had assisted a group of priests who had traveled with Father Groeschel find nearby places to stay.

Detective Norris Butler, the investigating officer, told *The Florida Catholic*, Orlando’s diocesan newspaper, that the accident was technically still under investigation. He confirmed that so far no citations had been issued but could not rule out that possibility until the investigation was completed. Butler said the car’s driver had not been drinking. He said an eyewitness to the accident still needed to be interviewed.

# Poverty is targeted

NEW ORLEANS (CNS)— As they observe Poverty in America Awareness Month in January, Catholics and other people of good will need to focus not only on the magnitude of poverty in the United States but also on solutions to the problem, said the head of the U.S. bishops’ Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) at a New Orleans press conference.

Speaking Jan. 12 at Café Reconcile in New Orleans, Father Robert Vitillo, CCHD Executive Director, launched the organization’s fourth annual national campaign to raise public awareness about the challenges faced by poor and low-income people in the United States.

“I doubt that many of us here would have comfortably enjoyed a Thanksgiving dinner if we knew that our own relatives were hovering outside our door with no food to eat,” Father Vitillo said. “Yet we do, in fact, tolerate this very injustice when we quietly ignore the plight of some 34.6 million of our sisters and brothers in the human family who are burdened each day by poverty in this, the richest of nations.”

## The Women’s Commission of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Newark invites you to join us for...

**BEHOLD, THE LORD IS WITH YOU**  
**A Day of Reflection**  
**Saturday, March 27, 2004**  
**8:45 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**  
**Beginning with Mass**  
**Queen of Peace Parish**  
**10 Franklin Place • North Arlington, NJ**



- Opening Mass celebrated by Most Rev. John J. Myers, Archbishop of Newark
- A keynote address by Dr. Alice von Hildebrand, internationally-known philosopher and author of *The Privilege of Being a Woman*
- Prayer-filled, inspirational music by Katy Feeney
- Opportunity for reflection and sharing
- Meditative recitation of the Stations of the Cross

Registration and coffee break will take place after Mass.

A box lunch will be provided for all participants.

The cost for this day is \$20 per person for registrations received before or on March 17th.

Cost is \$25 per person for registrations received after March 17th.

**For more information please contact the Chancellor’s Office at (973) 497-4010 or log onto: [www.rcan.org/womcom](http://www.rcan.org/womcom)**

### REGISTRATION FORM

Print Name _____	City _____	State _____	Zip Code _____
Address _____			
Do you need handicapped parking ? Yes ___ No ___ Enclosed is a check for \$ _____			
Please make check payable to the Women’s Commission.			
Send registration form and check to: Women’s Commission, c/o Office of the Chancellor, Archdiocesan Center, 171 Clifton Ave., P.O. Box 9500, Newark, NJ 07104-0500			



## January 25

**St. Antoninus Parish**, Newark, marks the 15th anniversary of Father Jim Ferry with Mass at 10 a.m.

## January 27

**The Catholic Alumni Club of North Jersey** will hold its quarterly general meeting at 6:30 p.m. at Mario's, 710 Van Houten Ave. in Clifton. Call Pat at (201) 438-1632 to make a reservation.

## January 28

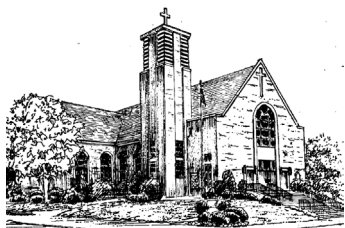
**Holy Family Parish**, Nutley, St. Lucy Filippini Society, will hold its monthly meeting at 8 p.m. in the St. Joseph's Center.



**Sacred Heart Parish**, Rochelle Park, will celebrate a Mass and hold a Healing Service at 7:30 p.m. Celebrant will be Father John F. Campoli, I.V. DEI.

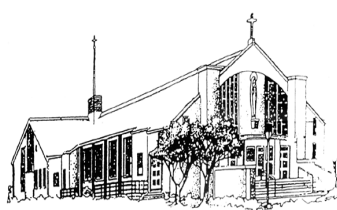
## January 31

**Church of the Assumption**, Roselle Park, sponsors the Roselle Park Community Blood Bank's annual blood drive in the Roselle Park High School cafeteria from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call (908) 298-1168 or (908) 245-7412.



## February 1

**Our Lady of the Visitation Parish**, Paramus, will hold a continental breakfast after the 8 a.m. Mass.



## February 2

**Our Lady of Lourdes Parish**, Mountainside, Rosary Altar Society, will meet at 7 p.m.

## February 4

**Holy Spirit Parish**, Union, Bereavement Ministry, will begin a new session of Bereavement Group meetings for eight consecutive weeks. Space is limited, call (908) 527-0730.

### 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

## February 6

**Sodality of the Children of Mary of St. Teresa** will meet at 3:15 p.m. in the Chapel of Saint Peter Hall, 2652 Kennedy Blvd., Jersey City, for recitation of the Little Office and Mass.

## February 7

**Sodality of the Children of Mary of St. Teresa** will meet at 8:40 a.m. in the Chapel of Saint Peter Hall, 2652 Kennedy Blvd., Jersey City, for recitation of the Rosary and Mass, followed by its monthly breakfast meeting in the Chetwood Room, Dineen Hall in Saint Peter's College.



## February 8

**Saint Cassian Parish**, Upper Montclair, will host a performance by the Chamber Ensemble of the Ridgewood Concert Band under the direction of Christian Wilhjem at 4 p.m. Donation is \$15. Call (973) 744-2850.

## Citizenship workshops

Two workshops on the political responsibility of citizenship will be held next month at the Archdiocesan Center, Newark.

The workshops will take place on Saturday, Feb. 7 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and again on Thursday, Feb. 12 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Archdiocesan Center is located at 171 Clifton Ave. opposite the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

The workshops are designed to help priests, deacons, religious educators, teachers, social concerns ministry leaders, youth and young adult ministers and RCIA leaders.

The formal presentations will be followed by breakout sessions dealing with preaching, the classroom and parish aspects of implementing "faithful citizenship." A resource packet containing strategies and resources for parishes and schools will be available. A \$15 donation includes lunch.

Registration forms, which must be returned by Feb. 1, are available through the Human Concerns Office in the Archdiocesan Center. Call (973) 497-4341.

## Local Highlights

### Vocations

• The Vocations Office of the Archdiocese of Newark will hold an overnight retreat on Jan. 30-31 at the Kearny Youth Center. The retreat is for young men of high school age who think that God may be calling them to discern a vocation to the priesthood. The mini-retreat will be fully supervised in order to allow for concentrating on God's plan for the participants in a spiritual and contemplative setting. For additional information, permission slips and registration forms, contact Father Marc Vicari at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, South Orange, by calling (973) 763-5454 no later than Jan. 22.

### Cell phones for AAA

• The Archbishop's Annual Appeal is asking its parishes to make a last push to collect used cell phones and pagers. Call Gail Arnett at (800) 441-1544, ext. 245, or email her at garnett@recellular.com.

### Open houses

• Saint Joseph Regional High School, Montvale, will hold its final open house for seventh and eighth grade boys and their families on Sunday, Feb. 1, from noon until 2 p.m. Call (201) 391-3300.

• Mother Seton Regional High School, Clark, will hold an informal open house on Tuesday, Jan. 27, from 7:30 to 9 p.m. for girls in grades 6-8 and their parents. Registration for

the 2004-2005 freshman class will be held on Saturday, Feb. 7, at 9 a.m. Call (732) 382-1952 or visit [www.mother-seton.org](http://www.mother-seton.org).

• Academy of the Holy Angels, Demarest, an all-girls, college-prep school, will hold an open house on Monday, Feb. 2, with a presentation at 7 p.m. Call (201) 768-7822, ext. 244, or visit [www.holyangels.com](http://www.holyangels.com).

### Blood drives

• Delbarton School, Morristown, in cooperation with New Jersey Blood Services, Wednesday, Feb. 4, from 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., on the lower level of the Father Stephen Pavillion. Donors should use the west gate. Call (973) 538-3231, ext. 3080.

### Retreats

• Carmel Retreat, Mahwah, offers Foundations in Carmelite Spirituality, from Jan. 30 through Feb. 1. Cost: \$160/single, \$130/double per person. Call (201) 327-7090.

• Carmel Retreat, Mahwah, offers A Day In the Cave: Peter and Paul: Faith and Prison, on Feb. 4 from 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Father Paul Schweizer, O. Carm., presenter. Cost \$25, includes lunch. Call (201) 327-7090.

• Carmel Retreat, Mahwah, offers Sabbath Sunday: Women as Prophets, on Jan. 25 from 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Sister Eileen McGovern, S.S.J., presenter. Cost \$25, includes lunch. Call (201) 327-7090.

### Hispanic Family Life

• Hispanic Family Life Ministries will sponsor an Annulment Information Evening in Spanish, on Jan. 30, at 7:30 p.m. in the Archdiocesan Center, Newark. A canon lawyer from the Archdiocesan Tribunal will provide the most recent guidelines, theology and requisites. Call Reina at (973) 497-4326.

• Hispanic Family Life Ministries will present *Consolar al que sufre*, a training in support groups for those who have lost a family member and are mourning, on Jan. 31 from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Pre-registration necessary. Send \$10 to Family Life, 171 Clifton Ave., Newark NJ 07104, Attn: Reina. Call (973) 497-4326.

• Beginning on Jan. 15, Hispanic Family Life Ministries started a series of 15 weekly sessions on leadership training, for all those who want to serve within the Church. Topics will include, *Espiritualidad del líder*, *Enraizados en la fe*, and *Como dar una enseñanza*. Donation is \$30. Blessed Sacrament Parish, Elizabeth. Call (973) 497-4326.

### Instruction

• The Felician Reading Center, Lodi, will offer reading improvement courses for primary and intermediate students from Feb. 2 to April 29. Preliminary testing will be conducted by appointment through Jan. 22, at the Felician Reading Center. Call Sister Mary Delphine at (973) 773-0328.

### Dances

• "Carnival" is the theme of the annual dinner dance sponsored by the Fathers and Friends of Delbarton on Saturday, Feb. 7, at the Madison Hotel, Convent Station. The party begins at 6:30 p.m. with a cocktail reception, followed at 8 p.m. by dinner and dancing. Cost per couple \$375. Call (973) 538-3231, ext. 3051.

• The Annual Camp Fatima Valentine's Dinner Dance will take place on Saturday, Feb. 14, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Union, from 7 p.m.-12 a.m. Cost \$60 per couple. Call (908) 686-5271 by Feb. 9.

### Summer expo

• The Delbarton Mother's Guild, Morristown, will host the 10th annual Summer Activities Expo on Saturday, Feb. 7, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Delbarton gymnasium. Representatives, information and brochures from more than 100 camps and programs will be available. No cost. Call (973) 347-8805.

### Serra Club

• The Serra Club of the Oranges, will hold a Holy Hour and Induction of New Members on Sunday, Jan. 25, at 3 p.m., followed by a reception. First Saturday Mass will be Feb. 7 at 9 a.m. Both events will be held in the Immaculate Conception Chapel of Seton Hall University.

### RENEW conference

• RENEW International, a leader in the small Christian community movement, will present a conference day, Why Catholic?—Professing, Celebrating and Living Our Faith, on Jan. 31 at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish Center, Ridgewood. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., conference will run from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Cost \$15 and includes breakfast. Call Linda at (201) 444-2000, ext. 13 or email [lenglish@olmcridgewood.com](mailto:lenglish@olmcridgewood.com).

### Bereavement

• St. Aloysius Parish, Caldwell, will sponsor a series of meetings for those who have recently lost a loved one. All sessions will meet in the Parish Center at 7:30 p.m. from Wednesday, Jan. 28 to Wednesday, March 17. Call (973) 226-0209, ext. 8.

### Miscellaneous

• The Respect Life Committee of St. Michael Parish, Cranford, will sponsor a talk on cloning, on Tuesday, Jan. 27 at 7:30 p.m. Call (908) 272-1943.

• St. Peter the Apostle, River Edge, will present the six-week workshop, A Spiritual Approach to Job Hunting and Career Management, on Monday evenings from Jan. 26-March 1. Registration is required. Call (201) 262-7990.



# A celebration

Editor  
World Day for the Consecrated Life was instituted by Pope John Paul II in 1997 and is now celebrated throughout the world to thank God for the gift that the Consecrated Life is to our Church and world, to offer support to those living this life and to promote this way of life to those who may be called to contribute in this way.

We are planning a celebration in the Archdiocese of Newark and extend an invitation to join us on Monday evening, Feb. 2, at 7 p.m. Most Rev. John J. Myers will lead us in Evening Prayer at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark.  
Let us make this celebration a memorable occasion in the life of the Church of Newark.

Sister Margaret Thomas McGovern, O.P.  
Delegate for Religious

# Tradition cited

Editor,  
The Catholic Catechism states in section 2357, “Basing itself on Sacred Scripture, which presents homosexual acts as acts of grave depravity, Tradition has always declared that ‘homosexual acts are intrinsically disordered.’”  
There seems to be a movement afoot among many in the Catholic Church to remove homoerotic behavior from the list of sins and to condone a homosexual lifestyle. We hear the newly invented PC word “homophobia” bandied about to stigmatize those who accept the judgment of Tradition and Scripture. Homosexual lifestyle apologists within and outside the Church enjoin us not to judge as sinful the behavior of people based on their ‘sexual orientation,’ which might, if you think about it, include those who engage in adultery, bestiality, fornication, and innumerable other sexual sins.  
The sexual orientation of those afflicted with same sex attraction should be the

same as that of celibate priests, Religious, widowed deacons, the unmarried, and separated spouses. This orientation should be towards remaining celibate, avoiding occasions of sin and keeping these sexual inclinations private so as to not give scandal and lead others to sin.

A struggle for most of us? Yes. Countercultural? Yes. With the grace of God possible? Yes.

Arthur E. Lavis  
Montvale

# ‘An embarrassment’

Editor,  
The time is long past when Gov. James McGreevey and other Catholic legislators like Richard Codey should henceforth call themselves Catholic.  
McGreevey is one of the most secular, left-leaning governors we have ever had, who, with every stroke of the pen, brings us such immoral laws as the ghoulish embryonic stem cell theory and now domestic partnerships. All are diametrically opposed to the teaching of his own faith tradition.  
He is an embarrassment to this state and to Catholics.

Deanna Hohmann  
West Caldwell

# Not anti-Semitic

Editor,  
Regarding Mel Gibson’s film, *The Passion of Christ*, Father Robert Fox, editor of the *Immaculate Heart Messenger*, writes, “The film made me realize that my sins killed Jesus.” He quotes others who have stated, “There is not a scintilla of anti-Semitism to be found anywhere in this powerful film.”  
Rev. Thomas McLaughlin  
Elizabeth

# Respect Life

# Sometimes it’s not ‘nice’ to be nice

**BY MSGR. RICHARD MCGUINNESS**  
*Director of the Respect Life Office*

Being “nice” usually means being polite and kind, trying not to offend others.  
But if someone tells lies about you, and you don’t do something to correct them, others may think that what was said about you was true.  
You could lose your good name and reputation. You have a right and a duty to correct them, to protect yourself.  
If someone says that tainted meat is perfectly safe, when you know it is not, and you don’t speak up, others may suffer severe illness or even die because of your silence. If someone says that abortion is merely removing a blob of tissue, not a tiny human baby, and we say nothing, instead of correcting them, because we want to be “nice,” then we are failing to

defend the right to life of tiny children who cannot speak for themselves.  
Failing to speak up against those who feel that the lives of the elderly, handicapped or terminally ill are not worthy of keeping alive, can likewise result in creating the impression that it is all right to “put them down” likes animals.  
Failing to speak up for the right to life of others, for fear of offending others is not nice. It shows a lack of courage, a lack of compassion for those whose lives are endangered by our silence.  
When we stand before God to be judged, we will not be asked if we were nice. We will be asked, “Why did you not speak up to tell the truth, and to defend my little friends and my helpless friends?”  
What will be our answer?

# Bishops respond to partnership bill

*(Following is a statement of the New Jersey Catholic Conference issued Jan. 12 following the signing into law by Gov. McGreevey of the Domestic Partnership Act.)*  
We are profoundly troubled that the Legislature has passed and Governor McGreevey has signed this bill into law.  
The New Jersey Catholic Conference opposed this legislation because it attempts to cast aside marriage as our legal standard of legitimate cohabitation in order to give legitimacy to homosexual and heterosexual cohabitation outside of marriage.  
The wholesale acceptance of domestic partnerships discounts the fact that throughout history marriage—the union of one man and one woman—has offered societal stability by forming the physical, economic and cultural base for the orderly procreation, nurture and education of the next generation.  
Every major society has institutionalized a strong preference for marriage in its customs and laws. After all, at the very least, procreation is a necessary factor for a society’s continued existence. Homosexual and heterosexual cohabitation should not be granted the legal equivalence of marriage.  
*Representing the Archdiocese of Newark, Diocese of Camden, Diocese of Metuchen, Diocese of Paterson, Diocese of Trenton, Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic and Our Lady of Deliverance Syriac Catholic Diocese*

# A gruesome mistake

With the stroke of a pen, Gov. McGreevey, not surprisingly, put politics over principle by signing into law the Human Stem Cell Research bill that passed the New Jersey legislature with a bare majority.  
Enactment of the controversial legislation, gives New Jersey the dubious distinction of becoming only the second state in the nation to have such an abomination on the books.  
If, as its proponents claim, such research is on the cutting edge of finding a cure for such devastating and debilitating diseases as multiple sclerosis, Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s, it has to be wondered why the vast majority of the other states are not even close to making such a grisly mistake.  
Legislators who opposed the bill had filed a minority statement that read, “Due to both the volume and content of the extensive testimony heard by the committee today, we cannot support the release of this bill at this time. Further, we believe the majority acted with undue haste in releasing the bill without taking time to give full consideration to the practical and ethical questions raised in the testimony.”  
Less than 24 hours after the governor signed the new law, the Catholic Bishops of New Jersey, early and unequivocal opponents of the legislation, issued a statement describing themselves as “deeply distressed” that a “bare majority” of the State Legislature had passed the stem cell bill.  
Everyone wants to see the suffering of those with such serious afflictions come to an end, but stem cell research is a gruesome way to reach such a worthy and humane goal.  
As the bishops said, “Government must not treat any living human being as research material, as a mere means for benefit to others.”

Touching on the crux of the controversy, the bishops pointed out that the research now legalized in the Garden State relies on the destruction of defenseless human beings for the possible benefit of others. That the bishops rightly declared is “morally unacceptable.” It is unconscionable that Gov. McGreevey, a Catholic, does not see that.  
Opponents of stem cell research are, of course, disappointed. But they are also determined not to give up the fight. Pray for them!

