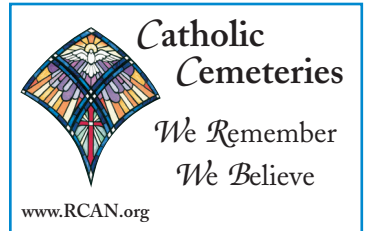




# The Catholic Advocate



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CATHOLIC PRESS ASSOCIATION GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

Wednesday, July 19, 2006

## Lay groups work to build evangelization bridges

### 2 programs help connect faith outreach

BY WARD MIELE  
Managing Editor

AREA—Small groups meeting at their respective parish churches or in private homes are carrying out Archbishop John J. Myers' call for evangelization to share "the good news of Jesus Christ with those who have not yet effectively heard the Gospel."

That view of evangelization is contained in a March 2005 Pastoral Letter, "The Way, the Truth and the Life," issued by the archbishop following the recommendations of a task force chaired by Most Rev. Edgar da Cunha, Auxiliary Bishop of Newark.

As a result, an Office of Evangelization and Evangelization Commission were established. Bishop da Cunha is Vicar for Evangelization, with Liliana

Soto serving as diocesan coordinator for evangelization.

Evangelization in the Church of Newark has two main programs: Why Catholic? and Disciples in Mission. Parishes decide which one to implement. Currently 40 parishes are utilizing Why Catholic? and 10 exploring Disciples in Mission. An information meeting for interested parishes will be held Sept. 12 at the Archdiocesan Center in Newark.

Traditionally, explained Bishop da Cunha, evangelization was bringing the Gospel to those who had never heard it. However, today the mission also includes bringing it to those who want to continue to grow in their faith and become "Christ's disciples."

Evangelization is "part of the work of the Church, it is part of our mission, a parish that is not evangelizing is not doing its work completely," Bishop da Cunha stressed.

Why Catholic?, which Bishop da Cunha noted is based on the Catechism, consists of six sessions during Lent and in the fall. It is run in cooperation with Plainfield-based RENEW

International. RENEW, established three decades ago in the Archdiocese of Newark, is an organization that develops parish renewal programs.

Each Why Catholic? group usually consists of between eight and 12 participants. Why Catholic?, according to Soto,

centers on "what we believe" aimed at "enriching and familiarizing" a person with their faith. The program, added its coordinator, is "a bridge back to faith." She cited as an example a woman who had not received the Sacrament of Reconciliation since her First Communion and

decided to go back to the sacraments after attending Why Catholic? sessions. Soto also cited a recent comment from Pope Benedict XVI that for the transmission of faith to be authentic it has to be preceded and accompanied "by the parents' Continued on page 4

## Volunteer spirit and joy: Nutley youth minister shares her mission

BY MELISSA MCNALLY  
Staff Writer

NUTLEY—Thirty years ago, Denise Roman knew she had a calling. As a young girl growing up in Newark, she ministered to the homeless and participated in food drives at St. John Parish.

"When I was younger, I didn't have any focus in my life. I then realized that I needed to refocus on others. My mission is to help the less fortunate. I believe that reaching out to people is a special gift that God has given me."

At first, when she saw lines of people getting food at St. John

Parish, she was saddened. "I saw people with track marks in their arms and others suffering from AIDS. I remember one person saying 'God bless you for helping me.' I realized that if I am not there to serve food, who would be there to help this man?"

Continued on page 4

## AAA registers increase in pledges and donors

BY MICHAEL C. GABRIELE  
Editor

NEWARK—Payments to the 2006 Archbishop's Annual Appeal (AAA) so far have registered \$7.1 million, according to a midterm report from the archdiocesan Development Office.

Pledges as of this month stood at \$10.2 million. Carla Gonzalez, executive director of development, said that, compared with the equivalent 2005 period, AAA pledges and payments are up around 5 percent, while the number of donors has risen 7 percent.

Gonzalez said she was anticipating additional payments of about \$2.8 million for the balance of the 2006 AAA campaign.

