"What did you go out to the desert to see?" —Matthew 11:7



Advecation de la construction de





Dogma of Immaculate Conception Page 2



Parish Profile Sacred Heart, Pages 10-11



Scholarship fund fulfilling a need Page 14



Ministry Closeup Page 17



Paramus chapel consecrated Page 21

learn more about your faith <u>www.rcan.org</u>



A funeral Mass was celebrated Monday morning, Dec. 6 at St. Agnes Parish, Clark, for U.S. Army Pfc. Stephen C. Benish, 20, of Clark, who was killed Nov. 28 in Ar Ramadi, Iraq, while on foot patrol. He had a lifelong dream of becoming a firefighter. At the age of 18 he became a call man volunteer with the Cranford Fire Department.

Youth protection office established

To emphasize its strong commitment to both the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People and the principle of ensuring a safe environment for the youth it serves, the Archdiocese of Newark recently established an Office of Child and Youth Protection and announced that Rosemarie Petraglia has assumed responsibilities as director of this new office.

"In establishing this office, we are mirroring the efforts of other dioceses and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops to both oversee and enforce the norms set forth in the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People," said Very Rev. Robert Emery, Vicar General and



Rosemarie Petraglia

Moderator of the Curia. "While we have relied on many staff members in the Archdiocesan Center over the past several years to address the issue of sexual abuse of minors in the Church, we feel that our efforts have now matured to the point where we can benefit from a more coordinated approach." The Office of Child and Youth Protection will report to Father Emery.

Areas included in the charter are the safe environment education program, background checks, compliance with the codes of conduct, and matters relating the Archdiocesan Review Board. As the director of Child and Youth Protection, Petraglia will coordinate each of these efforts in schools and parishes. She will coordinate activities of the Archdiocesan Review Board and oversee the activities of Julie Willis, M.S.W., the archdiocesan Victim's Assistance Coordinator.

The Office of Child and Youth Protection serves three major functions in the archdiocese. First, it investigates all complaints in coordination with county and/or local law enforcement and assists Church officials in canonical or Church disciplinary proceedings involving clergy charged with committing sexual abuse.

Next, it coordinates the implementation of the safe environment programs, including Protecting God's Children, the child sexual abuse awareness and education workshop.

Finally, the office facilitates and ensures parishes comply with the Diocese's policies and procedures on criminal history background checks.

Prior to assuming responsibility for the Office of Child and Youth Protection, Petraglia worked as a marriage and family counselor in Lubbock, TX. Her experience in this role included work with victims of sexual abuse and their families. Continued on Page 23 Bishop Francis Center for Immigration Services Human Trafficking Hotline: (866) 999-9007



Wednesday, December 8, 2004

Archdiocese in compliance

At the conclusion of its second annual review of policies and procedures established in the Archdiocese of Newark to protect children and youth and promote a safe environment, auditors from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) reaffirmed that the archdiocese is in total compliance with the requirements of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People.

The audit, conducted by representatives of the Gavin Group of Boston, MA, took place during the week of Oct. 4 as part of the national audit of all dioceses in the United States.

In its executive summary of the final report, the Gavin Group stated that the archdiocese "reported all allegations of sexual abuse of a minor to public authorities" during the audit period, which was Sept. 2003-Sept. 2004. The auditors also determined that the archdiocese "complies with all applicable civil laws with respect to the reporting of allegations of sexual abuse of a minor," and that the archdiocese "has established effective liaison with civil authorities, ensuring that an open dialogue regarding sexual abuse allegations will occur."

The auditors also observed that the Archdiocese of Newark continues to provide support and other necessary pastoral outreach to victims of abuse through a victim assistance coordinator.

Continued on Page 23



next issue of The Catholic Advocate.

Our Archdiocese

BY SISTER SANDRA DEMASI, S.S.J. Special to The Catholic Advocate

In 1994, when the Archdiocesan Center opened in Newark, there was an open house for families of archdiocesan employees. My family came for the day of touring, which began for us in the chapel. It was here that my sisters came upon a contemporary rendering of Mary that was totally different from any statue of Mary that they had ever seen.

The chapel in the Archdiocesan Center has a unique, commissioned statue of the young maiden, Mary. This artist's rendering was so completely out of my sisters' realm of familiarity that they assured me it could not be an image of her.

The Mary they knew was Our Lady of Lourdes. The Mary they knew was always and forever on a pedestal. That incident forced them to encounter the person Mary, beyond a statue! The episode forced me to a renewed devotion to Mary. On Dec. 8, 2004 the Church

celebrates the 150th anniversary of the solemn proclamation of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, which holds that "the Most Blessed Virgin Mary was, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God and by

Stewardship

virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ Savior of the human race, preserved immune from all stain of original sin," (Pius IX (1846-78), Ineffabilis Deus).

Why take note of such an observance?

The sesquicentennial of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception can be an opportunity for the Church to encounter the person of Mary beyond an image on a pedestal. As the Church focuses on its image of Mary it fosters renewed devotion to her. Such renewed devotion does not necessarily show itself in an increase in the quantity of prayers said but implies a relationship with Mary, which is established by prayer and reflected in imitation of her.

Thus the Church prays on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, "Trace in our actions the lines of her (Mary's) love, in our hearts her readiness of faith ... "

The Apostolic Letter, Novo Millennio Ineunte, written at the conclusion of the Great Jubilee Year by Pope John Paul II, gives some direction on how such anniversaries / events have the potential to affect the Church, how they have the potential to touch people's hearts.

First and foremost, to mark the 150th anniversary of the dogma of



the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a providential opportunity for renewal, which leads to a fresh enthusiasm for the Church's mission to evangelize. Thus begins the Good

shall be with child and bear a Son and they shall call him Emmanuel (Is 7:14) ... and the virgin's name was Mary (Lk 1:27) ... of her was born Jesus who is called Messiah (Mt 1:16).

By observing the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary as an Advent solemnity, the Church is not only reminding us of the Incarnation event but also stirring hearts to be "filled with wonder at the nearness of her God."

A celebration appropriately marking the sesquicentennial anniversary is an opportune moment of evangelization for the Church, an opportunity to publicly declare that in Christ the time of fulfillment has come. In addition, the celebration of this anniversary becomes an opportunity for the Church to publicly declare the dignity and vocation of women in the Church, for when the time had fully come, God sent forth His son, born of woman (Gal 4:4).

A woman is to be found at the center of this salvific event. With Mary begins the central event, the key event in the history of salvation: the Lord's Paschal Mystery.

The liturgical celebration of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is an annual reminder that Mary, indeed all the women of the Gospels are declared "astounding" for they had indeed

May God make us like Juan Diego,

open to the gifts of God

in our own time and place.

seen ... and announced that He was alive (Lk 24:23).

The Holy Father also reminded us in his numerous messages throughout the Great Jubilee celebration that marking such anniversaries is always a moment for catechesis. The experience of contemplating the image of Mary should inspire in us new energy in Christian living. In Ecclesia de *Eucharistia* (58) the Magnificat is extolled as the expression of Mary's spirituality.

A day does not go by that the Church does not pray the Magnificat. Each day, as the Gospel canticle of Evening Prayer, the song of the Virgin Mary is declared as the Church's song of thanksgiving. Mary is acclaimed and represented in the liturgy as the "Seat of Wisdom," for in her the "wonders of God" that the Spirit was to fulfill in Christ and the Church began to be manifested.

This Marian anniversary serves to remind the Church not only of its obligation to pray the hours but of the Church's need to pray the Magnificat so as to cultivate in the hearts of all the people of God both an understanding and a desire for the coming of the Kingdom of God.

(This essay will be continued in the next issue of The Catholic Advocate.)

Sister DeMasi is the director of the archdiocesan Worship Office.



Following example of great servants of God

BY ANDREW KACZYNSKI

Associate Director of Stewardship for the Archdiocese

During December our Church celebrates the lives of two great men in our faith's history, Blessed Juan Diego (Dec. 9) and St. John the Apostle and Evangelist (Dec. 27), as well as the Blessed Virgin Mary under the title of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

As I have done several times in the past, I thought that highlighting their lives and how they lived as Christian stewards would be a great topic for this issue.

Tomorrow, Dec. 9 we remember the man to whom Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared on that day in 1531. After Our Lady appeared to him and left her image imprinted on his cloak, he received permission from the local bishop to live as a hermit near the shrine that was built on the site of the apparitions.

There he was a good steward of the tremendous spiritual gift that he had received, humbly caring for the church and the pilgrims who came to see the image of Our Lady. It is said that his holiness so impressed those whom he served that parents said to their children, "May God make you like Juan Diego." (Liturgy of the Hours Supplement).

Indeed, may God make us like Juan Diego,

too-open to the gifts of God in our own time and place, and careful always to use them for the good of the Church.

The memorial of Our Lady of Guadalupe (Dec. 12) reveals anew the great love God has for us and the lengths to which He will go to make that love known. As in the Incarnation, when God came as one like us, to dwell with us and share His life with us, so in her appearance to Blessed Juan Diego, Mary looked and sounded like one of his neighbors

to reveal her solidarity with the faithful of the Americas.

"True Marian devotion reaches its fullness and its most rightful expression," said Pope Paul VI, "when it is a

path to the Lord and directs all its love toward Him" (Liturgy of the Hours Supplement).

May the celebration of this day and the prayers of Our Lady of Guadalupe deepen our love of God and help us to demonstrate that love by loving one another.

St. John the Apostle and Evangelist, the beloved disciple, son of Zebedee and brother of James, was one of the first apostles called by Jesus. Jesus called him and loved him and used him to spread the Gospel of love.

Privileged to be present at the transfiguration, asked to watch and pray in the Garden of Gethsemane, and given the responsibility to protect and provide for His Mother at the foot of the Cross, St. John said "yes" to Jesus, and then spent the rest of his life faithfully following Him and helping others to know and love Him, too.

"We have come to know and believe in the love God has for us," he writes. "God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him" (1 John 4:16). Follow and love-that's

a condensed version of St. John's life and writings and a sure recipe for good stewardship of our vocations and the gifts entrusted to us.

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Our Archdiocese

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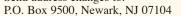
FREQUENCY FOR REMAINDER OF YEAR

The Catholic Advocate continues to be a biweekly publication. Publication dates for the Year 2004 are: December 22. Publication dates for first half of 2005 are: January 5, 19; February 2, 16; March 2, 9, 23; April 6, 20; May 4, 18; June 1, 15, 29.

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Four pastors receive new assigments

Four diocesan priests have been appointed to pastorships by Archbishop John J. Myers.

Father Richard J. Carrington, administrator of St. Joseph of the Palisades Parish, West New York, has been appointed pastor of SS. Joseph and Michael Parish, Union City, effective Dec. 1.

His first assignment after ordination in 1976 was to St. Joseph Parish, Union City. He became parochial vicar at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Bloomfield, 1984, and was assigned to St. John the Baptist Parish, Jersey City, 1988. A year later, he was appointed administrator of Our Lady of Grace Parish, Hoboken.

In June 2001, Father Carrington was named administrator of St. Joseph of the Palisades Parish.

Father Carrington is a chaplain, holding the rank of commander in the U.S. Navy Reserve. He spends part of each year ministering to Navy personnel. He has served as spiritual director of the Hudson County Federation of Holy Name Societies and was part time coordinator for Natural Family Planning.

Father William G. Cook, administrator of Holy Name of Jesus Parish, East Orange, was appointed pastor effective Nov. 19.

Father Cook entered St. Mary's College, Orchard Lake, MI, in 1973. He studied at St. John's Provincial Seminary, Plymouth, MI, for two years and completed his master of divinity degree at SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary, 1982.

From 1982 to 1986, Father Cook was head of the religion department at Pontiac Catholic High School. He transferred to the Newark Archdiocese in 1986 and served as a pastoral associate at Holy Rosary Parish, Jersey City, and as a deacon at St. Mary Parish, Dumont. He was ordained in December 1988.

In January 1989, he was appointed parochial vicar of St. Joseph of the Palisades Parish, West New York. In June 1992, he became parochial vicar at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Bayonne. In June 1998, he was appointed parochial vicar at Christ the King Parish, Hillside.

In August 2003, he was appointed administrator of the Church of Holy Name of Jesus.

Very Rev. Carlo Fortunio, V.F., administrator of Our Lady Help of Christians (St. Mary) Parish, West New York, was appointed pastor, effective Nov. 16.

Born and raised in Rome, Father Fortunio was ordained in 1985 in Rome as a Dominican priest, after completing priestly studies there. Then, he was chaplain of the State University of Teramo, Italy, and taught at the local seminary. He was also chaplain for the town's Boy Scouts.

After arriving in the United States in 1989, Father Fortunio was assigned as a parochial vicar to St. Mary Parish, Plainfield, and, in 1992, parochial vicar at Assumption Parish, Bayonne.

In November 1995, he was appointed administrator of the Our Lady Help of Christians Parish.

In January 2001, Father Fortunio was appointed Dean of North Hudson Deanery 8, which was extended to September 2005.

Father Gregory J. Studerus, pastor of Resurrection Parish, Jersey City, has been appointed pastor of St. Joseph of the Palisades Parish, West New York, effective Jan. 1, 2005.

A West Orange native, Father Studerus taught art in West Orange public schools and owned and operated Bottega Art Gallery, Orange, before entering the seminary. He also served six years in the New Jersey National Guard.

Father Studerus was ordained in May 1980, after studies at Immaculate Conception Seminary. He served as parochial vicar at St. Aloysius Parish, Jersey City, prior to his appointment as pastor of St. Bridget Parish, Jersey City, in June 1990.

In August 1997, he was appointed pastor of Resurrection Parish, which consolidates five Deanery 11 downtown Jersey City parishes: St. Bridget, St. Mary, St. Michael, St. Boniface and St. Peter. He has also served as dean of Deanery 11 since May 1992.

Official Appointments

Archbishop John J. Myers has announced the following appointments:

Pastors

Reverend Richard J. Carrington, administrator of St. Joseph of the Palisades Parish, West New York, has been appointed pastor of SS. Joseph and Michael Church, Union City, effective Dec. I.

Reverend William G. Cook, administrator of Holy Name of Jesus Parish, East Orange, has been appointed pastor effective Nov. 19.

Very Reverend Carlo Fortunio,V.F., administrator of Our Lady Help of Christians (St. Mary) Parish, West New York, has been appointed pastor, effective Nov. 16.

Reverend Msgr. Jeremias R. Rebanal, pastor of St. Aedan Parish, Jersey City, has had his pastorate extended until Feb. 5, 2006.

Very Reverend Gregory J. Studerus, V.F., pastor of the Parish of the Resurrection, Jersey City, has been appointed pastor of St. Joseph of the Palisades Parish, West New York, effective Jan. 1, 2005.

Reverend Msgr. Bronislaw Wielgus, pastor of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Parish, Linden, has been appointed to a second six-year term, which will end on Aug. 1, 2010.

Administrators

Reverend William T. Morris, pastor of St. Mark Parish, Rahway, has also been appointed administrator of St. Mary Parish, Rahway, effective Feb. 1, 2005.