# Marriage under attack

Incredible as it may seem, just eight days after signing the stem cell research legislation, Gov. James McGreevey launched another attack on the moral fabric of humanity when he inked the Domestic Partnership Act.  
A press release from his office called it “landmark” legislation. That is surely is, but for all the wrong reasons. Again our governor has taken a position diametrically opposed to the teachings of his Church. That is as infuriating as it is sad.  
In a statement issued within hours of the signing, the New Jersey Catholic Conference said it best.... “This legislation attempts to cast aside marriage as our legal standard of legitimate cohabitation in order to give legitimacy to homosexual and heterosexual cohabitation outside of marriage.”  
It is an “attempt” that must fail. Too much is at stake.



# Observations while performing important civic duty

I am sitting at this moment in a place where I would rather not be. I am in the Hudson County Courthouse. No, I am not on trial. I have been called to jury duty—Grand Jury to be exact. Yes, it is a civic duty. But it is, for any busy person, an inconvenience at the least, a burden at the worst.

But it is a task that justice requires. And if I, a priest, were to try to “get off,” I may succeed. But how then do I preach to other people about our obligations to the society?

To be around the justice system is a study in human nature. Probably the ordinary citizen would expect to encounter “law and order” situations where men and women involved in crime duel it out with prosecuting attorneys.

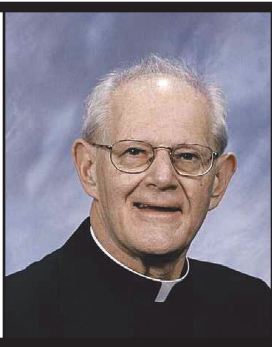
Unfortunately, at least for me, the justice system is an ongoing testament to original sin. Rarely do I see true evil, that is, the cold, hard, calculating type of crime that stems from a satanic soul. Rather, the system is more like a parade of pathetic human beings caught up in childish breaches of the law.

Any teacher—at least at the high school level—will recognize the types of people that pass through the courthouse. They are the “bad boys and girls” in class who never learned and never grew up.

For example, in domestic court there are all sorts

Voices

By Msgr. John Gilchrist



of young females, usually with very small children in tow, who have become involved with bullies who became their abusive husbands or boyfriends. These men feel that they “own” their women and so they can mistreat them with impunity. Court-issued restraining orders are a part of their lives.

Then there are divorce courts where grown up men and women argue like children over alimony and custody of children. The judge becomes the arbitrator between people pointing fingers at each other like children before the principal.

In the landlord-tenant court, you will find greedy landlords trying to evict tenants or to get more

money out of them. You will also find bad tenants who wreck a property and often don’t pay the rent. That particular court is a penance for any judge. But again it is always a case of somebody trying to put something over on someone else for personal gain.

In the Grand Jury, the jurors only have to decide whether a case should go to trial. Of the cases presented 95 percent are open and shut. Foolish guys do things they are not supposed to do. They play “cops and robbers” with young police officers and they end up getting caught in the system.

On petit juries where there are actual trials, mendacity is a staple of life. With some witnesses you can tell if they’re lying because their lips are moving. They are no different than little boys who are caught with their hands in the cookie jar. They are terrible at twisting the truth.

The sad part of all this is that irresponsible people cost the rest of the citizens a fortune in taxes. When enforcement, adjudication and imprisonment are all added up, the cost of their nonsense is staggering.

In my ears I hear Isaiah: “Justice, justice shall then pursue.” I also hear Puck: “What fools these mortals be.” I also think of Our Lord hanging on a cross for these same foolish mortals. It would take a Divine Creator to believe that we humans are worth all of His suffering. But that is what makes God, God—His Divine Compassion—even for rather wayward people.

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

*It would take a Divine Creator to believe that we humans are worth all of His suffering.*

# Another Holy Father rescues Rome from decline

Throughout the early Middle Ages the city of Rome, as the seat of the papacy, was the showpiece of Christianity and the goal of pilgrims.

Then came the year 1305 which drastically changed the fortunes of the Eternal City. To fill the chair of St. Peter, left vacant by the death of Benedict XI, the College of Cardinals turned, quite surprisingly, to a Frenchman, Bertrand de Got, archbishop of Bordeaux. Taking the name of Clement V, the new pope summoned churchmen and other dignitaries to Lyons for his coronation. Thereafter he took up residence in Avignon where he and his successors raised a lavish fortress-like home overlooking the Rhone.

As Avignon’s splendor grew, the fortunes of Rome reached their lowest ebb. In 1318 the pestilence called the Black Death struck the city on the Tiber. The following year an earthquake caused the collapse of many ancient and venerable buildings. The population, from a peak of two million in Imperial times, dropped below 30,000, most of whom existed in squalor and poverty.

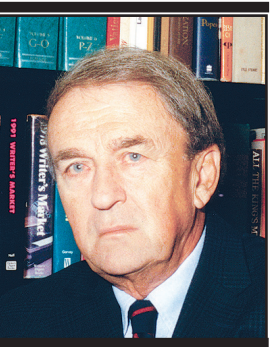
The proud, majestic monuments of antiquity toppled from lack of maintenance. “Statues,” wrote one correspondent of the time, “lie buried in dust or are ground to make cement, or chopped up for use as building stones.”

With the exception of a few structures, which somehow escaped the devastation, Rome’s grandeur was now interred under enormous mounds of earth, from which here and there some massive remains rose, specter-like.

The streets of Rome, thick with weeds and overrun with vermin, were piled high with the debris of decades—picked over by scavengers and starving mongrels. At night these same sorry streets became the uncontested turf of muggers, thieves, and murderers.

A View from History

By Frank J. Korn



Everywhere was desolation and despair. Rome had become a vast void! A ghost town!

The churches, numbering more than 400, stood in a state of neglect and abandonment, many without roofs and doors. The interior of the glorious Basilica of St. Peter, exposed to the elements and overgrown with dense vegetation, was visited daily by grazing herds. The cathedral church of St. John Lateran had been ravaged by a fire.

Finally, after generations of apathy, the citizens of Rome came to their senses and begged Gregory XI (1370-1378) to save them and their city. “Come back to us,” they wrote, “because the face of a great city venerated by the whole world is so disfigured that no one can recognize in it the See of the Apostle. We need the care of St. Peter. In our time, thou art Peter.”

Pressure began to mount on Pope Gregory. Rulers and influential men of every nation beseeched him, but in vain.

It was left for a woman to win the pontiff over. Early in 1376 Catherine of Siena, a simple yet highly charismatic Dominican nun, inundated the papal desk with frequent and compelling correspondence, always emphasizing that Peter had established his episcopal see in Rome and that no successor had the right to reign elsewhere.

Catherine’s tenacity proved effective. Gregory read her letters with awe. She even journeyed to far off Avignon to press her case in person. Gregory grew convinced that she was God’s own messenger and agreed, forthwith, to leave France.

Hailed with much festivity and enthusiasm by every Italian city and town he passed en route, Pope Gregory XI entered Rome triumphantly in mid-January of 1377. Joy unbounded swept through the Eternal City, just rescued from the brink of history’s abyss.

Thanks to Catherine, the Universal Shepherd was back among his needy flock.

While the Church’s troubles were far from over—what with antipopes and schisms waiting in the wings—at least Rome was about to embark on an incredible comeback. Art and beauty would find a home here again, as future occupants of Peter’s Chair caught the spirit of the times and brought the Renaissance down from Florence in their resolve to make Rome the most beautiful city in the world.

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

*Gregory grew convinced that she was God’s own messenger.*



# Pope praises Catholic education

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope John Paul II met with Archbishop Michael J. Miller at the Vatican and welcomed him as the new No. 2 official of the Congregation for Catholic Education.

The pope praised Archbishop Miller, a Canadian-born Basilian priest, for his service to the truth in previous positions at the Vatican and as president of the University of St. Thomas in Houston.

*“An eloquent summary of the commitment that has marked his priestly life.”*

The pope also greeted a number of the archbishop’s fellow Basilians, relatives and friends. The Jan. 13 encounter came a day after the Vatican appointee was consecrated an archbishop in St. Peter’s Basilica by Cardinal Zenon Gocholewski, head of the education congregation.

The pope said Archbishop Miller’s episcopal motto, *Veritati Servire* (“To Serve the Truth”) was “an eloquent summary of the commitment that has marked his priestly life” at the University of St. Thomas and during his service at the Vatican’s Secretariat of State, 1992-97.

“I am certain that this same dedication will con-

tinue to inspire and strengthen him as he now returns to Rome and takes up his duties as secretary of the Congregation for Catholic Education,” the pope said.

Archbishop Miller, 57, had been president of St. Thomas University since 1997. He also served on the university faculty, as chairman of the School of Theology and vice president for academic affairs.

Born in Ottawa, he joined the Basilian congregation in 1966 and was ordained to the priesthood by Pope Paul VI in 1975. He became a U.S. citizen in 2002.

The Congregation for Catholic Education deals with Catholic universities and other educational institutions and has competence in seminary formation and formation programs for religious orders.

## Ash Wednesday changes

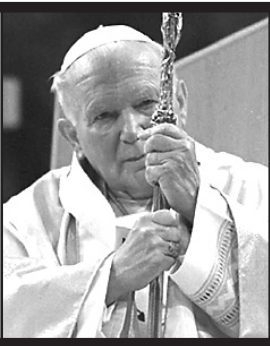
VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope John Paul II will skip a traditional Ash Wednesday liturgy this year in a historic Rome church, the latest schedule cutback caused by the pontiff’s declining health.

The Vatican announced that instead of traveling across the city to place ashes on the foreheads of the faithful, the pope will do so at the Vatican.

The liturgy in the Paul VI audience hall will take the place of the pope’s regular general audience, the Vatican said Jan. 10.

The Pope Speaks

Pope John Paul II



## The Lord’s passion key to Messiahship

Dear brothers and sisters,

Following the celebration of Christmas, we contemplate today a passage of the First Letter of Peter, which examines our Lord’s glorious passion as foreseen at His baptism in the Jordan River. This canticle acts as a synthesis of the prophet Isaiah’s figure of the suffering servant and is the key to understanding the ancient Christian concept of the Messiah.

As we reflect on the image of our afflicted Savior, let us recall the words of St. Ambrose, who said, “I will not be glorified because I am just, but I will be glorified because I am redeemed.”

I extend a warm welcome to the English-speaking pilgrims present today, including the groups from Denmark and the United States of America. Upon all of you and your families, I invoke the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Happy New Year.

# Christ’s everyday presence one of profound friendship

**Readings: Neh 8:2-10; Ps 19:8-15; 1 Cor 12:12-30; Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21**

As we face the challenges of life, whether on the level of large communities or in personal decisions, we must be grounded in a profound friendship with God. As Christians we believe that a pattern of dying and rising is integral to life itself. “By baptism, people are plunged into the Paschal Mystery of Christ: They die with him, are buried with him, and rise with him.” (*Vatican II, Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*, 6).

The other sacraments continue this process of deepening our union with Christ in His death-and-resurrection. “To accomplish so great a work, Christ is always present in His Church, especially in her liturgical celebrations. He is present in the sacrifice of the Mass...he is present in his Word, since it is he himself who speaks when the holy Scriptures are read in the Church.” (*Liturgy*, 7)

The Christian experience of Word-and-Sacrament is rooted deeply in the tradition of Israel. The Hebrew term *dabhar* means word, thing and event, demonstrating the intimate unity of the spoken word and the sign or symbol conveying an understanding of God’s presence among His people. The great events whereby God rescued His chosen community and enriched its life would be celebrated from one generation to the next through words, signs and gestures.

As the written Word was proclaimed the people’s faith linked them to the great messengers of the past and, they were challenged to re-live the call to their ancestors.

During the Babylonian Exile (587-538 B.C.) the people were deprived of the land, temple and many of the signs of their covenant with God. The Torah (the five books of Moses) and the early prophetic

Sunday Readings

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
(January 25, 2004)

By Father Lawrence Frizzell



writings became central to their existence, along with the Sabbath and the great feasts and fasts. When Ezra and Nehemiah led a second wave of Jews back to the Land of Judah, they renewed their national identity with the Torah as their constitution. In a joyous ceremony the people expressed their appreciation of the Word of God in their midst.

This reading of a passage from the Torah, followed by an explanatory homily, became the core of the synagogue service. Sometime later a text from the prophets (Joshua to Malachi) was chosen to complement the Torah selection. The earliest source for the practice of such a second reading is found in the Gospel recounting the visit of Jesus to the synagogue in Nazareth.

Although the temple liturgies were coordinated by the priests and Levites, the synagogue was governed by educated lay leaders. Anyone esteemed in the community could read and comment on the texts. Jesus’ return to His hometown after His baptism and testing in the desert coincided with the Sabbath when Isaiah 61 was read.

*We stand in readiness to put Christ’s teaching into practice.*

This passage discusses the role of God’s servant, anointed by the Holy Spirit to teach and to liberate people from oppression and darkness.

St. Luke recorded the essence of Jesus’ homily in an astounding declaration: “Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.” (Lk 4:21). This emphasizes the actuality of God’s Word in the life of His people. What they hear in worship will have profound impact on their lives because Jesus is in their midst.

The Church applies this truth to the Liturgy of the Word, especially the proclamation of the Gospel. We stand in readiness to put Christ’s teaching into practice and our responses express the faith that He is addressing us today, in our current needs and challenges.

The term “today” occurs at four key points in St. Luke’s Gospel. In the fields near Bethlehem, shepherds were told, “Today in David’s city a Savior has been born to you...” (2:11). Those who had known Jesus from childhood were invited to acknowledge His mission of service (4:21). By the presence of Jesus (whose name means “the Lord is Savior”) with Zacchaeus, he learned that “Today salvation has come to this house...” (19:9).

The thief who rebuked his partner and asked to be remembered when Jesus would come into His kingdom was promised: “Today you will be with me in paradise” (23:42-43). May our recognition of Christ’s presence in our daily challenges bring us to hear the same consoling promise!

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





# Guardian Angel, Allendale

## Yearlong 2004 celebration of town mainstay

BY DAVID PROCH

Special to The Catholic Advocate

Spiritual roots that run deep in the community will be celebrated this year as Guardian Angel Parish, Allendale, looks back on a half-century of serving the faithful.

The parish will begin its 50th anniversary celebration with an opening Mass on June 25, and hold special events throughout the year.

"Some places start their celebrations the year leading up to the anniversary, but we're going to start ours on the 50th anniversary and celebrate throughout the following year," said Father Charles Pinyan, Pastor of Guardian Angel.

The parish is still in the process of planning events, Father Pinyan noted, but some that are being discussed include a closing Mass for the anniversary, a parish picnic and ministry fair, a parish mission and "a couple social events, maybe a Mardi Gras.

"We also hope to bring together the people who have been here since the founding of the parish and interview them on their recollections," he added. "We're trying to get together old photographs of events from the past 50 years too."

Father Pinyan described the parish, and the Allendale community as well, as "the type of place where people want to lay down roots. People tend to stay here and raise their children; you don't see a lot of moving to other communities," which is something that benefits the 725-family parish.

"Because people tend to stay here, they also genuinely care about the parish and its long-term health, mission and vitality. They have a really strong sense of



Guardian Angel stands in Allendale today as it did 40 years ago, welcoming its parishioners to worship.

belonging, and of wanting it to be a vibrant faith community," he said.

The parish has roots in Allendale since the early part of the 20th century, when it was begun as a mission from St. Luke Parish in Ho-Ho-Kus, "so Guardian Angel has a good number of second and third-generation families active in the community," Father Pinyan said.

He also noted the parallel between the parish's beginning and his pastorate: his childhood parish was St. Luke's. "The parish that had been Guardian Angel's 'parent,' so to speak, would later provide one of its spiritual leaders. That was a neat bit of history for me."

Father Pinyan was appointed as pastor of Guardian Angel in September, the first pastorate in his priestly career, and he is "very excited" with the prospects of working with the people. "It's a

great parish. The people really have a great sense of joy in the parish, and of wanting it to be a great, strong community of faith. They really seek to build upon the traditions of the parish, but they're also open to exploring new ways for it to grow.

"There's also a good sense of lay involvement in the ministries. This is not a parish with a big, professional staff running everything. The people of the parish get trained and really do lead a lot of the different ministries here. That really impressed me, how deeply people are involved in a variety of ministries," Father Pinyan stressed.

Guardian Angel co-sponsors St. Thomas More Interparochial School, along with host Nativity Parish, Midland Park, and St. Luke's.

"As a parish, we try to support Catholic education through

fund raisers or hosting school events," Father Pinyan noted. "We don't have a parish school building, but we do have a large auditorium, so some of the larger school functions will be held here. The school holds its annual Christmas concert here, the basketball team's practices, and when Catholic Schools Week comes around, we'll assist the school by being visible."

Father Pinyan explained that there is no single dominant nationality or ethnicity at the parish, so "there aren't any traditional events" derived from one ethnic group. However, he indicated that the parish has a long-standing history of youth-oriented ministry and social justice.

Every year during Advent, the parish youth hold the Festival of Lights concert, where Christmas hymns are performed in a variety of musical styles,

Continued on page 11



Parishioners attend Sunday Mass, during which Hailey Caroline, daughter of Lester and Jennifer Pataki is baptized by Father Pinyan.



Advocate photos: Frank Wood



# A vibrant community in Allendale

Since its inception, Guardian Angel Parish, Allendale, has encompassed all the attributes of a thriving faith community.

Its beginnings were humble. The first Mass in Allendale was celebrated in a confectionery store 101 years ago by Father Paul T. Carew, Pastor of Mount Carmel Parish, Ridgewood. His congregation consisted of the community's ten Catholics.

By 1913, with 20 Catholic families, St. Luke Parish, Ho-Ho-Kus, established a mission in Allendale. It was served by the priests of St. Luke's.

Mass was celebrated in a recreation room over a local garage. Later that year a private home was purchased and converted into a chapel. The chapel served the mission until three months after the parish was established.

Several months before Guardian Angel was founded, the Archdiocese purchased land for the church building.



Msgr. Francis R. Seymour, then pastor, at a luncheon hosted by the parish at Allendale Nursing Home in spring 1987. The Msgr. is now the Archdiocesan Archivist.

On June 25, 1954, it became a separate parish.

Father Maurice L. McManus was the first pastor. Ill health forced him to retire after a year.

Father John Varrell succeeded him as pastor in 1955, and served for two and a half years. During his time as pastor, Father Varrell established a Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal and dedicated a shrine to the Blessed Mother.

Father Joseph Stockhammer was named pastor in 1957, a position he would hold for the next 19 years.

Under his leadership, the current church and parish hall buildings were constructed in 1966. Archbishop Thomas A. Boland laid the cornerstone for the church on Nov. 26, 1966. The parish rectory, which had served as a chapel from 1954-66, was also restored as a residence.