Last year the AAA campaign collected total payments of nearly \$10 million. Of the 2005 total, about \$1.4 million was earmarked as a "rebate" to all archdiocesan parishes that reached their target AAA goals, while \$500,000 was designated by donors to go to Seton Hall University, South Orange.

When compared with payments in 2004, the 2005 total represented a 9-percent increase in the net amount collected by the AAA campaign for various archdiocesan programs.

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Denise Roman, youth minister at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Nutley, stresses the importance of reaching out to her group of young adults, whom she calls "volunteer extraordinaires." Last year she was honored for her community service with the Archdiocesan God in Youth Award, while this year she was the recipient of the Nutley Jaycees Distinguished Service Award.

Advocate photo—Melissa McNally



# Grace under pressure: outgoing NJCC director reflects on life in Trenton's legislative trenches

BY CHRIS DONAHUE

*Special to The Catholic Advocate*

TRENTON — After locking horns with defense lawyers as a prosecutor for several years, William F. Bolan Jr. turned his passion for justice to wrangling with politicians in the statehouse, first as a lobbyist for the Attorney General's Office, then for the state's bishops as executive director of the New Jersey Catholic Conference (NJCC).

After serving nearly 22 years as the spokesman for New Jersey's bishops and as an advocate for legislation that supports church teaching, Bolan, 63, announced his retirement in May. However, he plans to serve until late July or early August, once his replacement is familiar with the job.

His dedication over the years has had a direct impact on Catholic families and religious leaders in the Archdiocese of Newark, as well as throughout the state.

"Without a doubt, it's the best job I've had in my professional life, but it kind of wore me out," Bolan said. "It's important to know when the time has come to leave a job so you leave on a high note. I think I've done a good job here."

"I'm looking for the first year as a sabbatical with a mandate from my wife to prune my extensive collection of books," Bolan added with a laugh. "(Trenton) Bishop (John M.) Smith and I commiserate all the time because he and I are both book buyers and book lovers."

"I would like to volunteer," he continued. "I'm thinking of a hospital board and also I to love exercise by walking, and I intend to spend more time outdoors doing that."

His efforts in Trenton, to be sure, have been appreciated by the Church of Newark. "There are so many things about Bill Bolan about which I could speak—his commitment to the church and all she teaches, his professionalism, his knowledge of the New Jersey political arena, his ability to look at life with just enough Irish to make difficult times enjoyable," Archbishop John J. Myers, who also serves as president of the NJCC, said.

"In many ways, he personifies the Ernest Hemingway term, 'grace under pressure.' But while Hemingway may have used those words to describe the quality of courage, I prefer to think of 'grace under pressure' in its more pure sense—that Bill was and is a gift from God at a moment when we most need it," Archbishop Myers said.

## Legal legacy

Bolan's service to the Church and improving the human condition nearly came through the priesthood. Prior to attending law school at Seton Hall University, South Orange, Bolan studied theology at Immaculate Conception Seminary, Darlington. But because he did not want to live a celibate life and had a desire to follow in the footsteps of his father, a lawyer, he left the seminary.

After graduating from law school in 1968, Bolan served as a clerk for Judge Leo W. Kapp in Essex County, as an assistant prosecutor in Essex County Prosecutor's Office, as a partner/associate in the firm Herrigel, Bolan & Manahan in Millburn, and in several positions in the Attorney General's Office in Trenton.

Among his accomplishments, he developed a tracking system for all pending criminal justice legislation, and he administered a statewide training program to educate more than 20,000 law enforcement officers in the New Jersey Code of Criminal Justice.

## Learning the ropes

Bolan applied for the NJCC position after growing tired of work in the Attorney General's office. He was offered the job by the head of the search committee, then-Metuchen Bishop Theodore E. McCarrick, now Cardinal McCarrick in Washington, who also recently announced his retirement (see *The Catholic Advocate*, May 24).

Although he has grown to enjoy spending time with reporters, it has not always been a pleasant experience. "What always irritated me is most calls are what I call the dueling sound bites," Bolan said.

Still, he says accepting the job was the best decision he ever made. "Private practice of the law is a very tough, cut-throat business. It was not pleasant. I hated it. I like the public service I did and I love this job," Bolan said.

