

Health and hospitals focus in next issue



The Catholic Advocate



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Vol. 53, No. 8

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

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Educators attend NCEA convention, NPCD convocation

BY ELIZABETH FOER

Special to The Catholic Advocate

Sister Dominica Rocchio, S.C., Brother Ralph Darmento, F.S.C., Sister Joan Ferruggiaro, S.S.J., Sister Louise Cababe, O.P., Gloria Castucci, Father John Connolly, S.D.B., Ann McNierney and Grace Pietropinto from the Schools Office, and Ron Pihokker and Elizabeth Foer from the Catechetical Office attended the 101st annual convention of the National Catholic Education Association (NCEA) and the convocation of the National Association of Parish Catechetical Directors (NPCD) in Boston, April 13-16.

Archbishop Sean P. O'Malley, O.F.M. Cap. of Boston; Bishop Richard J. Malone of Portland, ME; Father J. Bryan Hehir, President of Catholic Charities of Boston, and Carole M. Eipers, Vice President of William H. Sadlier, Inc., were among the speakers. Convention liturgies were celebrated by Archbishop O'Malley and Bishop Malone.

Over 1400 people attended the combined conventions which shared over 1000 exhibitors. Workshops were presented by two people from the Archdiocese of Newark.

Sister Dominica Rocchio, Secretary for Education and Superintendent of Schools was elected vice president of Chief Administrators of Catholic Education (CACE). Gloria Castucci of the Schools Office presented a workshop on early childhood education issues, and Elizabeth Foer of the Catechetical Office did one on Assessment

Continued on page 12



Priests renewed their commitment to priestly service at the annual Chrism Mass, celebrated April 5 by Archbishop John J. Myers at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark, where the Oil of the Sick and the Oil of the Catechumens were blessed and the Chrism consecrated.

Advocate photo- Ward Miele

Quintana to join NE Hispanic Center

BY LIESL FORES

Staff Reporter

An accountant by profession, Maricela Quintana entered the Hispanic Apostolate of the Archdiocese of Newark 18 years ago, she says, because "I wanted to work for the Church."

Now, she is embarking on a new adventure as the Associate Director for Administration and Programs at the Northeast Hispanic Catholic Center in New York, effective April 19.

Beginning as secretary for the office in 1986, just after Msgr. William J. Reilly had been appointed director, Quintana rose through the ranks, serving as administrative assistant,

Continued on page 12

Statement on the recent awards ceremony at SHU Law School

April 19, 2004

In the middle of Easter Week, I was informed that a student group at Seton Hall Law School had invited Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, a defender of *Roe v. Wade*, to give an award on Friday of the same week to Judge Maryanne Trump Barry. Both Justice O'Connor and Judge Barry have demonstrated a lack of support for pro-life issues. I find this action profoundly offensive and contrary to the Catholic mission and identity of Seton Hall Law School, Seton Hall University, and the Archdiocese of Newark.

For those who were shocked and dismayed by the action, I can only say that I share your sentiments. I am proceeding in a way both to clarify the situation and to see that it does not occur again. Therefore, I am in the process of reviewing all aspects of the matter and determining the appropriate action to be taken.

In the meantime, I urge all of us to continue to both pray and to act to change minds and hearts and to end the horror of abortion in our society and in our world.

I would be remiss in this Holy Season if I did not wish you and your family all the blessings of Easter and encourage you to redouble your practice of prayer and participation in the life of our Church.

John J. Myers

✠ Most Reverend John J. Myers
Archbishop of Newark



At the "Notes of Distinction" benefit concert for St. Andrew's Hall, the College Seminary were, from left to right, Father Joseph Reilly, Rector of the College Seminary; Adrian M. Foley, Jr., Humanitarian Award recipient; Most Rev. Peter L. Gerety, Archbishop Emeritus; Msgr. Martin F. O'Brien, Achievement Award recipient, and Most Rev. John J. Myers, Archbishop of Newark. See story on Page 20.

Advocate photo- Greg Tobin

Legendary Archbishop Boland served 21 years

Oversaw major expansion projects throughout the Archdiocese of Newark

BY MSGR. FRANCIS R. SEYMOUR
Archivist of the Archdiocese of Newark

With the passing of the years, the number of us who remember Archbishop Thomas A. Boland is dwindling rapidly. That would not have bothered him because he never wanted to call attention to himself. However, he is too important to the history of our Archdiocese to be ignored.

March 16 was the 25th anniversary of his death. The world and the Church have changed enormously since then, but he faced a similar challenge when he was Archbishop of Newark from 1953 to 1974. For roughly the first half of those 21 years, he devoted much of his time to the expansion of this Archdiocese in terms of parishes, buildings and agencies.

One of the first projects to reach completion was the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, a feat that was in the dreams of each of his predecessors.

This magnificent edifice was solemnly opened fifty years ago October 19, the same day Archbishop Boland received his pallium from the Apostolic Delegate to the United States, Archbishop (later Cardinal) Amleto G. Cicognani.

The latter half of his administration was marked by struggles that mirrored national concerns: the effects of the Second Vatican Council and the fight for civil rights. He attended all of the sessions of that historic gathering of the bishops of the world and had several leadership positions in the U.S. hierarchy while there.

He put the teachings of the Council into effect and mandated periods of instruction for the people to understand the many liturgical changes that took place in those years. One of the first of these actions was



Archbishop Boland prepares to participate in his final West Orange St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 11, 1979. He was a familiar figure at the parade for many years.

the establishment of the Senate of Priests (now known as the Presbyteral Council) and the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council.

The struggle to gain the natural rights of freedom for oppressed minorities raged throughout the nation in the late 1960's. This same fight struck home dramatically during the Newark riots of 1967.

Archbishop Boland visited the riot-torn area and sought to solve one of the causes of the riots by establishing a housing program under the guidance of the Mount Carmel Guild (now known as Catholic Community Services).

Two years later, the civil rights issue focused on Archbishop Boland personally when 20 priests accused him of racism. They argued that leadership in racial mat-

ters was absent in the Archdiocese of Newark. He met with these priests and refuted the charges made against him one by one and declared that the things he was accused of were contrary to everything he had been attempting to do.

Although these charges had caused much bitterness on both sides, the priests and the archbishop eventually reached an agreement to address the concerns they raised, and a spokesman for the priests later said he would not now characterize the archbishop's personal attitude as "racist."

Archbishop Boland told me many years ago that all he ever wanted to be was a parish priest. He held that position for a couple of months in the summer of 1923 when he returned from Rome after his ordination to the priesthood.

Then, he said, "the Bishop (Most Rev. John J. O'Connor) assigned me to Seton Hall to teach and that was that." However, he filled just about every other position in the structure of this Archdiocese.

He never looked for any office that came his way, but he put his heart and soul into every job he ever had.

Archbishop Boland died twenty-five years ago, but those of us who worked with him and knew him well can never forget the influence he had on our lives and on this Church of Newark. He was one of the gentlest men who ever lived.

His devotion to the Blessed Mother and the Holy Father was legendary. I do not recall a homily or talk he ever gave without referring to both of them.

In this age when heroes are "created" instantly by American popular culture and mass communications, I will always think of Archbishop Boland with the description given to St. Thomas More: "A man for all seasons!"

Stewardship

The challenge and the choice

BY ANDREW KACZYNSKI
Associate Director of Stewardship for the Archdiocese

The word "stewardship" sometimes carries considerable baggage. Very often stewardship is equated with simply giving money. But the U.S. Catholic bishops had something much more broadly encompassing in mind when they wrote the Pastoral Letter, *Stewardship: A Disciple's Response*.

In the introduction to that document, they spell out what they mean by stewardship and the understandings that are the basis of their definition.

They wrote, "Three convictions in particular underlie what we say in this pastoral letter. 1. Mature disciples make a conscious, firm decision, carried out in action, to be followers of Jesus Christ no matter the cost to themselves. 2. Beginning in conversion, change of heart and mind, this commitment is expressed not in a single action, nor even in a number of actions over a period of time, but in an entire way of life. 3. Stewardship is an expression of discipleship, with the power to change how we understand and live out our lives.

"Disciples who practice stewardship recognize God

as the origin of life, the giver of freedom, the source of all they have and are and will be... They are grateful for what they have received and eager to cultivate their gifts out of love for God and one another."

Although the bishops have defined discipleship and stewardship in a single, short paragraph, the challenge to live that life of stewardship is by no means simple. In fact, it may be more difficult in our time and in our culture than ever before.

The bishops wrote on a number of destructive "isms"—materialism, relativism, hedonism, individualism, consumerism—which exert a powerful influence on our society and make it more difficult for us to grow as disciples and for the Church to live out its mission.

They see themselves, and us, as "Catholic citizens of a wealthy, powerful nation facing many questions about its identity and role in the waning years of a troubled century, members of a community of faith blessed with many human and material resources yet often uncertain about how to sustain and use them."

They invite us to accept the challenge and make the choice "to renew our commitment as the Lord's disciples and as stewards of His bountiful gifts."



Novarcensis: A Look Back at Our History



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

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

116 years ago...

April 24. St. Joseph Parish, Hoboken, incorporated.

105 years ago...

April 19. St. Valentine Parish, Bloomfield, incorporated.

93 years ago...

April 24. Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish, Jersey City, incorporated.

90 years ago...

April 20. First Mass offered in St. Joseph Parish, Maplewood.

73 years ago...

April 28. St. John Parish, Fairview, incorporated.

66 years ago...

April 27. Most Rev. Thomas J. Walsh, first Archbishop of Newark, received the pallium in the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Newark.

44 years ago...

April 25. Msgr. John J. Dougherty (later Auxiliary Bishop) inaugurated as president of Seton Hall University.

Novarcensis means Newark, in Latin.

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FREQUENCY FOR REMAINDER OF YEAR

The Catholic Advocate continues to be a bi-weekly publication. Publication dates for the Year 2004 are: May 5, 19; June 2, 16, 30; July 14, 28; August 11, 25; September 8, 22; October 6, 20; November 3, 17; and December 8, 22.



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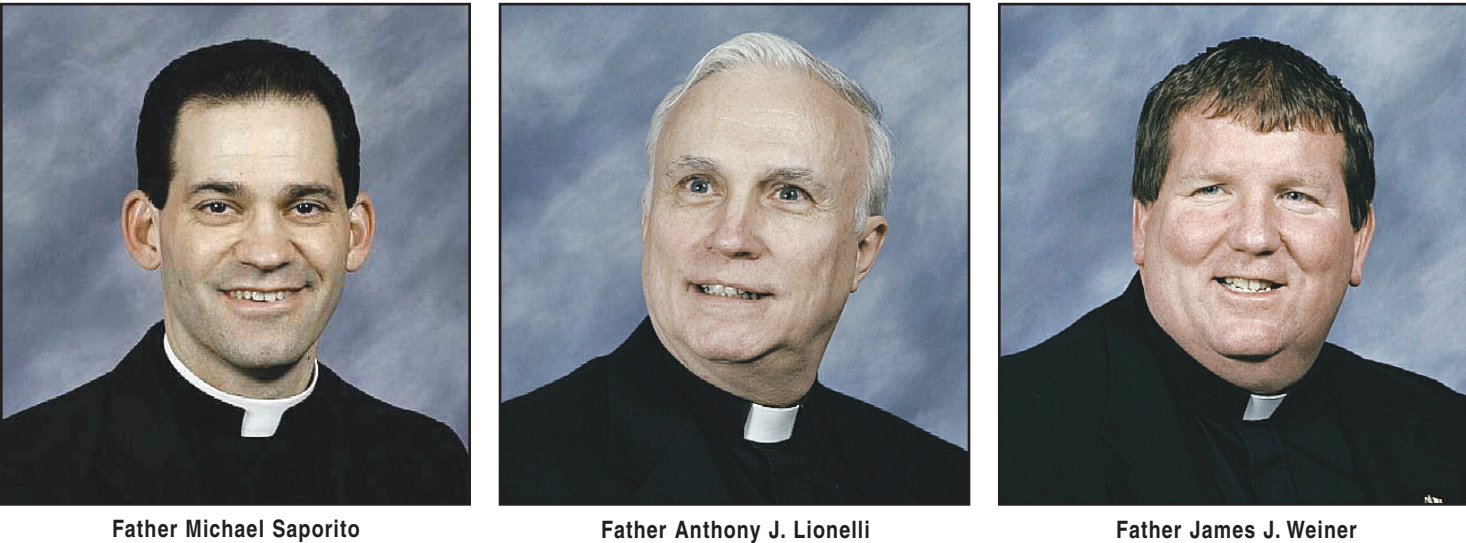
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Father Michael Saporito

Father Anthony J. Lionelli

Father James J. Weiner

Three new pastors in Essex, Bergen counties

Archbishop John J. Myers has appointed new pastors to parishes in Maplewood, Montclair and Ho-Ho-Kus.

Father Michael Saporito has been appointed pastor of Saint Joseph Parish, Maplewood, effective May 8.

Father Saporito was ordained in May of 1992, after attending Immaculate Conception Seminary, South Orange.

His first assignment was as parochial vicar of St. Joseph Parish, West Orange, from 1992 to 1994.

In June 1994, Father Saporito was appointed parochial vicar of St. Peter the Apostle Parish, River Edge. In July 1996, he was appointed to a three-year term as Assistant Director for Vocation Awareness in the Archdiocesan Vocations Office.

In October 1999, Father Saporito was named parochial vicar of Visitation Parish, Paramus, and in December, he was appointed Moderator of the Bergen-Paramus District of National Council of Catholic Women for a three-year term.

In June of 2001, he was appointed parochial vicar of Saint Elizabeth Parish, Wyckoff.

Father Anthony J. Lionelli has been appointed pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Montclair, effective July 1.

In 1994, he was appointed pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, Newark. Previously, he served as administrator since March 1993. He was parochial vicar of St. Peter the Apostle Parish, River Edge, from June 1990 to March 1993.

From 1984 to 1990, he served as parochial vicar of Saint Margaret of Cortona Parish, Little Ferry. He served as parochial vicar at St. Peter Parish, Belleville, from 1974 to 1984, and at St. Michael Parish, Jersey City, from 1972 to 1974. He was ordained in 1972, after studies at Immaculate Conception Seminary.

Father James J. Weiner, Administrator of Saint Luke Parish, Ho-Ho-Kus, has been appointed pastor, effective March 29.

Father Weiner, who attended Immaculate Conception Seminary, was ordained in December 1988.

His first assignment was as parochial vicar of Holy Spirit Parish, Union, 1988 to 1992. In 1992, he was appointed parochial vicar of St. Catharine Parish, Glen Rock, where he remained until 1998. He served as parochial vicar of St. Michael Parish, Cranford, 1998 to 2001.

From 2001 to 2003, Father Weiner served as administrator of St. Cecilia, Kearny, and from 2003 to 2004, as administrator of Saint Luke.

Official Appointments

Archbishop John J. Myers has announced the following appointments:



Archdiocesan Agency/Ministry

Reverend Monsignor Francis J. Houghton
has been elected to the Presbyteral Council of the Archdiocese of Newark, effective Mar. 26, 2004 and ending Aug. 31, 2006.

Pastors/Essex County

Reverend Michael A. Saporito,
Parochial Vicar of the Church of St. Elizabeth, Wyckoff, has been appointed pastor of St. Joseph Church, Maplewood, effective May 8.