Very Reverend Michael M. Walters, V.F., pastor of the Church of Holy Spirit/Our Lady Help of Christians Parish, East Orange, has also been appointed administrator of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Orange, effective Dec. 1.

Parochial Vicar

Reverend Kevin A. Gugliotta has been appointed parochial vicar of St. Joseph Parish, West Orange, effective Dec. I.



Reverend John A. Perricone, administrator of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Orange, has been appointed Chaplain of St. Anthony of Padua Chapel, West Orange, effective Dec. 1.

Reverend Msgr. Richard J. Arnhols, pastor of St. John the Evangelist Parish, Bergenfield, has been appointed Chaplain for the Bergenfield Police Department, effective Nov. 4.

Releases

Reverend Robert Sterling Meyer, Esq., Associate Vice President for Student Affairs at Seton Hall University, has been released from pastoral ministry in the Archdiocese of Newark to serve as Attaché to the Apostolic Nuncio and Permanent Observer of the Holy See to

Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations for a period of three years, effective Jan. 1, 2005, with continued residence at Seton Hall University.

Reverend Fernando Carranza, administrator of SS. Joseph and Michael Parish, Union City, has been released to Itinerancy in the Way, effective Dec. I.

Retirements

Reverend Alfred S. Arvay, Ph. D. has been granted retirement effective Jan. 1, 2005.

Reverend Kenneth J. St. Amand has been granted retirement effective Dec. I.

Residence

Reverend Thomas R. McLaughlin, Hospital Chaplain of Pope John Paul II Pavilion, Orange, has been appointed to residence at Our Lady of Lourdes Rectory, West Orange, effective Dec. I.

USA & World News





Archdiocese among national leaders in ordinations over last two decades

Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska

who came to Rome for their ad

limina visits, required of heads of

the bishops, the pope did not make

direct reference to the scandal

revolving around priestly sexual

abuse of children and young peo-

ple that has rocked the U.S.

Church's future, he said, "No one

can deny that the decline in priest-

ly vocations represents a stark

challenge for the Church in the

"cannot be ignored or put off"

and should be met with "insis-

tent prayer" and a "program of

That challenge, he said,

United States."

Speaking about the American

Church for the past three years.

In his Nov. 26 audience with

dioceses every five years.

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The decline in priestly vocations in the United States presents a "stark challenge" that American Church leadership needs to address now, Pope John Paul II told U.S. bishops meeting at the Vatican.

Bishops also should give par-



Please give generously to the collection in your parish.

The majority of religious are now well past age 65! Today, more than 12,000 Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests need skilled care or help with tasks of daily living. Contributions can be sent to: Sr. Margaret Thomas, OP The Retirement Fund Archdiocesan Center P.O. Box 9500 Newark, NJ 07104-0500 or call (973) 487-4582

Compartan Su Cuidado, *Sean generosos* El costo del cuidado de las religiosas y religiosos ancianos está por encima de \$1.3 millones diarios. ticular attention to seminary training and the formation of priests who are capable of "prudent leadership," the pope told some 20 bishops from Iowa,

Plate, director of vocations for the Church of Newark, the archdiocese has "consistently" ordained more men to the priesthood than most dioceses nationwide over the past two decades.

The pope suggested the institution of a national day of prayer for priestly vocations. Each spring, the U.S. Church marks a worldwide day of prayer for all vocations; in 2005 it will be April 17.

Statistics from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops show there were nearly 500 priestly ordinations in the United States in 2003, compared to 994 in 1956. In 1950, the ratio of U.S. Catholics to priests was about 650-to-1; in 1999, the ratio was 1,200-to-1, the statistics show.

The Catholic population within the general U.S. population has remained relatively stable.



Page 4

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(IT'S NOT EVEN IN THAT) FREE CUP OF COFFEE.

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UPCOMING SEMINARS

Bergen - Fairlawn	Bergen - Englewood Cliffs	Bergen - Paramus	Bergen - Westwood	Bergen - Hackensack
December 9, 9:00 AM	December 15, 9:00 AM	December 28, 9:00 AM	January 12, 9:00 AM	January 19, 9:00 AM
Land & Sea Diner	New Royal Cliff Rest.	Forum Diner	Seville Diner	Arena Diner
20-12 Fairlawn Ave.	717 Palisades Ave.	211 Route 4 West	289 Broadway Ave.	250 Essex St.
Cross St./Pollitt Dr.	Cross St./Sylvan Ave.	Cross St./Forest Ave.	Cross St./Jefferson St.	Cross St./Polifly Rd.
Bergen - Hackensack	Union - Roselle	Union - Union	Union - Linden	Union - Elizabeth
January 31, 9:00 AM	December 10, 9:00 AM	December 21, 9:00 ам	January 7, 9:00 AM	January 20, 9:00 AM
The Coach House Diner	Cavalier Diner	Huck Finn Diner	The Grill	Tropicana Diner
55 Route 4 East	2401 N. Wood Ave.	2431 Morris Ave.	706 W. Elizabeth Ave.	545 Morris Ave.
Cross St./Hackensack Ave.	Cross St./St. George's Ave.	Cross St./Burnet Ave.	Cross St./Stiles St.	Cross St./North Ave.
Essex - Irvington December 14, 9:00 AM Don's Diner 666 Nye Ave. Cross St./Union St.	Essex - Bloomfield December 29, 9:00 AM IHOP 1129 Broad St. Cross St./Watchung Ave.	Essex - Maplewood January 12, 9:00 AM Sage Diner 1958 Springfield Ave. Cross St./South Pierson Rd.	Essex - Bloomfield January 25, 9:00 AM IHOP 1129 Broad St. Cross St./Watchung Ave.	

A sales representative will be present to provide information and applications. Oxford Health Plans (NJ), Inc., is a licensed HMO operating under a Medicare Advantage contract. ©2004 Oxford Health Plans, LLC. MS-04-1150

Around the Archdiocese

Spiritual

Esperando Al Dios De La Alegria, Dec.

19, 1:30-4 p.m., at the Dominican

Motherhouse, Caldwell. Call (973)

403-3331 ext. 25, or email Lumen

Family Life Ministries

• The Office of Family Life Ministries of the Archdiocese of Newark will

offer Retrouvaille (Rediscovery), a pro-

gram of the Catholic Church designed

to provide practical help and support

to married couples in difficult or

painful relationships, March 4-6. For

program and fee information, call

• A Marriage Encounter weekend,

where couples will focus on strength-

ening their love and communication

and enjoy good food and company,

will be held Jan. 28-30. Call Sal and

Sylvia Vassallo at (973) 897-8184 or 1-

Art Exhibition

annual Fall 2004 Senior Art Exhibition,

Dec. 6-10, in the main college building

cafeteria, Lodi campus. There will be

an opportunity to meet the artists at

a reception on Dec. 10, 4-7 p.m. Call

Public Forum

• The North Jersey Christian-Muslim Project will host "The Patriot Act: Its

with speakers Father Eugene Squeo of

Archdiocese of Newark, and Khurrum

Wahid, Esq. of the Council on Ameri-

can-Islamic Relations, NY, Dec. 9, 7 p.m., at the Islamic Center of Passaic

the Interreligious Commission of the

Effects on the Life of All Believers,"

• Felician College, Lodi, will hold its

(973) 497-4327.

800-823-5683.

(201) 559-6046.

center@caldwellop.org.

• The Lumen Center will host

December II

Page 6

St. Elizabeth Parish, Wyckoff, Work of Human Hands craft sale, Dec. 11-12. Call Elizabeth Meyers, (201) 445-1372.

December 12

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish. Montclair. Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe: conference and music, 7 p.m., Mass, 8 p.m., Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 9 p.m. Call (973) 746-8667.



St. Mary Parish, Dumont, parish revival, "Now Is the Time to Wake from Your Sleep," by Father Edward L. Beck, C.P., 7 p.m. Free-will offering. Call (201) 384-0557 or visit

www.EdwardLBeck.com.

December 14

St. Francis Parish, Hackensack, Mass and healing service, 7 p.m. Celebrant: Father John F. Campoli, I.V. Dei.



December 18

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish. Bloomfield. day retreat: "Advent Women: Mary and Elizabeth, Remembering the Promise," 9:30-2:30. Call Anna, (973) 338-9538.

January 12

Holy Spirit Parish, Union, bereavement group, 8 consecutive weeks. Space limited. Call Lina, (908) 688-7568 or Lois, (908) 527-0730.

How to Report Abuse

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

Individuals who wish to report an allegation of sexual misconduct may do so by calling the Office of the Chancellor of the Archdiocese at (973) 497-4009.

Local Highlights

County, Paterson. (201) 935-6492.

Food Drive

• The Knights of Columbus, Washington Township, is collecting non-perishable food goods and personal hygiene items for the needy. Place items at their front door, 79 Pascack Rd., by 10 a.m., Dec. 18. Call (201) 664-0422.

Workshops

• The Office of Continuing Formation of Priests of the Archdiocese of Newark will host "The Pastor as Educator: The Relationship Between Parish and School," Dec. 14, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Cost: \$25. Call (973) 497-4225.

• The Office of Family Life of the Archdiocese of Newark will hold a FOCCUS workshop on Dec. 13, 1-3 p.m., at the Archdiocesan Center, Newark. Cost: \$25. The workshop will give an explanation of how to administer and interpret the results, along with discussion on how to best manage difficult results. Call (973) 497-4324.

Health

• St. Mary's Hospital and Catholic Charities are offering Juntos en Salud, featuring free health evaluations, free blood pressure screenings and free health education,"How to Prevent Infections," Dec. 12, Holy Trinity Parish, Passaic, 9-12 p.m. Call Iris Roman at (973) 470-3068.

• Holy Name Hospital, Teaneck, will offer free blood pressure screenings on Dec. 17, 1-3 p.m. The hospital will also offer a weight reduction program on Dec. 15, 7-9 p.m. Cost: \$60. Registration and pre-payment required. Call (201) 227-6250.

• The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold community blood drives on Dec. 12 at Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Elizabeth, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.; Union Catholic High School, Scotch Plains, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., and Holy Trinity School, Westfield, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Fundraisers

• The St. Francis Gift Shop, 253 Knickerbocker Rd., Tenafly, featuring books, jewelry, angels, Irish food items and more, will be open daily, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., through Dec. 24. Call Sister Trinity at (201) 568-0478.

Christmas Festivities

• The Knights of Columbus, Washington Township, will host its annual Christmas open house on Dec. 12, I-5 p.m. Anyone interested in sharing the spirit of the holidays or in learning more about the Knights of Columbus, is invited to an afternoon of fun for children, including a clown, a magician, and a special visit from Santa. Call (201) 664-0422

• The Parent's Guild of the Academy of Holy Angels will host its annual Christmas gala on Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m., featuring the Academy Chorus, Vocal Ensemble, Hand Bell Choir and Orchestra. Call (201) 768-7822 or visit www.holyangels.org.

Singles

• St. Phil's Singles will play volleyball at the St. Philomena School Gym, Livingston, Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m. They will have a Christmas party at St. Joseph's Hall, Dec. 18, at 7:30 p.m. Call (973) 340-4001 or visit www.homestead.com/stphilssingles.

Parish supports a student's efforts to keep God in Thanksgiving poem

BY WARD MIELE Managing Editor

In the end, it was all fifthgrader Kaeley Hay and her mother Coleen ever wanted.

The young lady's nine-line Thanksgiving poem finally made it intact onto the bulletin board of Garwood's Lincoln-Franklin School with the word "God" in it, but not before bureaucratic headaches and a groundswell of support from the local religious community and beyond.

Kaeley's poem was part of a Thanksgiving assignment. Her classmates voted to display it on the bulletin board. Initially, however, "God" was deleted.

That upset her daughter, according to Mrs. Hay, who spoke with the principal. Assured the matter would be looked into, Mrs. Hay said she was told the deletion was done to play it

"safe." It is her position, Mrs. Hay explained, that her daughter's work "was not a religious poem,

about historical facts."

Kaeley's mother contacted Msgr. John Philip O'Connor, pastor of her parish, Church of St. Anne, Garwood.Msgr. O'Connor contacted the two other churches in town. In a Thanksgiving message,

O'Connor offered his congratulations to the "young author and her expression of faith." He went on to say, "We salute and stand with her parents for objecting to the removal of the word 'God' from their daughter's poem."

Parish officials expressed

be done. Several hours later, how-

ever, the principal called and said,

the weekend of Nov. 20-21 and read at all the Masses. At the 10 a.m. Sunday Mass, Kaeley read it aloud. According to Marge Kenny, parish administrator, the reaction was "very positive." When her daughter was finished, Continued on Page 13

Bishops' Christmas Schedule Archbishop John J. Myers

Christmas Eve

Visit to St. John's Soup Kitchen, St. John Parish, 22 Mulberry St., Newark, 11:30 a.m. Midnight Mass, Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, 89 Ridge St., Newark Christmas Day

10 a.m. Mass, St. Cecilia Parish, 120 Kearny Ave., Kearny

Archbishop Emeritus Peter L. Gerety Christmas Eve 8:30 p.m. Mass, Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish, 40 Ludlow St., Newark

Most Rev. Bishop Edgar da Cunha, S.D.V., **Regional Bishop for Essex County** Christmas Eve

Midnight Mass, St. Nicholas Parish, 442 E. Brinkerhoff Ave., Palisades Park Christmas Day II a.m. Mass, Immaculate Conception Parish, 30

North Fullerton Ave., Montclair

Most Rev. Thomas Donato, Regional Bishop for Hudson County Christmas Eve 10 p.m. Mass, St. Henry Parish, 82 West 29 St., Bayonne Christmas Day 8:45 a.m. Mass, at St. Henry Parish, Bayonne

Regional Bishop for Bergen County Christmas Eve Midnight Mass, Most Blessed Sacrament Parish, 787 Franklin Lake Rd., Franklin Lakes Christmas Day

Most Rev. John Flesey,

Noon Mass, Most Blessed Sacrament Parish, Franklin Lakes

Most Rev. Dominic Marconi, **Retired Auxiliary Bishop Christmas Eve** 5 p.m. Mass, St. Elizabeth Parish, East Blanke St., Linden

Christmas Day 9 a.m. Mass, St. Theresa Parish, 541 Washington Ave., Kenilworth

Most Rev. Charles J. McDonnell, Retired Auxiliary Bishop Christmas Eve 9:30 p.m. Mass, Holy Trinity Parish, 34 Maple Ave., Hackensack Christmas Day 9:45 a.m. Mass, Holy Trinity Parish, Hackensack

but merely a poem

Kaeley Hay Msgr.

their concern to the principal. At first they were told nothing could

after consultation with the attorney for the Garwood

Board of Education, the word

"God" would be restored to Kae-

But that was not all. Her poem was published on the front cover of

ley's poem.

the parish bulletin

Letters/Editorials

New book on pope termed 'scandalous'

Editor,

British journalist John Cornwell has another victim. His scandalous new book, *The Pontiff in Winter: Triumph and Conflict in the Reign of John Paul II*, belongs in the same category as *Hitler's Pope: The Secret History of Pius XII*. Cornwell unjustly maligns John Paul II and Pius XII.