Dealing with the bishops is the best part of the job, according to Bolan, mainly because of the mutual respect they have for each other. Bolan said he has always been a practicing Catholic, but the job has given him "a greater appreciation for how hard it is for the Church, because it is so counter-cultural, to get its message across in modern America."

## Tragedies and triumphs

Bolan said his time on the legislative front lines has left him "a little jaded about politics; even more so about the national scene." Partisanship, in particular, troubles him. As to whether Democrats or Republicans have been more responsive to Catholics in New Jersey on a broad spectrum of issues, Bolan said both are "good and bad to the extent that there are people who support us on some things and don't on others."

The one thing about being a lobbyist, he added, is that it's endemic to his personality. "Someone once told me, 'You're not a good liar, Bill.'"

Bolan said his biggest disappointments were seeing a parental notification law overturned by the New Jersey Supreme Court and a ban on partial-birth abortion on demand overturned by the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia.

He cited formulating diocesan policies to respond to allegations of child sexual abuse and getting a partial tax exemption change in the law that helped (the Church) lease buildings to other charities or nonprofit organizations as his major achievements.

## Serious challenge

Pointing to shelves of files on clergy child-sex abuse scandal, Bolan said the issue has consumed most of his time for the past three years. The NJCC's role in formulating its diocesan policies to address the issue was the reason why

## NJCC serves as capital watchdog, supporting bishops of New Jersey

Founded in 1947, the New Jersey Catholic Conference (NJCC) is composed of the Catholic bishops of the Latin Rite dioceses, the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic and Our Lady of Deliverance Syriac Catholic Diocese.

Under the leadership of Newark Archbishop John J. Myers, the conference's major objective is to provide a means by which the bishops may speak on matters of public policy.

Bolan, as executive director of the NJCC, is responsible for reviewing legislation, administrative regulations and court decisions; appearing before legislative committees and formulating and disseminating official statements of the conference. He also maintains liaison with state and federal legislators and government agencies and is responsible for preparation of an annual budget to be submitted to the bishops.

Visit the Web site [www.njccathconf.com](http://www.njccathconf.com) for more information about the NJCC.



Photo by Chris Donahue, courtesy of The Catholic Spirit

After 22 years as the spokesperson for bishops in the Garden State, William F. Bolan Jr. is retiring as executive director of the New Jersey Catholic Conference.

New Jersey dioceses were able to cope with allegations better than in Boston, he said.

"Boston covered all of the United States like Sherwin-Williams paint spreading over the world, and through that unrelenting publicity caused us all to have to defend ourselves, sometime unfairly," he added.

Bolan said the ripple effect of the scandal was best described by one of his colleagues, who said: "We used to wear the white hats in the legislature. Now we wear the black hats."

"It dealt a serious blow to the credibility of the Catholic Church in the public forum, and some legislators had the bad grace to tell it to our face," Bolan said.

Even when the NJCC pointed out that more public school than non-parochial school teachers face criminal charges for abusing children, legislators told him, "Clean up your own house first, Mr. Bolan, before you point to the public school teachers."

Among the complaints the NJCC hears is how some churches allow clergy to endorse political candidates, so bishops and priests should be able to tell people how to vote. However, that would violate IRS regulations, which prohibit a 501(c)(3) corporation, which includes most nonprofit groups, including religious organizations, from directly or indirectly supporting or opposing a political candidate. The rules also forbid contributions to political candidates.

"To the extent that certain churches do it and their ministers allow people into the pulpit before an election is selective enforcement as far as I am concerned; grossly unfair." The regulations may also prevent a parish from being divided along party or ideological lines, he said.

Cardinal McCarrick, in a letter to Bolan, said: "The work that you have accomplished for the Church in New Jersey, despite so many obstacles—some of them caused by us, indeed—has been enormously important for our Catholic community and I am sure that all of us feel as I do that you have been one of the most important factors in the history of the Catholic Church in the state of New Jersey in the last score of years."

(Note: Chris Donahue is the staff writer for *The Catholic Spirit*, the newspaper of the Diocese of Metuchen.)