Father Stockhammer also oversaw the first parish mission in 1958, the inau-

guration of the Catholic Youth Club a year later, and the first Confirmation at the parish in 1961.

Due to declining health, Father Stockhammer retired in 1976. Father Francis McGuire was named pastor later that year.

"Whatever may be said in praise of the previous pastors or parishioners would not speak as loudly as the signs of spiritual growth that are evident all around us. Our church, for example, is more than just a physical manifestation of the growth of Guardian Angel. In a very real sense, it stands as indisputable evidence of a zealous and sustained response by our parishioners to the Word of God," Father McGuire said on the 25th anniversary of Guardian Angel in 1979.

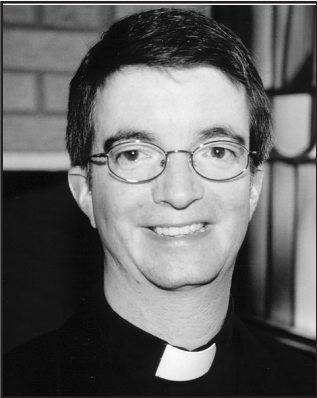
After Father McGuire died in 1982, Msgr. Francis R. Seymour was named pastor. He served for five years.

"He was a wonderful priest," said Msgr. Seymour of Father McGuire. "He was very much like the Barry Fitzgerald character in *Going My Way*, a very 'old-time' person. He was devoted to the people, spending most of his time in the front office, greeting people and making them feel welcome.

"Guardian Angel was a great parish, with great people," said Msgr. Seymour in reflection on his time at the parish. "It was a small parish, so it was easy to get to know people, much easier than a larger, urban parish, and the people were very cooperative and willing to work together."

Msgr. Cajetan Salemi succeeded Msgr. Seymour in 1987. Msgr. Salemi served for 12 years at Guardian Angel before being succeeded by Father Gerald F. Greaves in 1999. Father Greaves served as pastor until September 2003, when Father Charles Pinyan was named to his first pastorate.

## Meet the Pastor



### Father Charles Pinyan

- Age: 40
- Date of Birth: March 9, 1963
- High School: Waldwick High School, Waldwick, NJ
- College/Seminary: Honors Tutorial College of Ohio University, Immaculate Conception Seminary
- Heroes: St. Thomas More
- Favorite Saint: St. Therese of Lisieux
- Favorite Sport: Football
- Favorite Food: Italian
- Favorite Subject in School: English
- Favorite Movie: *Chariots of Fire*
- Proudest Moment: Ordination
- Last Book Read: *Mary of Nazareth, Prophet of Peace* by John Dear
- Occupation Before Becoming a Priest: Journalist

## Celebration

Continued from page 10

combined with a Nativity re-enactment by the younger children of the parish. "There's a lot of work that goes into the concert, and the parish really helps to support it."

During Lent, the parish youth also perform the Living Stations of the Cross, a tradition that Father Pinyan has not yet been involved in, but is anxiously awaiting.

There is also an active AIDS outreach ministry, where parishioners gather supplies, food and clothing and take them to various locations within the Archdiocese, including Catholic Community Services and University Hospital. At University Hospital, parishioners visit with babies that have AIDS and provide handmade quilts for them.

"Our parish also sponsors a men's shelter for the homeless every Friday night for several months during the year, and we have teams of people every week preparing food for the homeless. I feel we have so many teams of people, like they're in

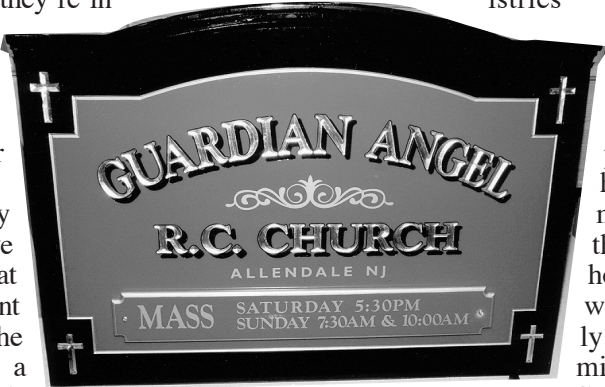
the kitchen every week cooking food for the homeless," Father Pinyan added.

"Like many parishes, we have a Giving Tree at Christmas. I went down with the parishioners to a public school in Paterson, where they've been going for many years now. They

collect several hundred gifts to distribute... But they also spend the day with the kids as well, holding small parties to hand out the gifts," Father Pinyan said.

He pointed out that many parishioners are involved in the liturgical min-

istries as lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and altar servers. The parish also has a large ministry for the sick and homebound as well, "especially the special ministers of Communion, who make frequent visits to the homebound of our parish."



Installation of a new parish sign, which was supposed to take place after Mass on Jan. 11, had to be postponed due to the ground being frozen after single-digit temperatures that weekend.

When asked what makes Guardian Angel special, Father Pinyan said, "Every parish is special, but what makes Guardian Angel unique is the strong desire to live the faith and to pass it on to the young people. That just seems to be the strong focus on everybody's part. Even the elderly, whose children are grown, still take an interest in the young people. Families really want the Church to provide guidance and direction for them and their children, and to help them grow in faith.

"The parish, being 725 families, is not so large that people feel lost in the crowd, nor too small that they feel alone. It's a nice size for people to get to know each other, work and pray together, and feel a sense of belonging. Everyone can feel and know and believe that they are an important part of the parish."

Guardian Angel Parish is located at 320 Franklin Turnpike in Allendale.



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Parish bulletins are needed by The Catholic Advocate. The front cover rendition of church buildings will be used on the Around the Archdiocese page. Send a bulletin to 171 Clifton Avenue, Newark, NJ, 07104.

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Msgr. Neil Mahoney, Pastor of  
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Newark, died Jan. 1.

Robert Celiano, brother of  
Father Alfred Celiano, Seton  
Hall University, died Jan. 1.

Robert C. Stagg, father of  
Father Robert B. Stagg, Pastor  
of St. James Parish, Spring-  
field, died Jan. 12.

**Corrections**

In the profile of Holy Family  
Parish, Nutley, *The Catholic  
Advocate* inadvertently omitted  
the name of the Parochial Vicar,  
Father Michael Anthony  
Andreano, who has served the  
parish since June 2003, and  
prior to that was assigned to Our  
Lady of Mount Carmel, Ridge-  
wood.

In the Jan. 7 story on the  
appointment of new pastors, St.  
John the Evangelist Parish, Ber-  
genfield, was incorrectly identi-  
fied as St. John the Apostle  
Parish.

In the vocations section of  
the same issue, the Sisters of  
Christian Charity were not list-  
ed among the communities of  
women Religious serving in the  
Archdiocese of Newark. The  
order serves at Our Lady of  
Sorrows Parish, South Orange,  
and St. Nicholas School, Jersey  
City.

Please note: The list pub-  
lished in *The Catholic Advocate*  
was not intended to be exhaus-  
tive, but only included several  
communities with a large pres-  
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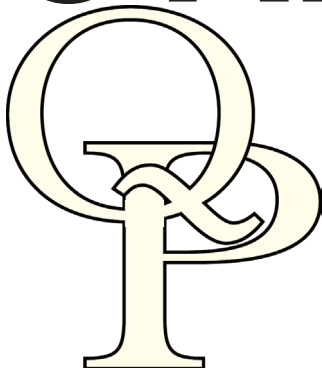
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# Program targets urban workforce

As part of efforts to address the nationwide nursing shortage, Cathedral Healthcare System (CHS), based in Newark, has developed a project that will enable 35 urban residents to complete a two-year nursing program, fulfill all necessary requirements and ultimately be job-ready to enter the CHS workforce by Sept. 30, 2006. Cathedral Health Services, Inc., has been awarded a grant of \$420,778 from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to implement the 36-month nursing education program in partnership with Essex County College (ECC). The grant was made through the Foundation's New Jersey Health Initiatives (NJHI) Workforce Agenda program.

The goals are to increase the number of urban students who are eligible to enter a two-year nursing program, to reduce the attrition rates of the nursing program in the first and second years, to maintain educational quality, to prepare the students better for the urban hospital experience, and to increase the number of two-year nursing students who are job-ready for urban hospitals.

## Ambitious goals

To meet those goals, CHS will provide 60 paid summer externships during the life of the project and offer hospital settings for additional hours of clinical experience for the students during their school years.

ECC will develop and incorporate new program components into its pre-nursing and nursing programs and expand the courses and support system for pre-nursing students. ECC will also assign faculty mentors to students, supervise the summer externship program and provide additional academic support and substantial financial assistance to students during the school year.

"Cathedral facilities are an essential part of the urban communities they serve," said Donald M. Daniels, Chairman and CEO of Cathedral Healthcare System. "Helping urban residents to become qualified nurses to fill vacancies in our hospitals provide better care to patients, but also provide job opportunities to young members of the local communities. We are grateful to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for funding this project."

An innovative aspect of this project is a formal agreement between ECC and the

CHS hospitals with specific outcome objectives defining the cooperative relationship over the three-year grant period. At the end of the grant period, both organizations hope to continue the relationship to ensure a constant flow of qualified graduates from the community to serve in the Cathedral system.

## Partnership lauded

"This is an excellent collaborative venture that will enhance nursing education and also address the nursing shortage at urban hospitals," said Essex County College President A. Zachary Yamba. "Our nursing graduates are proven high achievers. We are delighted to enter into this partnership with Cathedral Healthcare System that will provide enormous benefits to the community and to the health care industry," he added.

Mary Fuhro, Chairman of Cathedral Healthcare System Nursing Council and Vice President of Nursing and Patient Care Services at Saint James Hospital said, "This relationship between the Cathedral hospitals and Essex County College will provide a bridge between learning and practice

for nursing students, and will develop support systems at the hospitals to help transform students into practitioners."

"The partnership with the Cathedral System reflects the college's commitment to offer a challenging and well-defined program that maintains high standards and provides maximum opportunities for students to succeed," said Marlene Dey, Chairperson of the ECC School of Nursing. "The most compelling evidence of the Nursing Program's success is its graduates. The program has an impressive record of student success with more than 96 percent of graduates passing their licensure exams on the first try," she continued.

Individuals who wish to be considered for this program may contact Janet Czermak at ECC at (973) 877-1871.

Cathedral Healthcare System is comprised of Saint Michael's Medical Center, Saint James Hospital and Columbus Hospital, all in Newark, and the Hospital Center and Saint Mary's Life Center in Orange, all of which support the mission of the Archdiocese of Newark.



Donald M. Daniels, Chairman and CEO of Cathedral Healthcare System, and Classie Foat, Academic Vice President of Essex County College, signed an agreement recently to begin an innovative joint venture which will provide benefits to the local community and the health care industry.



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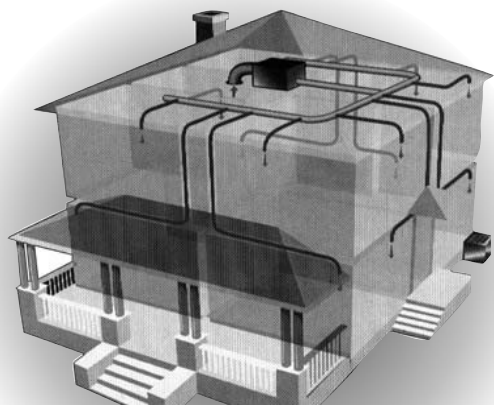
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# Meet members of the School Advisory Board

(This is the first in a series profiling members of the Archdiocesan School Advisory Board.)

## Madelyn Healy

Dr. Madelyn Healy brings a lifetime of experience to the Archdiocesan School Advisory Board (ASAB).

She may technically be

retired, but she is very busy with Catholic school-related work as well as extensive community and church service.

She has served on the ASAB since 2001 and is an invaluable resource to that group as chair of the Marketing Committee.

Healy, a long-time resident of Kearny, represents St. Stephen Parish where she is also a Eucharistic Minister and a mem-

ber of the School Advisory Board. She is the mother of four grown children who attended St. Stephen's School and Queen of Peace High School.

She earned a B.A. in Mathematics at SUNY at Albany, an M.A. in Student Personnel Services from the Teachers College at Columbia University, and her Ed.D. in Counselor Education, also from Columbia

University. At Kean University, she served as a Professor of Education, department chair, dean and director of the Center for Professional Development.

Healy holds many professional and academic memberships and is a New Jersey Licensed Professional Counselor. Throughout her distinguished career she has received many awards for distinguished service and was named Graduate Teacher of the Year at Kean University.

She says, "A Catholic education provides an opportunity for the strengthening in students of the faith, values and morality of a Christian life. It emphasizes the whole student, preparing them not only academically but also helping them to tie together knowledge, skills and talents to their career choices, social concerns and values, self-discipline and religious beliefs."

Her pastor, Msgr. Michael Desmond, cites her "insight, professionalism and kindness," and this is apparent to all of her colleagues on the ASAB, who value her tremendous contributions to Catholic education.

estate law. At present, she is a stay-at-home mom of three boys, two of whom attend Hoboken Catholic Academy. Castellanos is an active member of Our Lady of Grace Parish, Hoboken, where she is a CCD teacher, a Eucharistic Minister and lector, and is a Small Christian Community leader for RENEW International.

Castellanos is fully bilingual in Spanish/English, and her pastor, Rev. Kenneth Herbster, says that this "makes her an excellent representative for the Hispanic community." She serves on the Leadership Committee of the ASAB and is studying the recruitment, training and educational development of principals in our Catholic schools.

A native of Puerto Rico, she earned a B.A. in Economics from the University of Maryland, an M.A. in Economics from Eastern Michigan University, and her Juris Doctor from Case Western Reserve University School of Law.

When asked for her views on Catholic education, she said, "On a spiritual level, Catholic education is a crucial element in one's ability to lead a Christian life. The objective for Catholic education is to attract more students because in that way, we will encourage more of our young people to go to Mass and practice the Catholic faith in all areas of life."

Castellanos is happy to be a contributing member of the ASAB and to represent her parish, Hudson County and the Hispanic community.

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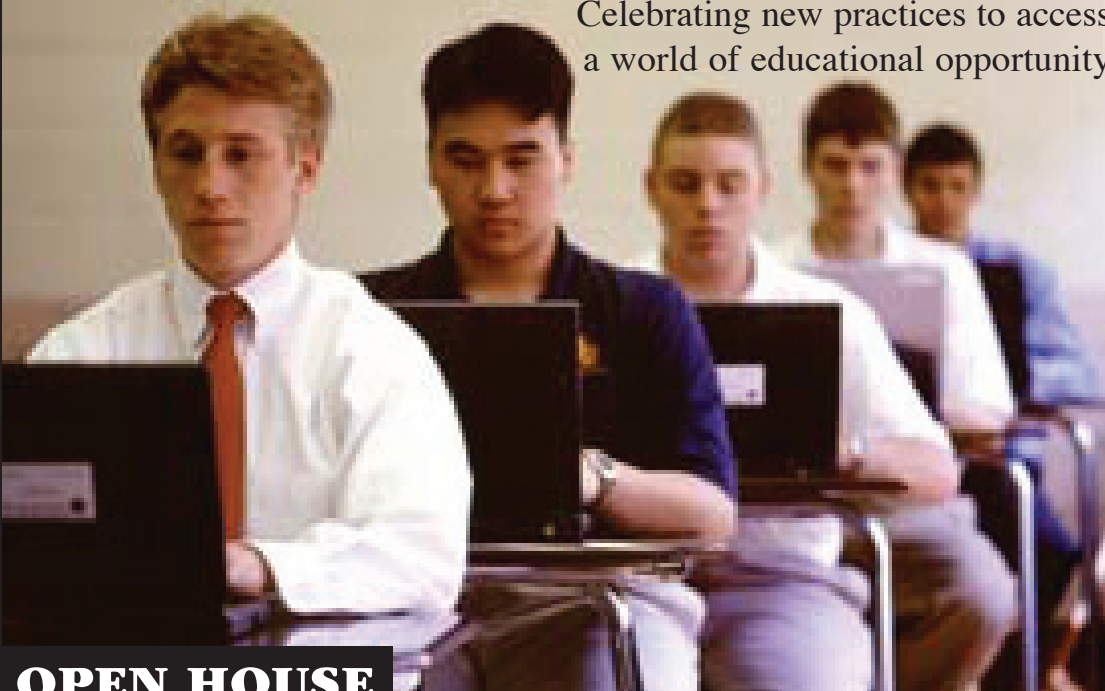


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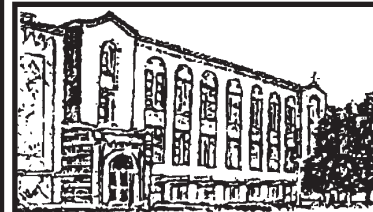
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## Isabela Castellanos

Isabela Castellanos, a resident of Hoboken, is one of the newest members of the Archdiocesan School Advisory Board (ASAB), serving on her first term for the school year 2003-2004. An attorney by training, she specializes in worker's compensation, landlord/tenant relations, and real



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# School 'spirit' goes far beyond the classroom

Through various campus ministry and service projects, students at Mother Seton Regional High School, Clark, are committed to sharing their "Seton Spirit" with others.

During Seton Spirit Week, students participate in a food drive for the Emmanuel Cancer Foundation, Scotch Plains. The school-wide collection amounted to 3,463 items. The food donations were given to families with a child suffering from pediatric cancer.

The Emmanuel Cancer Foundation supplies groceries to area families who have little time to shop and whose budgets are strained by the illness of their child.

The Seton Outreach Club sponsored Denim Day and other activities to support breast cancer awareness. Students made donations and placed their ribbon on the Tree of Life located in the school's main rotunda.



Coat drive participants included, left to right, front row, kneeling, Angelica Bonus and Kristen Ditchko, and back row, Tiffany De Jesus, Melissa Felicio, Kelly Powell, Gabrielle Maertz, Sister Mary Anne Katlack, Coordinator of Campus Ministry, and Carol Henderson, Home Economics Teacher.

Several students also participated in the "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" walk-a-thon under the name "Team MSR." The money raised was

sent to the Cancer Society and to the Susan B. Komen Foundation for Breast Cancer.

The student council conducted the annual Thanksgiving food

drive. Each homeroom donated a turkey and all of its accompaniments for a complete Thanksgiving Dinner.

For the start of the winter season, the campus ministry office sponsored a winter coat drive for needy families.

In the spirit of the Christmas season, students set up a Giving

Tree from which students took tags and brought toys and clothes for children of various ages and/or for victimized parents.

The Stamp Out Despair project consisted of collecting stamped envelopes, paper and pens for the asylum seekers at the Elizabeth Detention Center.