Reverend Anthony J. Lionelli,
Pastor of the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Newark has been appointed Pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Montclair, effective July 1.

Reverend Monsignor James J. Finnerty,
Pastor of the Church of St. John, Newark has had his pastorate extended until Apr. 14, 2005.

Reverend Monsignor Joseph J. Granato,
Pastor of the Church of St. Lucy, Newark has had his pastorate extended until Apr. 9, 2005.

Pastors/Hudson County

Reverend Peter P. Galdon,
Pastor of the Church of St. Vincent de Paul, Bayonne has been reappointed to a second six-year term, ending Apr. 4, 2010.

Reverend Monsignor John J. Gilchrist,
Pastor of the Church of Holy Cross, Harrison has had his pastorate extended until Sept. 20, 2005.

Pastor/Bergen County

Reverend James J. Weiner,
Administrator of the Church of St. Luke, Ho-Ho-Kus has been appointed Pastor of St. Luke Church, Ho-Ho-Kus, effective Mar. 29.

Administrators/Bergen County

Reverend Monsignor William J. Reilly,
Pastor of the Church of Most Holy Name, Garfield has also been appointed Administrator of Our Lady of Mount Virgin Church, Garfield, until a pastor is named. The appointment was effective Mar. 26.

Reverend Joy Alappat,
Parochial Vicar of the Church of the Ascension, New Milford and Coordinator of the Syro-Malabar Rite Apostolate, has been appointed Administrator of Our Lady of Sorrows Church, Garfield, effective May 1.

Parochial Vicar/Bergen County

Reverend Fernando R. Po
has been appointed Parochial Vicar of St. Elizabeth Church, Wyckoff, effective May 1.

Chaplains/Essex County

Reverend George Faour,
Pastor of the Church of St. John, Orange has been appointed Chaplain of the Orange Police Department, Orange, effective Mar. 29.

Reverend John A. Perricone,
Administrator of the Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Orange has been appointed Chaplain of the Orange Police Department, Orange, effective Apr. 6.

Reverend John A. Quill
has been appointed Chaplain of UMDNJ University Hospital, Newark, with continued residence at St. Mary Rectory, Nutley. This appointment will be effective Apr. 26.

Other/Essex County

Reverend Thomas J. Petrillo,
Pastor of the Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Montclair, has been granted retirement, effective July 1.

Other/Union County

Reverend Thomas J. Lewczak,
Parochial Vicar of the Church of St. Hedwig, Elizabeth, has been granted retirement, effective Apr. 1.

Other/Bergen County

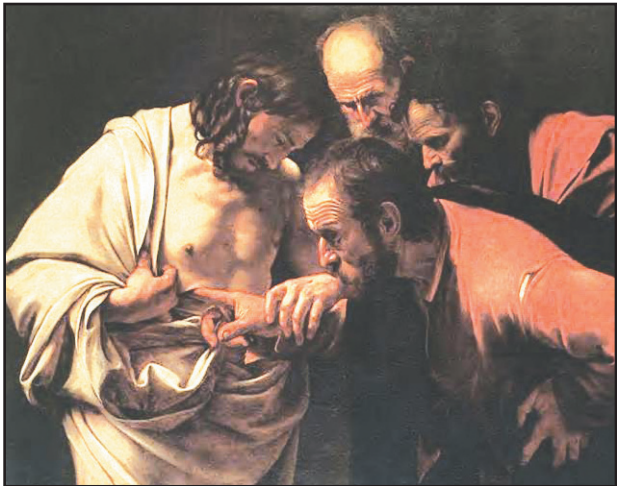
Reverend John K. Gurski,
Pastor of the Church of Our Lady of Sorrows, Garfield has been granted retirement, effective May 1.

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Pope John Paul II waves to pilgrims gathered in St. Peter's Square for the celebration of Easter Mass. In appealing to all peoples of the world, the pontiff prayed that "the temptation to seek revenge give way to the courage to forgive."



Thomas, "Reach here
with your finger,
and see My hands;
reach here your hand
and put it into My side;
and do not be unbelieving,
but BELIEVE."

(John 20:27)

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CA

Early presidential polling shows Catholics reflect national mood

WASHINGTON (CNS) — An early poll shows Catholic voters are probably no more or less likely than the general population of Americans to vote for the first Catholic presidential candidate in 44 years.

In a national telephone poll of Catholics, the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown University found that about 46 percent said they would vote for Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., in November, compared to 41 percent who would vote for President Bush, a Republican.

A poll by Zogby International of voters nationwide taken the same week in March found the percentage voting for Bush and Kerry to be equal, at 46 percent each.

With the statistical margin of error for both polls at about plus or minus 3 percent, that means so far this election year Catholic voters differ little from the general public in their presidential choices.

The number of Catholics who said they would vote for Kerry nearly matches the number, 47 percent, who said in a pre-election poll in 2000 that they would vote for the Democratic nominee, Vice President Al Gore.

CARA researcher Mark Gray said among the more surprising findings of the March 15-21 poll of 1,001 Catholics was how few of them were undecided about who they support in an election that was still nearly eight months away.

CARA's poll found about 10 percent of voters were undecided. About 3 percent said they were likely to vote for independent candidate Ralph Nader.

Gray told Catholic News Service that in spring 2000 many more voters were undecided.

Gray said one reason Kerry does not seem to have any particular support among Catholics on the basis of his religion is that some voters may just be learning he is Catholic.

CNS photo

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All proceeds benefit the work of RENEW International, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.

Prayer rally held

SAN FRANCISCO (CNS) — About 1,500 San Francisco Catholics participated in a prayer rally in support of traditional marriage sponsored by the Archdiocese of San Francisco and Your Catholic Voice, a lay Catholic public policy advocacy organization. Prior to the April 3 rally, many of those at the rally attended Benediction and Mass at Sts. Peter and Paul Church. The liturgy was concelebrated by San Francisco Archbishop William J. Levada and Oakland Bishop Allen H. Vigneron; Father John Malloy, Pastor of Sts. Peter and Paul, and numerous diocesan and Religious-order priests. In his homily, Bishop Vigneron said that even at a time when those opposed to traditional marriage and family life “seem to be making progress,” those who “stand on behalf of God’s truth” must remain hopeful. There is “no need for anxiety,” he said. “Do not be afraid.” Chris Guirlinger, from St. Dominic’s Parish, emceed the rally on the steps of Sts. Peter and Paul Church, while participants held signs reading, “Love and Tolerance—Yes; Same-Sex Marriage—No.”

Quran, Islam studied

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Thirteen U.S. Catholic bishops spent four days this spring studying Islam, the Quran and Catholic-Muslim relations. The three-day institute, held March 15-18 at Vallombrosa Center in Menlo Park, CA, was the second of three such programs designed to increase the bishops’ understanding of the world’s second-largest religion, with more than a billion adherents worldwide. The Subcommittee on Interreligious Dialogue of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops sponsored the institute with funding from the Catholic Near East Welfare Association and a supplementary grant from the Raskob Foundation for Catholic Activities.

Survey queries blame

WASHINGTON (CNS) — There has been a significant increase in the number of Americans who believe that the Jews were responsible for Christ’s death, said a Pew research report. It said a mid-March survey of 1,703 Americans 18 or older found particularly sharp rises in that

viewpoint among U.S. blacks and Hispanics and among those under the age of 30. Overall, 26 percent of survey respondents said yes to the question, “Do you feel the Jews were responsible for Christ’s death or not?” This represents a seven-point increase in seven years. Among those who had seen Mel Gibson’s *The Passion of the Christ*, 36 percent answered that question affirmatively. Among those who said they planned to see the movie, 29 percent held that position. Only 17 percent of those who did not plan to see the movie thought the Jews were responsible for Christ’s death.

‘Faith film’ trend

LOS ANGELES (CNS) — John Tenorio, a filmmaker who produced the award-winning “*Lourdes*” documentary, is not surprised by the blockbuster success of Mel Gibson’s *The Passion of the Christ*. Nor was he surprised a People’s Choice Award went to *Joan of Arcadia*. The CBS drama, in its first season, features a teenage girl who begins to have conversations with God, who appears to her in various human forms and asks her to do specific things.

“There’s a trend toward ‘faith

films,’” said Tenorio, 49, a marketing and media consultant who attends Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Santa Clarita.

Tenorio’s *Lourdes* documentary, based on the Blessed Mother’s apparitions to 14-year-old Bernadette Soubirous in 1858 in France, has won three film awards, resulting in a distribution deal with one of America’s leading distributors of films and videos. The film was honored as best documentary March 28 at the Valley International Film Festival in Studio City.

Review is planned

(CNS)— When they meet this spring, the U.S. bishops will review a plan for the 2004 audit of their dioceses’ policies and practices on sexual abuse and child protection, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops said. Mercy Sister Mary Ann Walsh, Deputy Director of the bishops’ media relations office, told Catholic News Service, “In June the bishops will be presented with a plan for the Office of Child and Youth Protection to do its annual report this year based on an audit.

‘Anti-Catholic’ bias

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The wildly popular “Left Behind” series of Christian apocalyptic novels denies a number of Catholic teachings and “is both subtly and overtly anti-Catholic,” says an article in *The Living Light*, an official quarterly publication of the USCCB’s Department of Education. Half of the winter 2003 issue of the quarterly was devoted to feature articles on the Left Behind series, the fundamentalist “rapture doctrine” behind it, a Catholic understanding of the end times when Christ will come again, and the large gap religious educators see between what Catholics know and what they should know about Church teaching in that area. The articles’ authors warned that Catholics, especially young Catholics, could easily be drawn into such fundamentalist teachings if they have not received solid formation in Catholic teaching about the last things—death, judgment, heaven and hell. The issue appeared, coincidentally, shortly before the 12th and final novel in the series, *Glorious Appearing*, hit bookstores March 30 with an initial printing of 2 million copies.



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April 22

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Ridgewood, eight-week bereavement group, Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. in the parish center library. Call Sr. Rose at (201) 445-9032.

April 23

Holy Family Academy, Bayonne, an auction to benefit its scholarship fund at Mayfair Farms, West Orange, 7 p.m., \$60 per person. Call Tracy (201) 436-9144 or (201) 339-7341.



April 24

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Orange, 34th Anniversary Feast of Maria S.S. Incoronata Mass at 11 a.m. Call Donato (973) 463-1333.

Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Irvington, Rosary Altar Society, annual spring luncheon at noon. Donation \$5. Call (732) 225-5965.

The Newark Archdiocesan Council of the National Council of Catholic Women, 25th Biennial Convention, Paramus Catholic High School, 8:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call (201) 265-2048; (201) 939-7639; (973) 743-8255.

April 25

Immaculate Conception Single Adults (ICSA), Montclair, will meet for pizza at 5 p.m. on Sunday at the Town Pub, Bloomfield. Cost of meal. Call (973) 783-7863 or <http://icsa.tripod.com>.

April 26

Holy Family Parish, Nutley, Rosary Society meeting, 7 p.m., St. Joseph's Center to view the movie *Joshua*.

April 27

St. James the Apostle Parish, Springfield, a festival through May 1. Tuesday through Friday, 6 to 10 p.m. and Saturday, 2 to 11 p.m. Call (973) 376-3044.

April 28

St. Antoninus Parish, Newark, "Life in the Spirit 2004" seminar through June 2 from 8 to 9:30 p.m. For pre-registration, call George and MaryAnn (201) 933-5983 or georgemaryann@hotmail.com.

Saint Patrick High School, Elizabeth, Fifth Annual Appreciation Service for the Fire and Police Departments, 10:30 a.m. Call (908) 353-5220.

St. Teresa of Avila Parish, Summit, "The Threat to Life and the Catholic Church at the

United Nations," presented by Doug Sylva, Director of Research at Catholic Family & Human Rights Institute. Call the Rectory (908) 277-3700.

Holy Family Parish, Nutley, St. Lucy Filippini Sodality monthly meeting, 8 p.m., St. Joseph's Center.

April 30

St. Antoninus Parish, Newark, will host Father John Hampsch, C.M.F. for a week-end conference, starting with Healing Mass on Friday, 7:30 p.m. preceded by Confessions and Rosary, 6 p.m. Saturday, May 1, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. with Mass at noon and Sunday with the 10 a.m. Mass. Conference theme is "Fountain of Life."

May 1

Bloomfield Knights of Columbus, Council 1178, trip to Claridge Casino departing at 9 a.m. from 190 State St. Cost \$30. Call Henry at (973) 743-7031.

May 2

St. Valentine Parish, Bloomfield, a concert and light reception honoring the 10th anniversary of Music Director, Dr. Peter Gillis, 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$15; \$12 for students and seniors. Call (973) 743-0220.

Christ the King Parish, Jersey City, annual Communion Luncheon at the Hi-Hat in Bayonne. Guest speaker Superior Court Judge Talentino. Tickets are \$25 and \$30. Call Verdena at (201) 433-9279.

May 4

Holy Trinity Parish, Hackensack, fifth annual carnival through May 8. 6 to 11 p.m. Tuesday through Friday; 4 to 11 p.m. Saturday. Call (201) 343-5170.

May 5

Holy Spirit Parish, Union, bereavement group at 7:30 p.m., continuing for seven consecutive Wednesdays. Call Maryann at (908) 687-2293 or Lina at (908) 6887561.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish, Ridgewood, Rosary Altar Society to host annual spring luncheon at the Ridgewood Country Club, 12:30 p.m., preceded by recitation of the Rosary at 10:40 a.m. and Mass at 11 a.m. Cost is \$30. Call (201) 652-9031.

May 6

Ascension School, New Milford, Spring Gala Dinner and Tricky Tray Auction at Ondine's, Closter, 6:30 p.m. Tickets \$37.50 per person. Call (201) 387-2632.

Queen of Peace Parish, North Arlington, Day of Recollection at San Alfonso. Cost is \$40 and includes transportation and luncheon. Call Margaret Siebel (201) 991-3567 or Santa Wolflee (201) 998-0789.

St. Elizabeth Parish, Wyckoff, Healing Mass, 8 p.m. The sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be administered. Call (201) 891-1122.

May 12

St. Lucy Parish, Newark, a candlelight procession in honor of Our Lady of Fatima in the church's Ruggiero Plaza, 7:30 p.m.



May 15

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Bloomfield, "Pentecost, Empowered by the Spirit of God," seminar from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Register by May 10. Call Anna (973) 338-9538 or Mary Anne (973) 239-8169.

May 21

Sacred Heart School, Lyndhurst, Home School Association, annual Calendar Party at the social center, 7 p.m. Tickets \$8. Call (201) 939-4277 between 7:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. or (201) 933-0783. Deadline May 3.

Local Highlights

Spirituality

- Members of the Sodality of the Children of Mary of St. Teresa will meet on May 7, 3:15 p.m. in the St. Peter Hall Chapel, Jersey City. Recitation of the "Little Office," followed by Mass at 3:30 p.m. On May 8, there will be recitation of the Rosary at 8:40 a.m. followed by Mass at 9 a.m., St. Peter Hall Chapel.

- The College of Saint Elizabeth will hold its twelfth annual Spirituality Convocation, "Cast Your Nets into New Waters," April 24 in the Saint Joseph Hall Gymnasium. Featured will be 24 workshops.