## Evangelization

Continued from page 1

commitment to further their own knowledge of the faith, rekindling the flame with prayer and the assiduous practice of the sacraments of confession and the Eucharist."

Father Abraham Orapankal, Ph.D., of the RENEW International Service Team, feels a critical element of the success of Why Catholic? is reaching out to the faithful and "inviting" them to participate. He called it the "follow Jesus method" very much a "personal invitation." Jesus, Father Orapankal stressed, invited everyone personally "by name."

Three distinct types of faithful are taking part in Why Catholic? according to the RENEW team member. Most are what he described as "pew Catholics," who want to increase and deepen their faith. A second is inactive or "nominal" Catholics while the third segment is what Father Orapankal termed the "unchurched" who "just check the 'Catholic' box but don't come to Church."

It has been his experience, Father Orapankal noted, that many Why Catholic? participants who had been away from the Church "come back." He likened

the pivotal role of the program along the lines of a "halfway house." He cited an instance where a woman from Midland Park who had been away from the Church 32 years, was "transformed" by Why Catholic?

Another key element identified by Father Orapankal is to reassure "overburdened" pastors that Why Catholic? is run entirely by lay members of a parish.

For example, at St. Helen Parish in Westfield, Why Catholic? is part of a three-pronged evangelization effort, according to its pastor, Msgr. William Harms. Last year a parish council at St. Helen spent a year learning about evangelization. That resulted in the formation of a Faith Renewal Committee.

The approach at St. Helen is to employ the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) process, Why Catholic?, which "spreads the Good News" and what Msgr. Harms termed as "paramount," reaching out to "disenfranchised" Catholics.

The response to Why Catholic? and Disciples in Mission, stressed Bishop da Cunha, so far has been "very positive." Participants, he pointed out, have become more

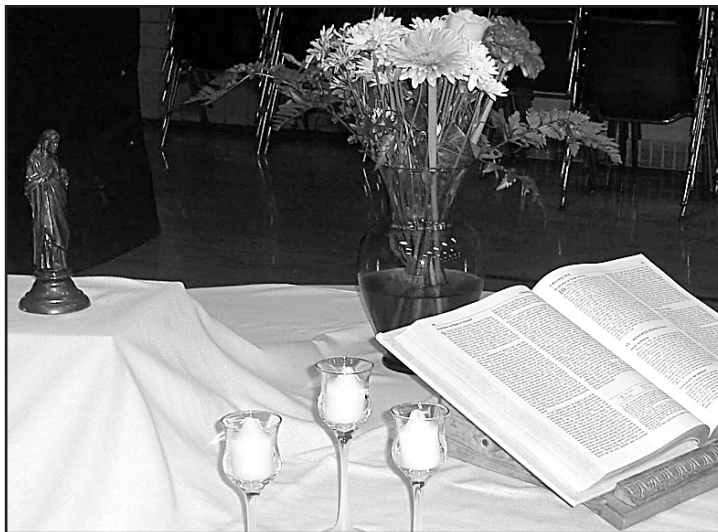


Photo courtesy of Father Abraham Orapankal

At recent Why Catholic? sessions, a table setting reflects the prayerful environment among the small faith sharing groups.

involved in their faith as it "grows and deepens." As he sees it, "many of our people don't know enough about the Catholic Faith." Through the two programs, the bishop said, discussion of one's faith is "encouraged."

Why Catholic? focuses on allowing participants to better know their faith while at the same time assisting others to come to their faith, Bishop da Cunha explained. Noting that there are "not enough" priests or nuns, he said there is a real need for lay people to become more involved in these evangelization efforts.

Once the program concludes,

participants often continue to meet as a means to share and develop their faith, he said. "Faith does not grow in a vacuum; it grows by sharing," Bishop da Cunha emphasized.

There is anecdotal evidence of that growth and sharing throughout the four counties of the archdiocese. St. Cecilia Parish in Kearny has done especially well with Why Catholic? drawing some 280 participants. Why Catholic? was selected by his parish, explained Parochial Vicar Father Yuvan Alvarez, because while the faithful are familiar with the Catechism and the Catholic Church, many are in need of being exposed to a deeper experience through the aspects and meaning of their faith. "Many know of the Catechism but are afraid to open it," Father Alvarez stated. Too often, he lamented, "it is just a book."