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THURSDAY	JANUARY 29	9-10:30 AM

### REGISTRATION 8-9 AM

Mon. 2/2	Registration for siblings of parishioner students Pre-K-8
Tues. 2/3	Registration for all new Pre-K Students
Wed. 2/4	Registration for all new parishioner students Grade K-8
Thurs. 2/5	Registration for Non-parishioner siblings Grade K-8
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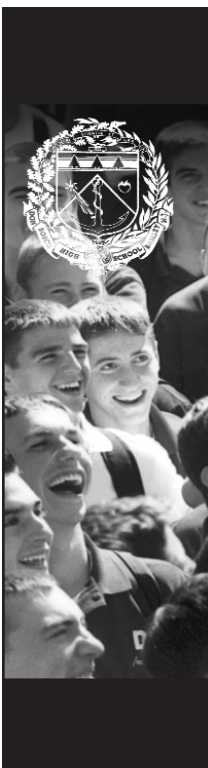
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# Holy Name Hospital names a new exec

Jane M. Boyle, a fund-raising expert with more than 20 years experience, has joined Holy Name Hospital, Teaneck, as vice president of development and executive director of the Holy Name Health Care Foundation.

Boyle's primary responsibilities are to oversee the hospital's fund-raising and development activities, including capital and planned-giving campaigns, the annual giving fund, the annual Founders Ball, special events and the hospital's current Millennium capital campaign.

The multi-year Millennium Project is a \$50 million initiative to build a new state-of-the-art facility for the Emergency Department, renovate all patient care units, redesign and expand the Regional Dialysis Center, implement a hospital-wide wireless telemetry system, refurbish the lobby and

chapel, and add advanced diagnostic and treatment technology.

Boyle comes to Holy Name from Hackensack University Medical Center, where she was director of development since 2000. Prior to that she held the positions of director of development for the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health, executive director of the Meridian Health System Affiliated Foundations (Jersey Shore Medical Center Foundation, Medical Center of Ocean County Foundation, Riverview Medical Center Foundation and Meridian Health Foundation), chief development officer of Bloomfield College and director of development for Iona College.

Boyle, a resident of Upper Montclair, completed a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics at Manhattanville College, in Purchase, NY.



The Newark Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women held its annual Christmas luncheon last month. Most Rev. Edgar M. da Cunha, S.D.V., Auxiliary Bishop of Newark, attended along with, left to right, Audrey Calligy, Judy Reilly, Jean Schneider, Father Daniel Danik, Frances Donnelly, Clarinda Brueck and Mildred Loughlin.

## 'Signed' Masses scheduled locally

*The schedule for American Sign Language-Interpreted Masses within the Archdio-*

*cese of Newark follows.*

St. Luke Parish, Hohokus, every Sunday at 10:30 a.m.; Our Lady of Mt. Virgin, Garfield, every first Sunday of the month at 11:30 a.m. through August; St. John the Apostle Parish, Linden, every first Sunday at noon through August; Our Lady of Fatima, Elizabeth, every second Sunday at 10:15 a.m. through June; St. Paul the Apostle, Jersey City, every first and second Sunday at noon through June; Assumption Parish, Roselle Park, every third Sunday at noon through July; St. Thomas the Apostle, Bloomfield, every third and fourth Sunday at noon through June; St. Philomena Parish, Livingston, every third Sunday at 10:30 a.m. through July, and St. Francis, Hoboken, every fourth Sunday at 12:15 p.m. through August.

Christmas, Easter Vigil, Holy Day and summer Masses also interpreted at various parishes. Sacraments of Rec-

onciliation (Confession), First Communion and Baptism, weddings and home blessings are available with a signing deacon or priest. Also available are Sacramental Preparation, RCIA and Pre-Cana and CCD classes. Call Deaf Ministry Office for more details at (973) 824-5568 (TTY), (973) 596-5121 (voice) or email [deafath@ccsnewark.org](mailto:deafath@ccsnewark.org).

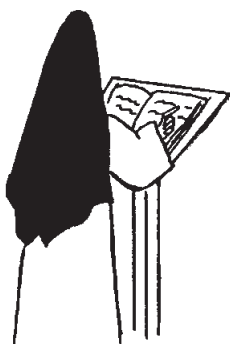
## Right to Life rally Jan. 22

New Jersey Right to Life has scheduled a rally on the steps of the State House, Trenton, on Thursday, Jan. 22 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The rally will be to mark the 31st anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision legalizing abortion. Protested too will be Gov. McGreevey's signing into law earlier this month of the Human Stem Cell Research Bill.

"Please join us in Trenton to show our strength in numbers and opposition to this unprecedented assault on humanity," said Marie Tasy, Public and Legislative Affairs Director of New Jersey Right to Life.

For additional information call (908) 276-6620 or go to [mtasy@njrtl.org](mailto:mtasy@njrtl.org).



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# Talented students are hitting the right notes

**BY LIESL FORES**  
Staff Reporter

St. Peter Academy, River Edge, has a piano prodigy in its midst. Seventh grader Ji-Yong Kim, recently having performed with the Wallingford Symphony Orchestra in Connecticut as well as the Schuylkill Symphony Orchestra in Pennsylvania, has also tested his virtuoso skills at Lincoln Center with the New York Philharmonic, at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark and at the St. Petersburg Philharmonic Hall in Russia.

He still has several more concerts scheduled across the country this school year.

Despite such a harrowing schedule for a 12-year-old, as well as five to six hours of practice a day, Sister Barbara Tackas, M.P.F., principal at St. Peter's, says that Ji-Yong is a good student and does not let his rigorous piano studies interfere with his schoolwork.



Ji-Yong Kim

Explaining that the youngster, who began playing at age four, left his native South Korea for a music scholarship at a school in New York, Sister Barbara recounted that when Ji-Yong entered St. Peter's in the third

grade, he knew no English.

Now, she says, "he's doing very well. He's well spoken and well read."

Though Ji-Yong has advanced to the renowned Juilliard School of Music in New York, he still participates in St. Peter's music program, which, led by Janue Vargas, presents Christmas and spring shows as well as covers some music theory and appreciation.

The principal says that Ji-Yong "does everything that everybody else does. He doesn't think he's better than anyone else—he's



Molly Fitzpatrick

very humble. And he knows his gift is God-given—he says it."

She added that he'll even fill in at the piano in when someone is not available during school liturgies.

Describing his parents as "good Christians," Sister Barbara relayed that they knew when he was very young that he had a special ability.

Considering the great musical talent of this young student, as well as the incredible academic skill of recent eighth grade graduate Molly Fitzpatrick, who scored perfectly on the verbal section of the SATs, (which she

took early based on other standardized test scores—see July 16, 2003 issue of *The Catholic Advocate*), Sister Barbara notes of the St. Peter Academy, "We



Noelle Arteché

really give everybody an opportunity to achieve in whatever talent they have...We affirm them in whatever they do and are pleased whenever they are successful. It's gratifying to see kids involved in things so healthy and wholesome. We want that for all our kids."

Another example of a talented young person in the Archdiocese of Newark is 16-year-old Patrice Noelle Llemos, who goes by Noelle Arteché professionally, parishioner at Holy Spirit Parish, Union.

Noelle has had formal voice training with teacher Barbara Urbine-Reidy (also a Holy Spirit parishioner) since the age of 11, and can sing in seven languages. She has been a member of the parish choir since she was 10.

"Music is very spiritual. Music is my link to God; it's a great gift that He's given me. In my training and being able to work with my voice, I'm able to wrap up this gift that He gave

me and give it back to Him," she asserted.

A soprano in the choir, she also does solo pieces on special occasions. At Holy Spirit's Christmas Eve concert this past December, she sang two excerpts for Handel's *Messiah*.

Noelle, who is a junior at the local public high school, is involved in many extra-curricular activities, including school drama productions and appearances in concerts, recitals and

other public events, and has achieved various academic honors, such as being elected Vice-President of her school's French National Honor Society club.

She is planning her professional debut at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, New York, for next year and hopes to attend a music conservatory after high school. But for now, she plans to continue singing with her church choir "for as long as I can, definitely."

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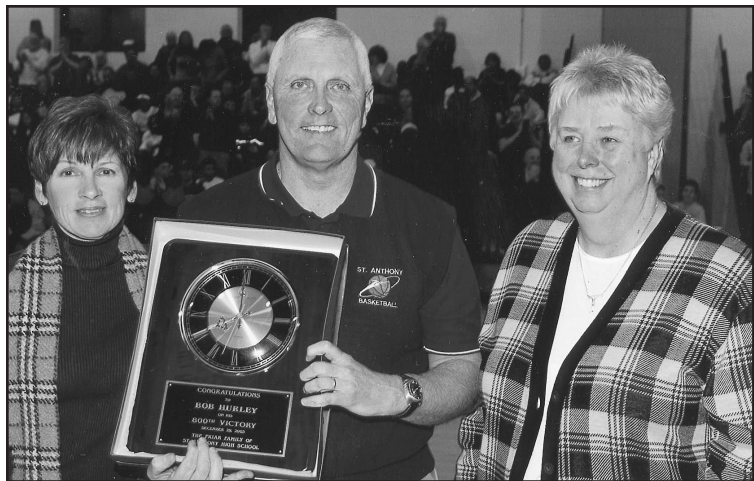
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Legendary Coach Bob Hurley of St. Anthony High School, Jersey City, celebrated his 800th win at the Friar's first home game of the season Jan. 2. Hurley reached the lofty milestone Dec. 28 at the Holiday Prep Classic in San Diego. Coach Hurley, accompanied by his wife, Chris, left, was awarded a banner and a plaque by Principal Sister Mary Felicia, C.S.S.F, right, who congratulated him for his leadership and dedication to St. Anthony's in a 31-year career as head. Hurley was cheered on by students, teachers, alumni, residents and members of the Friar family as the team defeated Burlington Life Center Academy 81-56.

## Offense marks play

Hoops honors were evenly divided in the annual St. Agnes Father Nee Basketball Tournament played in Clark.

St. John School, Clark, turned back St. John Vianny School, Colonia, 56-38 to capture the seventh and eighth grade title.

In fifth and sixth grade competition, St. Elizabeth School, Linden, topped St. John Vianny by a 44-34 tally.

Raphael Ortiz of St. John Vianny and St. Elizabeth's Robert Gomulka led the way

offensively with 20 points each. Leading the eighth grade forces was Joe Sestito of St. John's, Clark, with an even dozen points.

*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](mailto:mielejos@rcan.org).

# Fund, fans are big winners

The first Scholarship Fund for Inner-City Children Basketball Festival was a huge success, both on and off the court earlier this month at the Yanitelli Center on the campus of Saint Peter's College, Jersey City.

There were over 3,000 fans in attendance for the triple-header hoops event, which featured St. Anthony High School, Jersey City, remaining undefeated with a 48-41 victory over Christian Brothers Academy (CBA) (Lincroft), in the opener. Seton Hall Preparatory School, West Orange, held off a furious rally by St. Patrick's High School, Elizabeth, 68-61, in the second game. The last game had St. Benedict's, a perfect 13-0 on the season, put on a clinic, defeating Hudson Catholic Regional High School, Jersey City, 72-35. All three games were broadcast live by MetroTV.

While the tournament brought fans a great afternoon of high school basketball, it also raised scholarship money for the six schools, plus the general fund for the Scholarship Fund.

Each participating school received a \$1,000 scholarship grant. Ronald Mount, President of the Scholarship Fund, and Sister Dominica Rocchio, S.C., Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools and Secretary for Education for the Newark Archdiocese, presented

Academic Excellence Awards to a student-athlete on each team.

"This was an important day for the Scholarship Fund," noted event chairperson Bill Fitzpatrick. "I want to thank the schools, the administrators, the coaches and the players for coming together to help Catholic education in New Jersey. Young people who receive our scholarships are the big winners. We are always working to expand our programs, and this event really helps out."

Kevin Moriarty, Executive Director of the Scholarship Fund, echoed Fitzpatrick's sentiments. "We were thrilled that these schools are supporting the Scholarship Fund," he said. "The youngsters and parents know that the Catholic schools we support provide a great education, and we need to support those schools in every way."

In the opening game, CBA and St. Anthony battled throughout the entire game. The Friars outscored CBA, 13-7 in the final quarter to improve to 7-0 on the season. Junior guard Sean McCurdy scored 13 points, and Marcus Williams added 12 points. CBA

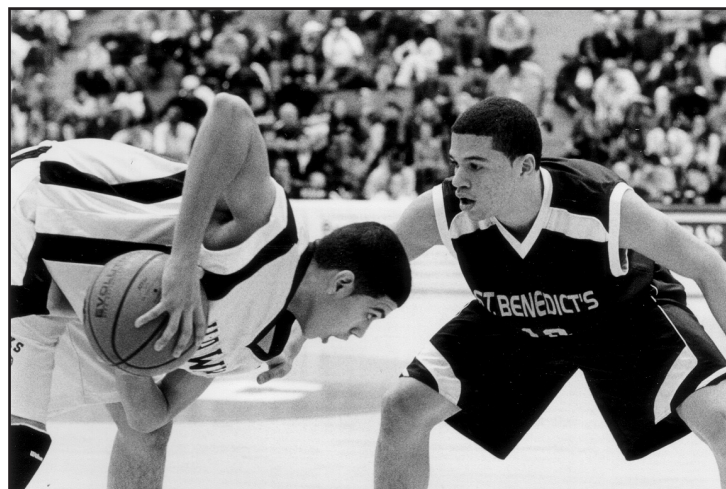
received 10 points from junior Brian Freiburger and nine rebounds from Dan Werner.

Brandon Costner, a 6'8" forward, led Seton Hall Prep with 27 points, nine rebounds and three assists in the second game. He had help from junior guard Andrew Pusar, who contributed 23 points and five rebounds as the Prep improved to 5-1 on the season.

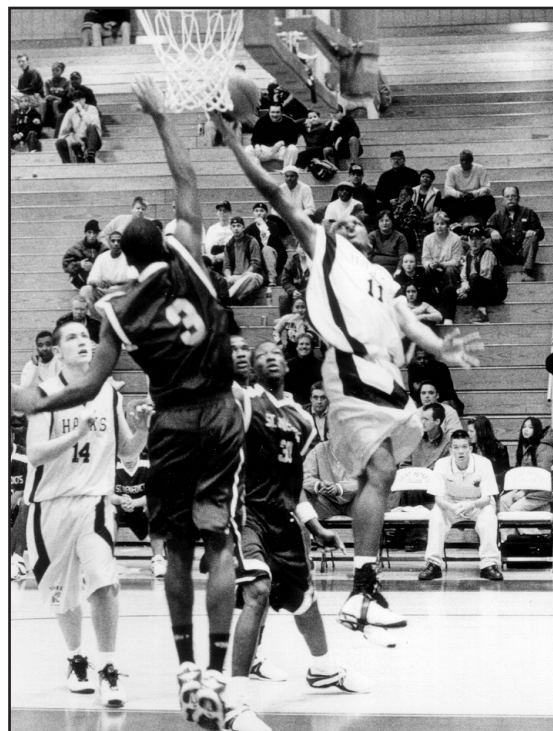
The final game clearly demonstrated that St. Benedict's has one of the top teams in the country. J.R. Smith had 16 points in the game—including six dunks that would make a great highlight film. Alex Galindo also added 16 points and 11 rebounds in the game.

There was plenty of student involvement in the event, with the St. Anthony Girls Choral singing the national anthem, and students from St. Peter's Prep and St. Dominic's Academy participating in a free throw-shooting contest.

The triple-header received major sponsorship support from the Speedwell Foundation, Hudson City Savings Bank, White Castle, Saint Barnabas Health Care Systems and MetroTV.



Advocate photos - Frank Wood



Top-notch play marked all three games of the festival. Left photo, Hudson Catholic's Tyrell Brown goes up for a bucket as St. Benedict's Jon Ezeokoli (3) and Ishmaila Traore (30) close in. Also in on the play is the Hawks' Josh Phillips (14). In the top photo, St. Benedict's David Cubillan closes in on his opponent.

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Sat. Feb. 28	Georgetown	7:00 p.m.

### Big East Plan

Tues. Jan. 20	Syracuse	7:30 p.m.
Sat. Feb. 7	Rutgers	7:00 p.m.
Mon. Feb. 9	Pittsburgh	8:00 p.m.
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# IRA options abound, careful planning essential

So, you're one of the lucky—or frugal—people who managed to accumulate a fair amount of savings for retirement before things like IRAs, Roth IRAs or 401-Ks were around to help. But you're keenly aware that, at current interest rates, that money in the bank isn't generating the retirement income you had hoped.

You could use additional income for health care costs, for home upkeep, for maintaining your chosen lifestyle or for other reasons. Drawing on the principal of your savings is scary, since you could run out.

"Running out of money is one of the biggest fears of people who are retired," says finance professor Clarence Rose. "People in retirement are faced with making hard choices. There is no easy solution."

Rose, whose articles appear in such publications as *Personal Financial Planning* and *Journal of Financial Planning*, does offer some suggestions.

If you own your home, either free and clear or with significant equity, it's a potential source of income, says Rose.

If you're like most seniors, you want to stay in your home. Rose explains two ways you can stay there and still gain income from this valuable asset.

The best way, says Rose, is through an intrafamily sale leaseback agreement.

This is how it works: You, the retiree, sell your home to one of your heirs, preferably a son or daughter. You can provide seller financing, which means your child, the buyer, will pay you monthly mortgage payments.

After the sale, your child immediately leases the home back to you.

You become a renter with a lifetime lease in the home you just sold. Your child becomes a landlord, responsible for taxes and upkeep. If you agree to a rent amount less than the monthly mortgage payment, you'll have additional income each month. You're still living in familiar surroundings, the home is still in the family, and your child has found an affordable, respectful way to help you.

Rose warns that to take advantage of available tax benefits, the terms and conditions of an intrafamily sale leaseback agreement must reflect fair market value in the sale price, the rent amount and the interest rate on the seller-financed mortgage.

Even within these "arm's length" IRS requirements, he says, the interest rate and monthly rent can be somewhat flexible.

If you have no heir who is willing or financially able to enter a sale leaseback agreement, an

alternative is a reverse mortgage, says Rose.

In this arrangement, in most states, homeowners age 62 or older can convert some of the equity in their home to cash, a line of credit, a monthly income for a specified number of years, or a guaranteed monthly income for life, while living in and keeping the title to their homes.

Interest and principal on this loan, whichever form it takes, is due to the lender only at the end of the specified term or at the homeowner's death, in which case the balance is paid off from the sale of the house and the homeowner's heirs receive any remaining excess equity.

While a reverse mortgage is right for some people, says Rose, it's an expensive option. Both options require careful planning.