- On the First Friday of every month, St. Joseph Church, 460 Hudson St., Hackensack, will be open from 8 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for prayer and adoration, with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Every Friday at noon, there will be Rosary devotions for peace in the world.

- Theology on Tap's next installment will take place on April 26 at 7:30 p.m. at La Pastaria Restaurant, 327 Springfield Ave., Summit. Father Albert Holtz, O.S.B., a nationally recognized speaker and author, will offer "Principals of Spirituality in Everyday Life." Cost \$15.

Lectures

- Herbert Benson, M.D., a pioneer in mind/body medicine and the role of spirituality in healing, will speak on "The Science and Spirit of Healing" on April 22 at 7:30 p.m. in Kozlowski Hall, Seton Hall University. The evening is free and open to the public. Seating limited. Call (973) 761-9692 to reserve a seat.

- Singles in Action of St. Francis of Assisi Parish, New York, will sponsor a discussion on vocations later in life given by Father James Butts, S.D.V. and Sister Angelina Giramma, M.P.F., to take place in the friary building, 135 W. 31st St. Call Carl Koelle (718) 721-9820.

- The American Jewish Committee and the Commission for Interreligious Affairs of the Archdiocese of Newark will host "Between Secularism and Fundamentalism... Where do I Fit In?" by Sister Mary C. Boys and Rabbi Amy Joy Small, April 26, 7:30 p.m. at the Temple B'nai Abraham, Livingston. Call (973) 379-7844.

- Presidential Historian Doris Kearns Goodwin will speak at the Bishop Dougherty University

Center, Seton Hall University, South Orange, on April 27 at 4 p.m. Cost is \$25. Call (973) 378-2600.

- Artist Liz Mitchell will present "The Building of the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart: A Family Perspective," in the Beck Room, Seton Hall University, South Orange, April 27, noon. Free.

Fundraisers

- The Felician Sisters will host a Tricky Tray, May 14 at Immaculate Conception High School, Lodi. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., drawings begin at 8 p.m. Call (973) 473-7447 on weekdays between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.

- The York Street Project, run by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace and devoted to helping women and children break the cycle of poverty, will hold its 15th annual spring event on May 6, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Merrill Lynch Dinging Facility, 101 Hudson St., Jersey City. Call (201) 451-8225 or visit www.yorkstreetproject.org.

Health

- Columbus Hospital, 495 North 13th St., Newark, will conduct mammography screenings on May 8, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., to recognize

National Women's Health Month and to educate the community about the importance of mammography screenings. To schedule an appointment or determine eligibility, call (973) 268-1400 ext. 2193.

- Felician College, Lodi, will host a health fair offering free health screenings April 21, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the cafeteria in the Main College Building, 262 Main St. Call Sister Patricia at (201) 559-6035.

Craft Show

- St. Joseph Regional High School, Montvale, the Parent's Guild is sponsoring a Spring Craft Show & Sale on May 2 with 75 craftsmen, featuring all handcrafted items from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission \$3; children and seniors free. Visit www.saintjosephregional.org.

Auction

- The Xavier Retreat and Conference Center, Convent Station, will hold a Gala Spring Auction, on May 6 from 7 to 11 p.m. The \$20 admission fee includes 20 tickets for bidding. Call (973) 290-5100 or email xaviercnt@aol.com.

Concerts

- St. Philip the Apostle Parish, Saddle Brook, will host the Spirit of America Symphonic Pop Orchestra, May 22. The program includes Broadway, swing, big band jazz and patriotic music. Cost is \$23. Call John at (201) 843-6596.

- The Seton Hall University Touring Choir, Vocal Chamber Ensemble & Orchestra will present "A Spring Concert" at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, South Orange, on April 25 at 4 p.m. Donation \$5. Call (973) 761-9417.

Reunion

- The 1954 graduate class of St. Anne School, 255 Congress St., Jersey City, is seeking graduates for a class reunion on June 26. Call Valerie at (732) 736-8349 or Jimmy at (201) 933-8447.

Miscellaneous

- St. Mary High School, Rutherford, is celebrating its 75th anniversary throughout the school year. The anniversary weekend is scheduled for Sept. 24 and 25, including the "Diamond Jubilee Gala" at the Meadowslands Sheraton. Call (201) 933-5220 ext. 270 or email alumni@stmaryhs.org.

Helping to break the cycle of poverty

Dear Archbishop Myers:

On behalf of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD), I am writing to thank you and all of the faithful of the Archdiocese of Newark for your very generous 2003 collection contribution of \$54,391. This support enables the Church in the United States to continue to help people who are poor to break the cycle of poverty.

Thanks to the prophetic foresight of our bishops and the generosity and dedication of clergy, Religious and laity, the CCHD has been able to support people who earn low-income wages as they find a way out of poverty for themselves and their communities. In 2003, you helped CCHD grant \$8.75 million in support of 318 local projects in 45 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. We are proud to be one of the largest private funders of anti-poverty programs initiated and led by people living in poverty.

As Pope John Paul II reminds us, our Church is one “that works with all sectors of society, including the poor themselves, in search of solutions to the problems of poverty, in order to free people from lives of misery and want.”

Through their gifts to the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, the people of Newark help to break the cycle of poverty and build community across our nation. We are grateful for your leadership and for the invaluable partnership of your diocesan director, Catherine L’Insalata. Be assured of our prayers for you and those you serve.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Rev. Robert J. Vitillo
Executive Director

A most eloquent, powerful proponent

Editor,

It was with considerable interest that I read your editorial regarding the Unborn Victims of Violence Act.

It isn’t often that a position advocated by the Catholic Church is supported by our elected officials whether it be on the state or national level.

I feel that it is incumbent upon *The Catholic Advocate* to give much more publicity regarding this most important piece of legislation. There should be numerous other articles regarding this issue in *The Catholic Advocate* both from a news point of view and from our religious leaders. Unfortunately, your editorial was the only mention of this important and hopefully precedent setting legislation.

It is most important that you list our elected representatives and senators from New Jersey and advise us as to who voted in support of this legislation and who voted against it. We should also be told as to what is the position of the candidates running for president.

Unfortunately, many of our legislators look upon the Catholic Church as a “Paper Tiger” when it comes to legislation that we support. They know that many Catholics will still blindly support them no matter how many times they vote against us. Until this mentality changes, we Catholics will be little more than second-class citizens.

It is time for *The Catholic Advocate* and the hierarchy to speak much more loudly and forcefully.

Samuel A. Spina
West Orange

(Editor’s note: A full story on the new law was published along with the editorial on page four of the April 7 issue of The Catholic Advocate.)

Respect Life

Law cannot do away with reality

BY MSGR. RICHARD MCGUINNESS
Director of the Respect Life Office

In most states, an unborn child can inherit property, be legally represented by a guardian and can qualify as a recipient of state funded insurance.

Suppose an unborn child’s grandparents—happy to hear their daughter is pregnant—set up an account for that child, established a college scholarship fund and changed their will to include their new grandchild. Suppose their daughter then decides she will have that child aborted. Then the child, according to the law, simply does not exist. There is no birth

record, no death record, the child simply “does not exist” because the mother decided to have an abortion.

Laws cannot do away with reality! Laws should reflect the reality that all human life is sacred and should be protected. That is why we should welcome the new legislation passed by Congress and signed by the President that recognized an unborn child as a second victim in a violent federal crime against a pregnant woman.

(Msgr. McGuinness is director of the Respect Life Office of the Archdiocese of Newark.)

An important learning experience

You should have been there!

Earlier this month the first of six High School Information Nights, sponsored by the Schools Office of the Archdiocese of Newark, was bursting at the seams with students and parents eager to explore their educational options.

Walking through the shoulder-to-shoulder crowd in the Archdiocesan Center, it was obvious students and parents realize the importance of their decision.

Beyond that, however, was the desire to continue with a quality Catholic education. The high academic standards that characterize Archdiocesan schools were the primary reason the turnout was so robust.

For those who missed the first three presentations or simply want to return to find out more and ask additional questions, three more sessions remain.

Designed for fifth through seventh graders, they are: Queen of Peace Elementary School, North Arlington, April 22; Annunciation Parish Hall, Paramus, April 27, and St. Helen Parish Center, Westfield, April 29. Each session runs from 7 to 9 p.m.

You should have been there—but it’s not too late.

There are many more like him

The essence of being a good priest is being a “humanitarian,” that is, teaching and living as Christ did. Meet Father Christopher J. Hynes.

The assistant to the archbishop for public affairs was honored earlier this month as Humanitarian of the Year by the state’s Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Paul Huegel, President and CEO of the local chapter of the Foundation summed up Father Hynes’ ministry perfectly saying the honoree has had a “positive impact on countless lives, while serving in a multitude of public servant roles, first and foremost as a Roman Catholic priest.”

Make-A-Wish Foundation grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions. Father Hynes has been working to create a stronger awareness of what the Foundation is trying to do throughout the Cathedral Healthcare System.

At this time in the history of the Church, it is wise to remember and appreciate Father Hynes and the overwhelming number of clergymen just like him. They might not make the headlines, but they are making a difference—and that is what counts.

The commitment continues

It is all about commitment to the community.

In 1997 when what was then Orange Memorial Hospital was looking for a suitor, it was the Archdiocese of Newark to the rescue.

Out of concern for the health care needs of the community, Cathedral Healthcare System took over the aging facility.

Despite monumental efforts, however, earlier this year the reluctant decision was made to close what had become the Hospital Center at Orange (HCO).

At the time it was estimated HCO would incur \$2.5 million annually in costs it would not otherwise face if the hospital were not out-of-date, inefficient and oversized.

But the commitment that prompted taking over the hospital seven years ago has never wavered. It was announced last week that an interim Orange Primary Care Center, 135 Center St., has opened its doors.

The facility is a stop gap measure until HOC, Cathedral Healthcare and the New Jersey State Department of Health and Senior Services can establish a permanent health care facility in Orange.

The Archdiocese does not walk away from people in need.

The Catholic Advocate welcomes letters from readers. Due to space and time limits, there is no guarantee that a letter will run. Readers’ opinions do not necessarily represent the opinion of the newspaper or the Archdiocese. All letters must be typed, and are subject to editing.

Include name, address and daytime telephone number. Send to: *The Catholic Advocate*, P.O. Box 9500, Newark, NJ 07104-0500 or email mielejos@rcan.org

God’s promise to us reveals itself in nature

The sun is peeking through my window at a different angle now. The days are brighter and longer. The wind is fresh, and while it still has a bite it does not chill the face.

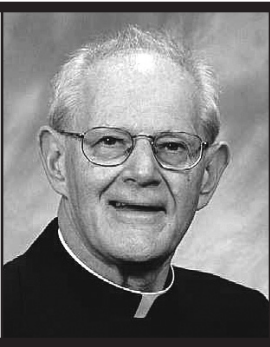
It is springtime. Resurrection time is here. All creation is stirring with renewed life. The daffodils are sprouting alongside the crocuses in my mother’s yard. Over in Belleville Park the forsythia are turning the banks of the Second River (really a brook now) into a sun-filled yellow glory. Soon the Japanese cherry trees will draw all sorts of people. They come to marvel at the white and pink blossoms that last for only a few days.

Down at Barnegat Light last week the winter silence was broken as literally hundreds of birds arrived. They have returned from wherever they go in the winter. They cause a riot of sound as they prepare for the new mating season. Even the shore birds who never left—the seagulls, the ducks, and the geese—seem happy to greet the new arrivals.

In the meadowlands, the long-legged egrets and herons are back silently, treading the shallow water

Voices

By Msgr. John Gilchrist



with their stately steps. And everywhere the green trees and bushes are beginning to cover the shoulders of the mountains of garbage. Nature will cover man’s refuse and ugliness with God’s beauty.

We humans love springtime. We are part of nature. We feel born again.

There is one place, however, where the rebirth of nature moves me most

of all. Strangely enough it is at Holy Cross Cemetery. There on that high plateau one can stand on a

spring morning. Out on the horizon New York City cuts into the skyline with her massive buildings. The Hackensack Meadowlands are spread out below. The water glistens as if it held a million diamonds. The endless blue sky reaches out while the clouds scud by as if they had a destination somewhere in the east. And all around me there stretches the green grass and row upon row of white monuments.

I am always there for a sad reason. It is a funeral. The mourners and I stand beside an open grave. Yet, in the spring these words seem to mean so much more—they are the words of interment.

“Lord Jesus Christ, by Your own three days in the tomb, You hallowed the grave of all who believe in You. And so You made the grave a sign of hope that promises resurrection even as it claims our mortal bodies.”

How easy it is on a lovely spring morning to believe in resurrection. How fitting it is to have hope in Christ’s promise, “I will raise you up on the last day.” How consoling it is to be a Christian.

As I leave the cemetery on a day such as this my mourning turns to joy. I whisper “sleep well” to all those buried here. Resurrection, a new spring, is not far away. Christ will come again.

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

*Resurrection, a new spring,
is not far away.*

Continuing the teaching authority of Peter’s successors

Readings: Acts 5:27-41; Ps 30; Rv 5:11-14; Jn 21:1-19.

The rulers of many countries seek to secure a permanent place of power for themselves and their families. Even a “president for life” must acknowledge his mortality and plan for succession. In contrast, Jesus did not lay claim to secular power for Himself; indeed, He told Pilat: “My kingdom does not belong to this world...” (Jn 18:36). Jesus was the heavenly Father’s Agent for the inauguration of the divine kingship (God’s authority respected by the faithful) and kingdom (the divine reign accepted by all creation at the consummation of history).

As the Messiah (Anointed Son of David) and as Son of God, Jesus has an eternal reign; He promised to be with His Church always, even to the end of the world (Mt 28:20). Although Jesus had no need to plan for a successor, He did select a representative to be the visible sign of the unifying power of His presence.

The choice of Simon Peter and the other apostles was based on the legal precedent of an agent who represents the ruling authority. “As the Father has sent me, so I send you” (Jn 20:21).

In earlier times, the city of Jerusalem was governed by a deputy of the king of Judah empowered to be a father to its inhabitants. “I will place the key of the House of David on his shoulder; when he opens, no one shall shut, when he shuts, no one shall open” (Is 22:21-22).

The king ratified the decisions of his mayor and held him responsible for welfare of the community. In like manner, Jesus offered Peter a unique role in collaborating with Him. “I will entrust to you the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you declare bound on earth shall be bound in heaven; whatever you declare loosed on earth shall be loosed in heaven” (Mt 16:19).

Strikingly, the most explicit fulfillment of Jesus’ promise is recorded in the Fourth Gospel. After the Master had manifested Himself to several disciples by the Sea of Galilee and prepared breakfast for them, He reminded Peter of his triple denial during the Passion.

The first question tested Peter’s humility. “Simon,

Sunday Readings

3rd Sunday of Easter
(April 25, 2004)

By Father Lawrence Frizzell



son of John, do you love me more than these do?” (Jn 21:15). Peter’s enthusiastic self-assurance had been tempered by experience of his own cowardice (Jn 13:37-38 and 18:15-18, 25-27).

Now he came to realize that being a leader is not based on superior qualifications but on divine goodness providing the strength required to fulfill the responsibilities given.