"Great" is how Father Alvarez described the response of his parish to Why Catholic? Right now six groups meet in homes and some 25 in the church. While a dozen is the recommended group size, due to the strong response, St. Cecilia's groups number between 15 to 20 participants. Father Alvarez noted that the program consists of groups that communicate in English, Spanish and Portuguese.

Evidence of his parish's success said its parochial vicar, can be seen when more often than not participants do not want to leave when the formal session is over. Instead, he added, they have become "a little community." As a result, the parish has gotten more volunteers wanting to be Eucharistic ministers. Father Alvarez recalled too a couple who had had a civil marriage and now wanted to be married in the Church. Such incidents reflect Soto's feeling that when the faithful meet in a group setting "something powerful happens."

"Wonderful" is how Holly Lawmaster, parish catechetical leader at St. Cecilia's, termed the

Why Catholic? experience. The leader of her group liked the fact that the program was "linked directly" to the Catechism. That link, she feels, "encouraged" participants "to pick up the Catechism and read through it." Doing so, she added, fostered the "depth" of discussion that "grew" at successive sessions.

Lawmaster also cited the "richness" of Why Catholic? sessions and the program's overall flexibility. Taking part in such faith sharing, she added, enriches spirituality by making it an integral part of one's life and family.

Participants have "options," such as language and youth, young adult or adult, when deciding what discussion group to join, Lawmaster stressed. She has been particularly impressed with how young people have taken to Why Catholic?

At St. Cecilia's, Lawmaster went on, Why Catholic? has resulted in additional Bible study sessions while acting as a "springboard" to additional small groups taking root. She feels it important as well to let parishes know that Why Catholic? basically "runs itself."

Why Catholic? is also thriving at St. Mary of the Assumption Parish in Elizabeth, where there are 13 Spanish speaking and seven English groups. Maria Castillo Loza, coordinator of the Spanish groups, citing the thorough preparation that went into the program, called it a "beautiful" experience. Citing the faith-sharing element of Why Catholic?, Loza said because of that sharing participants "feel better" spiritually. Why Catholic? she stressed, has been "a blessing" for the parish.

St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Cedar Grove chose to present the Disciples In Mission program. His parish's first year of the evangelization effort "went well," according to Msgr. Charles Gusmer, the pastor of St. Catherine. With some 100 participants, St. Catherine's has groups for youngsters in grades six through eight and for adults.

Carol Orlando, parish coordinator and liaison to the Disciples in Mission program at St. Catherine, said the mission aspect of evangelization was selected because it was "best suited" to the parish along with being more Scripture based. With faith sharing a central theme, said Orlando, participants discussed how to live according to the Scriptures in order to have "a better Christian life." She called participants "fantastic" people who wound up "sharing ideas which reinforced a sense of community and gave everyone a feeling of hope that they could cope with anything."

## Denise Roman

Continued from page 1

Roman continues to carry out her mission as youth minister at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish here, along with Helen Cozzarelli, where she has been for five years. The youth group, which she affectionately calls "volunteer extraordinaires," has 15 members and includes children from ages 10-17.

In addition to her involvement at Mount Carmel, Roman also has worked with the federal government for 27 years. "I was in Newark for 47 years and I asked God where to go and He brought me to Nutley. I find that people want to volunteer, but don't know how to start. It has helped me with every phase in my life."

Although working with the homeless was Roman's first foray in helping those in need, she also worked with the children at St. John Parish. "I have a lot of love for kids and working with children is easy for me. It's great to see the kids grow right in front of your eyes. At first they were so afraid and shy, but now their enthusiasm is amazing."

The good work the Nutley youth group does includes collecting for the Toys for Tots organization, cooking for war veterans, making over 500 sandwiches for the hungry, visiting the injured and elderly at Kessler Rehabilitation Institute, and visiting abused women and their children at Apostle's House in Newark. Roman has a special place in her heart for Apostle's House, visiting there three times per week, sometimes on her lunch break. She is also teaching the women to type as a way to break into the job market.