Although some retirees see stock investment as too risky—especially in light of the past few years' gloomy market—Rose recommends that seniors with cash, a financial comfort zone and a 10-15 year outlook invest rather aggressively.

Depending on individual goals and risk comfort level, retirees can include in their investment portfolios a higher proportion of stock investments than usually has been recommended, along with safer but lower-yielding fixed-income investments such as bonds or money market accounts.



The Senior Lucans of St. Luke Parish, Ho-Ho-Kus, recently made a Christmastime visit to 11 retired priests. In addition to gifts, each was given a poinsettia plant for their room. With Msgr. Richard Holmes, holding his plant, are, left to right, Senior Lucans Pearl and John Komsa, Nancy Tesoro, Bob Tesoro, Ray and Gloria Kane and Jack Elwood.

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Migration

Continued from page 1  
Americas, underlying reflections on Scripture, and the principles of Catholic social teaching and their direct relevancy to the global issues of border security, refugee resettlement and economic migration that have an impact on all people.

Organized by the Refugee Resettlement and Immigration Assistance Programs of the Archdiocesan Catholic Community Services (CCS), in conjunction with the Archdiocesan Worship Office, the Jan. 10 Mass marked the first occasion of a liturgy celebrated in the Archdiocese specifically in honor of National Migration Week.

“Bringing together of all populations in worshipping God” is an ideal way to celebrate National Migration Week, said Catherine L’Insalata, Division Director of Pastoral and Social Ministry at CCS, adding that the celebration of Mass is “common ground.”

Describing the event as a celebration of the many populations present in our area, L’Insalata commented, “They all bring their gifts, talents, spirit and culture. This is who we are as a country. This awareness is important.”

Meaghan Tuohey-Kay, Managing Attorney for the Refugee Resettlement and Immigration Assistance Programs, who proposed the idea of the Mass, said it was a way to “honor our clients.”

Some of those clients participated in the liturgy. The Beh family from Liberia, who arrived in the U.S. a couple of months ago and are now living in Newark, brought up the offertory gifts. “We came to worship,” said Lawson Beh, noting gratefully of the CCS program, “They’re responsible for us being here.”

Seraphin Baptiste and his wife France, whose three children were altar servers for the Mass, are Haitian immigrants living in Jersey City; they are parishioners at St. Patrick Parish there. Mr. Baptiste emphasized that the Mass helped “support the cause of immigrants.”

Asserting that what immigrants and refugees ask for is “fair consideration” and “an opportunity for [U.S.] residency,” because of inhumane conditions in their own native countries, he stressed, “We ask the government to see us as children of God.”

Archbishop Myers, who delivered his homily from the steps of the altar, observed that “God used migration to help teach us and form His people.”

Citing the examples of Mary and Joseph, and the early



Christians—who were often exiled—he explained that through their contact with other peoples, “they enriched the countries they were in contact with...This has been the case throughout the history of the Church” and how “the Gospel has been carried to other countries.

“Today we celebrate our sisters and brothers who join us. We welcome their gifts, and pledge our assistance,” he added.

The Mass was concelebrated by Msgr. William J. Reilly, Archdiocesan Coordinator of Multicultural Affairs, and Father Joseph Younan, Bishop of the Syriac Catholic Diocese within the Archdiocese of Newark, among other clergy. Lectors and other participants were CCS staff and recipients of the Refugee Resettlement and Immigration Assistance Programs. Readings and petitions were proclaimed in English, Spanish, French and Creole.

Archdiocese of Newark



January 21, 2004

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:  
I am pleased to present to you highlights of the financial information of the Archdiocese of Newark for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2003. While we continue to experience some financial stress because of recent economic conditions, we pledge to continue to meet the ever-growing spiritual and physical needs of the people of this local Church of Newark.

The contributions that form the basis of this report come from many sources—the Archbishop’s Annual Appeal, special gifts, parish assessments, to name a few. They support a range of services that is just as diverse—everything from education, to general operations, to health care and social services, to pastoral outreach and programming support. These highlights reaffirm the commitment of so many of you in this great Archdiocese to the Stewardship way of life and to the importance you place on areas of the Archdiocesan ministry, such as marriage preparation, youth and young adult services, schools and ethnic ministries. Your generosity is truly appreciated.

All of us in the Archdiocesan Center recognize full well the importance of maintaining and developing services and programs to support efforts to live our faith in our parishes, schools and institutions. As you know, it was necessary in this most recent fiscal year to make a number of changes to our Archdiocesan Center operation in order to address shortfalls in both investment and regular income. While the steps we took were painful for all, they were indeed necessary in order to bring us closer to long-term financial stability. These highlights indicate that improvements are taking hold; we will continue to look for ways in which we can be even more fiscally effective in the coming years.

Whenever I visit with you in schools and parishes, I see more and more the deep love that we all share for this local Church of Newark. Every day I thank Our Lord that He sent me to be with you as your shepherd, and I thank you for your loving and willing support of His work.

With every good wish, I am  
Sincerely in the Lord

+Most Reverend John J. Myers  
Archbishop of Newark

President praises the NCEA

Continued from page 1  
Catholic education in the United States. In working sessions the delegates discussed three major themes: identity, leadership and engagement.

Sister Dominica said, “For us here in Newark it is a ‘neat’ thing, to develop a national vision that will fit into our own Archdiocesan strategic plan.” [See special sup-

plement on Catholic Schools Week inside this issue of *The Catholic Advocate*.]

In his remarks to the NCEA delegates, President Bush highlighted his No Child Left Behind Act and his support of a “\$7,500 per child scholarship program” for school choice in the District of Columbia, which would be a voucher that parents

could use to finance Catholic education for their children.

He stated further, “I’m going to ask Congress to provide 50 million new dollars in this year’s budget for what we call a national choice incentive fund,” which would award federal grants to communities and organizations to support better education opportunities for children of low-income families.

100 years of Catholic education discussed

Continued from page 1

Years of Education,’ a collection of historical essays highlighting NCEA’s role in Catholic education,” he added. “This volume provides a permanent record of the association.”

At the opening of the symposium, Msgr. Wister co-chaired a panel discussion, which featured Father Andrew Greeley, Helen Alvare, Margaret O’Brien Steinfelds, Thomas Groome, John McGreevey, Timothy Walch and Sister Rose Marie Hennessey.

“That is a high-powered group! There were

time limits to answers, and we had an old school bell to announce when time was up,” Msgr. Wister said.

“I was impressed with the very positive tone of the entire event. Everyone recognized the challenges of Catholic education in today’s America but were filled with hope for the future,” he concluded. “Events like centennials are very important. If you miss observing them, you will be dead by the time the next one comes around.”



Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Newark Chancery Office

Condensed Financial Information

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2003

ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$	4,261,667
Accounts receivable, net		8,896,331
Contributions receivable		2,870,342
Prepaid expenses and other assets		1,035,759
Investments:		
Custodial		164,552,674
Endowment Funds		87,325,013
Temporarily Restricted		9,901,568
Other Funds		12,080,648
Total investments		273,859,903
Property and Equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$27,046,841		25,551,857
Total assets	\$	316,475,859

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY

AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

Change in unrestricted net assets		
Operating support and revenue:		
Operating support and revenue	\$	25,405,811
Operating expenses		29,286,481
Deficiency of unrestricted operating support and revenues over expenditures		(3,880,670)
Non-operating items		5,704,812
Increase in unrestricted net assets		1,824,142
(Decrease) in temporarily restricted net assets		(933,534)
Increase in permanently restricted net assets		1,662,056
Increase in net assets		2,552,664
Net assets at beginning of year		133,733,020
Net assets at end of year	\$	136,285,684

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenditures	\$	7,217,257
Accrued operational subsidies to parishes		8,420,244
Custodial funds		164,552,674
Total liabilities		180,190,175
Net Assets:		
Unrestricted net assets		
Undesignated		200,000
Designated for program and support service		38,859,103
Total unrestricted net assets		39,059,103
Temporarily restricted net assets		9,901,568
Permanently restricted net assets		87,325,013
Total net assets		136,285,684
Total liabilities and net assets	\$	316,475,859

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

Net cash provided by operating activities	\$	(6,741,865)
Net cash used in investing activities		6,411,710
Cash flow from financing activities		2,161,610
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		1,831,455
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year		2,430,212
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$	4,261,667

A Summary of the Sources and Uses of the Operating Fund



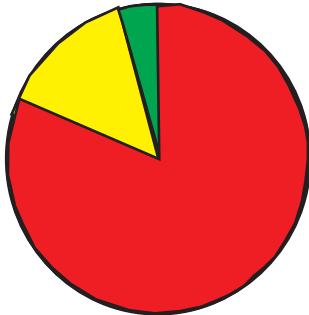
Support and Revenue \$25,405,811

38%	Assessments	\$ 9,552,604
31%	Archbishop's Annual Appeal	7,993,909
10%	Miscellaneous Revenues	2,433,633
9%	Endowment	2,328,764
7%	Interest and Investment Income	1,876,568
5%	Cemeteries Assessment	1,220,333
		<u>\$ 25,405,811</u>

Operating Expenses \$29,286,481

83%	Program Services	\$24,342,340	\$1,876,568	\$22,465,772	\$24,342,340
14%	Management and General	4,097,233		4,097,233	4,097,233
3%	Fund Raising	846,908		846,908	846,908
		<u>\$29,286,481</u>	<u>\$1,876,568</u>	<u>\$27,409,913</u>	<u>\$29,286,481</u>

Operating Expenses  
Source of Funds



Program Service Detail \$24,342,340

39%	Pastoral	\$9,377,313
21%	Priestly Ministry and Formation	5,076,651
17%	Educational	4,076,577
14%	Health Care and Social Services	3,378,617
6%	Other	1,477,766
3%	Public Affairs and Information Services	955,416
		<u>\$24,342,340</u>



As illustrated in the chart above, the program services and support provided to the pastors, priests and people of the Church of Newark during fiscal 2003 amounted to 83% of the total expenditures of the operating funds of the Chancery Office.



# El nuevo año se dedicará a la seguridad de los niños

**POR EL ARZOBISPO JOHN J. MYERS**

Ya yo les he informado desde estas columnas sobre el resultado favorable de la auditoría de los esfuerzos de esta Arquidiócesis para cumplir con los Estatutos para la Protección de los Niños y los Jóvenes. Ustedes saben muy bien lo complacido que estoy por haber podido satisfacer los deseos de la Oficina para la Protección de los Niños y los Jóvenes, y que yo estoy muy agradecido a todos ustedes por su ayuda en haber podido alcanzar ese objetivo.

En esta edición del Catholic Advocate hay un reportaje sobre la evaluación por los auditores de nuestro cumplimiento, y yo desearía que ustedes se informaran sobre lo que ellos piensan en relación con nuestros procedimientos y los pasos que hemos dado para satisfacer el reto de lograr un ambiente seguro y eliminar el abuso sexual en esta Arquidiócesis.

Las palabras importantes son “los pasos que hemos tomado hasta ahora”. Esta auditoría no es el final de la jornada. Todavía tenemos mucho trabajo por delante

para construir sobre lo que hemos comenzado. Todavía hoy, mientras ustedes leen estas líneas, nuestro comité de laicos continúa trabajando en la revisión de unas pocas alegaciones que todavía están pendientes, y estamos trabajando con las autoridades locales y estatales con toda la información que se nos ha facilitado. Yo pido de nuevo a toda persona que haya podido ser víctima de algún abuso, o que sepa de algún caso de abuso por parte de cualquier persona asociada a esta Arquidiócesis, para que se comunique con nuestro Canciller, Sheri Rickert, al teléfono (973) 497-4009, para que podamos tomar las acciones necesarias para lograr la reparación y sanación.

Al presente, estamos entrenando más facilitadores para presentar programas para Proteger los Niños de Dios en las parroquias y en las escuelas en un futuro próximo, para que todos los que tengan que tratar con niños y jóvenes puedan conocer a tiempo los signos de abuso sexual.

Todavía hoy en día continuamos llevando a cabo

chequeos de antecedentes en el clero, religiosos, empleados y voluntarios, para así poder no solo dar seguridad a los padres, sino también disuadir a quienes pudieran ser agresores en potencia.

Todo nuevo hábito de conducta toma tiempo antes de poder convertirse en un régimen regular de conducta, y la implementación de las normas del Estatuto para la Protección de los Niños y los Jóvenes no es distinta. Va a llevar tiempo antes de que todos los pasos que estamos dando ahora sean implementados a plenitud. Y aún entonces, según vayamos aprendiendo cómo combatir mejor este problema de nuestra sociedad, yo les aseguro que tomaremos todas las medidas adicionales que sean necesarias. De todas maneras, me consta que hemos tenido un buen comienzo, lleno de fe y justicia.

Comencemos el nuevo año comprometiendo esta gran Arquidiócesis a un año especialmente dedicado al Año de la Seguridad de los Niños. Y al hacerlo así, suplicamos a nuestra Santísima Madre y a San José que guíen nuestros esfuerzos para proteger a los niños.

## Los resultados de la auditoría demuestran que Newark cumple

**POR JAMES GOODNESS**  
*Director de Comunicaciones*

Cuando esta edición del Catholic Advocate iba a ser publicada, la Oficina para la Protección de los Niños y los Jóvenes, de la Conferencia de los Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos, dió a conocer un resumen de los resultados de su auditoría sobre el cumplimiento del Estatuto para la Protección de los Niños y los Jóvenes en las 194 diócesis y eparquías de la Iglesia Católica en los Estados Unidos.

Aunque los resultados para todas las diócesis no estaban todavía disponibles al tiempo de la publicación de nuestro periódico, la Arquidiócesis de Newark recibió información de la compañía auditora, Gavin Group, Inc., de que había satisfecho los requisitos necesarios para concluir que estaba aplicando debidamente el Estatuto en la Iglesia de Newark.

**Los Auditores**

El Gavin Group, una firma de auditoría que no es parte de la Iglesia, y que está formada principalmente por ex agentes del FBI, y encabezada por William A. Gavin, también antiguo oficial del FBI, ha sido encargada de supervisar en todos los Estados Unidos el cumplimiento del Estatuto por todas las diócesis. Los auditores de esa organización visitaron nuestra diócesis del 15 al 19 de Septiembre último.

La auditoría examinó, entre otras cosas, cómo la Arquidiócesis manejaba las alegaciones o denuncias que recibía, cómo llevaba a cabo un programa de educación para crear un ambiente seguro, y cómo implementaba un chequeo de la historia y los antecedentes del clero, los religiosos y los empleados y voluntarios de la diócesis.

En todas esas áreas, el Gavin Group declaró que la Arquidiócesis estaba cumpliendo sus obligaciones satisfactoriamente. En la implementación del Estatuto, el Arzobispo Myers pudo construir satisfactoriamente sobre las bases de políticas y procedimientos que ya estaban en operación en la diócesis desde las décadas de 1980 y 1990.

En el sumario ejecutivo del reporte de la auditoría facilitado a la Arquidiócesis, el Gavin Group dice: “El Arzobispo Myers mantiene una política de cero tolerancia en lo que se refiere al abuso de los niños y ha corroborado esa política en su apoyo por largo tiempo al estatuto para la Protección de los Niños y los Jóvenes, así como removiendo a varios sacerdotes bajo su jurisdicción. El Arzobispo Myers también ha distribuido un video para ser exhibido en todas las parroquias dando información sobre el Estatuto y expresando su firme compromiso para su cumplimiento.”

En relación con los antecedentes en la Arquidiócesis para la investigación activa de las denuncias de abusos sexuales, el sumario expresa: “La Arquidiócesis ha mantenido una política desde 1993 que ha sido ahora revisada para incorporar las normas del Estatuto. Esa política ha incluido

un comité de revisión compuesto fundamentalmente de laicos competentes. El comité funciona efectivamente y tan pronto como es posible evalúa los méritos de todas las denuncias para determinar si hay suficientes bases para confirmar la denuncia”.

“El Arzobispo Myers ha tenido particular cuidado en asegurar que todas las alegaciones relativas a niños sean evaluadas rigurosamente, y nombró a un magistrado retirado del Tribunal Supremo del Estado de New Jersey para que le asista en la evaluación de los aspectos legales y las pruebas en relación con las conclusiones y las recomendaciones del comité de revisión. El Arzobispo Myers ha informado que él o su delegado se ha entrevistado con las víctimas o sus familiares”.

**Un Comité funcionando**

El comité de revisión formado por laicos ha estado funcionando en la diócesis desde 1993 y fue uno de los primeros comités independientes en una diócesis. Similarmente, las políticas de 1993, implementadas para conformarlas con las disposiciones de las leyes de New Jersey en relación con el abuso sexual de los niños, fueron construidas sobre una anterior política que ya estaba en vigor desde mediados de la década del 1980.

El sumario subraya el hecho de que la Arquidiócesis “Ha ido más allá de los requerimientos en su cooperación con los fiscales de condados en relación con un memorandum de entendimiento entre la Arquidiócesis y los respectivos fiscales. El memorandum dispone, entre otras cosas, que se reporten rápidamente ciertos delitos, incluyendo el abuso sexual de menores, cuando esos crímenes llegaran a ser conocidos por el personal de la Arquidiócesis. Ese personal le reporta a un funcionario de la Arquidiócesis que es el contacto que inmediatamente le reporta a los representantes de los fiscales de condado”.

El sumario también nota que la Arquidiócesis ha añadido a su política y procedimientos un Coordinador de Asistencia a las Víctimas para organizar los aspectos críticos del programa asistencial para las víctimas, como recomienda el Estatuto. El Coordinador de Asistencia a las Víctimas, independientemente de la Arquidiócesis, pone a disposición de las víctimas conserjería y otros servicios de apoyo.

Aunque la auditoría se preocupaba principalmente por la adición del Coordinador de Asistencia a las Víctimas, la Arquidiócesis, desde la creación del comité de revisión en 1993, he proporcionado de manera regular conserjería y otros servicios de apoyo a quienes han solicitado esos servicios.

En las áreas de ambientes de seguridad, de chequeo de antecedentes y códigos de conducta para el clero, religiosos y empleados y voluntarios, los auditores notan que la Arquidiócesis ha hecho progresos importantes para su

implementación. En Septiembre, los auditores le pidieron a la Arquidiócesis que acelerara la completa implementación de las provisiones específicas del Estatuto.

Es el objetivo de esta Iglesia local de Newark que todos los que trabajan con niños o jóvenes reciban un entrenamiento en lo relativo a abusos sexuales y permitan el chequeo de sus antecedentes y acepten las políticas y los procedimientos para cumplir tanto con el Estatuto como con las leyes del Estado de New Jersey.