So Peter answered simply, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you” (Jn 21:15). Then Jesus commissioned him to feed His lambs and to tend His sheep. The Good Shepherd had laid down His life for His flock, including Peter (see Jn 10:11 and 18); He had invited others to become assistants in His work. After the Resurrection He instituted offices to carry on His mission until the end of time.

Like the prophecy of Nathan (2 Sm 7:8-16), which proclaimed the establishment of the Davidic dynasty at the service of the divine King and his people, Jesus founded a function that would continue until the historical order would give way to the eternal Kingdom.

Although some early Christians hoped for Jesus to return quickly, John records a strange saying of Jesus that he interpreted to indicate that Peter would be a martyr. So, like David and Solomon, as well as

their representatives, Peter would have successors to care for the Church.

In the Acts of the Apostles, St. Luke presented several vignettes of St. Peter’s role in the Jerusalem Church. He is portrayed as a prayerful and courageous leader who proclaimed the Gospel even in the face of threats and persecution. An abbreviated version of one such episode is read to complement this Sunday’s Gospel.

During the trial of Peter and other apostles before the Sanhedrin, Luke told of a wise Pharisee named Gamaliel who cautioned his colleagues against any attempt to crush nascent Christianity. “If their purpose or activity is human in its origins, it will destroy itself. If, on the other hand, it comes from God, you will not be able to destroy them without fighting against God Himself” (Acts 5:38-39).

This is sound advice for all political and religious leaders. Those Christians in authority have the responsibility to weigh the doctrines and opinions of all teachers to see if they resonate well with the Gospel.

However, debates and discussions should take place so that the vigor of divine truth inveighs against error rather than brute force crushing its proponents.

The teaching authority of the Church is at its best when the faithful are instructed adequately so that they can discern illusion and distortion. “Test everything and hold fast to what is good” (1 Thes 5:21).

The task of feeding lambs and sheep with the nourishing sustenance of the Christian message is complemented by a continuing effort to defend them from noxious weeds. The awe-inspiring task of Peter and his collaborators is never easy, so we pray that they (and we) be ever receptive to the guidance of Christ’s Spirit of truth!

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

The teaching authority of the Church is at its best when the faithful are instructed adequately.

Pope donates to disaster relief

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Using monetary gifts he received from individuals, Religious orders and dioceses, Pope John Paul II designated \$1.68 million for emergency disaster relief and development aid in 2003. More than \$240,000 was used to help the victims of war in Iraq, Liberia, Nigeria and the Congo, according to figures published in the *L'Osservatore Romano*, the Vatican newspaper.

The Pontifical Council *Cor Unum*, which promotes and coordinates charitable giving, handles the distribution of the aid. “The charity of the pope in 2003” also included donations of \$243,000 to help the victims of flooding in Argentina, Bolivia, Fiji, Guatemala, Sri Lanka and Vietnam.

As a sign of his concern, Pope John Paul sent Archbishop Paul Cordes, president of *Cor Unum*, to several of the hurting nations in 2003. He visited Iraq immediately after U.S. President George W. Bush declared the end of the war there, and he visited Vietnam soon after the floods.

In addition to helping victims of war and natural disasters, the papal giving included more than \$205,000 for projects to benefit children in Brazil, Chile, Ghana, India, Mongolia, Central African Republic, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uganda and Vietnam.

The pope also gave \$25,000 for HIV/AIDS programs in Malawi and Romania.

The newspaper reported too that the John Paul II Foundation for the Sahel, established by the pope to help people threatened by drought and desertification in Africa, distributed about \$3 million in 2003.

In addition, the *Populorum Progressio* Foundation for farmworkers and indigenous commu-

nities in Latin America and the Caribbean funded 221 projects for a total of more than \$1.8 million.

The Vatican newspaper said financial gifts to the pope are an occasion for individuals, parishes, dioceses and Religious orders to demonstrate that they are part of the universal Church and share its concerns for the world’s neediest people.

Doctor’s orders followed

Although it is not unusual for someone to read for the pope, it was the first time the Vatican announced to reporters beforehand that the pope would not be giving his speech.

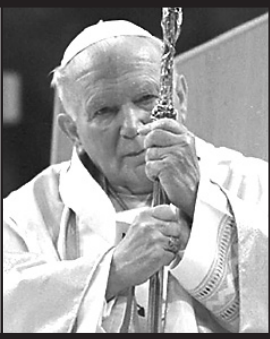
Though Vatican officials read aloud his April 14 catechesis, the pope did offer his greetings in eight languages to the tens of thousands of pilgrims who gathered for the audience in St. Peter’s Square. The pope looked alert and his voice was strong, though it wavered at times.

At the end of the audience, the pope led the recitation of the *Regina Coeli* prayer and met with a long line of pilgrims and posed for group pictures for well over an hour. He entered and left the square—which was still carpeted with flowers from Easter Sunday—in his open-air popemobile to wave to the crowds.

According to papal spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls, the Holy Father’s personal doctor advised the pope not to read his address given the heavy schedule the pope followed over Holy Week and Easter. Navarro-Valls did not specify for how long the doctor’s orders were in effect and if future discourses by the pope would be affected.

The Pope Speaks

Pope John Paul II



The world needs divine mercy message

Dear brothers and sisters,

“The Prince of life who died now reigns immortal” (Easter sequence).

This joyful proclamation is the foundation and heart of the Church’s faith. Christ is truly risen from the dead. During these days of Easter each of us is invited to a personal encounter with the risen Lord, like Mary Magdalene, who heard Him call her by name. Christ, the innocent victim who died for our sins, revealed from the cross the depths of God’s mercy and forgiveness. This message of divine mercy needs to resound in today’s world. With St. Faustina Kowalska, chosen to be the humble messenger of divine mercy, let us abandon ourselves with confidence to the risen Lord and pray: “O Jesus, I trust in you.”

Easter is a wonderful family time to be cherished

Lent, Holy Week and Easter are almost more than most of us can handle in one month. Or one year.

We barely get started trying to figure out if Lent is working in our lives (some years it does and some years it doesn’t) and we’re body slammed into Holy Week. Next thing we know—boom!—it’s Easter.

I go from feeling like a rocky lump, a creature barely human, something that just crawled out of a dark cave, to total amazement as I stand upright in a field of sun-dappled daffodils.

One moment I can’t believe I’m such an idiot that I can’t manage to keep a Lenten resolution for more than 24 hours at a stretch and the next moment I’m singing, “How Can I Keep From Singing?” One day I’m agonizing over the fact that I have no will power, no resolve, and probably no faith at all and the next day I’m rejoicing, “The Strife is O’er, the Battle Won!”

Too much, too soon.

Holy Week and Easter are a stark contrast between dark and light, bitter and sweet, low and high, and within a span of three days our emotions are jerked about with such fierceness we become a walking dichotomy.

We are two halves of the same whole, part still weeping over the loss of our beloved Savior, part rejoicing over the Resurrection of our beloved Redeemer.

Our grandson Gus played the part of Jesus in the first grade Passion Play at his school last week. Gus, dressed in a long white robe, had to carry his cross from the high altar down the side aisle and up the center aisle, a long walk for a barefoot seven year old, even with the help of a very small Simon the Cyrenean, another first grader.

But the part that got to this grandma was what he

Over the Coffee Cup

By Mary Costello

did to the weeping women of Jerusalem.

When he reached the place where they were standing, clothed in long white robes and babushka-like headscarves, he reached out his hand to bless them and their baby-doll babies. Gus, a fiery red-head who has only been called “holy” if it was in front of “terror” was so solemn and the women so grief-stricken I almost burst into tears.

Suddenly, in an instant, it was Holy Week for me; that simple gesture was an encapsulation of the entire Passion, the bloody scourging, the death He was about to undergo and yet He held this great love for all of us in His heart.

It was all there as Gus reached out a small, very white hand to the women. Good job, Gus.

For moms and dads and even for grandmas and grandpas, Easter is a wonderful family time. It’s filled with little girls carrying tiny pink purses and little boys in long pants and neckties.

Holy Week and Easter are a stark contrast between dark and light.

It’s a time of year (much like Christmas) when we’re consumed with consuming. We want to see all the kids and grandkids decked out in spring finery, patent leather shoes and spring jackets (I for one could never find the size-eight jacket that the bigger boy wore one year to hand on to the next size eight in line) as well as cook the Easter ham and peel five pounds of potatoes for the cheesy mashed potatoes.

Throughout all of this, some of us can’t shake the Passion.

Maybe it’s because I never feel I “do” Lent very well. Maybe it’s because I’m a trifle short on patience, will-power and self-control, all those virtues that are celebrated by the saints of old—as well as all the people that surround me at Good Friday services—the ones I’m sure did Lent perfectly.

Throughout Holy Week services, I hold in my heart the fact that I—several times, in fact—opened my mouth and let fly with remarks that would just as well have gone unsaid. Or at least could have been rephrased.

But by Easter morning, all’s forgiven. While we exchange greetings of “He is risen!” it doesn’t make any difference that some of us were a tad lax in our fasting, or that someone forgot and ordered a Reuben sandwich the second Friday of Lent or even that the box of chocolates on the shelf in the closet is a bit lighter than it was on Ash Wednesday.

All is forgiven because, as we are able to rejoice for days to come: “He is risen, indeed!”

Mary Costello is a freelance columnist.



Saint Francis de Sales, Lodi

A faith community that speaks many languages

BY LISA HADDOCK

Special to The Catholic Advocate

St. Francis de Sales, Lodi, is multicultural with a capital M.

It seems fitting that the parish is named for a saint (1567-1622) who left his home in France to labor for years in disputed lands that eventually unified as multilingual, multicultural Switzerland.

The parish mission statement, printed in the church bulletin, says it all: it is written in English, Spanish and Portuguese.

Fifty percent of the congregants are native speakers of English—mostly of Irish and Italian heritage.

"The old-timers [native English speakers] have been here forever," said Father Timothy G. Graff, M. Div., a first-time pastor serving this 1,000-family parish since December 2001. He added that some parish families go back nine generations.

Rounding out the ethnic and linguistic mix are Portuguese speakers from Europe (20 percent) and Latin Americans (30 percent and rising), the newest members of the flock. Portuguese Masses have been offered for about 20 years, and Spanish liturgies have been in place for one and a half years.

Demographic change

Lodi, which was once overwhelmingly Italian, is becoming increasingly Latino, Father Graff pointed out. Since 1917, Lodi's Italian-American Catholics have been served by St. Joseph Parish, which is run by the Adorno Fathers.

Father Graff, who went directly from undergraduate study at Seton Hall University to Immaculate Conception Seminary, is the only full-time priest on staff.

"It's exhausting," said Father Graff, who was ordained to the priesthood in 1985.

He is self-effacing about his foreign-language skills. "I can get by in Spanish... In Portuguese, I can do the basics."

He admits Portuguese parishioners tease him about his accent. "We've learned your Portuguese," they tell him. "There are certain words you always pronounce wrong, but we know what you mean now."

But the challenges he and his parish face are a serious matter. The parish is in transition, Father Graff noted. The neighborhood is growing poorer.

"We've got a lot of elderly [in the parish] because it's a relatively cheap place to live in Bergen County with a fair amount of subsidized housing," said Father

Graff. Many of these people are homebound and ailing.

Soon after he arrived, Father Graff learned that Mother Cabrini Interparochial School, which once served youngsters from St. Francis and St. Joseph's, had to be closed for financial reasons. (Before its merger with St. Joseph's, the school had been St. Francis School.) It is now rented to a county school for special-needs children. Former



Mother Cabrini pupils now attend nearby Corpus Christi School in Hasbrouck Heights.

Helping with the workload are two other priests, two Felician sisters, one Sister of St. Joseph of Peace and numerous lay staffers and volunteers.

Father John B. Baron, Ph.D., who has lived at the St. Francis rectory for 15 years, assists with weekend and daily Masses and hospital visits.

"He's been here forever, so everybody knows him," Father Graff said.

But Father Baron has plenty of other duties to keep him busy. He oversees campus ministry for the Archdiocese, and he teaches philosophy of religion and core curriculum courses at Fairleigh Dickinson University's Teaneck campus.

Father Mark O'Malley, M. Div., assists with weekend Masses as well. Also a college chaplain, Father O'Malley works at the Newman Catholic Center, Newark. The center ministers to students, faculty and staff from Rutgers University's Newark campus, and New Jersey Institute of Technology and Essex County College, also in Newark.

Kathy Jaeger oversees religious education for English speakers and organizes outreach to young families. Currently the church offers CCD in English and Spanish; it also offers CCD in English for special-needs children. Next fall, CCD for Portuguese speakers will be offered, with Father Graff as catechist.

Offering instruction in the lan-



Advocate photos - Frank Wood

Though major renovations have been made over the years, the original structure of the church building of St. Francis de Sales still stands—since 1854. The parish serves 1000 families; the church seats about 300 people.

And the parish offers monthly blood-pressure checks.

Reflecting the parish's Portuguese influence, the faithful process through the streets of Lodi with a statue of Our Lady of Fatima every May.

Parties and other social activities help parishioners mix, said Father Graff.

"Food does bring them together. It gives them a chance to see one another. It's just very hard for us to worship together," he added.

Whatever their background, Father Graff believes all parishioners should feel fully accepted by their church.

"We do full-service ministry for all three communities," he said. That means offering full sacramental and educational ministry to each language group.

The parish is now planning its 150th anniversary celebration. Archbishop John J. Myers will celebrate an opening liturgy, slated for December. In the meantime, the church's shrine of the Immaculate Conception, built during the Great Depression, will be restored. And a dinner-dance also is planned.

"We're just in the very preliminary stages," Father Graff noted.

"We're called to serve the people of the area," the pastor said of himself and the ministry team.

Father Graff, who classifies many of his parishioners as the working poor, praises the community he has joined. "People are as much as, if not more generous than they are in richer parishes in terms of percentage of what they give. And people are very dedicated here. You have the old-timers, who have been here for generations... And you also have the faithfulness of the new immigrants because we reached out to them."

St. Francis de Sales Parish is located at 125 Union St. in Lodi.

Bergen County's oldest parish grew up along with Newark Archdiocese

BY LISA HADDOCK
Special to The Catholic Advocate

St. Francis de Sales, Lodi, at nearly 150 years old, is Bergen County's oldest Roman Catholic parish.

But by Bergen standards, it is a mere youngster.

In 1687, the Dutch community founded First Reformed Church of Hackensack (also known as the Church on the Green)—the oldest church in Bergen County and the second oldest in New Jersey.

In 1854, St. Francis de Sales arrived on the scene. Prior to that, Bergen's Catholics traveled to Paterson for the nearest Mass.

St. Francis isn't much younger than the Diocese of Newark. In 1853, Pope Pius IX created the Diocese, encompassing all of New Jersey, and made the Most Rev. James Roosevelt Bayley its first bishop.

Bishop Bayley appointed Father Louis Senez, Pastor of St. John's Church in Paterson, to oversee construction of St. Francis de Sales and to minister to its people.

Building began in June 1854 at the price of \$2,500. Father Senez supplied \$1,400 of his own funds to cover costs. The building was dedicated on Dec. 12, 1854. He served the church for three years without salary. At the time, the parish encompassed all of Bergen County as well as the village of Acquackanonk (now the city of Passaic).

In 1857, Father Francis Anneli took over. He also looked after the Church of the Madonna, Fort Lee, where he lived. By 1861, he was taking care of Holy Trinity Parish, Hackensack as well.