"I feel like I have to go and see them on my lunch hour and tell them that life is going to get better," she said. "We are getting computers set up for them. The people at Apostle's House are trying to get their lives

back on track and I feel God is at Apostle's House. When I see the kids' faces in the window and they run and hug me, it's like winning the lottery."

For all of the community service Roman has done, she received the "Archdiocesan God in Youth Award" last year and was the recipient of the 2006 Nutley Jaycees Distinguished Service Award.

"I am honored to receive these awards because it shows people that we all have a mission and that they can always share their time and talents with others," she said.

Service is not the only aspect of Roman's youth ministry. Achieving a more connected relationship with God through the turbulent teenage years and beyond is also stressed to the youth group. "No matter who you are or where you are, if God is in your heart, your life will be enriched. You have to accept Him to and He will help you get through the tough times. We take what the kids learn in the Catechism and apply it to the community."

Having the young adults deepen their spirituality helps them make the right decisions for themselves as opposed to being swayed by the opinions of others. "There is a lot more peer pressure nowadays than there was in the past. The kids have to realize that they are so blessed and not focus on monetary things," Roman explained.

In the stress of her everyday life, Roman looks on her humanitarian efforts as a way to gain perspective. "Our lives are very rushed. If we just take time out of our day to think of the person on the street that has nothing, you realize how fortunate you are. If you have God in your souls, you will have nothing to fear. I teach the students in the youth group that you have to reach out. As a true Christian, it is our responsibility to help others. Otherwise, we are not living the faith."



## Young adult faith forum set Aug. 12 in Kearny

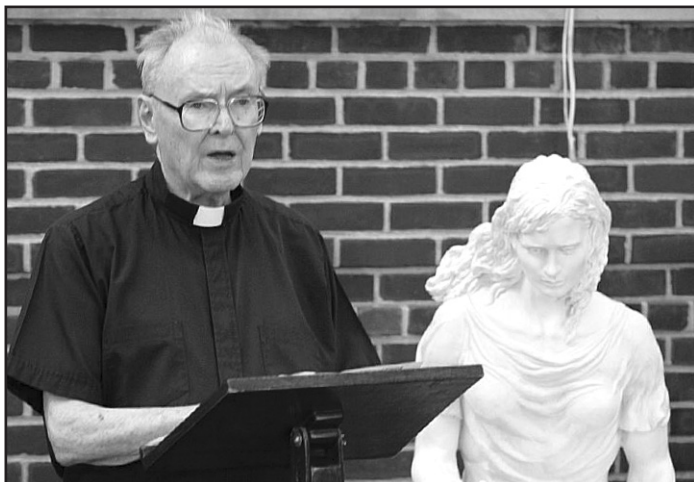
KEARNY—The Archdiocesan Youth Retreat Center will host a forum on “The National Study of Youth and Religion (NSYR): Will Our Children Have Faith?”

The event will be held Saturday, Aug. 12, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the retreat center, located at 499 Belgrove Dr.

The seminar will examine the groundbreaking NSYR research project prepared by two Sociology professors at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The project, which began in August 2001 and is funded through December 2007, offers feedback on current and future efforts for faith formation of teenagers and young adults.

The Aug. 12 forum has been developed for clergy, Catechetical leaders, youth ministers, teachers, parish lay groups involved in evangelization efforts and all parishioners. Speakers will address the implications of faith practices, spiritual education and ministries that target teens and young adults. One of the professors directing the program, Christian Smith, has co-authored a companion book, published by Oxford University Press, titled: “Soul Searching, The Religious and Spiritual Lives of American Teenagers.”

The cost of admission is \$50 per person. Contact Sister Loretta DeDomenicis, the director of parish outreach and training for the Kearny center, at (201) 998-0088, ext. 4147 for more information. Father Joseph A. Mancini is the executive director of the Archdiocesan Youth Retreat Center, Al Forsythe serves as director.