I challenge Catholics and Jews to join me in an effort to obliterate his myths and misstatements. Certainly there is an abundance of incontestable evidence.

Statements from the inside flap of *The Pontiff in Winter* state that John Paul II won "worldwide admiration. Yet his papacy has also been marked by what many perceive as misogyny, homophobia, and ecclesiastical tyranny."

Cornwell "raises serious questions about a system that grants lifetime power to an individual vulnerable to the vicissitudes of aging and illness."

Catholics do not call John Cornwell "a close, trusted observer of the Vatican." Cornwell's facts have been manipulated. He does not consider the wisdom of both Pius XII's and John Paul II's words and actions.

Unlike Cornwell, Jewish historian Pinchas Lapide, an observant Jew, strongly defended Pope Pius XII: "If fairness and historical justice are keystones of Jewish morality, then keeping silent in view of slanderous attacks on a benefactor is an injustice" (*Die Welt*, July 16, 1964).

Although parts of *The Pontiff in Winter* may seem sympathetic, many facts are misrepresented. Catholics should dismiss its reports of geriatric confusion as a "hatchet job." The author argues that Pope John Paul II has done more harm than good and endeavors to poison the world against him.

Cornwell's objective is to destroy the papacy and the Church as we know it. He wrote in *Vanity Fair* (Oct. 1999), "A future titanic struggle between the progressives and the traditionalists is in prospect, with the potential for a cataclysmic schism, especially in North America."

By denigrating Pius XII, depicted as authoritarian, traditional and Roman, by painting John Paul II with the same brush, Cornwell is contributing to the goal of

Editor's Note

The Rincón Hispano page, in Spanish, will no longer be published in *The Catholic Advocate*. The translated articles and columns by Archbishop Myers will be published, instead, in *New Jersey Católico*, the monthly Spanish-language newspaper of the Archdiocese of Newark.

Correction

Father Victor P. Kennedy is pastor of St. Anne Parish, Jersey City. He was one of the recipients of the Monsignor John J. Kiley Award, noted in a story in *The Catholic Advocate*, Nov. 17, Page 25. many confused Catholics—changing the Church into a social institution. John Cornwell's books are scandalous.

Instead of objectivity, Cornwell ignores what does not fit into the image he wants to convey and omits the real record of historical importance.

Sister Magherita Marchione, Ph.D. Villa Walsh, Morristown

Students praised

Editor,

On Friday, Nov. 12, a perfect fall day, a small school bus pulled into our street. The door opened and a group of teenagers from Queen of Peace High School, armed with rakes, ran into my backyard and attacked the leaves from our pit oak tree with a vengeance. They piled the leaves onto a tarp and dumped them in a neat pile in the street.

The students' director, Vincent McMahon, used a leaf blower to clean the front lawn. Approximately 20-30 minutes later, the young people piled back into the bus waving good-bye while heading off to their next destination. What a wonderful sight!

Several days later, I attended the school's production of *It's a Wonderful Life*. It is a great and timely play.

The above program proved how wonderful teenagers can be when they are encouraged to use their energies making others happy. Thank you, teenagers, for giving me a wonderful and happy weekend.

Mary Coleman North Arlington

Veterans appreciate efforts of school

Editor,

We, the members of Kenilworth American Legion Post 470, wish to express our deepest appreciation to the faculty and students of St. Theresa School for their kindness and thoughtfulness in supporting our Cards for Veterans program.

It is because of people like them, who care, that we were able to bring a bit of cheer and happiness into the hearts of our veterans confined to the East Orange Veterans Hospital.

The student's spirit of love for our flag; our country; God, and most of all, for the veterans that served to maintain our four freedoms—freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom from want, and freedom from fear—was without a doubt, superb. May God bless each and every one of you, and God bless America.

Last but not least, I wish to thank the school's art director and Ms. Maureen Madden, the student council advisor, for helping to initiate this program.

Edward J. Miller, Sergeant-at-Arms American Legion Post 470 Kenilworth

Loving light cast on greatest sorrow

The death of a child is a pain no parent should have to endure.

When the unthinkable occurs, overwhelming grief gives way to a numbing agony that really never goes away. Losing a child changes parents' and families' lives forever.

No one who has not gone through such a horror can really understand what the bereaved are experiencing. But friends can be there with loving support.

A good way to do so is the annual observation of National Children's Memorial Day and Eighth Annual Worldwide Candle Lighting which will take place this year on Sunday.

On Dec. 12 grieving families in the Archdiocese of Newark, throughout the United States and worldwide will light candles at 7 p.m. in successive time zones to produce a symbolic wave of light that will encircle the globe in memory of young lives cut short. As a candle burns down in one time zone, it becomes 7 p.m. in another, thereby creating a virtual 24-hour memorial.

A deceased child will never be forgotten by those left behind.

AT A GLANCE At their November general meeting in Washington, the U.S. bishops...



- Adopted "U.S. Catholic Catechism for Adults," sent to Vatican for confirmation
- Agreed to begin a National Pastoral Initiative on marriage
- Accepted a proposal to join Christian Churches Together in the USA
- Received a report from their Task Force on Catholic Bishops and Catholic Politicians
 Decided to gather annual information on the number of new sex abuse allegations against
- clergy and other Church workers, the resolution of existing cases and the costs involved
 Approved streamlining the process for the 2005 diocesan audits relating to sex abuse
- Ok'd changes in Spanish-language liturgical texts to incorporate Latin American rituals into U.S. church services for infant baptism, marriage and "quinceañera."
- Elected Bishop William S. Skylstad of Spokane, WA, new USCCB president and Cardinal Francis E. George of Chicago vice president
- Approved a series of recommendations aimed at limiting conference projects
- Agreed to an ad hoc committee to aid the Church in Africa
- Approved a \$129.4 million budget for 2005
- Marked the 25th anniversary of their pastoral letter on racism
- Authorized a statement calling on the United States and the international community to help stop the violence in western Sudan's Darfur region
- Launched a \$25 million capital campaign for the North American College in Rome
 Source: CNS reports
 @ 2004 CNS Graphics

A question box about faith and practice

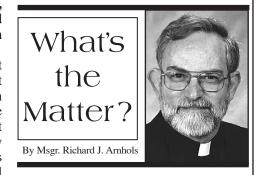
Today's Question: Given the Creation story in Genesis, why is Sunday the day of rest for Catholics, which is the first day of the week, and how did it originate? – St. John's 6th Grade CCD Class

Jesus rose from the dead "on the first day of the week." Because it is the "first day," the day of Christ's Resurrection recalls the first creation. Because it is the "eighth day," following the Sabbath, it symbolizes the new creation ushered in by Christ's Resurrection. For Christians, it has become the first of all days, the first of all feasts, the Lord's Day – Sunday.

Sunday is expressly distinguished from the Sabbath which it follows chronologically every week; for Christians its ceremonial observance replaces that of the Sabbath. In Christ's Passover, Sunday fulfills the spiritual truth of the Jewish Sabbath and announces man's eternal rest in God. Worship under the Law prepared for the mystery of Christ, and what was done there prefigured some aspects of Christ. Sunday worship fulfills the moral command of the Old Covenant, taking up its rhythm and spirit in the weekly celebration of the Creator and Redeemer of His people.

The Sunday celebration of the Lord's

Day and His Eucharist is at the heart of the Church's life. "Sunday is the day on which the paschal mystery is celebrated in light of the apostolic tradition and is to be observed as the foremost holy day of obligation in the universal Church."



This practice of the Christian assembly dates from the beginnings of the apostolic age. Just as God rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done, human life has a rhythm of work and rest. The institution of the Lord's Day helps everyone enjoy adequate rest and leisure to cultivate their familial, cultural, social and religious lives.

Taken from The Catechism of the Catholic Church, Nos. 2174-2184.

The Catholic Advocate welcomes questions from its readers about our Catholic faith and how it is practiced. Email your questions or comments to us at advnews@rcan.org.

Commentary

Pro-life strategies for different levels of government

What can pro-life Americans realistically expect in the next four years, with a pro-life president and pro-life majorities in both houses of Congress? Throughout the recent presidential campaign, pro-abortion advocates insisted that Roe v. Wade was "hanging by a thread." Would that it were so. But it isn't. That hard fact of public life suggests fighting the battle for life on multiple fronts in the next quadrennium.

• The Supreme Court. There is no case in the federal judicial pipeline today that would call into question the central findings of Roe (that there is a "right" to abortion) and Casey v. Planned Parenthood (which shifted the ground of the right from Roe's "privacy" to the 14th Amendment's "liberty").

Moreover, despite the other side's caterwauling during the campaign, the Court is not split 5-4 on abortion;

it's really 6-3, and one of the three stalwarts is Chief Justice Rehnquist. Thus replacing Rehnquist with a Chief Justice who agrees that Roe and Casey were wrongly decided simply maintains the status quo.

Two, and preferably three,

more anti-Roe/Casey votes beyond Rehnquist are necessary before reconsideration of those two decisions is possible. And there likely won't be that many openings on the Court in this presidential term.

That doesn't mean giving up on the Supremes; on the contrary, it means holding the administration to its commitment to nominate justices who are willing to consider the possibility that Roe and Casey are the Dred Scott decisions of our time-grave mistakes that erode the foundations of justice in a free society. But the alleged "thread" by which



the abortion license is "hanging" is unlikely to be cut by the Court in the next four years.

• The States. Which leads to the second prong of a com-

prehensive pro-life strategy: work through state legislatures to whittle down the abortion license as it now exists. Here, pro-lifers can take a lesson from Thurgood Marshall.

During the classic days of the civil rights movement,

Marshall and the NAACP worked to hollow out the meaning of "separate but equal" in Plessy v. Ferguson, the 1896 decision that found segregated public facilities constitutional. Plessy was never formally reversed; but it was gutted over time, in a series of cases, to the point where Brown v. Board of Education could administer the coupde-grâce in 1954.

A parallel strategy would mean pressing state legislatures to adopt parental notification laws, informed consent laws, and abortion clinic regulation laws that slowly but steadily hollow out Roe and Casey, by establishing that the alleged "liberty right" to an abortion isn't infringed by such measures.

Perhaps the key here is clinic regulation, because a strict regulatory regime would drive down the number of abortuaries, thus making abortion less available as an immediate "solution" for women in a crisis pregnancy. Studies show that regulating the abortuary industry, and adopting parental notification and informed consent statutes, reduces the absolute number of abortions-a worthy goal in itself.

Combine that goal with the "hollowing out" strategy used by the NAACP to attack segregation, and pro-life activism at the state level begins to mesh with a reformed federal judiciary (which, given the Administration's commitments, will presumably include more judges willing to acknowledge that these regulations do not constitute an "undue burden" on the "right" to abortion).

• Use executive power. In the last months of the Clinton administration, the Food and Drug Administration, under heavy White House pressure, approved RU-486, the "abortion pill," for use in the United States. The review process at the FDA was an abomination; at least six women have died from RU-486 use; and the manufacturer, Danco Labs, has received 264 serious "adverse event" reports involving RU-486 use.

The Clinton administration's rush-to-approval made a mockery of the FDA's stringent review process, with evidently lethal results. The president should do something about this, soon. FDA approval of RU-486 should be withdrawn and a new review process mandated. Let Danco and Planned Parenthood sue, if they like; their defense of the indefensible will itself advance the pro-life cause.

George Weigel is a senior fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, DC.

It ended up in later days with all of the ethnic-based

That is how it happened years ago. Now, the need for

churches competing with the territorial parishes for

parishioners and later for students in their schools. It

certain language churches is gone. (Do you know anyone

who speaks German? I may have said the last German

Mass in the archdiocese when I was stationed at St. Mark

painful, be grateful. Those language parishes served their

purpose over the years, for a certain time and a certain sit-

course, the Catholic Church is still serving immigrants. In

my own parish there are Portuguese and Chinese liturgies.

uation, and they preserved the Catholic faith of millions.

So, friends, even though the process of evolution is

Many parishes will be either closed or combined. Of

Language parishes filled need for a certain time

Last time, I opened the subject of national-or language—parishes. Allow me to elaborate a little more. This will explain why we have all sorts of Catholic parishes in close proximity in our cities.

Every single immigrant community that formed in the United States wanted to preserve its own culture. That included language and religious practices.

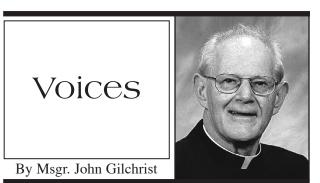
The Germans were the largest single foreign group to come to America after the 1850's and before 1900. They demanded their own language parishes. They ultimately spoke German in church, in their clubs, in their schools and on the playgrounds. They fought long and hard for their own churches. In fact, they are the ones who pushed for a Catholic school system.

However, the Bishops of Newark, according to canon law, erected territorial churches everywhere that were based on physical boundaries. Language parishes were permitted only reluctantly. There was a real possibility that the immigrants would not be properly instructed if they did not understand sermons and catechism in the English language.

Therefore, certain parishes were allowed to exist by canon law for immigrants and their children only. They were designed to be a temporary answer to a passing phenomenon. It was understood that the language parish would operate only in the native tongue and only for the persons who were not conversant in English.

What happened? Well, the enthusiastic immigrants erected huge, beautiful churches. They were designed to last forever. So within a single area of some cities you could find Polish, Italian, Slovak, Lithuanian and German churches-literally side by side.

There was also constant friction over proprietary rights between the territorial pastors and the pastors of ethnic



churches. For example, I myself, who had attended an Italian church as a boy, was told as a young person when I wanted to enter the seminary that I could not belong to the Italian parish because I was Irish.

When I went to the Irish parish I got a very cold reception. The pastor was very unhappy that I had been attending the Italian parish even though I lived across the street from the church. In fact, after I was ordained I ultimately said

two first Masses-one in the Irish church then one in the Italian church a week later.

The rivalries over jurisdiction were bitter. And whose fault was it? I must say that it was the fault of bishops. The day that the bishops permitted language parishes to start preaching in English, it was all over. The nature and purpose of the language parish was destroyed.

But even now the Portuguese people are moving on to the The Church, like Jesus, must move

into the future toward a new day.

was a slippery slope.

Parish, Rahway in 1957.)

suburbs. The children are not using Portuguese except at home. There are fewer people at our Portuguese Mass than there were ten years ago. Some beautiful churches

built by immigrants will stand forever as monuments to their culture, their Catholicity and their generosity. Those that are no longer

viable will, regrettably, be utilized in other ways. We must be grateful for what was. But the Church, like

Jesus, must move into the future toward a new day. We are a Church on the move. We always were. We always will be.

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

Studies show that regulating the abortuary industry reduces the absolute number of abortionsa worthy goal in itself.

Faith & Spirituality

'Share in the Care' for retired Religious

This weekend, Dec. 11 and 12, the 17th annual appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious (RFR) will be conducted in Catholic parishes throughout the country. The theme is "Share in the Care."

In the Archdiocese of Newark, collections will be taken during Masses, and parishes have been asked to invite a Religious sister, brother or priest to speak on behalf of retired Religious in order to raise funds to help support them.