Because of the age of the parish, records are sketchy at this point. The Passionist Mission Fathers from West Hoboken (Union City) served the church until February 1863. Over the years, St. Francis was served by part-time pastors, including Father John J. Shandle.

In May 1898, Father Joseph Ascheri became the church's first resident pastor, appointed by Bishop Winand M. Wigger. A native of Piedmont, Italy, Father Ascheri served until his death on July 21, 1910. At his request, he was buried in the church's cemetery. He left the parish a substantial bequest, which helped fund construction of a rectory and renovations to the church building.

Bishop John J. O'Connor appointed Father Henry J. Watterson to take over the parish in August 1910. During his three-year tenure, he cut the parish debt in half, oversaw the completion of the building projects and the renovation of the Parish House.

Bishop O'Connor appointed Father William J. Carlin as the next pastor, who

arrived on Feb. 14, 1913. Before his ordination, Carlin was sent from New Jersey to study in Genoa, Italy. As pastor of St. Francis, he encouraged Lodi's Italians to create St. Joseph Parish, which opened in 1917.

Also during Father Carlin's tenure, Corpus Christi Parish, Hasbrouck Heights, a mission of St. Francis that started in 1897, applied to become an independent parish.

Selected by Bishop O'Connor, Father



In June 1979, parishioners filled the church to mark the parish's 125th anniversary. The Mass was celebrated by Bishop Robert F. Garner, who also installed the new pastor, Father Charles Theobald.

John J. Butscher became pastor in October 1919, after Father Carlin left to serve St. George's in Paterson. Father Butscher added three rooms to the rectory during his tenure, which lasted until September of 1926.

Father Peter Egan, also picked by Bishop O'Connor, came to St. Francis in Sept. 10, 1926. He set to work improving the church grounds and cemetery. A lawn was added and bowling alleys installed.

Also during this time, Father Egan and other men of the parish installed a shrine to the Immaculate Conception. He served the parish until his death in May 1937.

Bishop Thomas J. Walsh selected Father Edward A. McGuirk as pastor after Father Egan's death. Father McGuirk served two years before leaving for St. John the Evangelist Parish, Bergenfield.

Because the Diocese was elevated to Archdiocese in late 1937, Bishop Walsh was now archbishop. He designated Father Florence Mahoney as the next pastor.

Father Mahoney had brick siding added to the rectory and church. He also attended to the sick at Bergen Pines Hospital, Paramus (now known as

Bergen Regional Medical Center). Father Mahoney departed in December 1942.

Archbishop Walsh selected Father Ladislaus J. Wilczewski as administrator of the parish in 1942. He remained at St. Francis until June 1945. During his short stay, he saw to it that all existing parish debt was paid off.

Shortly after Father Wilczewski's departure, Archbishop Walsh named Father Edward P. Dugan as pastor.

Father Dugan oversaw the expansion of the church, adding room to each side of the sanctuary and a new front entrance. All the old fixtures, including altars, organ, statues, Stations of the Cross, windows, confessionals, seats, and the tabernacle were replaced. Father Dugan fell ill in 1953, so Father Thomas M. Lennon came on board as administrator from 1954 to 1962.

In 1962, Archbishop Thomas A. Boland appointed Father Lennon as pastor. As the liturgical changes of the Second Vatican Council rippled through the Catholic world, Father Lennon oversaw the necessary renovations to the sanctuary of St. Francis de Sales. He served the parish until 1979.

Archbishop Peter L. Gerety picked Father Charles Theobald as pastor in 1979. In the 1980s, Father Theobald dealt with structural problems in the church building. The roof leaked, the electrical system needed replacement and the heating system often broke down.

Late in the summer of 1992, Father Theobald announced that Archbishop Theodore E. McCarrick had approved the renovation of the church. The project was overseen by Edward Zucchi and Sons, and Paul Reilly served as architect.

The overhaul was thorough. All the stained glass windows were removed, cleaned, re-lead and then reinstalled,



Father Theobald greets Lucy Lopes and her grandchildren, Dominic and Michael, on the steps of the church in May 1985.

Meet the Pastor



Father Timothy G. Graff, M. Div.

Age: 44
Date of birth: Oct. 22, 1959
High School: Union Catholic Regional High School, Scotch Plains
College/Seminary: Seton Hall University, Immaculate Conception Seminary
Date of Ordination: Nov. 16, 1985
Hero: My father
Favorite Saint: St. Polycarp of Smyrna
Favorite Sport: Soccer
Favorite Subject in School: English
Favorite Movie: *Field of Dreams*
Last Book Read: *Unto the Sons* by Gay Talese
Proudest moment: Ordination to the priesthood
Occupation If I Weren't a Priest: Physician

covered by tempered glass. A new roof was put in, although engineers found that the original 1854 structure was still sound. Other additions included a new altar, ambo, permanent baptismal font, presider's chair, organ, choir seating, pews, carillon, access ramp for the disabled, carpeting, tile, coffer ceiling and statue of St. Francis de Sales.

New doors were put in, featuring glass etchings of biblical figures, saints and angels. Some of the those honored in glass, such as Mother Cabrini and St. Maximilian Kolbe, are among the new holy people to be officially recognized by the Church. St. Frances Xavier Cabrini (1850-1917) was a child when the church was erected. Pope Pius XII canonized her in 1946 for her life of charity. St. Maximilian Kolbe (1894-1941) was born after St. Francis had stood nearly half a century. In 1982, Pope John Paul II canonized the priest, who was martyred in Auschwitz.

And soon after Christianity entered its third millennium, a new pastor was named, Father Timothy G. Graff. Selected by Archbishop John J. Myers, Father Graff arrived in December 2001. He is now preparing his community for the celebration of its 150th anniversary, which will begin in December of this year.

Lisa Haddock is the former Religion and Values Editor for The Record.

NCEA '04 convention

Continued from page 1
for Catechesis/Religious Education (ACRE).

"Heritage and Hope: Faithful Past, Faith-filled Future" was the theme for the four-day meeting, which included a salute to NCEA's centennial observance.

Delegates from all levels of Catholic education—elementary and secondary schools, religious education programs, seminaries, colleges and universities, governing boards and superintendents of schools, as well as pastors—were able to select from more than 400 professional development sessions.

Topics included special education, early childhood development, technology, religious education, governance, curriculum, legal issues and public policy.

NCEA/NPCD is the largest private professional education association in the world. Founded in St. Louis, MO, in 1904, the association's membership represents more than 200,000 educators serving 7.6 million students in Catholic education at all levels.

Quintana

Continued from page 1

office manager, associate director and finally, in 1999, director.

This designation made her the first Hispanic lay person and the first woman to hold this position. "There were a lot of wonderful people...that supported my leadership," asserted Quintana.

Founded in 1970, the Hispanic Apostolate's mission is to provide information and guidance to all parishes with a Hispanic presence in the Archdiocese in matters of Hispanic ministry, in conjunction with all pastoral ministries. It also looks to raise awareness of the reality of Hispanics in the Archdiocese and their cultural expression of faith.

Though she said she has many special memories from her term as director, Quintana described one of the proudest moments as the Hispanic Apostolate's exhibit during Hispanic Heritage Week in October 2002.

During a weeklong celebration, the open exhibit offered workshops, lectures, discussions, videos, folk art, traditional dance and music, a display of traditional dress and flags, and other information, including histories

on Hispanic saints, from the 21 Spanish-speaking countries.

"It was a wonderful way to reach out to the entire Church [in the area]...to all cultures...to teach those that did not know" about Hispanic heritage, noted Quintana.

Serving 36 dioceses in the region, including the Archdiocese of Newark, the Northeast Hispanic Catholic Center has offices in New York and Washington, DC and seeks to support bishops in the area, particularly those who run dioceses with large Hispanic populations.

Quintana described her responsibilities in the new position as creating and coordinating programs in collaboration with the rest of the staff regarding relevant issues, such as immigration, regional leadership gatherings and conferences, support and guidance of recently arrived adjunct priests and Religious, Hispanic youth leadership, continuous communication of information about Hispanic ministry to appropriate pastoral agents and bishops, and helping Hispanic ministry directors maintain contact with their bishops.

"There has to be a common vision of Hispanic ministry... This office sees to keep it," remarked Quintana.

Regarding the Hispanic Apostolate in the Archdiocese of Newark, she added that with the tremendous presence of Hispanic Catholics here, "there has

to be an office in this building, or it would be hurting the Church."

A search committee is already in place to find a new director.



Advocate photo-Ward Miele

At a farewell reception, colleagues from the Archdiocesan Center send off Maricela Quintana, the former director of the Hispanic Apostolate, to her new position as Associate Director for Administration and Programs at the Northeast Hispanic Catholic Center in New York. In this capacity, Quintana will continue to serve the Archdiocese of Newark, along with 35 other dioceses.

Cornerstone golf and tennis benefit slated for June 28

William F. Koonz, Sr. will be honored at the 24th annual Cornerstone Golf & Tennis Outing June 28 at the Essex County Country Club, West Orange.

The owner of Koonz Sprinkler Supply, he is a longtime member of the committee that plans the annual outing.

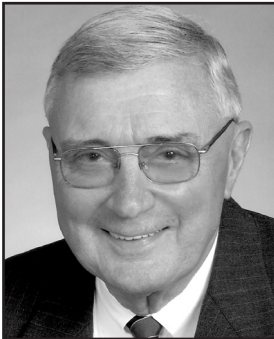
The fundraiser for the Archdiocesan major seminary, Immaculate Conception Seminary (ICS), benefits the Honorable Roger W. Breslin, Sr. Fund for Seminarians. The fund provides non-academic financial aid for seminarians in need and has helped hundreds over the past two decades.

Msg. Robert F. Coleman,

the rector and dean of ICS, noted that Bill Koonz "has been a staunchly committed committee member for nearly 10 years.

A roll-up-the-sleeves, take-charge member, his earliest involvement was with one of the committee's ongoing prime objectives: soliciting advertising support for the outing. His enthusiasm and experience has enriched the work of the committee and added to a string of successful outings."

Registration is open now through the Cornerstone Golf & Tennis Outing committee. For information call Steve Vlasac at (973) 378-2661 or email him at vlasacst@shu.edu.



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Students' essays, posters, poems focus on sanctity of human life

Awards were presented last month to the winners of this year's Pro-Life Commission Pro-Life Essay/Poetry and Poster Contest sponsored by the Respect Life Office of the Archdiocese of Newark.

Bishop Arthur J. Serratelli, Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia, presided at the 16th annual ceremony held at St. John the Apostle Parish, Linden.

Open to elementary and high school students, the contest attracted participants from throughout the Archdiocese. In all, students from 43 schools took part.

Entries were judged by commission members, including Archbishop John J. Myers, Msgr. Richard Arnholds, Vicar for Pastoral Life, and Msgr. Richard McGuinness, Director of the Respect Life Office. The winners received monetary awards along with important pro-life information.

The theme was "Life is a Miracle." Students were asked to focus on the sanctity of human life.

In remarks during the awards ceremony, Bishop Serratelli urged the students to continue to spread the "Gospel of life."

Although common, Rachel Chow says a human life is "truly a miracle of God." She goes on to note that "God is the Father of all creation and the source of all human life. He breathes life into every single human being and gives us the gift of His grace. He lovingly creates us in His image and gives us the privilege to be His followers."

Explaining serious medical problems were diagnosed before he was born and that his parents were told by doctors to abort the baby because the

chances of survival were slim, Anthony Pasciolla said, "I was definitely a miracle from God and many believe that I have a greater purpose on earth." He

explained too how his mother prayed to St. Anthony daily and his family held prayer groups once a week and prayed the Rosary together.



Msgr. McGuinness listens as Bishop Serratelli addresses the students.

Advocate photos: Frank Wood

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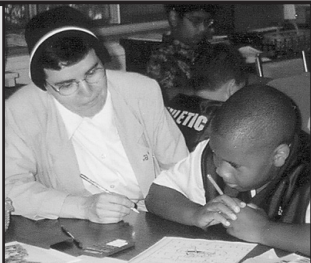
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Bishop Serratelli offers congratulations to the first place winners, left to right, Rachel Chow, Giselle Asuncion, Anthony Pasciolla, Casey Doyle and Jacqueline Bebrend.



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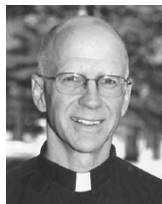


May 17 - 21

Rev. Edmund Nagle, SJ

"The Beatitudes—A Way of Life"

Ed is a spiritual director and has been a member of the Loyola staff for 15 years.



Sep. 27 - Oct. 1

Rev. Charles Moutenot, SJ

"No Longer I, but Christ Lives in Me"

A new Loyola staff member, Charles formerly was rector of the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, Ca.



Oct. 11 - 15

Most Rev. Frank Rodimer, DD

"The Priest as Servant and Friend"

Frank Rodimer has been the bishop of the Paterson diocese since 1978.



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Poetry essay category

First place winners were: Giselle Asuncion, senior, Mother Seton Regional, Clark; Rachel Chow, grade eight, Queen of Peace, North Arlington, and Anthony Pasciolla, grade six, Our Lady of Mercy, Park Ridge.

Poster category

First place winners were: Casey Doyle, grade seven, Our Lady of Lourdes, West Orange, and Jacqueline Bebrend, grade two, St. Agnes, Clark.

Principal Dr. Joseph S. Fusco (left) and President Brother Lawrence T. Murphy, C.F.C., greet Miss America 2003, Miss Erika Harold.



'Respect' Miss America's theme at Bergen Catholic High School

Erika Harold, Miss America 2003, spoke recently at Bergen Catholic High School on topics ranging from bullying to harassment.

The Urbana, IL native won the national pageant after being

crowned Miss Illinois two years ago.

Having won more than \$80,000 in Miss America scholarship money, she is touring the country to promote the platform, "Empowering Youth Against Violence: 'Respect Yourself, Protect Yourself.'" As a national spokesperson and advocate, Miss Harold travels approximately 20,000 miles a month speaking to diverse audiences in an effort to increase awareness and promote the importance of providing support to victims of crime.

A victim of racial and sexual harassment herself in high school, she is devoting her year of service as Miss America to fighting teen violence and bullying. She shared some of her personal experiences with the students, as well as other issues that confront teenagers in today's society.

She pointed out the importance of "standing up for what's right," even in the face of pressure from one's peers.

"I was a victim of racial and sexual harassment in the ninth grade. When you allow it to go unchecked at that time, you send a message that it's appropriate, and it can just escalate

in high school," said Harold.

Standing up to prevent youth violence is not a new endeavor for Harold; she committed to eradicating it long before becoming Miss America. She received the Miss America Organization's State Community Service Award for her platform, "Teenage Sexual Abstinence."

"One of my jobs as Miss America is to be a role model to young people and to provide them with my story as an example of how they can achieve positive things in their lives. My personal commitment to abstinence from drugs, sex and alcohol in my opinion helped me to accomplish many of my goals," she commented.

A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Illinois, Harold has been admitted to Harvard Law School where she will pursue Public Interest Law and Public Policy after her year of service. A classically trained vocalist who has sung in Japan, she won a Preliminary Talent Award at the Miss Illinois competition for her presentations of "Habanera" from *Carmen*, a sample of which she performed in front of the packed gymnasium.