**Contacto:**  
Padre Brian Plate  
Director de Vocaciones

**La Oficina de Vocaciones**  
(973) 497-4365  
171 Clifton Ave., P.O. Box 9500  
Newark, NJ 07104-0500

**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





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### Archdiocese of Newark

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# Juvenile program focus at Catholic Community Services

**BY MARK ALVARADO, M.D.**  
*Special to The Advocate*

Prior to my arrival at Catholic Community Services (CCS), I worked in an intensive mental health program serving New Jersey state prison inmates, adult and juvenile. Working with adolescent inmates was sometimes quite challenging.

Adolescents incarcerated in this environment have hit rock bottom. They have failed probationary measures or committed a crime so egregious that there was no other alternative. Most, if not all, have dropped out of school. Many have had no prior exposure to mental health treatment. They have, for the most part, been traumatized, abused, exploited and/or neglected by adults.

Early intervention, before these suffering teenagers enter the road to a state facility, is crucial. One of the major factors that attracted me to CCS was the Juvenile Restorative Justice Program.

This CCS program receives its referrals from the Detention Assessment Resource Team of the Hudson County Detention Center. These teens, between the ages of 13 and 19, have each faced several charges and may be on closely monitored probation.

Within this program is a specialized track for

males between ages of 16 and 19 who have been released from a state correctional facility and who have problems being placed in the community. It is a residential program with the goal of having these teens obtain their GED and become self-sufficient.

Most tracks within the Juvenile Restorative Justice Program provide daytime activities from Tuesday through Saturday. A major focus is to keep them enrolled in school in view of the fact that truancy is a major risk factor for re-offending. In addition, they are enrolled in such therapeutic activities as group and individual psychotherapy, anger management and drug abuse education. They are referred to psychiatrists and/or psychotherapists when indicated.

Random urine drug screens are utilized on those teens whose crimes involved use of illicit drugs. If the drug screen is positive, they are immediately referred to substance abuse treatment centers.

All enrolled teens carry a major mental health disorder diagnosis. Many patients have autism or schizophrenia. Most have a form of Attention Deficit Disorder. Knowing well that trouble begins at home, the staff visit homes as part of the initial evaluation. When family dysfunction is identified, the family is referred to therapy.

The staff at CCS involved in this treatment modal-

ity are proud of the many enrollees who have been able to stay out of the prison system, obtain a high school diploma or GED and live meaningful, productive lives.

*Dr. Alvarado is the Medical Director of Catholic Community Services.*

## Meeting Their Needs

By Mark Alvarado, M.D.



Archbishop John J. Myers acknowledges parishioners at St. Michael Parish, Union, prior to celebrating Mass to mark the 75th anniversary of the parish.

Advocate photo- Frank Wood

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# Catholic Schools Week

## January 25 - 31, 2004

### Strategic plan being developed

**BY GREG TOBIN**

*Editor & Associate Publisher*

The Office of the Superintendent of Schools of the Archdiocese of Newark will soon have a comprehensive, long-term Strategic Plan for Catholic Schools, according to Sister Dominica Rocchio, S.C., Ed.D., Secretary for Education and Superintendent of Schools.

During the current year, 2003-04, the schools office has been developing a plan. "One of our first steps was to develop a list of goals that are referred to as the Vision for 2013. The purpose of these vision statements is to focus on a strong and viable future for Catholic schools," Sister Dominica stated.

In a newsletter distributed to all pastors and school principals, Sister Dominica reported on the progress of the plan, portions of which have been reviewed with Archbishop John J. Myers, and a draft of which will be reviewed with the Archdiocesan School Board and the Task Force on Catholic Schools.

The plan will address long-range issues for all elementary schools and Archdiocesan secondary schools.

The first step in the process was the preparation of a Vision for 2013, followed by numerous practical steps that are relevant to the future vitality of Catholic schools.

It is the hope of the Office of the Superintendent, as well as pastors and principals, that the plan will be completed in late spring 2004 and distributed to schools upon receiving the approval of the Archbishop.

In 2002-03 the Task Force on Catholic Schools met numerous times and developed for reports on the topics of Catholicity of schools, fiscal matters, program/staff issues and governance.

Only one portion of the Task Force's work has been made public at this time, a

salary schedule that was approved in spring 2003, now in process of implementation.

The four reports will be incorporated into the overall strategic plan for the schools.

Furthermore, the strategic plan will be consistent with the 1991 statement of the Catholic bishops of New Jersey, "Catholic Schools: The Vision in Our Time," and the Holy See's 1997 document on Catholic schools, "The Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium."

The work of the Archbishop's Task Force on Parishes and the work of this

group has been coordinated with the strategic planning process for schools.

The strategic planning effort has been coordinated by Meitler Consultants, Inc., a consulting team that has worked with 87 dioceses during the past quarter century and with more than 1,000 Catholic elementary schools and high schools. The firm has a history of developing strategic plans for individual Catholic schools, as well as diocesan-wide plans. During the past three years the Meitler Consultants group has developed comprehensive plans for the archdioceses of Chicago, Los Angeles and St. Louis. During the same period the com-

pany has also worked in 40 other dioceses and has on three previous occasions worked in the Archdiocese of Newark.

Staff members from the schools office have been active participants in the development of the Strategic Plan for Catholic Schools, beginning with a meeting with the consultants on Oct. 9, 2003.

The Vision for 2013 covers the following areas, outlining specific goals for each: quality and mission, Archdiocesan priority, enrollment, leadership and staff, growth and restructuring, governance and finances.

During the spring, further consultation will be held with constituent groups and with the Archbishop to refine and finalize the Strategic Plan for Catholic Schools.



### Educational excellence sought

"Catholic Schools: A Faith-Filled Future" is the theme for the 30th annual celebration of Catholic Schools Week. The week runs from Sunday, Jan. 25 through Saturday, Jan. 31, 2004. The centerpiece of the week—National Appreciation Day For Catholic Schools—is Wednesday, Jan. 28.

A long-time tradition in Catholic education, Catholic Schools Week became part of the National Marketing Campaign for Catholic Schools in 1991. This program is a collaborative undertaking by the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

"Catholic education is one of the great and generous works of the Church. Our graduates have become leaders of this country, teachers, Religious men and women and business entrepreneurs. Without doubt our schools have had a far-reaching impact on shaping the world," said Michael J. Guerra, NCEA president.

Dominican Sister Glenn Anne McPhee, Secretary for Education at USCCB, said that this year's theme of "Catholic Schools: A Faith-Filled Future," underscores faith as an important value at the foundation of a Catholic school curriculum and also gives assurance that Catholic schools foresee a bright future. "Catholic school leaders are committed to making a difference. Our goal is to graduate students who have strong moral standards and fine academic skills, who will become good citizens and able members of the workforce."

The purpose of Catholic Schools Week is to build support and recognition for the 8,000 Catholic schools nationwide. During this week, many dioceses encourage parents to enroll their children in Catholic schools. Catholic Schools Week also is an opportunity to interest citizens in volunteering their time and talents to local Catholic schools.

National Appreciation Day was established to encourage supporters nation-

wide to showcase the great accomplishments and contributions of Catholic schools to our country.

In Washington, a delegation of more than 150 Catholic school students, teachers and parents will visit Capitol Hill to meet with congressional leaders to promote Catholic schools. As part of their marathon day, they will hand-deliver letters from chief administrators of Catholic education to their representatives and provide a background package on Catholic schools to every congressional office.

Daniel Curtin, Executive Director, Chief Administrators of Catholic Education (CACE) at NCEA, said that distributing letters from superintendents gives Catholic leaders an opportunity to tell Congress about the Catholic schools in their localities. "Many of our superintendents use this initiative as a timely reminder to reach congressional leaders directly with a united message about our priorities for Catholic education."

National Appreciation Day for Catholic Schools is an important day in communities around the country as well. Governors, big city mayors, and small town councils have joined in to issue proclamations in support of Catholic schools. Many civic leaders also meet with students, parents and principals.

The National Marketing Campaign for Catholic Schools was established by USCCB and NCEA to promote Catholic schools year round. The "Faith-Filled Future" theme and logo advancing Catholic education is used daily, not only during Catholic Schools Week. Now in its 12th year, the marketing effort was launched to help create awareness of the value of a Catholic education and to increase enrollment.

NCEA is the largest private, professional education association in the world.

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At far right, John McIntyre, Ed.D., a Caldwell College associate professor of education and a former superintendent of schools in districts throughout New Jersey, discusses a new problem-based externship program Caldwell College is conducting in cooperation with the Newark's Archdiocesan schools. Students in the program, standing from left, are Tom Denaples, a high school facilitator for the Paterson Public Schools; Phyllis Sisco, a second grade teacher at St. George School, Paterson; Louise Herman, principal of St. George School, and Debbie Egan, an assistant principal at St. Dominic Academy, Jersey City. Sitting from left are Ruthann Charence, an enrichment specialist at Bloomfield Middle School, and Natalee Vaccaro-Bartlett, a teacher at Althea Gibson Academy, East Orange. The report is due to be published in April.

# Teacher recruitment, retention are subject of Caldwell report

BY WARD MIELE  
Managing Editor

A unique collaboration between Caldwell College and the Archdiocese of Newark is taking a comprehensive look at the local Catholic educational program.

In the fall of 2001, Caldwell College approached the Schools Office in Newark about how an Administrative Masters program could be of assistance.

Charged with a study of the Archdiocesan schools is the program's seven-member Externship Research Group.

Its first assignment, teacher recruitment and retention, was conducted during the 2001-02 school year.

According to Dr. John R. McIntyre, a professor in the Department of Education and coordinator of the Graduate Program in Educational Administration and Supervision, the primary

focus was on the elementary school level, since very often high schools have a steadier enrollment base. Elementary schools, he noted, are smaller and face more serious financial challenges.

Brother Ralph Darmento, Deputy Superintendent of Schools, noted that the effort included surveys, focus groups and pertinent research literature. It is, he stressed, "a very well done piece of research." He placed equal emphasis on the expertise of those involved in the study. The final report was prepared at no cost to the Archdiocese.

In its probe, the Caldwell College group considered seven questions:

- Is there truly a teacher shortage? Why?
- Who teaches in Catholic schools? Why?
- What recruitment strategies might 'snag' these teachers?

• What creates job satisfaction once employed?

• What are the financial implications in recruitment/retention?

• Given limited resources, what alternatives exist?

• What conclusions or recommendations does the research yield?

The report found that "while efforts at recruitment are certainly very important, more attention must be paid to keeping the teachers once they are hired." It was noted too that "environment is a more significant factor in retaining new teachers than salary and other benefits."

It was determined that "the relationships formed between the teachers and members of the school community bring great satisfaction and a sense of success for those in the teaching ministry."

"Despite the fact that salaries are substantially below those of public school teachers, satisfaction of Catholic school teachers remains high."

Schools, the report explains, must develop strategies and a plan to attract teaching candidates. "The view of who is a potential candidate and when to start trying to interest the candidate in the position must be broad. The first time to think about a need should not be when you need to fill it." Stress was also given to development of liaisons with colleges and universities.

The Archdiocese, it was noted, has a recruitment "problem," especially in specialty and high demand/universal shortage areas. That problem, it was found, "parallels the current experience of public schools throughout New Jersey and parallels the difficulties being experienced nationally in Catholic education."

The "obvious solutions," says the report, "require the infusion of significant financial support from the diocese in terms of taking over responsibility for some major budget areas: capital improvements, benefit costs, etc."

Specific recommendations were put forth.

The report calls for the continuation and expansion of job fairs. Centralization was also emphasized, along with the need to "explore, adapt and implement/expand off-the-shelf programs."

Considerable attention is given to capital development campaigns. It is unrealistic, the

Continued on page S5



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## One senior appreciates students' 'helping hand'

It was a spontaneous sharing of the Christmas spirit that has made St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Bloomfield, proud.

Several days before Christmas, Grace Mitchell, 85, had a doctor's appointment. As she walked toward the office, she felt as if her legs might give out and she would fall.

Mitchell had several Christmas gifts in hand, and she began to cry.

It was at that moment that several St. Thomas grammar school students noticed what was happening and stopped to help. Asking what they could do, the students took her packages, gave her their arms to lean on and walked her into the doctor's office.

When everything was under control, one of the eighth graders gave her a hug, and the students went on their way.

The grateful woman, however, wanted the school to know the act of kindness performed by the students. She went to the office of Principal

Joan Ferraer to explain what had happened.

"She came into the school singing the praises of the students as well as the school, saying it was her best Christmas gift ever," explained the principal.

Mitchell, Ferraer went on, "had never experienced anything like this and felt that with all the criticism of today's youth, this spontaneous act of kindness deserved acknowledgement and recognition. The woman, Ferraer said, "heaped praise on the pastor, the school leaders and the school as a whole." Mitchell told the principal that St. Thomas School was a "great place" to have produced such students.

The pastor of St. Thomas Parish, Msgr. William C. Hatcher, said he is "very pleased" with what the students had done. The students, he added, had helped Mitchell "on their own. They just responded; they gave of their time and themselves."



With a grateful Grace Mitchell, seated, are, left to right, Principal Joan Ferraer and Msgr. William C. Hatcher, along with students left to right, Catherine Elsby, Abigail Johnston, Sarah Sant'Ambrogio, Christine Aiello and Michael Corbitt. Standing in the middle are Mykhal Corbitt and Michael Aiello.

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## Volunteer work cited

Elyssa DiGiovanni, a junior at Union Catholic Regional High School, Scotch Plains, has been recognized by the Metuchen-Edison YMCA as a Youth Volunteer for 2003.

The award was presented at the annual New Jersey YMCA State Alliance Public Policy Dinner.

DiGiovanni is a gifted artist who volunteers her talents to the YMCA.

Among her many projects are an illustration for the organization's Extreme Teen Weekend, a rendering of the Metuchen-Edison YMCA's new home and a rendering of a Sept. 11 memorial that was used as the program cover at the dedication ceremony of Freedom Plaza in Metuchen.

She is also involved in Young Life, an international organization that helps young people grow in their faith.



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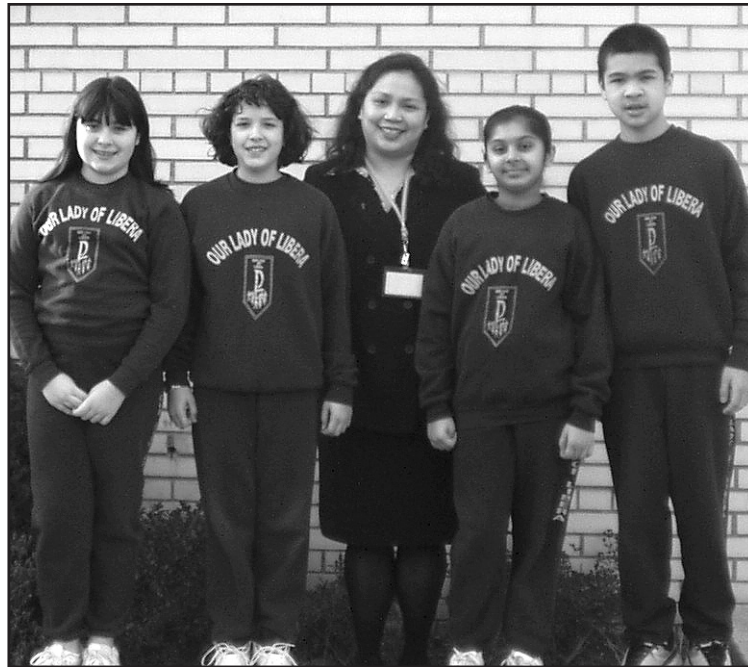
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OLL School Principal Ana Maria Castaneda with, left to right, Jennifer O'Kane, Lyllette Aquino, Priya Bacchus and Joseph Bernardo.

## Local youth 'leaders' DC-bound

Three students from Our Lady of Libera School, West New York, will be among 200 middle school students from throughout the country at the Junior National Young Leaders Conference from March 20-25 in Washington, DC.

Making the trip will be Jennifer O'Kane, Lyllette Aquino, Priya Bacchus and Joseph Bernardo.

Under the theme "The Legacy of American Leadership," the conference will introduce students to the tradition of leadership in the nation's history. It will also help them develop their own leadership skills.

The students will participate in educational activities and presentations led by high-level officials, and by young people who are already leaders in their own communities. Part of their schedule will include a tour of historic sites.

Studies will focus on the impact of leadership during critical periods in American history, such as the Civil War, Reconstruction, the world wars, the Great Depression and civil rights.

"By participating in the conference, students will learn early that young people are not only welcome in Washington, DC, but they actually keep this city and our country running," explained Michael Lasday, Executive Director of the Congressional Youth Leadership Council, the conference's sponsor.

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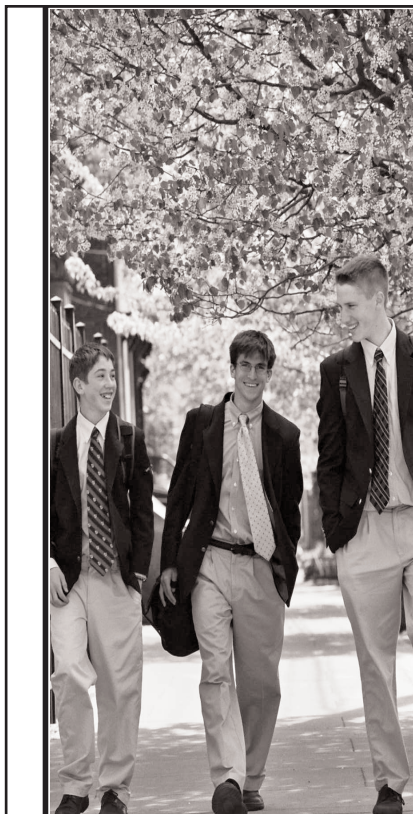
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## Retention

Continued from page S2  
report concludes, to “continue to leave the burden for major financial outlays on the local educational program. Since the programs are serving the needs of the youth of the Archdiocese, it follows that some of the major financial burdens should be shared diocese-wide.”

The reports concludes that the Archdiocese of Newark “has a strong educational system, with committed, enthusiastic, creative principals and teachers.”

It was concluded that there is and will be for the “foreseeable future a challenge to fill all open staff positions.” A significant contributor to “on-going” recruitment problems, says the report, is “the number of teachers who ‘move-on’ each year.”

The Archdiocese, it is pointed out, “is not alone in the problems it faces. Solutions will not be quick-fixes but are possible.” Much of the responsibility, it is said, “will have to be assumed on the diocesan level.”

This past school year, notes Brother Ralph, the Archdiocese had its first opportunity to implement teacher recruitment and retention strategies along with previously developed practices. “However, in June, due to the economy, few positions were available, and competition for remaining positions was fierce.”

The Caldwell College team is now looking at archdiocesan schools that have been successful in marketing for student recruitment and retaining, all in an effort share the “best practices” with all the schools.

That report is expected to be completed by April.