The national appeal has generated a greater response than any annual appeal in U.S. Catholic Church history. The more than \$440 million that it has raised helps to ensure appropriate care for

Reflections on Advent

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope John Paul II has encouraged Catholics to rediscover the importance of Sunday Mass during the Advent season.

The period before Christmas is a perfect time to reflect on "the meaning of Sunday, its mystery, the value of its celebration, and its significance for Christian and human existence," the pope said.

He made the remarks at a noontime talk from his apartment window above St. Peter's Square Nov. 28, the first Sunday of Advent.

The pope said a rekindling of interest in Sunday Mass was essential for the Church, especially during the current year dedicated to the Eucharist.

In the Mass, he said, the Church recognizes Christ as "the center of history" and finds in His loving sacrifice the ultimate meaning of the mystery of the faith.

The papal remarks were occasioned by the start of preparations for an Italian eucharistic congress in 2005. almost 40,000 Catholic sisters, brothers, and Religious order priests who are now past age 70.

The crisis in unfunded retirement became evident in the early 1970s. Catholic schools, sponsored and operated primarily by Religious orders, were educating more than 10 percent of the student population in the United States. Catholic hospitals were becoming the largest group of not-for-profit hospitals in the nation. But the salaries and stipends to Religious were earmarked primarily for good works, new ministries, and training and education that would ensure adequate staffing and administration for ministries rather than retirement.

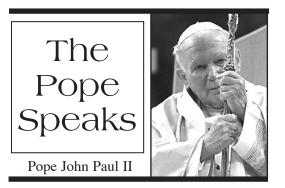
The care of elderly members had been ensured for generations by younger members who entered Religious life. Church and diocesan pension plans did not include Religious institutes, which are organized separately. Now, however, elderly Religious who are retired from paid ministry far outnumber wage-earning Religious.

Healthcare costs have skyrocketed, and the number of elderly Religious in assisted living or nursing facilities has risen dramatically. Many Religious institutes sell their motherhouses to meet retirement needs.

Today, retired Religious receive on average \$3,874 a year in Social Security benefits. (The average individual benefit for the general population is \$10,836.)

In 1988, church officials launched the Retirement Fund for Religious. The National Religious Retirement Office, which sponsors the appeal, under the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, has distributed more than 96 percent of donations as grants to Religious institutes. Special grant awards are used to meet emergency needs and to fund projects aimed at cost-cutting.

Nationwide, 172 of the country's 195 dioceses participate in the RFR appeal, and eight others sponsor local appeals.



Lord rules world in truth and justice

Dear brothers and sisters,

We have listened to one of the royal psalms, cherished by the Jewish and Christian tradition. It stresses the commitment to moral integrity on the part of the sovereign, who has been called to govern according to law and equity.

As the Lord rules the world in truth and justice (cf. Ps 36 (35):7), likewise the king, his visible representative on earth according to the biblical perspective, must imitate God's actions.

It is easy to understand how tradition has seen in this psalm a prophecy of the coming of Christ, the promised Messiah, reading in these words the traits of Christ's eternal and universal kingdom.

Healing and resurrection are gifts from God

Readings: Is 35:1-6 and 10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

Can a person measure the importance of a loving family and secure home setting for the tumultuous experience of growing from infancy through adolescence to adulthood?

Some people recall that their entire childhood was lived in the same town or city neighborhood. Others acknowledge that the only stability in their lives came from their parents and siblings as they moved to a new country with its enormous challenges.

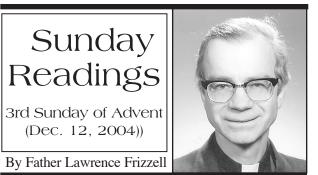
What a tragedy to be separated from one's family! Most of us never imagine what the loss of home and work inflicts upon the millions of people forced to flee because of persecution or war in our time.

Many never adjust to new situations but continually yearn to return to their native land. Such people would respond appreciatively to the message of hope offered in Isaiah the prophet.

The text proclaimed this Sunday belongs to the teaching of Isaiah's disciples who carried his spirit of consolation to the people exiled to Babylon. How could their dream of returning to the land of Israel be realized? The long journey through the parched wilderness was daunting, especially for the elderly and those suffering from physical handicaps.

First the prophet reminded the community that God could transform the desert as quickly as the warmth of spring brings abundant blossoms to the desert wadis irrigated by winter rains. Those returning will inherit the verdant pastures of Carmel and Sharon (the area from Haifa to Tel Aviv).

Moreover, "they will see the glory of the Lord, the splendor of our God" (Is 35:2). The basis for Israel's hope is the impressive, illuminating presence (glory) of God. Physical or psychological weakness must be overcome through the challenge of the prophet: "Be strong, fear not!"



This is a constant refrain of God's message to those facing danger or enormous challenges in their vocation. "Fear not, Abram! I am your shield!" (Gn 15:1). "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God" (Lk 1:30). The reason for the saints to have confidence in

spite of human limitations is their faith that God is with them. "Here is your God, He comes with vindication; with divine recompense He comes to save you" (Is 35:4).

The righteousness of God will bring judgment upon the

wicked so that the persecuted can find liberty.

Not only will the exiled return to their homeland, but those who are blind, deaf or lame will be enabled to make the journey and join in worship within the Jerusalem sanctuary. Thus would they be whole so that they could take on the tasks of living in community and serving in the temple (see Lv 21:16-23).

The marvelous transformation of people's lives through divine power was a central aspect of Jesus' ministry. John the Baptist, however, had emphasized that the coming Anointed One (Messiah, Christ) would plunge people into the crucible of divine judgment. "He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire (see Isa 11:1-4). His winnowing fan is in His hand. He will clear his threshing floor and gather His wheat into His barn but the chaff He will burn with unquenchable fire" (Mt 3:11-12).

With a touch of impatience, perhaps, John challenged Jesus to take up this work. But in his reply, Jesus recalled the hope of the prophets for a healing of human ills so that people could fulfil their call to worship God.

Of course, these works of mercy also became signs of the enlightenment of faith and the activation of good will on the part of those whose sins are forgiven. The only real handicap preventing a person from serving God and loving neighbor is sin.

Various forms of selfishness cause people to be alienated from God and true liberation begins with freedom

True liberation begins with

freedom from the shackles of sin.

from the shackles of sin. Then they will return from spiritual exile and be restored to the fullness of life in God's presence, in the community of His people.

In baptism God "delivered us from the power of

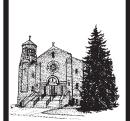
darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins" (Col 1:13-14).

During the season of Advent the Church provides opportunities for us to seek reconciliation through the sacrament of penance as our response in gratitude for the ministry of Christ in His work of restoring us to intimacy with the Father through the Holy Spirit.

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

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Parish Profile



Catherine of Siena, Cedar Grove

Priest brings rich experience as teacher to role as pastor

BY BRIAN FORES Staff Reporter

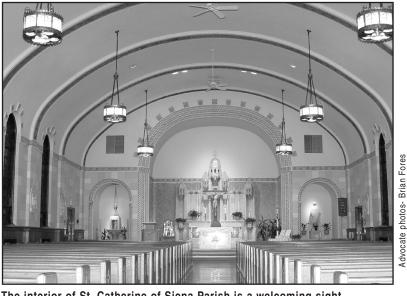
Msgr. Charles Gusmer, S.T.D., V.E., a respected scholar, teacher and author, wanted nothing more that to be a parish priest. His wish was granted in 1990, when he was named pastor of St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Cedar Grove. "I taught in the seminary at both Seton Hall and Darlington for nearly 22 years, from 1969 to 1990," he explained.

In 1988, he went on a 30-day retreat, where he says he discerned that "I was being called to be a parish priest." At that point, Msgr. Gusmer said he began winding down his academic career, and looking for opportunities to make the change.

"About two years later, I was invited to teach at Santa Clara University, California, for the summer. Coincidentally, all the bishops in the country were there for their annual meeting, including Archbishop [Theodore] McCarrick. He said, 'How are things with you, Charlie?' and that's when I broke the news that I would like to make the move to a parish. He called Bishop [John] Smith, vicar general at the time, and shortly thereafter, I was appointed to St. Catherine's."

Msgr. Gusmer said he had wanted to be a parish priest from the very beginning, but that he went where he was needed, and learned to "love teaching." Indeed, his academic endeavors bore fruit in the form of three highly esteemed theological books, including And You Visited Me: Sacramental Ministry to the Sick and Dying; Wholesome Worship, and Anglican Healing Liturgies, which was originally written as his doctoral thesis.

However, Msgr. Gusmer's years of teaching, and his profound knowledge of the Catholic faith, inform his



The interior of St. Catherine of Siena Parish is a welcoming sight.

sensibility as a pastor. "Through baptism, we have a mission-to serve in Jesus' ministry. Each of us is called to holiness, to be a saint. I believe each church is built to carry out that mission. Each church is a mission of Jesus Christ, which seeks to promote the kingdom of God."

Msgr. Gusmer said there are over 2,400 registered families at St. Catherine of Sienna Parish, mostly of Irish and Italian descent, but that several other ethnicities are represented at the parish as well. He noted that there are a number of young families, evidenced by the parish's well-attended family Mass, and strong youth group, which has nearly 120 members, and is run by Deacon Joseph Francione.

Rosemary Couillou, director of religious education for 11 years, said the parish's CCD program has some 527 students in grades one through eight, and 35 "faith-filled" volunteers. This November, 94 students were confirmed, and roughly 100 students make their first communion every year.



For All Saints Day, the parish assembled a "Book of Remembrance," for parishioners and loved ones who have passed away during the preceding year.

"Our program is an amalgam of wonderful families whose efforts are directed at working with children so that they know who Jesus is-that is the most important thing," she said.

Msgr. Gusmer commented that the parish has a few important items on its calendar for the upcoming holiday season. "Like many parishes, on Thanksgiving Eve, we will participate in an interfaith service, which is very diverse." He said representatives from Cedar Grove's Temple Shalom of West Essex, St. Mark's Coptic Orthodox church, SS. Cyril and Methodius Macedonian Orthodox church and the local Buddhist Fellowship, among others, will all participate in the ceremony.

Another event is Advent Ministry Night, which Msgr. Gusmer said takes place about a week after Thanksgiving. "We have an evening of prayer, a motivational speaker, and a catered dinner, to thank all those involved in ministry. We also highlight the spirituality of ministry, of finding Christ in the work that we do and services we perform.'

Father Bob Suszko, parochial vicar since his ordination in May 2002, noted, "As a newly ordained priest, one of the hardest things is managing your time, because there are so many activities and ministries that take place. There's no way that we, by ourselves, can handle that amount of work without the very active support and help of our parishioners. It's really something, when you see the entire picture. From the very beginning, it impressed me... how willing people are to give of themselves.

Isabel Bray, a parishioner at the parish since 1951, parish secretary for 27 years (retired in 1995), and often referred to as "the first lady of St. Catherine" by Bishop Michael A. Saltarelli, pastor there from 1985-1990, still serves as a parish trustee.

"Once the church went up, my husband, William, and I, had to get involved. There wasn't a school, and if we wanted one, we needed to do everything we could. We started with only 800 families. But, everybody cooperated," she noted. Bray said that her late husband went doorto-door soliciting donations for first the school, then later, the convent.

Charlotte Leeds, parish accountant for 7 years and a parishioner there for 20 years, said her three daughters, Kristen, 20, Karen, 18, and Jennifer, 12, were baptized and received first communion there.

"They had good programs for young children, such as 'play group' and 'Jesus story time.' St. Catherine's has the family Mass, which is geared toward people with children. It gets noisy-it's a participation Mass-but you don't have to be afraid of your kids speaking out or talking.

photos-

Chris Coleman, in her second year as director of institutional advancement for St. Catherine of Sienna grammar school, and a parishioner of 15 years, said Cedar Grove, and St. Catherine, are "where God wants me to be." Her three chidren, Mary Kate, 12, Maggie, 9 and Frank, 6, all attend the school.

She said the school, which runs from pre-K through grade 8, has 259 students, "who are accepted to the best schools in the Archdiocese, and New York.'

Describing the atmosphere at the school, Coleman stressed, "Faith is not compartmentalized, but united and woven together in order for children to be complete." She went on, "There is so much experience and love in our school, certainly traits not unique to teaching, but you can't beat what we've got in terms of dedicated faculty.

"Celine Kerwin, our principal, knows all the children by name, has a rapport with them, and there is no question that they are loved when they are in that building.'

Coleman noted that the students attend monthly Masses and on holy days. "We don't have Masses for students alone, but rather, parish Masses that the students happen to attend. Students are allowed to sit anywhere. A parishioner can be sitting next to seventh grader." She explained that doing so strengthens the bond between parish and school.

Coleman added that the school has successful computer, arts and athletics programs.

Msgr. Gusmer concluded, "It's a marvelous parish. When you ask me my proudest achievement, being made pastor here has given me the most joy.'

St. Catherine of Siena is located at 339 Pompton Ave.

Parish Profile



The rectory and convent were completed in 1961. Here, Archbishop Thomas A. Boland, center, lays the cornerstone, as Father Charles McDonnell, left, and Father Raymond J. Quinn, right, assist.

Once small parish, home to two bishops, now thrives

The history of St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Cedar Grove, began at about the turn of the century. Cedar Grove, which was originally part of the old Township of Caldwell and later part of the Township of Verona, became in 1907 the Township of Cedar Grove.

In 1910, the population was almost 800, and the U.S. Census Bureau showed Cedar Grove to be "the healthiest section east of the Rockies, the sweet scented air a delight to breathe."

A few Catholic families, among them the Nicholas, Grissings, and Bradshaws, met every Sunday at the corner of Bradford Avenue and Pompton Turnpike to attend Sunday Mass. At that time, the intersection was in the middle of the Grissing family farm. The group walked east on Bradford over the wooded mountain to the new St. Cassian Parish, Upper Montclair.

By 1926, almost all Catholics from Cedar Grove were going to the new Our Lady of the Lake Parish, Verona. Families in the northern part of the township attended the Catholic church in Little Falls.

After World War II and into the early 1950's, the Township of Cedar Grove experienced tremendous growth. Acres of farmlands were purchased by developers and private builders and a whole new community of single-family residences was born.

The number of Catholic families grew to 250 in 1949. A group of Cedar Grove Catholics headed by Mr. And Mrs. J. William Bradshaw formed a "Catholic Club" to work for the formation of a parish and church in Cedar Grove. The club met in private homes and also in the basement of the then Pompton Avenue School. They conducted various fundraising and religious informational activities.

In 1949, the Cedar Grove parish was a mission of Our Lady of the Lake Parish, Verona, of which the late Father Matthias J. Boylan was pastor. The first Mass in the new mission was celebrated in June 1949, by Father Francis C. Carey, then assistant pastor at Our Lady of the Lake. He said this first Mass in the Towers, on Pompton Avenue. Later, Sunday Mass was moved to the Meadowbrook.