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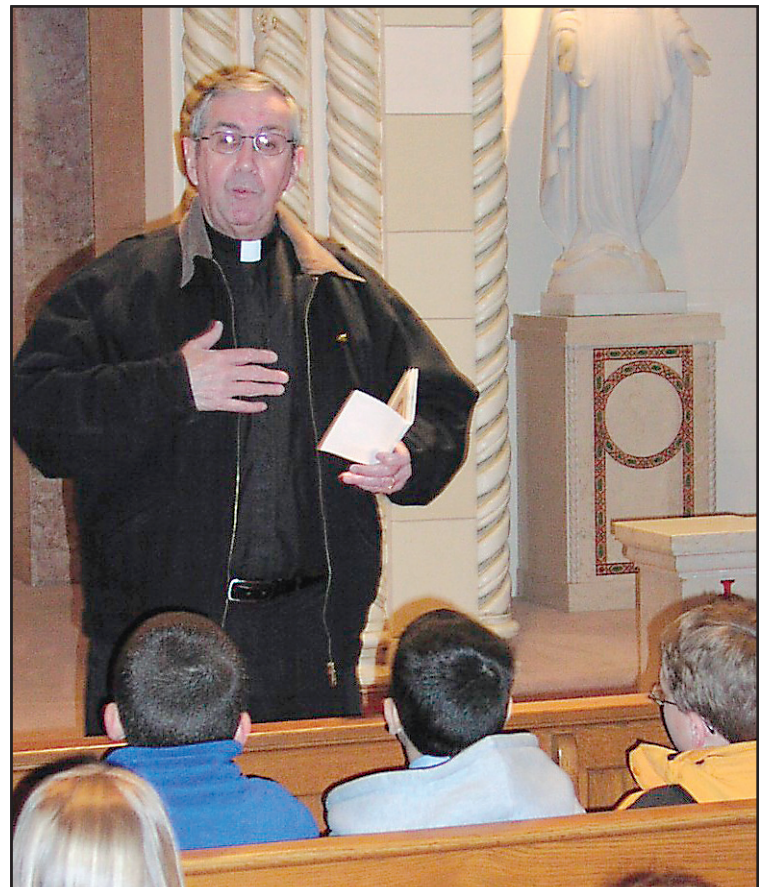
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Father Jim Redstone, Parochial Vicar at St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Cedar Grove, spoke recently to the parish's third grade students and walked them through the Stations of the Cross.

Students, parents explore options for high school

BY WARD MIELE
Managing Editor

With an abundance of curiosity and questions, students and parents filled the Archdiocesan Center auditorium earlier this month at the first of six High School Information Nights.

The first session in Newark attracted a cross section of participants from throughout the Archdiocese. The remaining dates are April 22, Queen of Peace Elementary School, North Arlington; April 27, Annunciation Parish Hall, Paramus, and April 29, St. Helen Parish Center, Westfield. All programs are from 7 to 9 p.m.

Two seventh graders from Holy Trinity Interparochial School, Westfield, were anxious to attend.

Jeanne Fitzpatrick said she wanted to learn about a variety of high schools and not just those near home. She wants a Catholic high school, Fitzpatrick explained, because then she can continue her Catholic education. Lauren Korn said she was “looking at my options” conceding it was all a bit “overwhelming.” She said she was interested in “a lot” of the high schools and want-

ed to continue in a Catholic school because that is where she felt “comfortable.”

A seventh grader from Sacred Heart School, in the Vailsburg section of Newark, Steve Jackson, said he was “trying to find a Catholic high school to go to.” He wanted a Catholic school, Jackson pointed out, because it would be a “good religious experience.”

Parent Robert Wilkins, attending with his seventh grade daughter who also attends Sacred Heart School, Vailsburg, said two years ago he was there with his other daughter who is now an honor roll student at Union Catholic High School.

Wilkins said he was “not interested in a public school” stressing the high quality of education offered in Catholic schools.

Brother Ralph Darmento, Deputy Superintendent of Schools, said he was “very pleased” with the turnout, noting especially the response

of the elementary schools and religious education programs. He was especially “impressed” with the fact that so many showed up before the

information night was supposed to begin that they were let in a half hour early.

Brother Ralph called the quality of questions “excellent” saying the students and their parents were “well prepared.”

It is his “hope,” the deputy superintendent explained, that students in Catholic schools will tell their friends in public school about the information nights.



Advocate photos- Ward Miele

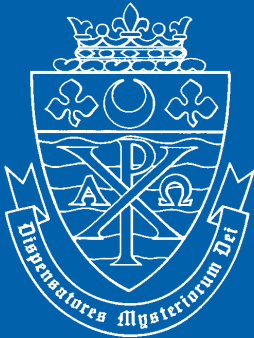


The large crowd at the first High School Information Night was enthusiastic.

“(I am) not interested in public school.”

-Robert Wilkins, Parent

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- ✠ JUNE 1-10 *Major Themes in Christian Ethics - Reverend Joseph Chapel, Reverend Jerome Bracken and Dr. William Toth*
Monday – Friday, 9:30 a.m.-1:15 p.m.
- ✠ JUNE 1-17 *Worshipping with the Fathers of the Church*
Reverend Douglas Milewski
Monday – Friday, 5:30-8 p.m.
- ✠ JUNE 1-24 *Contemporary Philosophy - Reverend John Ranieri*
Monday - Thursday, 8:30-10:30 a.m.
- ✠ JUNE 1-24 *Philosophy of Person - Dr. Victor Velarde*
Monday – Friday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
- ✠ JUNE 14-24 *Ecclesiology - Reverend Anthony Figueiredo*
Monday – Thursday, 9:30 a.m.-1:15 p.m.
- ✠ JUNE 21-25 *Exploring Catechetical Partnerships - Dr. Elinor Ford*
Monday – Friday, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- ✠ JULY 6-15 *Pauline Literature - Reverend C. Anthony Ziccardi*
Monday – Thursday, 5:30-9:15 p.m.
- ✠ JULY 12-16 *Popes and the Papacy - Monsignor Robert Wister*
Monday – Friday, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- ✠ JULY 19-29 *Spiritual Theology of Suffering - Dr. Dianne Traflet*
Monday – Thursday, 5:30-9:15 p.m.

Landmark castle, under renovation, joins state registry of historic places

A 135-year-old castle that is a focal point on the Rutherford campus of Felician College has been unanimously selected for inclusion in the New Jersey Register of Historic Places.

State level registration clears the way for consideration for the Register's national counterpart.

"We were amazed and delighted by what was uncovered during the selective demolition of non-original construction," explained Preservation Architect Annabelle Radcliffe-Trenner who heads up the team of engineers, architects and historians

working to restore the landmark to its former glory and prepare it for a new life as a campus center for Felician College.



A look at a part of the renovated interior.

"The rooms that had been divided into offices during Fairleigh Dickinson's use of the building from 1942 to 1993, have been opened up, giving the onlooker a real sense of how they were originally," she added.

As Felician College works to awaken this sleeping giant after a decade-long slumber of non-use and deterioration, each step of the multi-phase, \$5 million dollar project brings pieces of the castle slowly back to life.

During the current phase of renovation, non-original fabrics are being removed to prepare for interior restoration. The next phase will



The castle as it appears today is a focal point of the Rutherford Campus.

include roof repair and exterior restoration to take place in the next year, and then completion of the interior restoration will follow.

When complete, the reconstruction will restore some areas to their original mid-nineteenth

century grandeur and beauty while other areas will be carefully adapted into administrative offices and a chapel.

Fueling the process has been funding received from a variety of grants including two recent ones from the Bergen County Historic Preservation Trust in the amounts of \$115,081 toward the selective removal of contemporary interior fabric and emergency roof and window stabilization and \$250,000 toward roof and masonry restoration of the exterior. Felician also received two grants from the New Jersey Historic Trust which included a 2001 \$50,000 Historic Sites Management Grant to fund preparation of a preservation plan for the Castle and a 2002 Capital Level II grant toward the repair and restoration of roofs, skylights, masonry and selective removal of non-historic fabric.



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Schools strategy is studied

BY WARD MIELE
Managing Editor

A cross section of the educational community throughout the Archdiocese of Newark met last month to critique a draft of



Father Clement Krug, Administrator of Saint James Parish, Newark, looks over some information.

a strategic plan for the schools. Held at the Archdiocesan Center, Newark, the forum included pastors, parents and board members.

The session followed and was part of a task force established to look at the overall operation of the Archdiocese.

Participants discussed the draft and made recommendations dealing with such issues as points of disagreement and how certain aspects of the educational plan could be better implemented.

The input of those deliberations, Deputy Superintendent Brother Ralph Darmento explained, will be incorporated by the schools office staff, the draft re-written and then forwarded in May to Archbishop John J. Myers for his approval. A letter from the archbishop will go out in June kicking off the implementation process.

Once that is accomplished,

parents, principals and board members will embark on strategy formulation. Focus groups will be established in September.

Addressing the strategic plan for the schools forum, Archbishop Myers said this was an effort to "look at the quality" of local Catholic education.

He said such efforts will provide a "solid foundation"

for future action, pledging to do all in his power to implement the final plan. It is important, the archbishop stressed, that the plan not be a "top down" document, citing the crucial role of facilitators and "dialogue" at the local level.

Likening the overall endeavor as "clearing the decks," Archbishop Myers said it would prepare the Archdiocese to "face the future that nourishes faith."



Archbishop John J. Myers and Sister Dominica Rocchio, S.C., Secretary for Education/Superintendent of Schools, address last month's forum at the Archdiocesan Center.

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Archbishop leads prayerful protest against abortion evil

As he has done since coming to the Church of Newark, Archbishop John J. Myers joined hundreds of the faithful on Good Friday at the annual Stations of the Cross for Life in Englewood.

In a prayerful procession, participants had crosses set up at various locations throughout the Bergen County community. They stopped at each "station" and prayed the Rosary.

The crosses were then carried to a local clinic organizers call "the home of the partial birth abortion."

The event, which has taken place the past dozen years, was organized by the local Knights of Columbus and Legion of Mary.

Vincent Gallagher, one of the organizers, estimated that some 400 clergy and faithful joined Archbishop Myers. Gallagher expressed appreciation for the support of the archbishop.

Gallagher said too that as a result of speaking with five women outside the clinic that day, those taking part in the procession were able "to save five babies."



Advocate photos- Frank Wood

Newark parish welcomes special visitor at Easter Mass



Archbishop John J. Myers visited St. Columba Parish, Newark, to celebrate the 9 a.m. Mass on Easter Sunday. The church was crowded with families of all ages who filled the pews. After Mass, Archbishop Myers greeted the faithful outside the church.



Advocate photos- Frank Wood



Archbishop John J. Myers speaks to seventh and eighth graders at last month's vocation fair sponsored by the Archdiocesan Vocations Office. Behind the archbishop is Father Brian Plate, Director of the Vocations Office. Held at the CYO Center, Kearny, the fair had a morning session for CCD seventh and eighth graders and afternoon session for high school students. Thirty Religious communities and congregations attended.



Advocate photos: Frank Wood

The importance of clergy's role in discerning priestly vocations

BY FATHER BRIAN PLATE

*Director of Vocations,
Archdiocese of Newark*

The still-exasperating shortage of priests is not due to any laxity on God's part, for He alone is absolutely unchanging in His love and fidelity. If there is any truth in Christianity, where God's perfect generosity is disclosed above all on the Cross, we can be sure that God is calling enough men to meet the sacramental needs of His people, as He calls more than enough servants to meet our other needs.

Rather, the current alarming deficit of priests is due entirely to a failure in human response, one that has an increasingly debilitating effect on the spiritual lives of God's people.

In the Diocese of Paterson, for instance, where already 20 percent of the parishes do not have a priest available to offer Mass on Sunday, "the number of available diocesan priests will go from 160 in 1997 down to 32 available diocesan priests in the year 2017," according to its weekly newspaper, *The Beacon* (Dec. 19, 2002).

Due to the truth of the ancient axiom, "like is known by like"

(*SummaTheologiae* 1.88.1), it can be said that no one is in a better position to recognize priestly vocations in others than the man who has one himself.

Similarly, there is no manner through which the young man with a vocation to the priesthood is more likely to discover his calling



Father Brian Plate

than by observing and admiring the work of his own parish priest.

For these reasons, at least, our recovery from the current crisis in priestly vocations must begin in the local parish with the pastor and his associate priests. (See John

Paul II, *Pastores dabo vobis* 35)

What specifically should the parish priest be looking for? The most salient characteristic, perhaps, is poverty of spirit. The candidate finds his greatest joy in prayer, in God Himself, in studying and communicating the Catholic faith through which the Triune Creator has made Himself known.

A budding priest exhibits true freedom, which consists not in the license to do whatever one wants, but in the ability to do what God wants—which is always perfectly good, even though it doesn't always feel good in this fallen world.

As Archbishop John J. Myers often challenges young people with his motto: "Lord, help me to be what you want me to be."

A good candidate for the priesthood is a young man who has willingly received from God the capacity to be happy without a great deal of attention directed to himself, who is able to say sincerely with St. John the Baptist, "He must increase, but I must decrease" (Jn 3:30), who is most pleased when honor is lavished not

Continued on page 20

Contact:

Fr. Brian Plate
Vocations Director

The Vocations Office

(973) 497-4365
171 Clifton Ave., P.O. Box 9500
Newark, NJ 07104-0500

When **Jesus** turned around and noticed them following him,

He asked them,
"What are you looking for?"

They said to him, Rabbi,
where do you stay?"

"Come and see,"
He answered.

John 1:38-39

*Have you
considered
following
after Jesus
as a Priest,
Sister or Brother...?*

Priest's role

Continued from page 19

upon himself, but on the Savior whom every priest is called and gifted to glorify.

Beyond recognizing possible

vocations among the young men of his parish, the priest also has a significant role in preaching the full truth of the Gospel, including and especially the paradox emphasized by Christ Himself that fullness of life and enduring happi-

ness is found by freely embracing death to self (Mt 16:24-28; Lk 14:27ff; 17:33f; Jn 12:25ff), by pouring one's life out for the good of others in self-forgetful charity.

If celibacy has become an obstacle to priestly vocations, as many commentators suggest, perhaps it is partly because we do not hear enough about the true nature of the Christian vocation to marriage, which involves at least as much self-denial and hard work as does the vocation to take the Bride of Christ as one's own spouse.

Pope John Paul II writes beautifully of "the link between celibacy and sacred ordination, which configures the priest to Jesus Christ as the Head and Spouse of the Church. The Church, as the Spouse of Jesus Christ, wishes to be loved by the priest in the total and exclusive manner in which Jesus Christ her Head and Spouse loved her."

While the priest is a member of

the community of believers alongside his brothers and sisters, it is also true that "the priest is called to be the living image of Jesus Christ, the Spouse of the Church" and that "in virtue of his configuration to Christ, the Head and Shepherd, the priest stands in this spousal relationship with regard to the community...In his spiritual life, therefore, he is called to live out Christ's spousal love toward the Church, his bride. (*Pastores dabо vobis* 29)"

As St. Paul observed, such singularity of purpose is not possible for a man who "is anxious about worldly affairs..." (2Cor 7:33)

May our fidelity to truth, devotion to His love and authentic witness to whichever vocation God calls us in life, whether priest or not, leads more of our young men to hear and respond to the many unanswered calls of late from God to the supernatural marriage that is the priesthood.