## Archdiocese schedules on cutting-edge

BY BRIAN FORES

Staff Reporter

“Block scheduling,” a new format that reorganizes the timeline of the school day, is a reality at some Archdiocesan schools.

With block scheduling, instead of each school day consisting of the same seven or eight classes, students attend longer 80-minute classes, or “blocks,” every other day. Typically, there are four blocks in one school day. The new schedule-format has gained popularity in both private and public schools in recent years.

There are different ways in which this can be accomplished. “We are on an A-B-C-D schedule,” says Sister Joan Suberati, S.S.J., in charge of scheduling at Queen of Peace High School, North Arlington. The school has been using a block schedule since 1998. “That means the students will have, say, English on days A and C, and Religion on days B and D,” she explained.

On this type of schedule, students may have a given class twice in one week, and three times the next. The schedule also adjusts to accommodate holidays, ensuring that students receive an equal number of classes in each subject.

Sister Joan explained that there is also the “Four by Four” schedule, where the school year is divided into two semesters. Students have four courses, everyday, for one semester, and four different courses the next semester.

For her, the benefits to the students seem obvious: “One of the first things I noticed is how quiet the school is—the bell is not ringing every 20 or 25 minutes,” she noted. “I wouldn’t say they’re learning better—but differently. Students have said that the pace is not so hectic.”

Lavie Rodriguez, who teaches language arts to eighth graders at Sacred Heart School, Bloomfield, has witnessed the school’s transition to block scheduling, which began only this year.

“Since they have class every other day, they have two days instead of one to do their homework,” she noted. “Students have come to me and said, ‘I thought I understood this in class, but when I got home, I was confused.’ This gives me a chance to work on the problem with the student after class, or if it is something the entire class is having trouble with, I can address it in the next class.”

Rodriguez added that the extra time is essential for developing strong writing skills. The students now have time to go through the entire process—from brainstorming and focusing on a topic to editing and revising.

“I think they’re retaining more, because they’re not in such a rush,” she said. “We have more time to work in groups. Hearing them interact helps me assess how much they are learning.

As they listen to what they are saying, they are able to assess themselves,” she noted, adding, “They also get to bounce ideas off of one another—they learn tremendously this way.”

Charles Syby, who has been teaching at Queen of Peace 14 years, and currently teaches U.S. History to seniors, pointed out some of the

benefits of block scheduling for teachers. “I like that I have the freedom to explore topics and themes in more depth than in a 40 or 45 minute class.

“Since they have more time to do their homework, I’m not chasing after kids to get the work done,” he said. “This gives me more time to get organized. I can keep track of where they are a lot better, and as a result, they’re more organized,” Syby noted.

When asked whether there were any drawbacks to the schedule, Syby explained that absenteeism can be problematic. “It they miss two classes, it’s a week worth of material. It’s especially tough when they are consecutive absences,” he said. “But the positives far outweigh the negatives,” he added.

“It has changed the way I teach—I’m much more structured,” he explained. “You don’t want to get into a scenario where you’re lecturing for 80 minutes, so I try to break it into three blocks of 25 or 30 minutes,” he explained.

Syby’s motto is “Teach them something, show them something, do something,” which reflects first lecturing, then utilizing the school’s computer lab to show students online tutorial or historical video, and lastly, completing an activity, which may involve a research project or handout. “Ideally, the class becomes a hybrid—the different phases overlap and fuse seamlessly.”



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Participating in the conference were, left to right, back row: Bianca Perez, Mariela Francisco, Sister Michelle Geiger, F.M.A., Hedy Perez, and Kimberly Urquhart. Middle row: Tiffany Ferguson, Melissa Maldonado, Brittany Wimberly and Karel Johnson. Front row: Jessica Rios, Jezzeny Vasquez, Stephanie Perez and Tatiana Carmona.

## Students expand horizons

A dozen students from Mary Help of Christians Academy, North Haledon, recently returned from Los Angeles as part of the school's participation in the School Connectivity Project, for Southeast Europe. (SCP).

The academy was the only school in the tri-state area represented at the four-day conference.

SCP, co-sponsored by Catholic Relief Services and the U.S. State Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, connects schools throughout the United States with secondary schools in Southeast Europe via the Internet.

The conference, hosted by Catholic Relief Services and St. Joseph High School in Los Angeles, included more than 60 high school students and teach-

ers from nine states.

Students met to share experiences and build upon their intercultural communication and collaboration skills, which they have been sharpening through their participation in this global project.

In the first phases of the project, students from 91 high schools in 10 countries (including 16 U.S. high schools) have been communicating with their peers in the Balkans through the project's Web-based discussion forum (<https://www.schoolconnectivity.net>).

Students are jointly exploring topics such as culture, identity, arts, technology, history and environment. This kind of work prepares the students to become active, tolerant and globally aware citizens of the 21st century world.

Academy teacher Sister Michelle Geiger, F.M.A. explains, "It is important for today's students to see beyond their own town and country. They must be prepared to be leaders in a global society. By learning about others, especially in far away places such as Eastern Europe, the students understand their own culture better. They also begin to realize that they share many of the same values as others. Peace is built through relationships of understanding and respect."

This echoes the sentiment of students from Jagodina, Serbia. In a message sent to their American counterparts, they wrote, "Maybe with this rather small project, we can make big progress where our countries' diplomacy failed."

The project is indeed creating welcome relationships between U.S. and Balkan students and among students in divided communities in Southeast Europe.

In a high school in Tetovo, Macedonia students of different ethnicities who were previously separated by conflict are now working together in the computer lab sponsored by the SCP.



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# High school admission, a step-by-step process

*Special to The Catholic Advocate*

“The envelope, please!” These days this mantra echoes in the halls of many elementary schools and the hearts of many students in central and northern New Jersey. On Jan. 16 Catholic secondary schools from Middlesex to Sussex will inform close to 8,050 eighth-graders of ninth-grade admissions decisions. These students seek entrance into a Catholic secondary school for September 2004.

The Catholic secondary school admissions process begins in earnest in April of a seventh-grader’s life, with Catholic high school information nights and fairs focusing both student and family attention on gathering data for a decision that many say affects one’s future.

From September to November each secondary school will sponsor open house programs in order to explain programs and assist the applicant and family in determining whether a school is the best match for one’s interests, talents and needs.

Each year in early November students throughout the metropolitan area, including those residing in the Archdiocese of New York and the Diocese of Brooklyn, join Garden State eighth-graders in sitting for a common admissions examination that serves as the gatekeeper for entrance into the Catholic secondary schools.

The Cooperative Admissions Examination Program (COOP) serves nearly 105 Catholic secondary schools and nearly 27,000 students. Through this program students apply for admission to as many as three Catholic secondary schools in any of the five dioceses served by the program.

The examination measures both student aptitude and achievement. Reading, language arts and mathematics are the focus of the achievement component. Scoring takes place at CTB/McGraw-Hill headquarters in Monterey, CA. Detailed scoring reports are sent to the Catholic secondary schools, and home reports are forwarded to the family of each applicant.

The period from mid-December to mid-January sees admissions officials, in collaboration with school administrators, decide which students will gain admission to the 105 Catholic secondary schools.

Brother Ralph Darmento, Deputy Superintendent of Schools, indicates that admissions decisions are based on fundamental criteria, “successful achieve-

ment and effort as indicated by the official transcript of sixth, seventh and eighth grade marks, with accompanying standardized testing results; satisfactory performance on the COOP examination; record of satisfactory attendance and conduct, and the recommendation of the elementary school principal and/or teacher.”

An individual school might also indicate the completion of an essay and/or interview as part of the application process. Of course, the successful completion of eighth grade is the final hurdle before entrance into the Catholic secondary school of choice in September 2004.

On Feb. 7, 2004 each of the Catholic secondary schools in the Archdiocese of Newark will conduct registration for prospective ninth graders. On that day students and families will be welcomed to the school, given pertinent information about scheduling classes, placement examinations, uniforms and/or dress code regulations, financial assistance and the tuition schedule.

Last year 4,386 students secured their places as members of the Class of 2007. The Catholic sec-

ondary schools of the Archdiocese of Newark opened their doors in September 2003 with 4,657 students.

Clearly, interest in Catholic secondary schools continues to grow; enrollment in these schools locally and nation-wide is on the increase.

Hopefully, as excited students count down these January days, the envelopes will arrive with the good news of at least one offer of acceptance. Student anxiety will lessen, families will boast with pride of the accomplishments of their children and the focus is placed back on the daily task of engaging in “education for the future, faith for a lifetime.”

## International issues studied

Giselle Sedano, a student at St. Mary of the Assumption High School, Elizabeth, was among 17 Union County scholars to attend the New Jersey Governor’s School of International Studies at Ramapo College.

The program began with a five-day visit to Quebec City, which offered Sedano an opportunity to be immersed in the historical, cultural, political and economic reality of another culture.

At Ramapo College, she attended classes that focused on contemporary global issues, and took part in an environmental workshop and an International Communications and Negotiations Simulation. Sedano also was a part of an exciting face-to-face negotiation simulation at the United Nations.

She has described the Governor’s School as “...the four most wonderful weeks of my life.”

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### Catholic school enrollment

Catholic school enrollment is 2,553,277. There are 1,906,870 students in elementary/middle schools and 646,407 in secondary schools.



Source: The National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA), 2003.

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REGISTRATION: Class of 2008  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2004 • 9:00am

## U.S. statistics are revealing

Total national Catholic school student enrollment for the 2002-03 academic year is 2,553,277: 1,906,870 elementary/middle school; 646,407 secondary school.

Minority student enrollment is 663,682, which is 26% of the total enrollment.

Non-Catholic enrollment is 341,819, which is 13.4% of the total enrollment.

There are 8,000 Catholic schools; of these 6,785 are elementary/middle, and 1,215 are secondary.

47 new schools opened; 140 consolidated or closed.

3,195 schools have a waiting list for admission.

Coeducational schools comprise 99% of elementary and 65.1% of secondary schools. At the secondary level, 14.4% of single gender schools are male and 20.5% are female.

Full-time equivalent professional staff numbered 163,004: laity 94.4%, Religious/clergy 5.6%; lay women: 74.6%; lay men: 19.8%; sisters: 4.2; brothers 0.7%; priests 0.7%.

The student/teacher ratio is 16:1.

Source: United States Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools 2002-2003: The Annual Statistical Report on Schools, Enrollment and Staffing.

Note: Statistical report for 2003-2004 academic year will be available April 2004.

## Fast-track leadership at SHU

Seton Hall University's Catholic School Leadership program, in which students can get a Master of Arts degree in Education Leadership, Management and Policy, as well as New Jersey Principal Certification, is celebrating its five-year anniversary.

The accelerated program was founded in September

1998 and is designed for educators and administrators with leadership potential in New Jersey Catholic schools.

It consists of six weekends during the regular academic year and an intensive one-week summer session.

The program was the first of its kind in the state and is jointly sponsored by the College of

Education and Human Services (CEHS) and the Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology.

Some 100 students have graduated from the program to date, and many graduates have been promoted or assumed positions as superintendents.

"The program's cohort model develops a community of faith-filled Catholic school professionals," says Reverend Kevin M. Hanbury, Ed.D., founder and director of the program, and associate dean for graduate administrative services at the College of Education and Human Services.

The cohort format also allows many opportunities for professional networking and support.

Another unique offering of interest to Catholic educators is Seton Hall's Educational Partners in Catholic Schools program (or EPICS).

Supported in part by generous grants from the Simon Foundation, University of Notre Dame and Our Sunday Visitor Publications, the EPICS program recruits student volunteers to teach for two years in urban Catholic schools.

While EPICS students are serving some of the country's most underserved elementary and secondary students, they can earn a master's degree at Seton Hall and/or complete a program of study leading to teacher certification.

Charles P. Mitchel, Ed.D., Chair of the Department of Education Leadership, Management and Policy at CEHS, is the academic adviser for EPICS. Mitchel says, "Successful graduates of this program are well-equipped to lead the Catholic schools of the 21st century."



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**Wednesday, January 28, 2004**

9:00-11:00 AM or 1:00-2:00 PM or 7:00-8:00 PM

Registration in February for

Grades K-6

Pre-K 3 year olds

Pre-K 4 year olds

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Sister Anita is congratulated by Charles O'Sullivan, the high school president, and Msgr. William Fadrowski, Queen of Peace pastor.

## Queen of Peace honors Catholic education veteran

Sister Anita Maria O'Dwyer, S.S.J., Principal of Queen of Peace Elementary School, North Arlington, is the recipient of this year's St. Joseph Award for Catholic Education.

Sister Anita received the award at Queen of Peace High School's annual President's Dinner.

"The St. Joseph Award for Catholic education was established to allow us to recognize outstanding contributions to Catholic education," explained Charles O'Sullivan, President of Queen of Peace High School. "There are so many people contributing not only to our efforts here at Queen of Peace, but to Catholic schools all over the Archdiocese. We felt it was our obligation to begin this tradition of recognizing outstanding contributions by members of the Queen of Peace family," he added.

Sister Anita has distinguished herself as a leader in Catholic education. She has been an educator for 45 years and a Sister of St. Joseph 48 years. For the past 14 years, Sister has been the principal of Queen of Peace Elementary School. She also serves on the Board of Overseers for the high school.

"Clearly, Sister Anita has led an entire life dedicated to the cause of Catholic education; she has been a teacher, an administrator and most of all a leader by example," O'Sullivan said. He and Msgr. William Fadrowski, Pastor of Queen of Peace Parish, presented the award.

### A place to 'grow and mature'

Sister Anita said she was "very appreciative" of the honor. She spoke of the personal satisfaction she has received from her career.

"It has been a blessing and my great honor to have been able to serve in Catholic education for over 45 years," she told the audience.

"One of the real satisfactions has been serving here at Queen of Peace and being able to watch most of my students continue to grow and mature at Queen of Peace High School. It is wonderful that this St. Joseph Award has been created, and I know of and have worked with so many wonderful people here who also deserve this recognition."

In addition to bestowing the St. Joseph Award, Queen of Peace honored three others. The St. John Baptist De La Salle Distinguished Faculty Award was presented posthumously to John Koob, who was a teacher at the high school. His sisters, Marian and Mary Koob, accepted.

The Golden Griffin Awards for outstanding service to Queen of Peace student activities and athletics were awarded to Suzanne Murden, head softball coach of the Golden Griffins, and athletic director Ed Abromaitis.

"The record of service of these three individuals is incredible. Each of these people has been teaching, leading and serving the young men and women of Queen of Peace for over 25 years. I am extremely proud of the work they have done here and most of all proud that all three are Queen of Peace alumni," O'Sullivan said.

The Our Lady Queen of Peace Award, the school's highest honor, was awarded to the De La Salle Christian Brothers. Msgr. Fadrowski spoke on behalf of the brothers, who served at Queen of Peace for 43 years.

Msgr. Fadrowski spoke of the great work the brothers did at Queen of Peace. In a moving moment during the dinner, he requested that all of the alumni present who were positively influenced by the brothers as students stand. About 75 percent of the audience stood.

## Forensics duo captures consecutive honors

Mother Seton High School, Clark, placed fourth overall at its second Newark Catholic Forensics League (NCFL) competition of the season.

Sophomore Amanda Roach took second place in the Declamation competition. She presented Sen. Hillary Clinton's "Give Voice to Women

Everywhere" speech to the United Nations. Team president Erica Pimenta, a junior, was fifth in Original Oratory. She presented "Winning is Everything." Both students were also winners in the season's first competition.

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25

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Marian Hobbie, left, principal of St. Patrick's School, Chatham, congratulates Rosalie Iadanza on being named a National Catholic Education Association Distinguished Teacher. Iadanza taught first and second grade for 28 years in the Archdiocese of Newark.



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# Helping the hungry: a tradition

Bergen Catholic High School has again come to the aid of the Center for Food Action (CFA).

For more than a decade, the school has provided volunteer help for the CFA through its community service projects. Each student is required to donate service hours every year, with the CFA a major beneficiary.

From five sites in Bergen and Passaic counties, CFA provides emergency food, advocacy and rent and utility assistance to individuals and families in crisis. The working poor and senior and disabled citizens on fixed incomes also receive temporary relief from CFA.

Approximately 20 Bergen Catholic students donated their time at the Mahwah CFA on a

weekend prior to the Christmas holidays.

They sorted and filled food packages and packed these items into the cars of the recipients. Some also helped to sort and distribute Christmas items.

Father James White, the school's campus minister and coordinator of senior service projects, summed up the school's philosophy regarding acts of charity when he remarked, "Service is the bill we pay for the privileges we use on earth."

Bea O'Rourke, CFA-Northwest Manager for distribution centers in Mahwah and Ringwood, noted, "For a decade, Bergen Catholic High School has been a major contributor for the Thanksgiving and Christmas projects here

at the Center for Food Action." "These students provide direct food relief, assistance, and counseling for the needy. Without their strength and great faith, I honestly don't think that we could survive. We are extremely grateful for the contributions of Bergen Catholic High School and its students."

## 'Outreach day' is planned

A full schedule of events in celebration of Catholic Schools Week will take place at St. Mary's School, Dumont.

On Sunday, Jan. 25, there will be an opening liturgy at 10 a.m., followed by a social and open house. On Monday, Jan. 26, the school will have intramurals, with the annual seventh versus eighth grade and faculty versus eighth grade volleyball games.

Tuesday, Jan. 27, is "Grandparents/Special Person's Day." At 10 a.m., seventh and eighth grade students will offer a presentation on St. Mary's, including profiles of important figures in the school's history.

Wednesday, Jan. 28, is designated "Community Outreach Day." Students will offer presentations on community outreach projects they have been working on, and the hand bell choir from Academy of the Holy Angels, Demarest, will do a workshop with St. Mary's students.

On Thursday, Jan. 29, individuals who have done volunteer work for the school throughout the year will be honored.

Friday, Jan. 30, will be reserved for a special luncheon to honor the faculty; in the evening, parents and families are invited to the "Family Closing Party," in the gym from 6-9 p.m., with a DJ, food and music.

## Students are recognized

Two seniors at Mother Seton Regional High School, Clark, have been cited for their academic achievements by the College Board's National Hispanic Recognition program.

Victoria Alonso and Kelly Archibald are taking advanced courses and are active in extra curricula programs.

The National Hispanic Recognition program, established in 1983, identifies high school seniors for colleges.



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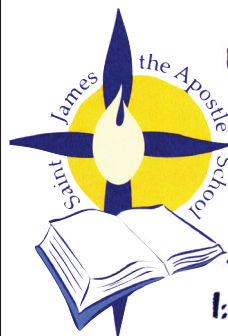
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## Education, technology connection

BY BRIAN FORES

Staff Reporter

The "Laptop Learning Vision Program" at Union Catholic Regional High School in Scotch Plains, in its seventh year of development, has made the school a leader in the integration of technology and education.