In the spring of 1950, Mr. Bradshaw learned of the availability of the Phillip Grissing farm on the southeast side of Bradford and Pompton Avenues. It was a site he had always thought perfect for a new Catholic Church. He, and others from the Catholic Club by a letter dated June 1, 1950, petitioned Most Rev. Thomas J. Walsh, first Archbishop of Newark, for a church in Cedar Grove.

They were asked to "get me the signatures of 200 families who would go to church in Cedar Grove." A petition signed by 334 Catholic families was speedily completed. Shortly thereafter, the Grissing property was purchased.

Father Boylan began construction of the new St. Catherine of Siena Parish on East Bradford Avenue in 1951. The church was to have a seating capacity of 450 persons, and the basement auditorium a similar seating capacity.

The late Father Raymond J. Quinn was appointed administrator of the new parish on July 1, 1952, and named pastor in December 1952. The first Masses were celebrated in the basement of the yet uncompleted church on Nov. 9, 1952. Father Quinn sang the first Solemn High Mass in the church proper on Dec. 7, 1952. The new church served some 1,100 communicants.

In June 1954, Father Charles J. McDonnell (later Bishop) was assigned to St. Catherine's to assist Father Quinn.

In May 1957, Father Quinn announced plans for a school to be constructed adjacent to the church. St. Catherine's children were then being transported by bus to our Lady of the Lake School, Verona.

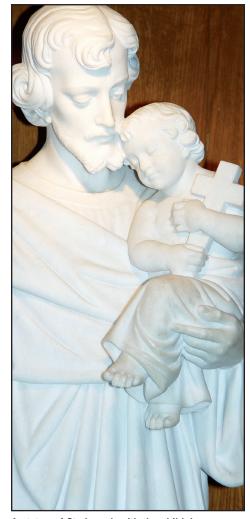
A fundraising campaign headed by Paul Healy with a goal of \$200,000 was successfully completed by the parishioners to help pay part of the cost of the new school.

Ground was broken on Oct. 13, 1957, and the school opened in September 1958 for 424 pupils in grades one through seven. The school was staffed by four Sisters of St. Dominic from nearby Caldwell, as well as by lay teachers. It was blessed and dedicated by Archbishop Thomas A. Boland on Nov. 29, 1958.

The number of families served by St. Catherine's in 1958 was 875.

In June 1961, Father George L. Mader joined the parish. Later that year, Father Quinn launched a parish development drive to raise funds for a new convent and rectory. The campaign was successful, the rectory and convent were competed in November 1961.

About 1,000 Catholic families were residing in Cedar Grove in 1961 and the student enrollment at St. Catherine School reached 565. Increases in the number of students during the 1960's would lead to the addition of four additional classrooms, a library, workroom,



A statue of St. Joseph with the child Jesus occupies a shrine on the side of the church.

Meet the Pastor



Msgr. Charles Gusmer

Age: 66

Date of Birth: Oct. 11, 1938 High School: Summit High School College/Seminary/Graduate School: Seton Hall University, B.A. in Classical Languages; Immaculate Conception Seminary, Darlington; The Canisianum, Insbrook Austria, S.T.L.; University of Trier, Trier, Germany, S.T.D. Date of Ordination: March 26, 1966 Hero: Blessed John XXIII Favorite Saints: Catherine of Siena; Ignatius of Loyola Favorite Sport: Tennis Favorite Food: German **Favorite Subject in School:** History Favorite Movie: Charlie Chan movies Last Book Read: Fully Human, Fully Divine: An Interactive Christology by Michael Casey Proudest Moment: Being named pastor of St. Catherine's **Occupation if I Weren't a Priest:** Teacher

and increased parking area.

During 1966, Father Quinn became ill and in June 1966, Father James Leahy was assigned to St. Catherine's to serve as parish administrator. Also in June 1966, Father Mader was transferred to a mission assignment.

Father Quinn died on June 10, 1967, and was buried on the parish grounds he worked so hard and so successfully to bring to fruition. His grave is located in the area between the church and the rectory.

Father Leady was replaced as pastor by Msgr. William Noé Field in July 1967.

Msgr. Field was reassigned in June 1972, and Father Daniel Mahoney was then appointed the new pastor. Father Robert G. Gibney was appointed in Mary 1978, and remained until 1985. Most Rev. Michael Salterelli, Bishop of Wilmington, DE, served as pastor from 1985-1990. In 1990, Msgr. Charles Gusmer was named pastor of St. Catherine of Siena.

The dreams and determination of its founding parishioners, and the work, sacrifices, and contributions of its generations of good stewards brought to fruition the present St. Catherine of Siena Parish, a beautiful physical plant of church, school, rectory, and convent, and an enthusiastic ministry which furthers the message of Jesus Christ in all aspects of life.

Don't forget your Church when you're giving

new year will dawn. To help you finish this year in charitable style, here are five gentle reminders.

1. Charitable giving benefits your parish and the Archdiocese, as well as you.

A special, year-end gift during "The Season of Giving" can bring you added joy, especially as you consider the boost your gift will give your parish or us here at the Archdiocese. You will enjoy knowing that your generosity has made a difference by helping the Church fulfill its worthy goals. And, of course, there are usually tax benefits related to charitable giving.

2. Appreciated assets can make dandy gifts.

Take stock, for example. If you have owned the stock for at least a year and a day, you can receive full value for the gift, including all the appreciation. What's more, neither you nor the Church will have to pay capital gains tax on the gift. The more the stock has appreciated, the greater the benefit. Your tax advisor can spell out the specifics for you.

Mutual funds, real estate and other appreciated assets can make great gifts as well.

3. Tax-wise charitable gifts often require advanced action.

A stock gift usually takes more time to complete than writing out and mailing a check. Real estate gifts require even more

time -often several weeks.

You should also plan for time to discuss your non-cash gift with your attorney or financial advisor. Getting appointments and handling the paperwork takes time. So . . . start early!

4. Charitable gifts can be accelerated.

That is, you can reach into next year and pull your charitable giving into the current year. There are several reasons why this might make sense.

The end of the year will soon be upon us and before we know it, a 🛕 First, you may be looking at a higher tax bill this year, due to largerthan-anticipated income.

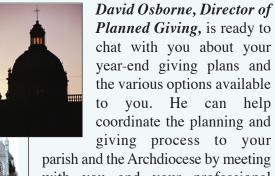
> Additional giving this year may create a higher charitable income tax deduction and help ease your added tax burden.

Second, as you move closer to the end of the year, you may find you have extra cash on hand and may want to make an "advance" on your charitable giving plans for the new year.

> Third, you may want to give more this year simply because you are sure of the tax benefits now, but unsure what Congress may do next year regarding the charitable income tax deduction. After all, who knows what a year can hold?

5. A life-income plan may make sense for you at this time.

Life-income plans allow you to establish a gift arrangement now, create a stream of lifetime income, obtain current tax benefits and provide a future gift to the Church. They are especially attractive to donors who cannot afford to give up current income from retirementrelated assets but may want better returns like 6% to 11.3%.



parish and the Archdiocese by meeting with you and your professional advisor(s), and by caring for the various details. The services of Mr. Osborne are, of course, complimentary to you. Please feel free to call him at (973) 497-4584. Or use the handy reply form below.

Dear Mr. Osborne , I have an interest in learning more about planned	aiving please:
Contact me to arrange a private meeting.	giving, pieuse.
□ Send me information about creative and tax-efficient ways to give to	o the Church.
□ I do not have a will, but would like to meet with you to learn about	
□ I have remembered my parish in my will. Please enroll me in the Ar	
□ I have remembered my Archdiocese in my will. Please enroll me in	
□ I want to review my will and would like information to assure that n	ny intentions are recorded correctly.
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City State Zip code	Phone
Clip and mail/fax this coupon to:	
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Paid Adv	ertisement

Local News

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Poem attracts wide support

Continued from Page 6

Mrs. Hay noted, applause broke out.

Kaeley and St. Anne's also received the support of the two other houses of worship in the community. Her poem was read at services at St. Paul United Church of Christ and at the Garwood Presbyterian Church.

To the delight of the Hay family, Kaeley received the backing of Newark Archbishop Emeritus Peter L. Gerety. In a note to Kaeley, explained her mother, Archbishop Gerety called the poem "beautiful" citing its "lovely words" and saying she had been given a "great talent" by God. Mrs. Hay called the archbishop's involvement "wonderful... It was nice of him to take the time."

Archbishop Gerety also read the poem in his Thanksgiving homily at St. Gabriel Parish, Saddle River.

The archbishop emeritus said, "Kaeley sums it all up." He went on to say, "She gives the picture of the harvest time in this part of the country. She mentions history by reminding us that the pilgrims started it all. And then she invites us to remember we are thanking God for what He has given us. And then she wants us all to join in with one voice praising God."

As Archbishop Gerety sees it, "Kaeley has it right." Saying Thanksgiving is a "happy feast day," he said, "How could it be otherwise as we join with family and friends to praise God for the great gifts He has given to us in this wonderful country of ours?"

The Catholic Advocate first called the school for comment on the matter but was told all press inquiries go through the superintendent's office. Several calls to the superintendent's office were not returned.

Following is Kaeley's poem.

Leaves are falling out of the air, Piles of leaves everywhere!

> Scarecrows standing High up with the corn, Farmers harvest in the early morn'.

Pilgrims thank God For what they were given,

Everybody say... HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Adoptive Services families celebrate



Archbishop John J. Myers attended a Catholic Charities' luncheon last month at the Archdiocesan Center, Newark, for its Family and Adoptive Services division. The well-attended event was for adoptive, foster and birth families who have used Catholic Charities' services. The archbishop took time out for a photo with the Woyce Family of East Rutherford, who adopted four children through Catholic Charities.



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Local News

Scholarship fund is needed now more than ever

BY WARD MIELE

Managing Editor

Lorraine Cunningham, acting executive director of the Scholarship Fund for Inner-City Children (SFIC), sees its mission throughout the Archdiocese of Newark as being "in the spirit of the Good Samaritan."

From her office on the second floor of the Archdiocesan Center, Newark, Cunningham says SFIC works in conjunction with the Catholic Church "to help provide children of all faiths and creeds with a high-quality education and safe environment."

That is just what SFIC has been doing since its founding in 1983. Latest figures show 37,000 scholarships totaling \$20 million have been awarded. An impressive 97 percent of last year's high school graduates went on to college.

An unfortunate reality that SFIC has to face, Cunningham notes, is that it is no longer feasible for Catholic schools to offer free tuition. "Unfortunately, the many impoverished families of our inner cities cannot afford even the lowest tuition of the parochial schools."

SFIC, Cunningham explains, "has helped give many children



Acting executive director Lorraine Cunningham, seated, with, left to right, assistant director Jennifer Hicks and administrative assistant Adriana Ramirez.

an opportunity to attend private and parochial schools and enjoy success previously unavailable to them."

Cunningham has been particularly touched by how the work of SFIC has affected recipient families.

As part of its efforts, SFIC arranges for volunteers to present appeals to participating parishes. These speakers are usually inner-city teachers, principals and parish personnel who can attest to the positive effect Catholic schools have on the lives of low-income children.

This program not only helps to raise funds for SFIC, but also demonstrates the heartfelt generosity of Catholics within the Church of Newark.

For example, Cunningham tells of a recent donation that arrived in an envelope containing four singles and four quarters.

Donations of this kind remind Cunningham of the parable of the widow's mite, which "speaks to the spirit of Christian love."

The reactions of parents whose children have received scholarships are inspiring to everyone at SFIC.

One parent wrote, "The scholarship fund has afforded my children the opportunity to open doors that have no knobs." Another wrote, "the education my son receives is outstanding. I believe it is his ticket out of poverty." And another said, "This program has offered those who have nothing, hope. And, as parents, we see this hope in our children's eyes whenever they come home from school."

In spite of all the progress made by SPIC, Cunningham notes that the most difficult part of the job is that everyday the fund is forced to turn away many desperate families looking for assistance.

Therefore, Cunningham's goal is to increase both the number of scholarships awarded and the dollar amounts granted in an effort for SFIC to "have a greater impact on the lives of children in low-income families." She would like to triple the annual allotment that now stands at \$1.5 million.

The philosophy of SFIC and "its most generous donors," Cunningham stresses, is "that when we dignify our youngsters with a sound education, integrity and strong self-esteem, we dignify our community."

Anyone interested in learning more about SFIC or to make a donation, call (973) 497-4279 or visit www.sficnj.org.

Swartzberg named chair of Women's Commission

"I would like the

commission to bring

out Church teachings

with regard to family

life issues."

-Pamela Swartzberg

The new chair of the Women's Commission of the Archdiocese of Newark is Pamela Muller Swartzberg. Her task in the new year, as she sees it, is to lead the commission through a transitional phase, to develop its mission and plan, with an immediate focus on the annual Day of Reflection, to

be held in the spring.

"In my view we must act in more of an outreach capacity to groups of parishes - toprove an opportunity to women

of the archdiocese to learn and live all of the beautiful teachings of the Church, so well articulated by Pope John Paul II."

It is important that the commission is focused full-time on the pro-life cause, she emphasized.

Pamela Muller was born in Bergen County, received a B.A. in history from Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC, and a J.D. from Vanderbilt University School of Law, Nashville,TN. She has practiced corporate law in New York City and Charlotte, NC.

She is also the mother of five children (all born within five years). The oldest is six and the youngest 17 months. She and her husband are parishioners of Most Blessed Sacrament, Franklin Lakes where she has led the Respect Life ministry.

She has been a member of the Women's Commission for two years.

"I am a cradle Catholic, married to a convert who asks all the questions that a convert from Judaism would ask,"

Swartzberg noted. "I have to ask and answer questions myself"

tions myself." Currently there are 11 members of the W o m e n ' s Commission,

distributed geographically through all four counties, including one Religious sister, several mothers, some single professional women. It is "diverse-ish," according to Swartzberg with members who are African-American, Spanish-speaking and of Indian heritage.

"Each woman brings different passions to the commission," she said.

"My key message about the Women's Commission" Swartzberg continued, "is that I would like the commission to bring out to women—to all people of the diocese—Church teachings with regard to family life issues. This is such a beautiful gift, and I'm hoping we can help people find the gift."



Local News

Page 15

Giving of herself is nothing new

As the Christmas season approaches, many thoughts turn to helping those less fortunate. But for Caldwell College student Rana Simunovich, helping others is a way of life.

She has always had a giving spirit. Besides being a life-long blood donor, the 27-year old psychology major has donated bone marrow and platelets to assist cancer patients and given her time to various charities.

Her latest selfless act, however, was more personal. On Nov. 30, Simunovich became the first female at Saint Barnabas Medical Center, Livingston, to donate her kidney to someone she doesn't know.

She doesn't believe, though, that being the first woman at the hospital to give her kidney to a stranger makes her anything special.