Concert benefits college seminary

St. Andrew's Hall, the College Seminary on the campus of Seton Hall University, held a "Notes of Distinction" benefit last month to honor Msgr. Martin F. O'Brien and Adrian M. Foley, Jr., who have contributed to the spiritual and financial well-being of the minor seminary and the young men who begin their process of discernment and formation there.

The Achievement Award honoree, Msgr. O'Brien, is a former rector of the college seminary, who was cited for his "lifelong priestly service and dedication to seminary formation."

Foley, a founding partner of the law firm of Connell Foley, L.L.P., was presented with the Humanitarian Award for his "indefatigable commitment to Church and love and support of the priesthood."

Archbishop John J. Myers said of both honorees, "They are truly men of distinction, faith and love for the priesthood of Jesus Christ," and thanked all who supported the benefit adding, "Please continue to pray for vocations to the priesthood."

Most Rev. Peter L. Gerety, Archbishop Emeritus of Newark, was also in attendance, along with Msgr. Robert Sheeran, President of Seton Hall University, and the administration/formation team of the college seminary: Father Joseph Reilly, Rector, Father James Spera, and Father Stanley Gomes.

Father Reilly, himself a product of St. Andrew's Hall, expressed his gratitude for the enthusiastic response from donors and other supporters of the college seminary.

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Listening for God’s plan

BY SR. MARY CRUCIFIX, C.S.JB.
Special to The Catholic Advocate

They were simple beginnings...the child of an Italian immigrant father and a mother whose own mother came from Italy on a long boat journey with two young children to join her husband in the “land of opportunity.” My parents and grandparents were among the many who worked very hard to achieve good things for their families.

My dad was not much into “going to church,” but his rituals were almost liturgical, especially family meals on Sunday. On the other hand, my mom guided us in the practices of our faith: Mass attendance, reception of the sacraments, devotions and participation in the parish.

Into this milieu came the youngest child and only girl—me!

My brothers and I attended St. Peter’s Elementary School on Staten Island, with the Sisters of Charity. I was very talkative in class and somewhat wild on the playground, but Mass, the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Stations of the Cross were never a problem for me.

Missionary ministry

At the recommendation of our pastor and a family friend, I went to St. John Villa Academy, beginning a journey in September 1954 that I would never have imagined.

My plans were always marriage, large family, home and nursing, since I wanted to help people. Gently God drew me to His very different and unexpected plan.

By the end of freshman year I knew I was being called to Religious life with the Sisters of St. John the Baptist.

Breaking the news to the family was not terribly difficult, but dealing with their reaction was. Eventually they accepted that giving my life to the service of God was how I would truly be happy. My dad had a stipulation—that I would never take a foreign assignment. “Definitely not,” I said.

God had a different plan, however. On July 2, 1959 I was received as a novice into the congregation and a year and two days later made my First Profession. My first assignment was back to Villa to teach in our elementary school.

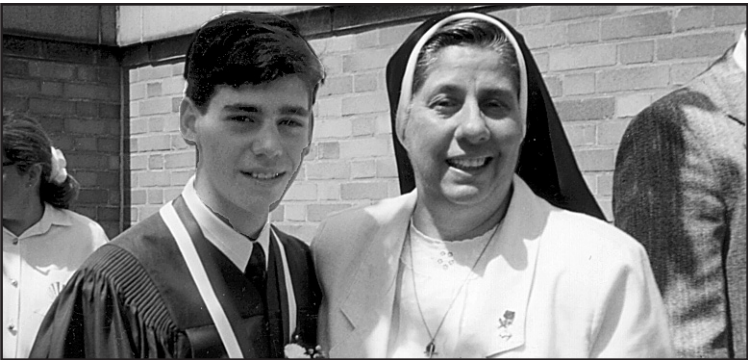
One of our sisters returned from our mission in Zambia. She spoke about the people and the country. I believe it was through her that God called me

to missionary life. And so on Aug. 10, 1962 I journeyed 8,000 miles to meet the people I would live and share with and learn from for the next 25 years.

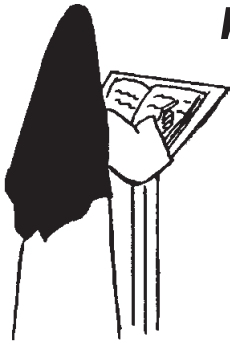
Both in Zambia and at home my ministry has been with the children in school and religious education programs in the parish. Being a part of vocation awareness programs and journeying with women seeking to respond to God’s call has been a privilege.

Our vocation is special and unique to each of us because God sees us as special and unique. He is there leading and guiding us always. Along the way He gives us various people to speak His words and plans to us. When we are open to God’s unexpected plans for us, we will find true peace and happiness.

Sister Mary Crucifix is Associate Director of Vocations for the Archdiocese of Newark.



Sister Mary Crucifix, C.S.JB. speaks with student Matthew Acanfora.

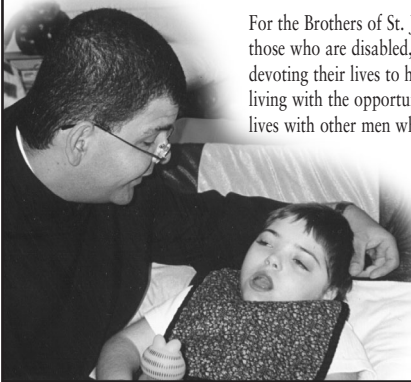


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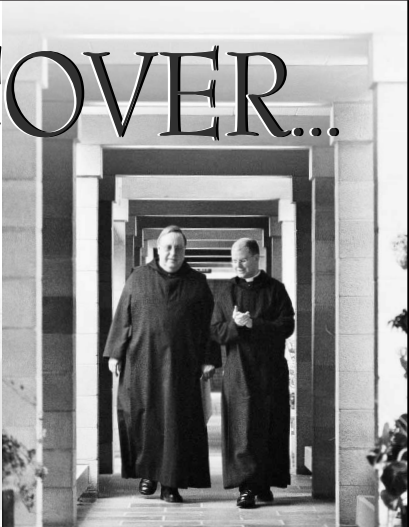
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Archdiocesan couples cited for 'commitment'

BY WARD MIELE
Managing Editor

Describing it as "a beautiful moment" in their lives, Archbishop John J. Myers celebrated Mass last month for couples marking a half century and more of married life.

The Mass, celebrated in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark, was for those living in Union and Essex counties. Golden anniversary couples in Bergen and Hudson counties will attend a special Mass on May 2.

Saying he knew how important such a milestone was to the couples, Archbishop Myers wished all a "happy anniversary." They have, he told the couples who filled the

pews along with family and friends, been planing for the day "for a long time." The archbishop cited the "beautiful bond" between the couples, emphasizing the commitment demonstrated in their marriages.

Marriage, he declared, "is a promise that takes a lifetime to fulfill." Looking out onto the congregation, Archbishop Myers proclaimed, "We applaud such a wonderful example of what two people can have [by] following Jesus Christ."

Father James Redstone, Parochial Vicar at St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Cedar Grove, also addressed the couples. Explaining he had been married 18 years

before his wife died, Father Redstone cited "the great gift" God had given them. The anniversaries, he said, were celebrations of "a wonderful sacrament."

William and Rosanne Biasi

of Newark were among the happy couples. Mrs. Biasi called the Mass "beautiful—I enjoyed every moment of it." Mr. Biasi made mention of what the archbishop had to say.

Clark residents Ann and Chester Laytash had similar reactions. "I am so happy to be here," Mrs. Laytash remarked. Echoing that sentiment, Mr. Laytash said he was "very happy."



Advocate photos - Ward Miele

The Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart was filled with couples celebrating their 50th anniversaries. Part of the Mass included blessing of the wedding rings as the couples held hands. After Mass the archbishop presented each couple with a memento of the occasion, including Stephen and Catherine Zadoyko married 70 years.

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A Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated April 24 to mark the fiftieth anniversary of Sister Gloria J. Barone, M.F.P.

Sister Gloria, a member of the community of the Religious Teachers Filippini, entered Holy Rosary Elementary School, Jersey City, at the age of four and graduated as valedictorian a decade later.

She moved on to Mount Saint Dominic Academy, Caldwell, but graduated high school from Villa Walsh Academy on Aug. 22, 1954.

Sister Gloria received a bach-



Sister Gloria J. Barone, M.F.P.

elor's degree from St. Joseph University and a master's degree from Villanova University, both in Philadelphia. She later received New Jersey teaching and administrator certificates.

She taught at the elementary level in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and she taught mathematics and French at Paul VI High School, Haddonfield.

Sister Gloria went on to become administrator of St. Joseph High School in the same community as well as Immaculate Conception High School, Montclair, and Holy Family School, Lakewood.

Today Sister Gloria is administrator of Siena New Hope Home, a facility for abused and neglected children, in New Monmouth. She is also coordinator of Adult Faith Formation at St. Mary Parish, New Monmouth.

The Mass of Thanksgiving will be at 10:30 a.m. followed by a reception at the Molly Pitcher Inn, Red Bank.

Educator, counselor, coach cited

Later this month, Sister Henrice Eckert, S.N.N.D. will be honored for six decades as an educator, coach, guidance counselor and vice principal.

Sister Henrice began her ministry at Holy Family School, Rochester, NY. She is still teaching at Holy Family School but this time it is in Norwood.

She returned to school earning a master's degree in biology and began teaching biology and general science in 1964 at the Academy of the Holy Angel's then in Fort Lee and now in Demarest. Four years later she became the school's guidance director. She also moderated the ski club which made trips to Italy and Switzerland.

After "retiring" in 1988, Sister Henrice was asked to take a temporary position at Immaculate Conception School, Norwood, to help out a colleague.

She is still working full time as vice principal, guidance counselor and Religion teacher and coordinator.

Sister Henrice will be hon-

ored on Friday, April 30 at the Colonial Manor, Old Tappan.

For reservations call MaryJo Delehanty at (201) 784-8996 or Holy Family School at (201) 768-1605. Forward payments to: Delehanty at Holy Family School, 200 Summit St., Norwood, NJ 07648.

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Jubilarians celebrate 50th

Two sisters with educational ties to the Archdiocese of Newark recently celebrated their 50th anniversaries.

The jubilarians are Sister Patricia Anne Murtha and Sister Marianne Morelli. Both are members of the Dominican Congregation of Our Lady of the Rosary, Sparkill, New York.

Both sisters entered the Dominican congregation on Sept. 8, 1954.

Sister Patricia will celebrate her ministry June 5 and Sister Marianne on June 14.

Sister Patricia, on staff at Emmaus House, Emerson, was principal from 1993-97 at Immaculate Conception School, Hackensack. She also served as principal at three other schools outside the Archdiocese.

Sister Marianne, now marketing coordinator at Dowling Gardens in Sparkill, was a teacher at Bergen Catholic High School from 1985-94. She also taught at elementary and high schools in New York.

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Health Fair, May 1

A Spring Health Fair will be held at the Allendale Community for Mature Living on Saturday, May 1 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The fair, open to the public, will take place in the lobby of the Atrium, the retirement community's residence for independent seniors.

Medical professionals and fitness experts will offer practical tips for maintaining good health and reducing stress; they also conduct wellness screenings.

Ongoing offerings include massages, skin care consults, reflexology treatments, fitness consultations with a personal trainer, and screenings for healthy foot, eye and oral health, chiropractic health and stress.

Experts knowledgeable about seniors' long-term care issues will attend. Scheduled are presentations on long-term care alternatives at noon; "Seeing Well as You Grow Older" by an ophthalmologist, 12:30 p.m.; an elder law discussion led by an elder law attorney, 1 p.m., and oral health information, 1:30 p.m.

Mary Stampleman, health fair co-coordinator, noted, "Wellness programs help to refresh our bodies and minds as well as nurture our spirits." Stampleman is director of therapeutic recreation at The Atrium. "Our focus is preventative care and relaxation techniques that lead to improved health," she added.

For more information, contact Stampleman at (201) 818-7978, ext. 7982.

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Bergen County Sheriff Joel G. Trella spoke recently to the Rosary Society of St. Francis de Sales Parish, Lodi. His topics included homeland security and identity theft. With him are, left to right, Judy Schroeder, Society President Dolores Putt and Jean Canta.

Identity theft increasing

One of the best ways to avoid identify theft is to take protective steps before a crime occurs, according to the national Crime Prevention Council (NCPC).

To combat the growing problem, NCPC has available a McGruff ID Armor Identity Theft Prevention and Privacy

Pack. Once credit agencies receive the forms, an account cannot be opened unless the store or other business calls the consumer directly.

The privacy pack costs about \$10 with an email version priced at \$8. It is available by going to www.boomerangit.com or calling (800) 2boomit.

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Automated pharmacies in demand

According to a report from the Department of Health and Human Services, the nation is facing a pharmacist shortage.

While there are fewer pharmacists, an aging baby boomer population is increasing the demand for prescription medications.

The Institute for Safe Medical Practices estimates as many as four out of 100 prescriptions are filled improperly due to human error.

New technology, however, has arrived on the scene to combat the problem.

The automated pharmacy, using computer-driven robotics to distribute prescription drugs, is gaining widespread acceptance.

"Automated dispensing helps to increase safety and cost-efficiency and frees up pharmacists to concentrate on the important job of patient consultation," says George Downs, Dean of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy.

While the use of automated pharmacy is growing, there will always be a need for the retail druggist to dispense short-term medications for acute conditions. And consumers still value the benefit of talking to a pharmacist, whether by telephone or in person.



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More than 50 retired Sisters of Charity were guests earlier this month at a luncheon sponsored by the Students In Community program at St. Vincent Academy, Newark. The sisters were thanked for their service to St. Vincent's and many other organizations during their active ministry. In the photo at left, sophomore Trazonna Jacobs-Bradford and Sister Mary Thadeus McGorty enjoy the entertainment and lunch. In the right hand photo, are, left to right, front row, Sister Marian Jose Smith and Sister Theo Furniss and, back row, Eugenia Boamah, ShaunaMarie Kelly, Yoalivette Ortiz, Asia Adams, Aysha Notice, Nicole Southall and Janelle Milne.



Priest feels blessed

MILWAUKEE (CNS) — At 5:30 a.m. five days a week, Father John Kolanko can be found at a local YMCA where he walks a 20-minute mile on a treadmill.

A former runner who once qualified to compete in the National Senior Olympics, he recently celebrated his 90th birthday with a celebration at Our Lady of Good Hope in Milwaukee, where he has been an associate pastor for 23 years.

Ordained in 1940 with 24 other men from St. Francis Seminary, Father Kolanko is one of three still living. In his apartment, he keeps a picture of his classmates on the wall and commemorates their deaths with gold crosses on their pictures.

St. Francis Seminary holds a lot of memories for Father Kolanko, including planting the maple trees lining the entrance road to the seminary as a high school student.

Planting those trees fostered his love of gardening, which was his father's legacy. "It's in my blood," he said with a laugh.

Father Kolanko continues to be an avid gardener and, according to parishioner Mike Krupo, "Father John can often be found on his hands and knees around the parish planting flowers, digging up weeds or trimming trees." A former parish secretary, Lee Cesarec, recalls that "Father John continued to climb trees to prune them well into his 80s."