UC currently has over 900 laptops being used by students, faculty and staff. Students use the laptops interactively throughout the school day, and at home, to encourage learning outside of the classroom—what the school calls its "Anywhere/Anytime Learning" philosophy.

"The technology adds an extra dimension to learning that many students find exciting," stated Karen Piasecki, Assistant Principal in charge of technology. Piasecki pointed out that because of the resources available at UC, students are more organized, and their research and writing skills are well developed. "It's a great opportunity for them to prepare for the future and become life-long learners through technology," she said.

UC has implemented a wireless network that boasts high-speed internet access. The school's student-produced webpage ([www.unioncatholic.org](http://www.unioncatholic.org)) is used to post daily reminders, as well as scholarship, athletic, curriculum and alumni information. UC also participates in Edgate.com, which provides a link between teachers and students, and teachers and parents. Teachers use Edgate.com to post homework and daily assignments too.

The school offers a number of technology-based courses in Word, PowerPoint and Excel for certification testing through Microsoft, DDC and Certipoint. Next year will see the addition of classes for certification in the Cisco Network.

Some of the school's other technology-related facilities include a Library Research Center with Networked Internet Access; Fiber-Optic Network with Classroom Network Access; Computerized College Research Center with Internet Access; a Multimedia Sound and Art Department; Digital Photography and Desktop Publishing capabilities; and a Television Production studio, and Film and Sound Production studio.

## Pro-life group gets its message out

Despite frigid temperatures, more than 35 Mary Help of Christians Academy students recently spent a Saturday morning protesting abortions at an Englewood medical center.

Joining with members of the Center for Bioethical Reform (CBR), members of the school's Pro-Life Club used 6' x 13' signs showing photos comparing aborted babies with historically recognized cases of genocide, such as Jewish Holocaust. The goal was to get people to think about abortion in a broader historical context.

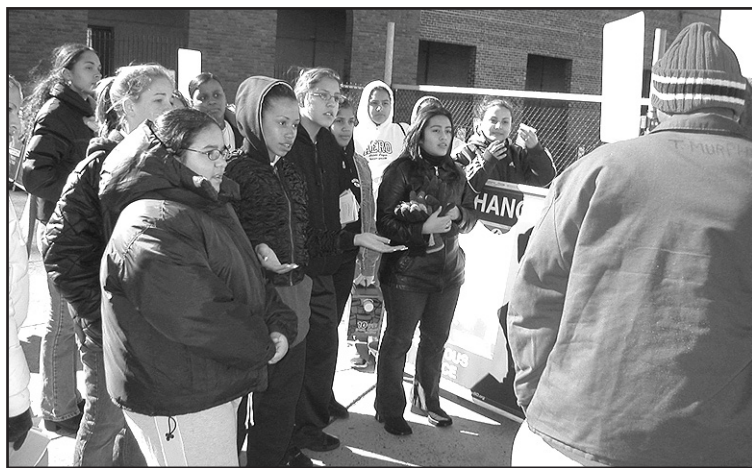
The students received both criticism and support at the protest, but remained undaunted in their efforts, knowing they were helping to save lives.

"For two and a half hours I felt we really got our point across and made people think twice about abortion," said Vanessa Guerrero, a new member of the Pro-Life Club.

Sophomore Melissa Pinto commented, "I believe the sidewalk ministry that occurred on Saturday was so helpful because our audience was in our age group, and that makes both sides more comfortable."

Another member stated, "This was my first time, and I loved it! I just didn't know that so many girls come to get abortions."

As one passerby told a student, "Just remember this... when you go to heaven, you will meet all the babies you saved today and even those you tried to save."



Students protest against abortion outside an Englewood medical clinic.



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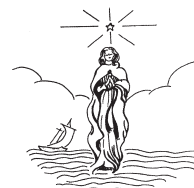
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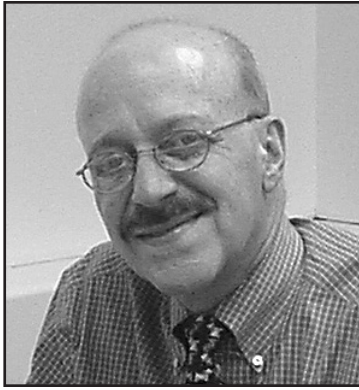
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Michael Marotti



Anthony LaPolla

# Asst. principals ending careers

**BY BRIAN FORES**  
Staff Reporter

Two men who have dedicated their lives to Catholic education are retiring this year.

Both began working for Catholic schools in 1969, and worked at regional high schools in Union County. Michael Marotti, Assistant Principal of Union Catholic Regional High School, retired in December. Anthony LaPolla, Assistant Principal of Roselle Catholic Regional High School, will retire in June.

John O'Neil, Associate Superintendent of Secondary Schools for the Archdiocese of Newark, commented, "Every successful school has a certain number of people who have devoted their lives to that school. And in the case of Union Catholic and Roselle Catholic, Mike and Tony are those kind of people." He added, "Thousands have benefited from what they've given: total commitment, professionalism and dedication to the students."

When Marotti began working at Union Catholic, Scotch Plains, in 1969, the school was divided into a separate boys and girls school. In 1980, the two schools merged; at the same time, Marotti was thinking of pursuing a differ-

ent career. Sister Percylee Hart, the principal, asked him to stay on as assistant principal.

"It was quite clear to me that if the merger was to have the best chance to succeed, UC needed the gifts and talents of Mike Marotti to help bring about this transformative change," she said.

During the economically challenging years of the late 1980s, Union Catholic experienced a painful downsizing.

Marotti took on extra work and made sacrifices in his home life to help keep the school running efficiently. "There were three assistant principals at that time," commented Noreen Andrews, one of the school's current assistant principals. "As Union Catholic downsized, he kept assuming other people's responsibilities. Until recently, he's been doing all those jobs," she noted.

Andrews is one of four new assistant principals. Through the school's "strategic planning" initiative, something Marotti helped implement, the student body at Union Catholic has surged in recent years. According to Andrews, "It became clear that the position of assistant principal needed to be divided, for better focus."

Anne Wischusen, Director of Institutional Development, in recounting an early impression of Marotti during a school function, captures his willingness to do any job. "I was not prepared... to find the assistant principal in the kitchen... in an apron (over his shirt and tie) doing the dishes," she said, adding, "It confirmed for me what I already knew—the man has no ego."

The school's Anytime, Anywhere—Learning with Laptops Program, implemented in the late 1990s, put the school at the vanguard of education through technology. Andrews explained that Marotti was there from the beginning, helping to bring Sister Percylee's vision to fruition.

"He was a catalyst for the program's success—from setting up hardware, to helping the faculty grow into this new educational paradigm," she commented.

Before retiring, Marotti initiated a campaign to raise funds to install an elevator at Union Catholic, which continues in his name. The idea came about when a physically challenged student could not be admitted to the school because she could not manage the school's staircases.

The student was a perfect match for the school's special needs program, which Marotti was influential in creating and nurturing.

Upon his retirement, Sister

Continued on page S13

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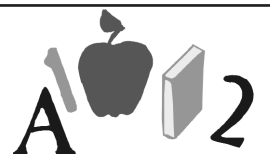
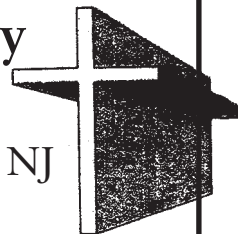
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## Marotti, LaPolla to retire

Continued from page S12

Percylee commented, "Valued traits that Mike has consistently manifested in his role as an administrator are his unwavering integrity, justice and concern for the good of the school and each of the members of the UC Community, especially evident in the innumerable times I and others have sought his counsel."

Anthony LaPolla, Assistant Principal for Academics at Roselle Catholic, Roselle, is closely affiliated with the Marist Brothers, who run the school. "Three years ago, he became affiliated with, and was recognized as, a key part of the Marist Brothers," commented Brother John Klein, Provincial of the Marist Brothers of the United States, who has known LaPolla since 1969.

"He was remarkable in picking up the spirit and charism of the Marist Brothers," Brother John said. "First among those qualities is his care and concern for the individual, namely the students, and particularly those students in need. Secondly, he is a consummate professional, highly skilled, and a person that anyone could trust—he has inspired a lot of confidence in others. Tony has such a fine character, any parent would want their son or daughter associated with him," Brother Klein explained.

Brother Owen Ormsby, Principal, said that whether teaching psychology or acting as an administrator, LaPolla has always been devoted to the development of the whole student—intellectually, physically, morally and emotionally.

"In the past 30 years, education has evolved tremendously, and

Tony has always adapted to meet the students' needs," Brother Owen said. "He has been one of the builders of a very rich and deep tradition here at Roselle Catholic, and his life-long commitment has left an indelible imprint on that tradition," he added.

Linda Lynch, Department Chair of Social Studies, psychology teacher, and a former student of LaPolla at Roselle Catholic, agrees. "I was a senior in '87, and—this may sound corny—I didn't know what to do with my future until I took his psychology class," she remembered. "I was pretty lost, but he inspired me to go on. He showed us how what we were learning applied to each one of us, and how we could use it in our lives.

As a person and as a teacher,"

she observed, "I believe he possesses a unique combination of traits. He can be tough and demanding, but he was also extremely likeable."

According to Brother Owen and Lynch, LaPolla has gone a long way to elevate the academic standing of the school over the years.

*"I was pretty lost, but he inspired me to go on."*

*-Linda Lynch*

"He has maintained the strength of our academic program," Brother Owen said. "Last year, we had 12 Bloustein Scholars; this year we have exceeded that number. That recognition comes from the state, and speaks tremendously of the

commitment he has made."

Through coordination with Seton Hall University, LaPolla has implemented Project Acceleration, in which students can earn college credit in certain courses.

Under LaPolla's guidance, the school added a "Focus Room," a resource room for students with learning disabilities, and hired a full-time special education teacher. He also implemented a two-week intensive SAT prep course for juniors who are about to take the test, at no additional cost to the parents. According to Lynch, there has been a significant increase in test scores,

"I don't know how he does it. It would take three people to fill his shoes," she said.

Nancy Fischetti, Administrative Assistant at Roselle Catholic,

was hired by LaPolla 25 years ago. "At the time, he was the principal of the school. Then he moved to teaching, before becoming assistant principal," she recalled. "He is just a pleasure to work with—funny, fair, absolutely wonderful. He has brought the school so much further along. He has wonderful ideas and is able to implement them. He's going to be really missed, personally and professionally."

Fischetti remembers a student who was once struggling. LaPolla did everything he could to help the student along. Today that student teaches English at Roselle Catholic. "That student was my son," Fischetti asserted.

"Tony went out of his way to help him; he basically put him on the right track—and it worked."



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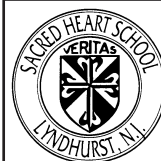
Grades K-8: Thurs., January 29th • 9-11 am

Pre-K3: Wed., January 28th • 1-2:30 pm

Pre-K4: Wed., January 28th • 8:30-10 am

#### General Registration

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School Office

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## Catholic Schools Week 2004



# Caldwell College has right prescription for medical students

When Sharrell Gibson, a 2001 graduate of Caldwell College, decided she wanted to apply to medical school in her senior year, she did not have many choices.

As an international student from the Bahamas, state-subsidized U.S. medical colleges would not accept her unless she had a green card or citizenship. Private medical schools required payment of four years of medical school tuition in advance.

Because Gibson had a 3.8 GPA and competitive scores on her Medical College Assessment Test (MCAT), Sook Choi, Ph.D., the Caldwell College Dr. Alvin B. Calman Professor of Biology, took an interest in her plans.

Dr. Choi contacted the Bahamian Health Ministry and asked them to visit the neighboring campus of St. George

University Medical school in Grenada. The college has a history of accepting U.S. students, as well as those of other nationalities, and has a monument in the center of the campus commemorating the 12 Marines who lost their lives rescuing U.S. medical students during the civil war in Grenada.

At Dr. Choi's urging, the Health Ministry made an assessment visit to the campus and subsequently recognized St. George Medical School in a partnership program, granting full scholarships to any Bahamian students attending medical school there.

Gibson is in her second year of medical school, with an ultimate goal of an M.D. Ph.D. in Public Health.

Dia Serville, another Bahamian native, graduated from



Shylon Thomas Mathew will graduate in May 2004 from UMDNJ.

Caldwell College in May 2002 and followed Gibson to St. George's campus this fall.

In addition, Dr. Choi has helped seven other Caldwell College alumni get into health professional schools, setting a one-year college record.

Four graduates are attending UMDNJ's dental school. They are Shylon Thomas Mathew, '01,

Michelle Lau, '03, Amy Rojas, '03, and Joseph Ting, '03. Michelle Goldych, '03, attends the New York Chiropractic School, while Valvona Caco, '03, is also at St. George University Medical School. Eden Woredekak, '03, is studying at the New York School of Osteopathic Medicine.

"I thought I had a fantastic

undergraduate education at Caldwell College," said Mathew, 23, of Parsippany, who graduated with a Bachelors of Arts degree in biology, and who will graduate this May from UMDNJ in Newark with a degree in dentistry.

"Caldwell College equipped me with a good knowledge base for my current studies at UMDNJ," he said. Mathew, plans to specialize in pediatric dentistry.

Eden Woredekak, who graduated from Caldwell College with a double major in biology/psychology, is on track to graduate from the New York School of Osteopathic Medicine in Old Westbury, Long Island in May 2007 with a Doctor of Osteopathy degree.

"Most of the biology courses I completed at Caldwell College, especially in histology and general biology, prepared me well for the challenging science courses I am now required to take. And my coursework in chemistry and physics aided me in scoring well enough on my (MCAT) to get into medical school in the first place," Woredekak said.

"Because of our many affiliation programs with health-related professional schools we are able to attract very strong science major students and are also able to send them to various health professional schools afterward," Dr. Choi said.

"Sending nine students to health professional schools in one year is very rare. Even much larger schools do not send that many students," she said.

In addition, Dr. Choi recently helped to establish a new summer course agreement with one of the college's sister university's, Duksung Women's University in Korea.

## Deanery 16

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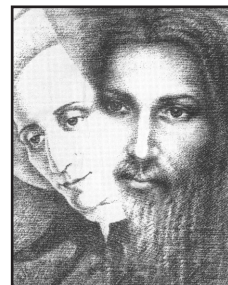
school website: [www.olgfairview.org](http://www.olgfairview.org)

### Open House Registration

Tuesday, January 27, 2004 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

10 am - 2 pm, PreK-8th

Call 201-945-8300 for info.



### Holy Spirit School

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[holyspiritunion.org](http://holyspiritunion.org)



### OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, January 29  
10:30am - 11:30am

Barbara Prescott, Principal



## In the Principal's Office

# New leader for Saint Peter's

BY TRISH FITZPATRICK

Special to The Catholic Advocate

Business' loss is Catholic education's gain. Back in 1990 Kevin Cuddihy thought he'd spend his first post-college summer working at his old high school, Xavier High School, a Jesuit institution in New York City; come September, he'd join the ranks of First Boston trainees.

Cuddihy was anxious to return to Xavier, so anxious that "he would have taken any job in the place." Cuddihy's New York and Jesuit roots go deep.

Today Kevin Cuddihy is the new principal at Saint Peter's Preparatory School (familiarily known as Prep), New Jersey's Jesuit high school, located in downtown Jersey City.

Cuddihy's summer school job teaching mathematics, history and English turned into a career path as an assistant dean position opened up at Xavier, and the same dean who was there when Cuddihy was a student hired him. He recalls this dean, Franklin Delano Gregory (a graduate of Saint Peter's Prep), and his words upon hiring him: "I remember you well—never *in* trouble but often *around* trouble."

He spent the next 13 years at Xavier. He says of the students both at Xavier and also at Saint Peter's, "We are here to build each other up, not break each other

down." This ideal is modeled by the faculty and is seen by the care and concern shown. The reason he is drawn to Jesuit education is summed up nicely by the motto, "Men For Others," he says.

Xavier prepared Cuddihy well for his leadership role. His administrative duties taught him a great deal about problem solving, and though in his role as assistant dean he had to dispense discipline, he also concentrated on guidance of and communication with students. He continued to teach mathematics and Latin, which he says enabled him to stay close to students.

In 1999 Dean Gregory retired, and Cuddihy stepped into that role. During these years he built on his undergraduate degree from Connecticut College by pursuing courses in Education. In 1994 he earned an M.S. in Education from Fordham University and in 1997 picked up a second Master's from Fordham in Administration and Supervision. He was among one of the first to complete a three-year program in Ignatian Leadership, sponsored by the Jesuit Secondary Education Association. This

course of study, conducted seminar-style in six cycles, is designed to prepare the laity for leadership roles in Jesuit education. He finished the program in 1998.

The academic year 2003-2004

marks Cuddihy's first year as principal of Saint Peter's Prep. The school undertook a rigorous and wide-ranging search to replace outgoing Principal Jack Raslowsky. Many segments of the Prep community were involved in the search that culminated in a final



Kevin Cuddihy

interview with Prep President Father Jim Keenan, S.J. It was with great joy that Cuddihy accepted the role of principal, even as he found it bittersweet to leave Xavier, where he spent so many formative years. When speaking of the new principal, Father Keenan said, "Kevin Cuddihy's commitment to the ideals of Jesuit Secondary Education is exemplary; he initiates with the adage, 'actions speak louder than words.'"

As he gets to know a new school with a faculty and staff of almost 90 and some 930 students,

Cuddihy mentions several goals for Prep. A curriculum review is currently under way, and this may result in the re-shaping of some courses. A Strategic Planning Committee is evaluating the role of technology and its integration with the curriculum. As principal he encourages faculty development and is happy about the excellent support Prep gives to its faculty in terms of attaining personal goals.

Cuddihy reflected on the spirituality of Prep and of Jesuit schools in general. He cites Father Tony Azzarto, S.J. and faculty member Matt Greeley for the recent completion of the 201st Emmaus Senior Retreat. Father Azzarto said about Prep, "We try to help the students discover God already present in their life. They are alive with the presence of God, and we can help them bring that out."

Cuddihy mentioned various other paraliturgical celebrations, immersion trips, shelter visits and community food drives, and says, "Christ is the model for all we do in the local communities." He also talked about the fine Christian Service Program at Prep, directed by Sister Frances Marie Duncan, O.S.F.

He concluded by counting his blessings, both personal and professional. "I think the post 9/11 world is one in which we all identify our roots and look to those places for strength," he commented. For him, the places of strength are his wife and growing family, his Xavier family and his new family at Saint Peter's Prep. A journey that started on the streets of lower Manhattan continues at the corner of Grand and Warren in Jersey City.



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