"That is just the way I have always been," said Simunovich, who has lost six family members to cancer in the last year alone. "It is the difference between throwing a quarter in a plate and truly giving of yourself to help another. I want to be directly involved in helping to save a life. It is worth it to do anything I can to lessen the amount of pain other people suffer or prevent someone from having to go through the ordeal of losing a loved one. I believe it embodies the best principles of the Catholic Dominican tradition, which is what Caldwell College was founded on." Simunovich draws her strength and inspiration from her mother, grandfather and Father Tom Orians, S.A., the Caldwell College campus minister

"I love my college and Father Tom because I have learned more about myself here than anywhere I have been, and this is because of the religious ties it holds and proclaims so strongly. I wouldn't trade anything for the time I have had at the college and what I have learned through college retreats, speaking with the sisters, and would certainly not be who I am today without the strength given to me by Father Tom.

"Without him, I don't know if I would have been as certain as I am now about what I am doing."

According to the Saint Barnabas Transplant Center's protocol, the transplant team may not disclose the identity of the donor or recipient until after the surgery is complete and then only if both parties agree.

Five Ways a Gift Annuity Can Benefit You

Have you considered the benefits of obtaining a charitable gift annuity with the Archdiocese of Newark? *Here are five points to ponder:*

1. Attractive Rates. Mr. and Mrs. Smith, both

age 71, used to receive a modest income from

their Bank's Certificate of Deposit. However,

when the CD matures this month, instead of

obtaining a new, lower rated CD, they plan to

obtain a Charitable Gift Annuity from the

Archdiocese in order to receive 6 % and to help

2. Tax-Free Payments. Part of each annuity

payment is tax-free. For example, Mrs. Jones,

age 82, contributed \$25,000 toward a gift

annuity to help support Catholic education.

Every year, she will receive \$2,125 (8.5%). Of

this amount, \$1,540 will be excluded from

income taxes and continues through her

3. Income Tax Deduction. Since a charitable

gift annuity is partly a gift and partly an

investment in an annuity contract, donors that

itemize are entitled to an income tax deduction

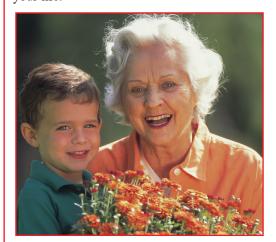
for the gift portion of their annuity amounts. In

estimated life expectancy.

support their parish.

the case of Mrs. Jones, her \$25,000 gift also produced a charitable tax deduction of \$12,205.

4. Fixed, Regular Payments. It's nice to be able to count on a specific amount of payment no matter what happens to the financial markets. Your annuity payments will remain the same every year, and you have assurance that your check will be in the mail (or directly deposited) every payment date for the rest of your life.



5. Personal Satisfaction. Perhaps the greatest benefit of an Archdiocesan gift annuity is the personal fulfillment you receive by helping your parish and local Church as well as yourself.

You owe it to yourself to find out more about charitable gift annuities. To obtain personalized illustrations, fill out and return the coupon below. Or contact our planned giving office at (973) 497-4594.

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A tribute of Marian music

The Cathedral Choir and Instrumentalists of the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark, will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Dogma of the Immaculate Conception by Blessed Pope Pius IX (marked Dec. 8) with a concert of Marian music on Sun., Jan. 23, 2005 at 3:00 p.m. at the Cathedral Basilica.

"A Tribute to the Immaculate Conception" will include works of Biebl, Britten, Howells and Stravinsky. Free-will offerings are accepted.

This is a significant anniversary for the entire Church, but especially for the Church in the United States and in particular for the Church of the Archdiocese of Newark. Both have been entrusted to Mary under the title of her Immaculate Conception.

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"What they need is food, medicine, and clothes, and, most of all, lots of love — the love of Jesus."

Angela and Kisse are two of the orphans lovingly cared for by Sisters in Tanzania. Their parents died from the AIDS virus. Other children in the Missions are left orphans from war or civil strife. Some parents are so poor



they need help caring for their little ones. \Rightarrow Sisters throughout the Missions reach out with the love of Christ to serve the needs of these children, offering them the great "Good News" proclaimed by the angel that first Christmas: "a savior has been born for you." \Rightarrow This Christmas, won't you offer a gift to our mission family, through the Propagation of the Faith, to support those who, through their words and actions, reveal Christ's love and peace to the suffering and the poor?

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The Society for THE PROPAGATION OF TH	IE FAITH
A Pontifical Mission Society	
Rev. Msgr. Robert Fuhrman	Dept. C262
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My Christmas gift to the Missions	
\Box \$100 \Box \$50 \Box \$25 \Box \$10 \Box Other	: \$
ame	
ddress	

www.worldmissions-catholicchurch.org

Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Newark Catholic Cemeteries 1st Annual Christmas Food Collection

in honor of the Year of the Eucharist

The ministry of Catholic Cemeteries operates under the auspices of the Catholic Church.

It is important to recognize that the burial of the dead is only one of the Corporal Works of Mercy.

The Church encourages frequent cemetery visits and prayer for the dead.

Visiting the sick, clothing the naked, feeding the hungry are also works of mercy to be encouraged.

Performing them on behalf of our deceased loved ones is a Mitzvah, (a wonderful gift that cannot be repaid) one that truly honors the memory of the deceased in a tangible way.

We will be accepting any non-perishable food items for distribution to the local food pantries to those less fortunate people in the Archdiocese.

Your donations may be dropped off in the offices of all Archdiocesan Cemeteries and Mausoleums, Monday through Friday 9AM -4PM, Saturday 9AM-2PM, beginning Wednesday, December 1 through Thursday, December 23.

Holy Cross Cemetery/Mausoleum 340 Ridge Road North Arlington, NJ Gate of Heaven Cemetery/Mausoleum 225 Ridgedale Avenue East Hanover, NJ Holy Name Cemetery/Mausoleum 823 West Side Avenue Jersey City, NJ **Good Shepherd Mausoleum** 53 Inman Avenue Colonia, NJ

Christ the King Cemetery 980 Huron Road Franklin Lakes, NJ Holy Sepulchre Cemetery 125 Central Avenue East Orange, NJ Maryrest Cemetery 25 Seminary Road Mahwah, NJ

For directions to any of our cemeteries or mausoleums visit our website www.rcan.org or call (800) 582-1718

Ministry Closeup

Hope, love and dignity for those with HIV/AIDS

BY LIESL FORES Staff Writer

With more than 40 million people infected with HIV/AIDS around the world, almost a million of those in the United States, everyone—Christian and non-Christian—is called by mere human compassion to help their fellow brothers and sisters suffering from this disease in any way they can.

The Archdiocese of Newark takes a lead in such compassionate service with a multitude of services for those with HIV/AIDS within the framework of Catholic Health and Human Services (see Page 18 in the Nov. 3 issue of *The Catholic Advocate*), Catholic Charities and individual parishes.

While archdiocesan hospitals and healthcare facilities provide medical and psychological care and counseling for HIV/AIDS patients, Catholic Charities runs a number of programs and facilities to assist those living with the illness.

Under the umbrella of AIDS Ministry, Catholic Charities operates three residences, with many services to clients: Canaan House and Franciska Residence, both in Jersey City, and St. Bridget's Residence, Newark.

St. Bridget's HIV/AIDS Support Network encompasses various programs and serves clients in the greater Newark area.

The original program was a drop-in center, offering food, information and other resources, started 15 years ago by Brother Joseph McAlister in the Ironbound section of Newark.

The center moved to its current address at 404 University Ave., Newark, eight years ago and added St. Bridget's Residence, a transitional housing facility for men, which provides educational workshops on nutrition, health, stress reduction and other life skills areas; referral to mental health and/or substance abuse counseling; case management services; advocacy services, and recreational activities.

Good Shepherd, on the campus of St. Bridget's Residence, is a five single room occupancy permanent housing facility for men, which includes a shared kitchen, dining and living room, offering many of the above services as well as meals and selfhelp support.

Describing in his own words these programs, Brother Joe McAlister, now ministering in

AIDS COMPASSION SUNDAY

DOMINGO DE COMPASIÓN POR EL SIDA

case management at St. Bridget's, said, "Number one is to provide a safe, healthy and welcoming environment." Second, and also crucial, he pointed out, is to supply meals and an opportunity for socializing. He added that educational services and case management are aimed at helping clients improve the quality of their lives.

"We make sure they do what they wanted to do when we assessed them [initially]," noted Ernest McCullough, St. Bridget's program supervisor, listing things like job training and education. "We help move them along like anybody else."

Besides the basic necessities of food and shelter, he also mentioned assistance with a PSE&G bill or rent. "It runs the gamut. ... We call this support 'discharge to life'—giving them all the skills they need to maintain themselves outside this facility."

Whatever services the St. Bridget's Support Network staff can't provide they refer out, such as medical and mental health care, as well as drug abuse counseling. A goal, McCullough explained, is to get clients into primary medical care and to stay there, i.e., seeing a doctor regularly and maintaining a healthy regimen of medication and nutrition.

McCullough, who started out working in the drop-in center ten years ago, says he gets inspiration from the successes of the people he and his staff assist, pointing out that clients have gone on to obtain full time jobs with the city of Newark and its colleges, as well as other places. He also noted several marriages that are the result of relationships begun at St. Bridget's.

Remarking that there is still a stigma to being diagnosed with HIV/AIDS, McCullough said, "Coming here is a safe haven" for clients, because everyone has the same disease. "They don't have to whisper," or deal with the prejudices they might have to in other realms of their lives, he commented.

Because St. Bridget's has become very well known for its services to people with HIV/AIDS within medical and mental healthcare facilities and social service agencies, according to Brother Joe, the staff doesn't have to do much outreach and does not have a formalized volunteer program.

"Word of mouth" among these organizations and clients themselves, says Brother Joe, keeps those in need coming in and the contributory services from individuals, parishes and other organizations flowing.

Immaculate Conception Parish, Montclair, is one of the many parishes in the archdiocese that contributes services to St. Bridget's. (Others include Our Lady of Lourdes, Mountainside; St. Stephen, Kearny, and St. John the Apostle, Linden, to name a few.)

Éthel O'Mara, coordinator of the "We Care" AIDS ministry program at the parish along with Grace Reynolds, explained how what started as a small support group for people with HIV/AIDS and their family and friends in 1992 blossomed into the operation it is today: an undertaking of 50 men and women cooking, alternately, 50 full meals once a week, and eight alternate drivers, bringing the food to clients and residents of the St. Bridget's programs.

We Care also prepares an annual Christmas dinner, complete with gifts. While the support group no longer meets, the volunteer program thrives, with new members as well as the ones who have been a part of the project since the beginning. People "stay on—they're just so faithful," asserted O'Mara.

The Good Shepherd Ministry at St. John the Baptist Parish, Hillsdale, also does community outreach to local agencies serving those with HIV/AIDS.

Among its projects are cooking a meal once a month for Harrison House, an HIV/AIDS facility in Paramus, and participating in the "border babies" program at University Hospital, Newark, in which volunteers help nurture babies with HIV/AIDS by holding and rocking them. The ministry also donates afghans for these babies, sewn, crocheted or knitted by members of the community.

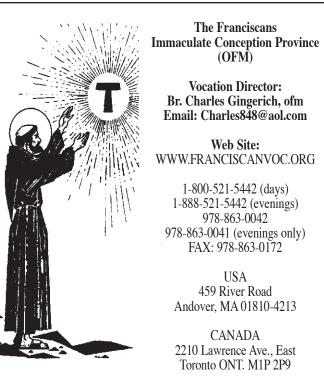
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Good Shepherd Ministry was founded more than five years ago by parishioners who had relatives who died of AIDS. "We've come really far in just a few years," said Kerry Gantor, the lay leader of the ministry, pointing out that people in the parish now have a better understanding of the farreaching and devastating affects of AIDS. "It's not just one group of people" that is affected, she noted, naming in particular babies born with the disease.

Through volunteer work, collections, materials and information that the group makes available on AIDS Compassion Sunday and throughout the year, the Good Shepherd Ministry tries to do its part in assuaging the plight of those living with HIV/AIDS.

AIDS Compassion Sunday 2004, which originated in the Archdiocese of Newark over 10 years ago, may take place in the Archdiocese of Newark on any weekend throughout the year, though some parishes choose to observe it near World AIDS Day, which was on Dec. 1 this year.

Both days are occasions to bring compassionate awareness to and offer prayers for the many people who have died from AIDS and those still suffering from the disease.



Local News



With Father Clement Krug, C.Ss.R., administrator, center, and Father Marcos Just, C.Ss. R., Archbishop John J. Myers celebrated the feast of Our Lady of Aparecida. Aparecida is a Brazilian city where the Shrine of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception of Aparecida is located.

'Mother of Grace' replica on sale

In honor of the 150th anniversary of the Dogma of the Immaculate Conception by Blessed Pope Pius IX (marked Dec. 8), and the 50th anniversary of the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark, the Cathedral Shoppe of the Cathedral Basilica is making available a 12-inch reproduction of the Carrara marble statue of Mary-the Conception, Immaculate "Mother of Grace"-which adorns the Cathedral Basilica's "Lady Chapel." The cost of the resin replica is \$35 and can be purchased at the shop, accessible on the Ridge Street side of the Cathedral Basilica, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or by contacting the Worship Office at (973) 497-4361.

Also available is an etching in glass of the same image of the Blessed Mother. Perfect as a Christmas ornament, the three-and-half inch oval etching costs \$10.

Obituary

Father Kurt Holderied, Carmelite

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Father Kurt Holderied, O.Carm, 71, who died Oct. 27.

Born and raised in Chicago, Father Holderied attended Mount Carmel Preparatory Seminary, Niagara Falls, Ontario, to begin studies for the priesthood in the Carmelite Order. He also studied at White Friars Hall, Washington, DC before being ordained in Chicago in 1959. He received a bachelor's degree from St. Bonaventure University, Olean, NY; a master's degree from the University of Notre Dame, IN, and a doctorate in education from Marquette University, Milwaukee, ŴI.

Ministering in high schools and colleges, in parishes and in spiritual direction positions in Illinois, Canada, Texas, Arizona, California, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts, his assignments in the Archdiocese of Newark included serving in Carmelite parishes as parochial vicar of Immaculate Conception, Norwood, and as pastor of St. John the Evangelist, Leonia. He also ministered at the Carmel Retreat House, Mahwah, and as chaplain at Pascack Valley Hospital, Westwood, and Valley Hospital, Ridgewood.

He retired to Venice, FL, where he resided at the time of his death.

Pray for them...

Doughlas Greaves, father of Father Gerald Greaves, died Nov. 17.

Stanley Gurski, father of Father John K. Gurski, pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Garfield, died Nov. 18.

RoseMarie Marcone, sisterin-law of Father Eugene F. Marconi, in residence at St. Anne Parish, Garwood, died Nov. 30.

Vito D'Amico, father of Father Joseph D'Amico, parochial vicar at SS. Peter and Paul Parish, Hoboken, died Nov. 30.



December 8, 2004

Local News

Archbishop Szczepan Wesoly, president of the John Paul II Foundation, Rome, was the main celebrant and homilist last month at Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish, Harrison, celebrating the 26th anniversary of the election of Cardinal Karol Wojtyla as the first Polish pope in the Church history. Some 40 priests participated. In the photo, right, Konrad Wiklinski, three, prays for the pope. Next to the photo of the pope is a zucchetto given by the Holy Father to Father Miroslaw Krol, parochial vicar and coordinator of the Polish Apostolate for the Archdiocese of Newark. In photo, left,

Fiesta takes place in River Edge

In recognition of the role played by Spanish-speaking Catholics in bringing the faith to North and South America over generations, St. Peter the Apostle Parish, River Edge, recently celebrated its first bilingual Mass.