Even though he has experienced some health problems, Father Kolanko continues to live in his own apartment, although he is eligible to live at the Milwaukee Archdiocese's Cousins Center for retired priests.

In an interview with the *Catholic Herald*, the archdiocesan newspaper, he said he firmly believes that "when I took my vows to be a priest, I took them until I died, not just until I retired." It is because of those vows that he continues to be an active part of the parish.

Part of his ministry includes

spending time reading and writing his homilies, which he has had printed as a packet. Father Kolanko then distributes them when he visits shut-ins and does Communion calls.

"As long as I'm useful, I want to serve," said Father Kolanko.

His ability to serve has not been affected much even though he has a pacemaker—his third one—and a prosthetic hip. He received his first pacemaker 20 years ago.

The back bedroom in his apartment attests to his athletic ability. On the wall above his worktable hang several medals. On a bookshelf tucked back in the corner surrounded by work supplies are trophies. More trophies and medals are not visible but tucked in boxes in the closet.

Although he continues to use a cane and can no longer run, he still keeps himself busy. In addition to walking at the YMCA, he celebrates Mass several times a week at Our Lady of Good Hope and two senior citizen residences.

In addition to celebrating Mass, he continues to be the chaplain for both the St. Vincent de Paul Society and the Knights of Columbus, which means a commitment of three meetings a month. He also makes jewelry, including polishing the stone he uses in the pieces. He never buys any stones but instead collects them and polishes them to a beautiful sheen.

Years ago, he used to sell the jewelry at the parish festival and turned the profits over to the Church. Now he makes it and enjoys giving it away to visitors and to others he encounters in his daily life.

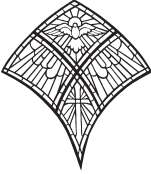
And though he misses the opportunity to run as he once did and climb trees to prune them, Father Kolanko continues to find fulfillment in what he still can do.

"I feel blessed," he said. "Father Don (Hying), the pastor at Our Lady of Good Hope, has been gracious, and I have no regrets."

"When I took my vows to be a priest, I took them until I died, not just until I retired."

-Father John Kolanko

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Yearning to hear more clearly the 'divine whisper'

LISA HADDOCK

Special to The Catholic Advocate

Sometimes, it's not easy to hear the voice of God—even for one of the mightiest prophets in Scripture.

Elijah stood on a mountain and awaited God's instructions, according to 1 Kings 19. Winds rushed, the earth shook, and a fire burned. But God's voice was not in any of these dramatic events.

God's voice came to Elijah as "a tiny whispering sound."

Spiritual directors help Christian laity hear that divine whisper amid the clatter of everyday life. Directors and those they mentor form one-on-one relationships and meet regularly, usually once a month.

Christian tradition traces this practice to the New Testament; it can be seen in the relationships

between Jesus and His disciples and between Saints Paul and Timothy, according a 2003 article by Steven Gertz and Chris Armstrong published in *Christianity Today*.

It flourished in monastic life and was codified by St. Benedict (480-547). The Rule of St. Benedict stipulates that an elder monk should oversee the progress of every novice. As part of their mission of preaching and teaching, Dominicans brought the practice to the laity in the 13th century, Gertz and Armstrong wrote.

St. Ignatius Loyola (1491-1556) further popularized the process among the laity with his Spiritual Exercises and encouragement of group and individual retreats, the article stated.

"I feel the wisdom of the Exercises is profound—both psychologically and spiritually," said Kathleen Meelan, a member of St. Joseph Parish, Oradell, and spiritual director for 18 years.

"What I am really listening for is interior movement either toward or away from God in that

person," noted Meelan, who was trained as a spiritual director in a three-year program offered by the Archdiocese of Newark (since discontinued).

"When it works the best is when people become attentive to the movement of God in their own lives...when they grow in intimacy and love of God," said Meelan, who relies on the guidance of the

Carmelite spirituality, especially to St. Edith Stein (1891-1942).

Father Schweizer, who joined the Carmelites in 1956 and was ordained in 1962, urges those he directs to use the Bible for instruction and nourishment.

Father Schweizer draws inspiration from the story of Elijah and the writings of two noted Carmelites: St. Teresa of Ávila (1515-1582) and St. Thérèse of Lisieux (1873-1897).

His goal is simple. Relying on the Holy Spirit's guidance, Father Schweizer hopes

to direct the person to a holy life of loving God and loving neighbor. "The key thing is that the person is faithful in daily prayer and is becoming a better person," he said.

To find a director, call Carmel Retreat, (201) 327-7090, or the parish center at St. John the Baptist, Hillsdale, (201) 666-2707. The parish is home to the Thomas Merton Center for Spiritual Direction.

Lisa Haddock is the former Religion and Values Editor for The Record.

"The key thing is that the person is faithful in daily prayer and is becoming a better person."

—Father Paul Schweizer, O. Carm.

Holy Spirit during her sessions.

For nearly a year, Jill Gleichman, a publicist for Paulist Press, a Catholic publishing house in Mahwah, has worked with Father Paul Schweizer, O. Carm., M.A., at Carmel Retreat, Mahwah.

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Felician college seniors to exhibit their artwork

The Felician College Senior Class Art Exhibition will feature the work of eight students May 3-7 in the Main College Building of the Lodi campus, in the main lobby and the third floor art studio.

The May 3 commencement is open to the public from 3 to 7 p.m. The exhibition will also be open for viewing throughout the week from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Individual student presentations will be given on Thursday, May 6 at 2:30 p.m. The culminating reception and celebration will be held on Friday, May 7 from 3 to 7 p.m. Admission is free.

Kristin Hardin will exhibit a large scale sculpture with the Biblical character of Jonah as the subject. Her purpose is to marry the secular with the sacred in her three-dimensional work.

Shereen Setzer will create an environment centering around a fairy tale theme incorporating her stained glass, printmaking and graphic design works.

Britania Nehrebecki, also

working with a fairy theme, will exhibit works using printmaking and stained glass as her primary media.

Joan Filippone will exhibit a series of stained glass windows depicting various Celtic Knots.

Ruth Flores focuses on realistic and naturalistic drawings with surrealistic qualities. Her paintings will emphasize the need and importance of the existence of animals.

Michael Cerchio exhibits work that consists of large-scale paintings which include both Eurocentric and Street Art influences.

Sal DiMaggio creates art using his computer and has developed an imaginary promotional piece.

Page Saunders has created original characters and figures in realistic drawings. The drawings also incorporate highly evocative colors and lighting to suggest powerful imaginary landscapes.

For further information or directions call (201)-559-6000.



Don Bosco Preparatory Dance Team: Front (left to right): Assistant Captain Kelly Trautz, Captain Jacqueline Stephens and Assistant Captain Michele Mezzina. Middle (left to right): Gina Cavallo, Kristin Moran, Mairead Fisher, Kate Massey, Tara Driggs, Colleen Daniels, Kaitlyn Zydel. Back (left to right): Kate Daniels, Samara Pallo, Kara Halligan, Coach Rick DeLillo, Kimberly Hayes, Alexa Allen, Vanessa Sanjuan and Jeanette Symmonds.

Dance team captures national attention

The 2003-2004 Don Bosco Preparatory School (DBP) varsity dance team, comprised of students from the Academy of the Holy Angels, Demarest, placed fourth in the nation in pom and eleventh in hip hop at the National Dance Team Championships at Disney World in Orlando.

This is the largest and most competitive dance competition of its kind. In the past five years, the DBP team has finished four times in the top five of the nation in pom, fifth place in 2000, third place in 2001 and fifth last year.

The team, New Jersey State pom champions for 10 out of the past 11 years and Canam international champions in pom and hip hop, competed in two categories. The Bosco team was the only New Jersey team to advance to the finals. It did so in both categories. The other three categories are jazz, high-kick and prop.

The team's preliminary performance was so outstanding that it advanced directly to finals, bypassing semi-finals. There were 92 teams in the "small"—fewer than 16 members—pom category, the largest category at the competition.

"Extremely pleased" with his team's performances at the local, regional, state and national levels, Rick DeLillo, the team's coach for 24 years and mathematics chair at DBP, attributes the success to their "much improved technique," the "awesome choreography" by Sara Haley, and the "outstanding leadership" provided by the seniors—especially captain Jacqueline Stephens and assistant captains Michele Mezzina and Kelly Trautz.

"It all comes down to technique," said DeLillo, "and I think we now know what we have to do to remain competitive on the national level."

In February, the dance team captured two New Jersey Cheerleading Coaches Association state championships for pom and hip hop. The team has won the state crown 11 of the past 12 years.

Tryouts for the 2004-2005 Bosco dance team are already being planned. Those interested in receiving information should contact DeLillo at (201) 327-8003.

Church bulletins sought

Parish bulletins are needed by *The Catholic Advocate*. The front cover rendition of church buildings will be used

TV Masses

A televised Mass can be seen at the times listed below. Check your cable guide for cable channel.

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5:30 a.m. - Sunday

WPXN, Ch. 31

9:30 a.m. - Sunday

WXTV, Ch. 41

Santa Misa (local)

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Other Programming

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Newsweek

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Catholic Radio

SUNDAY

Religion on the Line

6 a.m. - WABC 770 AM

Mass

6:30 a.m. - WPAT 930 AM

La Hora Católica

8 a.m. - WADO 1280 AM

Catholic Heritage Hour

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Voices of Our World

10:45 a.m. - WSOU 89.5 FM

The Sunday Morning Mass

11 a.m. - WSOU 89.5 FM

Proclaim the Good News

12:30 p.m. - WCTC 1450 AM

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Union Catholic H.S. honors championship team of 1980's

Three states championship teams from the 1980's will be inducted into the Union Catholic High School Hall of Fame on April 23.

The 1984 baseball team along with the 1987 girls and boys basketball teams will be honored at this year's induction dinner.

The baseball team had a final record of 18-3, winning the Watching Conference Title as well as the Union County Tournament Championship, with a 6-5 win over powerhouse Elizabeth. The team finished the 1984 campaign by capturing the NJSIAA Parochial A title with a win over Holy Spirit and being ranked the top team in the state by *The Star-Ledger*.

Those who were at UC in 1987 will never forget March 15. That is the day both the boys and girls basketball teams captured their first-ever state titles.

The girls entered the state finals as both Watchung Conference champs and winners of the Union County Tournament. Facing McCorriston, the number five team in the state, the girl's team came away with a 3-point victory and its first state title. They finished the season 26-1.

The boys had the difficult task of facing heavily favored Christian Brothers Academy, the top ranked

team in the state, in the Parochial A championship game.

They played brilliantly, coming away with a 44-39 victory in what ranks as one of the biggest upsets in boys' state championship basketball history.

Finishing the year with a 22-5 record and their first-ever state title capped off one of the most memorable days in Union Catholic history.

For additional information or tickets call (908)-889-1600, ext. 303.

Benefit golf outing set

A golf benefit for the Missionary Franciscan Sisters' Infirmary, Tenaflly, will be held April 26 at the Rockleigh Golf Course.

The infirmary and adjacent retirement community is the Franciscan community's only such facility in the country.

The day begins with a continental breakfast at the golf course. Shotgun play begins at 8:30 a.m. Each golfer will be served lunch. The day concludes with an awards dinner.

Call Jim Whelan at (201) 385-3855.



Coach Erin Fitzgerald congratulates Kristin Hardin on her achievement.

Fundraiser nears

Queen of Peace High School, North Arlington, will hold a golf outing May 6 at the Knoll West Country Club, Parsippany.

The \$150 donation includes buffet lunch, shot gun starting at 1 p.m., cocktails, dinner and prizes.

A portion of the proceeds will be used to refurbish and modernize the school's field house.

For additional information call (201) 342-3400.

Let us know...

The *Catholic Advocate* welcomes information about the sports teams and players throughout the Archdiocese of Newark. Send stories and photographs to: *The Catholic Advocate*, P.O. Box 9500, Newark, N.J. 07104-0500 or e-mail to mielejos@rcan.org.



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Cranford's St. Michael School 7th and 8th grade Suburban Catholic League All-Stars, left to right, Matt Rapczak, Andrew McGlynn and Miles McCann propelled the Red Team to victory in the annual SCL All-Star Game at the Holy Trinity gym in Westfield. Flanking the all-stars are Head Coach Bruce Strazdan and Assistant Coach Dick McKay.



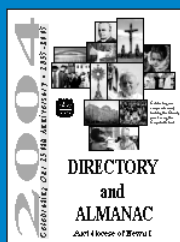
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Bishop da Cunha installs new pastor of St. Leo, Irvington

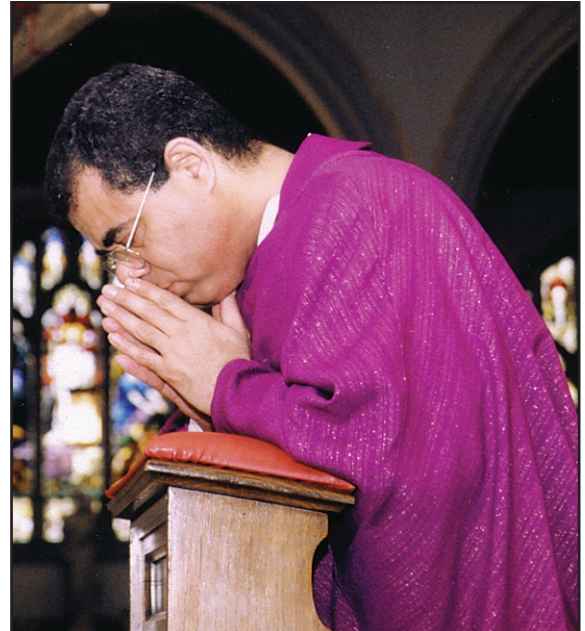
Bishop Edgar M. da Cunha officiated last month at the installation of Father Beaubrun Ardouin as pastor of St. Leo Parish, Irvington.

Born in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Father Ardouin, 45, graduated from Instituto Lope de Vega in the capital city where he mastered the Spanish language and literature.

Father Ardouin moved to the United States in 1980. He attended Rockland Community College and Columbia University, both in New York, where he majored in pre-med. He worked with the mentally handicapped at Letchworth Village Development Center, Thiells, NY, until 1988 when he entered the seminary.

Until last year, Father Ardouin was associate chaplain for the Supreme Council of the Columbiettes throughout the United States. He was also a professor of religion at St. Patrick High School, Elizabeth, from 1993-2003. In July of last year, he was appointed Coordinator of the Haitian Apostolate for the Archdiocese of Newark by Archbishop John J. Myers.

Father Ardouin is spiritual director for the Lay Missionaries of Charity, whose lay people work closely with Mother Teresa's Sisters, for the Archdiocese. He is also chaplain of the Bloomfield Columbiettes and remains chaplain of the Roselle Chapter of the Knights of Columbus.



To the delight of present-day and former parishioners who filled the church, Bishop Edgar da Cunha officiated last month at the installation Mass of Father Beaubrun Ardouin as pastor of St. Leo Parish, Irvington. Among the many joyous faithful on hand for the special occasion were the new pastor's parents, Clara and Andre. Born in Port-au-Prince, Father Beaubrun is Coordinator of the Haitian Apostolate for the Archdiocese of Newark.

Advocate photos-Frank Wood



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