Although Hispanics make up about 10 percent of the parish population, the entire parish participated in the liturgy, which was followed by a fiesta. Some

Jubilees are celebrated

The Salesians of Don Bosco recently honored 18 of their priests and brothers who have reached major milestones with 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th and even 70th jubilees of Religious profession or of the priesthood.

Five of the Salesians are serving in Northern New Jersey, including two in the Archdiocese of Newark.

Father David Moreno, S.D.B., 54, from New Bedford, MA, entered the Salesian minor seminary at Ipswich, MA, and went on to the novitiate at Newton, where he professed in 1969. Since 2002, he has been on the staff of the Salesians' house of formation at Orange. For the last six years, his avocation has been civil War re-enacting as a chaplain with the 7th New Jersey Volunteer Infantry.

Brother George Sheehan, S.D.B., 69, from Jersey City, came to the Salesians following high school. He completed his novitiate at Newton and was professed on Sept. 8, 1954. For most of the next 40 years he was an outstanding English and dramatics teacher at several Salesian high schools, including Don Bosco Preparatory School, Ramsey.

400 parishioners participated.

Each of the 21 nations of Latin America honors the Mother of God under 21 different titles. A booklet showing images of the 21 icons of the Blessed Mother describing the history of each was included in the bilingual missalette distributed to each member of the congregation.

Readings, hymns, petitions and homily were read and sung in both languages. Msgr. Robert Slipe, pastor, delighted the con-

because

gregation with a homily delivered in Spanish. He encouraged all those of Hispanic heritage at St. Peter the Apostle to pass down the faith and their strong family values to their children as they were passed from their ancestors.

The fiesta followed the Mass, and there was a procession to Mary's Garden where the litany to the Blessed Mother invoked her intercession under each of her 21 Hispanic-American titles.

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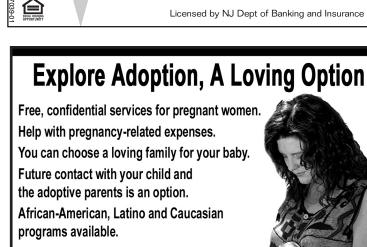
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mortgage matters





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Local News

Concerts to benefit vocations office

Two Christmas concerts, to benefit the Vocations Office of the Archdiocese of Newark, will take place Dec. 16 and Dec. 17 at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Newark, and Saint Philomena Parish, Livingston, respectively.

Both beginning at 7:30 p.m., the concerts will feature soprano Valerie Sue Muller and pianist David Mairullo. Muller is an international artist who has appeared with such companies as the New York Grand Opera, New Jersey State Opera, Opera Northeast, Rome Festival Opera and Jerome Hines' Opera Music Theatre International. Maiullo has played at Carnegie Hall, Avery Fisher Hall, Tully Hall and the Merkin Concert Hall as well as throughout this country and Europe. A free will offering is requested.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish is located at 259 Oliver St. and Saint Philomena Parish at 386 Livingston Ave.

For additional information call Our Lady of Mount Carmel at (973) 589-2090 or Saint Philomena at (973) 992-0994.

Knights' council shines

KorC

The Ramsey Patrick Pindar Council, Ramsey Knights

of Columbus 3962, has been designated a Star Council, the international Catholic organization's top honor.

The award recognizes overall excellence in membership recruitment and retention; promotion of the

Celebrate a Catholic Christmas in Connecticut

THERE IS SO MUCH TO SEE, PLAN ON SEVERAL VISITS

Courtesy of the Knights of Columbus, admissions to all exhibitions and parking in the museum garage are free as a public service.

1. Creating St. Peter's

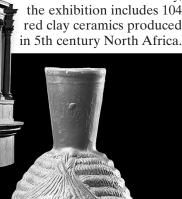
Architectural Treasures of the Vatican Showing through Jan. 9, 2005. A Michelangelo masterpiece, his 440-year-old, 16.5-foot high wooden dome model is the centerpiece of more than 140 priceless items on loan from the Vatican. Come to New Haven and journey back in time to Renaissance Rome as you walk through the 176year-long design and construction of the worldfamous basilica. Included are oil paintings, models, engravings, sculptures, mosaics, tools, rare books and documents.

2. Jerusalem and the Holy Land Rediscovered

Showing from Nov.1, 2004 through Jan. 9, 2005. Includes 90 beautiful lithographs of renowned artist David Roberts' 1838-39 epic travels across the Holy Land. On loan from Duke University. The below image was drawn in the holy Shrine of the Nativity at Bethlehem. **3. "Christmas in the Holy Land" Annual Tree Festival**, *showing Dec. 4 to Jan. 9, 2005*. Exhibition of hand-made ornaments created by 25 regional Catholic schools (grades K to 5).

> 4. Light from the Age of Augustine, showing through April 16, 2005. On loan from Harvard University, the exhibition includes 104 red clay ceramics produced in 5th century North Africa

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In announcing the award, international president of K of C, Carl A. Anderson, said, "Please

accept my sincere congratulations upon attaining this prestigious award. The dedication to the principles and aims of the Order shown by your officers and members is exemplified by the high standard of excellence you have achieved.

"At the same time, I encourage you to carry forward this enthusiasm to meet the challenges that will face the Knights of Columbus in the years ahead."

The Patrick Pindar Council officers are: Msgr. Lawrence Cull, chaplain; Michael Roll, grand knight; Thomas Walner, deputy grand knight; Joseph Reap, chancellor; Thomas Donnelly, warden; Michael Adams, advocate; Steve Adams, recorder; Roy Gargiulo, treasurer; Deacon Vincent Meyers, financial secretary; Frank Maitre, lecturer; James Cheviot and Mike Hayward, inside guards; Ronald Damato and William Roll, outside guards, and David Bisaillon, Ryan Duffy and Larsen, trustees.

LEARN ROSARY MAKING

Call for catalog & introductory offer

Chapel reflects school's history

Most Rev. John Flesey, Auxiliary Bishop for Bergen County, recently consecrated the prayer chapel in the new addition at Paramus Catholic High School.

The chapel contains a speciallv commissioned stained glass window, representing themes of the school's history and culture.

The window was produced by Gil Studios, owned by Ray Clagnan, Class of '74.

The addition was designed as the final phase of a project to meet a dramatic increase in enrollment from 830 six years ago to 1,510 today. Features of the addition in-

clude four classrooms, wired for the latest technologies, an elevator and additional locker space. It also extends to an 80-seat outdoor amphitheater. Highlights of the stained glass

window include a world map in the background, symbolizing the school's diversity and global vision of its staff, and a small map of New Jersev in the left corner, representing the over 100 Garden State communities Paramus Catholic students call home, making it the state's largest private school.

In the right corner, there are three crosses representing the three crosses in front of the school building; three wavy lines from the seal of the Church of Newark, which represent the "Three Rivers" (the Native American name for Newark), and 1965, the year of the school's founding.

The surrounding border is of shamrocks from the archdiocesan and school's seals, symbolizing the archdiocese's original cathedral, now St. Patrick's Pro-Cathedral, Newark. Another surrounding border is of Fleur d'Lis, the emblem of the original Paladins as well as the French history of St. Jean Baptiste De La Salle, founder of the De La Salle Christian Brothers. This was also

the Ark?" They were followed

by the first graders, adorned in

coats of many colors made from

paper bags, who told the story of

second graders recited Psalm

148. The third grade class

enlightened their schoolmates

about the much-tested Jonah. In

repeat-after-me style the fourth-

graders told the story of Moses,

who led his people out of Egypt

and toward a covenant with

Many Sons," was sung by the

fifth-graders as they led the

school with body motions to

accompany the song. The sixth-

and seventh-graders presented

vention," a gathering of God's

"Father Abraham Had

"Prophets Con-

Úsing a variety of props, the

Joseph and his brothers.



On hand for consecration of the prayer chapel were, left to right, Father Leo Butler, school chaplain; Bishop Flesey; James Vail, school president, and Deacon Michael Matthews, a faculty member.

a symbol in the seal of Archbishop Thomas Boland, founding archbishop of the high school.

A gold circle in the background is reflective of the stained glass above the papal altar of St. Peter's Bacilica, Rome. And the image of the Blessed Virgin, Mary wearing a crown, is modeled after the one in the shield of Paramus Catholic Girls High School. Mary is shown nurturing and protecting seven students.

Finally, the depiction of each of the seven students, who are holding books as if being taught by Mary, reflects the diversity of the student body.

Old Testament comes alive for students opened the assembly by asking the musical question, "Who Built

Noah, Abraham, Moses, Jonah, and David, among other Old Testament figures, "appeared" recently at an assembly at St. Michael's School, Cranford.

During a Student Retreat Day, students from kindergarten through seventh grade spent the day focusing on a specific person from the Old Testament. Then, at the assembly, they shared in song, drama and recitation what they had learned.

This was the third annual retreat day held, noted fifthgrade teacher Margaret Au-

Two retreats scheduled

Carmel Retreat, Mahwah, is offering Endings and Beginnings, on Dec. 31-Jan. 1.

The retreat begins at 8 p.m. with a conference and continues with reflective prayer and a midnight celebration. The morning Eucharist will be followed by brunch. The cost is \$100 single; \$80 double, or a package offering of \$115 single, \$90 double, which includes a New Year's Eve dinner at 5:30 p.m.

Another retreat, Peace and Quiet, on Dec. 30, begins with dinner and overnight lodging, three meals, and Eucharist on following day. The cost is \$165 single; \$150 double.

Payment in full required, due to demand.

To register, call Carmel Retreat, (201) 327-7090.

The Gathering Place 130 Bray Avenue Middletown, NJ 0748 Spiritual Direction, Weekend and Summer Retreats, Workshops in Human Behavior, Prayer and Forgiveness. 732-495-7615

gustine, who, along with Lynda Furey, pastoral associate for catechetics, coordinated the event. 'The first year we focused on the Beatitudes. Last year each class used its grade patron saint as the theme. The Old Testament was chosen this year because of the wealth of holy men and women from which to choose," explained Augustine.

Activities prior to and following the assembly included a prayer service and introduction to set the tone for the day; inclassroom Bible readings and videos about the holy person the class was studying, and games and crafts related to the retreat's theme.

At the assembly that closed the day, each class went on stage to tell about the Old Testament figure they learned about.

kindergarten classes The



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Annunciations of Advent:

Dec. 12 (9:30 am-1:30 pm). Lunch included.

Sunday Night Movie "A Man for All Seasons": Dec. 12 (5:30 pm-9:30 pm). Dinner included.

Endings And Beginnings:

Dec. 31-Jan.1. New Years's Eve is a time of remembering, reflecting and blessing what has been. It is also a time of preparing oneself for the Lord's work within the New Year.

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Professional Directory



Compliance

Continued from Page 1

Such assistance is available to individuals who come forward to the archdiocese from the moment the allegation is received and the individual begins to take part in the archdiocesan Review Board process. This process involves an examination of the allegation by a panel of 14 individuals with backgrounds in law enforcement/investigation, law, psychology and healthcare, and is a confidential consultative body to the archbishop.

Protection

Continued from Page 1

Petraglia also ran an afterschool counseling program for underprivileged children as a family therapist.

She holds a B.A. in psychology from Rutgers University, New Brunswick, and a M. A. in counseling, with distinction, from Rider University, Laweence, NJ. Petraglia also holds teaching credentials from the State of New Jersey. She is a parishioner of St. Lawrence Parish, Weehawken.

Commenting on her new role, Petraglia stated, "The main reason I chose to be part of the archdiocese's effort is to assist in reaching out and healing. I share the commitment of everyone here to assure a safe environment for children and young people, and I am looking forward to working with parishes and schools as we continue to demonstrate that the Archdiocese of Newark is serious about living up to the spirit and the letter of the charter.

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Email: briandunn77@yahoo.com	Ous from basking Ridge @ \$15 Credit Card handling fee: \$4 per order	www.ponj.org. Use grou rate; add church group in comment section.)		

An important area of attention for the auditors was continuation and promotion of a safe environment for children and young people. The two primary elements of this effort are the Protecting God's Children sexual abuse awareness training and criminal background screening for clergy, Religious and lay staff and volunteers who work with children and young people.

Similarly, the archdiocese was found to be compliant in these areas. To date, some staff, volunteers and interested parents have taken part in the Protecting God's Children awareness program, and staff and volunteers in parishes and schools have been screened.

Commenting on the report from the auditors, Archbishop John J. Myers stated, "We're very pleased that the USCCB has again determined that the archdiocese complies with both the letter and spirit of the charter. I view this as a solid example of the commitment we all place on protecting children, and of our willingness to act with care and concern to promote healing and truth."

Local News

Cardinal Dulles visits Sunday

Cardinal Avery Dulles, S.J. will celebrate the 7 p.m. Mass at St. Patrick's Pro-Cathedral, Newark, this Sunday, Dec. 12, it was announced this week by the Newman Center at University Heights, Newark.

Cardinal Dulles is the son of John Foster Dulles, Secretary of State during the Eisenhower administration. A convert while in college, he graduated from Harvard University and later studied for a law degree before joining the U.S. Navy. He then entered the Society of Jesus to study for the priesthood.

A cardinal since 2001, Cardinal Dulles is the only American theologian to have received such an honor. He has written over 700 articles and 22 books.

For additional information call Jennifer at (973) 642-1613.

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Most Rev. Dominic A. Marconi, Retired Bishop of the Archdiocese of Newark, celebrated Mass on All Souls Day, Nov. 2, at the dedication of a new chapel/mausoleum at Mount Olivet Cemetery, Newark. With Bishop Marconi, left to right, are Richard Finan, Kathy Collura, Philip Quinn, and Msgr. Richard J. Arnhols, Vicar for Pastoral Life. Finan, and Quinn are from Catholic Cemeteries. Collura is superintendent of Mount Olivet Cemetery.



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Classified

December 8, 2004

Pro-Life Openings ASSISTANT HOUSEMOTHER

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NOVENAS

O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me that you are my mother. O Holy Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to secure me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 times). place this cause in your hands (3 times). Amen. Say this prayer for 3 consecutive days. Novena is published in gratitude. Thank you. M.M.U.

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

PRAVER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me that you are my mother. O Holy Mother of God. Queen of Heaven and Earth. I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to secure me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 times). place this cause in your hands (3 times). Amen. Say this prayer for 3 con-secutive days. Novena is published in gratitude. Thank you. S.L.

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me that you are my mother. O Holy Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to secure me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 times). place this cause in your hands (3 times). Amen. Say this prayer for 3 consecutive days. Novena is published in gratitude. Thank you.

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PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me that you are my mother. O Holy Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 times). I place this cause in your hands (3 times). Amen. Say this prayer for 3 consecutive days. Novena is published in gratitude. Thank you.

PRAYER TO ST. JUDE

Oh, Holy St. Jude, Apostle and Martyr, great in virtue and rich in miracles, near Kinsman of Jesus Christ, faithful intercessor of all who invoke your special patronage in time of need, to you I have recourse from the depth of my heart and humbly beg to whom God has given such great power to come to my assistance. Help me in my present and urgent petition. (make request). In return I promise to make your name known and cause you to be invoked. Say three Our Fathers, three Hail Marys and Glorias. St. Jude pray for us all who invoke your aid. Amen. This Novena must St. Jude pray for us all who invoke your aid, runon, the territy be said for 9 consecutive days. Thank you for answering my prayer. C.Q.

PRAYER TO ST. JUDE

Oh, Holy St. Jude, Apostle and Martyr, great in virtue and rich in miracles, near Kinsman of Jesus Christ, faithful intercessor of all who invoke your special patronage in time of need, to you I have recourse from the depth of my heart and humbly beg to whom God has given such great power to come to my assistance. Help me in my present and urgent petition. (make request). In return I promise to make your name known and cause (make request). In return I profilise to filake your name known and cause you to be invoked. Say three Our Fathers, three Hail Marys and Glorias. St. Jude pray for us all who invoke your aid. Amen. This Novena must be said for 9 consecutive days. Thank you for answering my prayer. O.G.

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in my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me that you are my mother. O Holy Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth. I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to secure me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 times). I place this cause in your hands (3 times). Amen. Say this prayer for 3 con-secutive days. Novena is published in gratitude. Thank you. T.M.F.

NOVENA TO ST. JUDE

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. Amen. Say this prayer nine times a day for nine days. Published in gratitude. Thank you St. Jude.

B.P.

PRAYER TO ST. JUDE

Oh, Holy St. Jude, Apostle and Martyr, great in virtue and rich in miracles, near Kinsman of Jesus Christ, faithful intercessor of all who invoke your special patronage in time of need, to you I have recourse from the depth of my heart and humbly beg to whom God has given such great power to come to my assistance. Help me in my present and urgent petition. (make request). In return I promise to make your name known and cause you to be invoked. Say three Our Fathers, three Hail Marys and Glorias. St. Jude pray for us all who invoke your aid. Amen. This Novena must be said for 9 consecutive days. Thank you for answering my prayer.

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PRAYER TO ST. JUDE

Oh, Holy St. Jude, Apostle and Martyr, great in virtue and rich in miracles, near Kinsman of Jesus Christ, faithful intercessor of all who invoke your special patronage in time of need, to you I have recourse from the depth of my heart and humbly beg to whom God has given such great power to come to my assistance. Help me in my present and urgent petition. (make request). In return I promise to make your name known and cause you to be invoked. Say three Our Fathers, three Hail Marys and Glorias. St. Jude pray for us all who invoke your aid. Amen. This Novena must be said for 9 consecutive days. Thank you for answering my prayer. K.S.W.

PRAYER TO ST. JUDE

Oh, Holy St. Jude, Apostle and Martyr, great in virtue and rich in miracles, near Kinsman of Jesus Christ, faithful intercessor of all who invoke your special patronage in time of need, to you I have recourse from the depth of my heart and humbly beg to whom God has given such great power to come to my assistance. Help me in my present and urgent petition. (make request). In return I promise to make your name known and cause you to be invoked. Say three Our Fathers, three Hail Marys and Glorias. you to be invoked. Say unee our ranking where your aid. Amen. This Novena must St. Jude pray for us all who invoke your aid. Amen. This Novena must be said for 9 consecutive days. Thank you for answering my prayer. M.J.P.

PRAYER TO ST. JUDE

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MIF

C.Q.

Sports News

Pirates strive to rise to next level

Following two consecutive berths in the postseason WNIT, Phyllis Mangina has put Seton Hall University back on the map as a major challenger in one of the nation's toughest conferences.

With 10 letter winners, including three starters, returning in 2004-05, Mangina and the Pirates possess the ingredients to take the next step and return the program to its NCAA glory of the mid-1990's.

In order to earn an elusive NCAA Tournament bid and compete among the Big East leaders this season, the Pirates must find consistent scoring as well as answer question marks at the center and point guard positions that have arisen due to the graduation of four seniors last season.

"We'll be different this season. We won't have some of the size we've had in the past, but I think we have more quickness and speed on our team so that makes for some exciting possibilities," Mangina said.

Headlining the list of returnees for the Pirates is senior swing player Ashley Bush. Bush, who will once again assume team captain responsibilities for the Pirates this season, led the squad in scoring, rebounding and steals in 2003-04 while fulfilling a leadership role and shutting down some of the nation's best players with her trademark defense. Despite being the team's leading scorer last season, she will be looked upon to expand her offensive repertoire this year as her ability to play both inside and outside make her a dangerous scoring weapon.

Joining Bush on the wing is sophomore Heta Korpivaara, who was a pleasant surprise last season when she emerged as an immediate contributor and earned a starting spot en route to garnering Big



Phyllis Mangina

East All-Freshman Team honors. Like Bush, Korpivaara is extremely versatile and can score from a number of places on the floor. In order to become a more effective player, she will need to become more consistent on the offensive end, and Mangina believes Korpivaara is up to the challenge after spending the summer with the Under-20 Finnish National Team.

"When you look at our 2-3-4 spots, I think those are real strong points for us. Last season, Ashley

and Heta played together on the wings, and I would be hard-pressed to think they wouldn't do that again this year.

Bush and Korpivaara will be assisted on the perimeter by a number of talented guards on the Pirate roster, most of whom can both provide a scoring punch and run the offense. The latter ability will be important this season, as the lineup requires a new starting playmaker. Fortunately, a number of options exist for Mangina and the Pirates. Junior Keri Shutz has proven to be a reliable ball-handler during her first two seasons and while she looks to create plays first, Shutz can also drain the longrange jumper. Junior Monica Johnson, who had last season cut short by a torn ACL just nine games into the year, will enter the season healthy in 2004 and her quickness and superior ball-handling will prove to be major assets on the perimeter for Seton Hall.

Like Johnson, senior Asia Carroll can play either guard position. Senior Cortne Ellis will also see time at the two-guard position, and she emerged as a solid contributor at the end of last season. Rounding out the guards is freshman Annick Labadie, an intriguing prospect out of Quebec. Labadie, a standout on the Canadian Junior National Team, will be called upon to contribute immediately at both the point guard and two-guard positions.

"As far as the two-guard position goes, early last season Asia gave us such a huge lift at the position and later in the season Cortne did. I think there's going to be some great competition with our two-guards. Both players are capable of scoring points for us but we need them to do more than that. I think they can both rebound and be solid defenders. It will be an interesting competition," Mangina said.

In the post, sophomore Monique Blake leads the list of returnees. Like her classmate Korpivaara, Blake immediately made a splash in the Pirate lineup last season, becoming one of the top exciting young post players in the Big East Conference. Blake started the last 25 games of the season and earned Big East All-Freshman Team honors. In order to break out as a premier frontcourt player in the conference, Blake will need to stay on the floor and avoid foul trouble as well as bang against

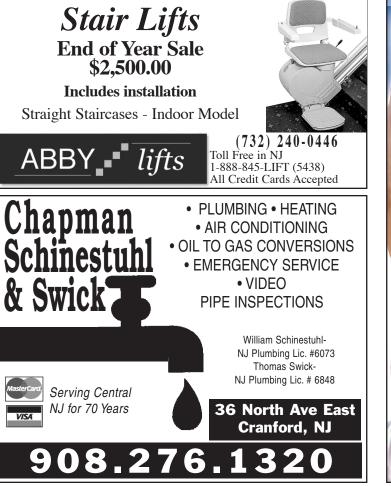


Ashley Bush

some of the bigger opposition. Senior Ayanna Phillip will also see considerable time with

Blake in the frontcourt. Junior Julie Costello adds depth in the post and will challenge for a starting spot. Redshirt freshman Amber Harris, who missed most of last season with an ankle injury, provides another option in the frontcourt. Newcomer Nikole Sullivan is Seton Hall's tallest player at 6-3 and the coaching staff is excited about seeing how the Aussie's versatility can be incorporated into the Pirate lineup.





Christmas News

Chorus celebrates Jesus' birth

The chorus of Don Bosco Preparatory School, Ramsey, will offer its third annual Christmas concert on Tuesday, Dec. 14 at 7 p.m. in the band and choral room in the lower level of St. John's Hall. The program includes sacred music as well

as secular favorites.

Accompanied by choral director Toni Bilotti Cecere, Chris Adamson, Timothy Bailey, Matthew Ban, Lester Castor, Nicholas Cutro, Matthew Faustini, Timothy Faustini, Claude Guinchard, Richard Krakowski, Paul Lynch, Doug McNicol, James Simone, Timothy Walsh and Dylan Wyka will sing in two- and three-part harmony, and offer solos. The concert is open to the public.

The school is located at 492 North Franklin Turnpike in Ramsey. For further information, call (201) 327-8003.



Choir members at a recent practice, prepare for the busy season.

Sounds of the season

The joy of the birth of Christ will be celebrated by choruses and with concerts throughout the Archdiocese of Newark.

Our Lady of the Lake Parish, Verona, will present its annual parish Christmas Concert Dec. 10 at 7:30 p.m. The adult choir, soloists, youth choir and orchestra and a professional string quartet will perform sacred music. There will also be a Christmas carol sing-along. Suggested donation, \$8 for adults and children over 12. Call (973) 226-6540.

St. Andrew Parish, Westwood, music ministry will present a contemporary inspirational choral concert entitled "Follow the Star," on Dec. 12, 3 p.m. Call (201) 664-1100.

Holy Trinity Parish, Fort Lee, the New Jersey Chorale Christmas will present a program of Bach, Beethoven and Brahms, featuring Beethoven's "Choral Fantasy," with pianist Itay Goren, Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m. Donation: \$15. Call (201) 947-1216.

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Bloomfield, will host the Garden State Concert Band (GSCB), Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m. Call (973) 338-9190. The next day, the GSCB will perform at St. Thomas More Parish, Fairfield, 3 p.m. Call (973) 227-0055.

Our Lady of Grace Parish, Fairview, adult choir will perform classical and familiar selections. Soloists and small ensembles will be featured, Dec. 12, 3 p.m., 395 Delano Pl. Call (201) 943-0904.

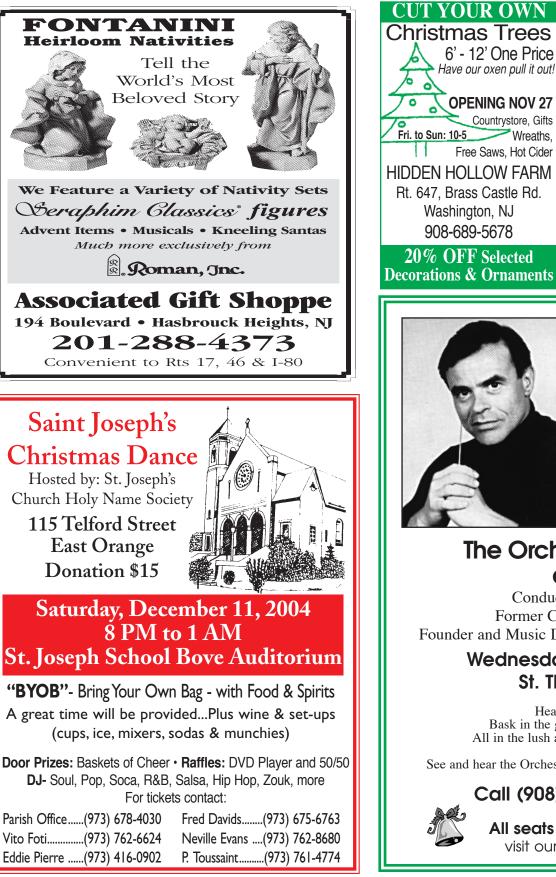
Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, Washington Township, will hold a Christmas concert Dec. 19, 3 p.m. Free will offering. Call Kathy Ambrose at (201) 666-2163 or (201) 996-5504.

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Remembering the hungry during season of giving

In announcing the Year of the Eucharist this fall, Pope John Paul II declared that more devotion to the Eucharist can help heal a world torn by terrorism and poverty, and urged local communities to adopt concrete expressions of solidarity and charity for the poor.

In light of this, Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Newark will hold its first annual Christmas food collection, through Thursday, Dec. 23.

Non-perishable food items will be accepted Mon. - Fri., 9 -4 p.m., and Sat., 9 - 2 p.m., in the offices of all archdiocesan cemeteries and mausoleums for distribution to local food pantries, which help feed hundreds of less fortunate people in the archdiocese.

Operated under the auspices of the local Church, Catholic Cemeteries recognizes that burial of the dead is only one of the corporal works of mercy. The Church also encourages frequent cemetery visits and prayers for the dead.

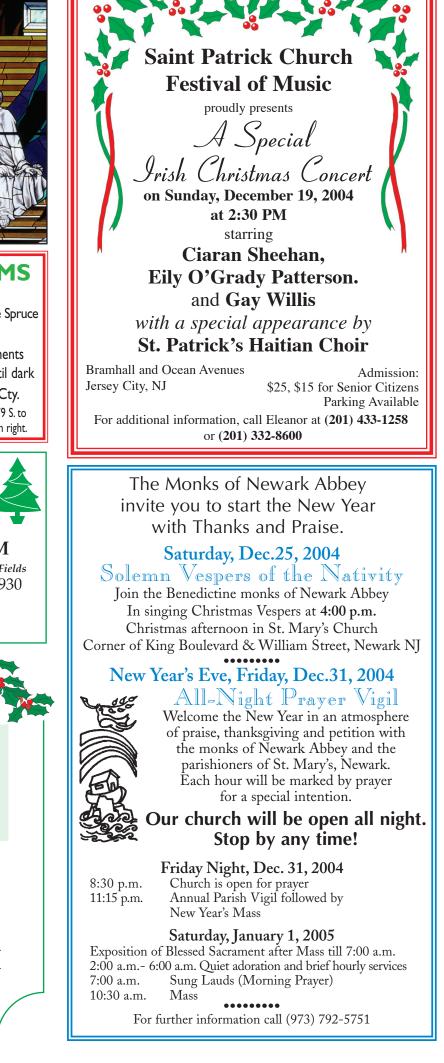
"Visiting the sick, clothing the naked and feeding the hungry, too, are essential works of mercy,' noted the executive director of the Cemeteries Office, Andrew P. Schafer. "Carrying out such acts in the name of deceased loved ones is a 'mitzvah' (from the Jewish tradition, meaning a wonderful gift that cannot be repaid) and truly honors the memory of the deceased in a tangible way.'

Food drop-off locations are as follows: Maryrest Cemetery, Mahwah; Gate of Heaven Cemetery and Mausoleum, East Hanover; Saint Gertrude Ceme-



For further information call Alice Gibson (973) 228-1293

tery / Good Shepherd Mausoleum, Colonia; Holy Cross Cemetery and Mausoleum, North Arlington; Holy Name Cemetery and Mausoleum, Jersey City; Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, East Orange, and Christ the King Cemetery, Franklin Lakes.



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-Louis Alberto



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