Advocate photo — Robert Way

**MEMORIAL TO THE UNBORN**—Msgr. Richard McGuinness, formerly the director of the archdiocesan Respect Life Office, dedicated and blessed the statue of “Rachel Weeping for Her Children” on June 20 at the McGuinness Center of St. John the Apostle Parish, Linden. The statue—donated by a St. John parishioner—was dedicated as a memorial to the unborn. Msgr. McGuinness, a columnist for *The Catholic Advocate*, stepped down from the Respect Life Office post on July 1. Father Joseph Meagher, a pastoral associate at the Linden parish, was tapped as the new director.

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All contributions are tax deductible.

## Council of Catholic Women installs new board of directors

NEWARK—The Newark Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women installed its new board of directors at last month's biennial convention.

The new board includes: Mary Loftus, president; Margaret Hendrson, first vice president; Frances Donnelly, second vice president; Mary Roefaro, recording secretary; Etta Marie Rizzuto, corresponding secretary and Adele Ciccone, treasurer.

Loftus served as council president from 1994-98 and was director of the Newark Province from 1998 to 2000. She represents the council at the United Nations where she has non-governmental organization (NGO) status. Loftus is also a member of the Nominating Committee of the National Council.

D. Jean Schneider, past council president, will be installed as director of the Newark Province at the National Council of Catholic Women National Assembly in Milwaukee in September. The Newark Province includes the Archdiocese of Newark and the diocese of Paterson, Metuchen and of Brooklyn. Her term is for two years.



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**July 20**  
**Lumen Center**, Caldwell, “A Poetry Celebration for Summer,” 6:15-8:30 p.m., cost: \$25, (973) 403-3331 ext.25.

**Catholics Who Happen To Be Single**, Belleville, cruise information meeting, 7:30 p.m., St. Anthony of Padua Parish, RSVP, call Leonora (973) 743-6100.

**St. Elizabeth Parish**, Wyckoff, Mary of Magdala Celebration, 7:30 p.m., (201) 891-1122.

**July 22**  
**St. Phil’s Singles**, Livingston, dinner at Houlihans, 7 p.m., RSVP by July 21, call Judith after 5 p.m. at (973) 560-9728.

**July 23**  
**Notre Dame Parish**, North Caldwell, blood drive, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., 1-800- BLOOD NJ.

**St. Michael Parish**, Cranford, Tridium Services in Honor of St. Anne and St. Jaochim, through July 26, 7 p.m., (908) 276-0360.

**July 24**  
**St. Michael’s Medical Center**, Newark, blood drive, 9 a.m.- 3 p.m., 1-800-BLOOD-NJ.

**St. Aloysius Parish**, Caldwell, St. Aloysius Grammar School reunion meeting, 7:30 p.m., call Tom McGuinness at (973) 335-7660.

**July 26**  
**St. John the Apostle Parish**, Linden/Clark, charismatic prayer group meeting, 7:45-9:30 p.m., (908) 486-6363.

**St. Nicholas Parish**, Palisades Park, Mass in honor of St. Anne, 8 a.m., (201) 944-7134.

**July 28**  
**Xavier Center, Convent Station**, “Soul Sisters: Women Called to Connect, Bond and Heal,” 7 p.m. through Aug. 4 at 10:30 a.m., cost: \$400, (973) 290-5100.

**July 29**  
**St. Phil’s Singles**, Livingston, outdoor volleyball, 4:30 p.m., cost: \$3, call Frank at (973) 340-4001.

**July 30**  
**St. James Parish**, Springfield, blood drive, 8 a.m.- 2 p.m., 1-800-BLOOD-NJ.

**Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish**, Scotch Plains, RCIA inquiry session, 1 p.m., also July 31 at 7:30 p.m., (908) 889-2100.

**July 31**  
**Sacred Heart Parish**, Lyndhurst, Bible school, kindergarten- grade 5, through Aug. 4, 9 a.m.- noon, cost: \$40 per week, call Christine Victori at (201) 438-1147.

**August 2**  
**Holy Spirit Parish**, Union, Holy Hour For Life, 7:30 p.m., (908) 687-3327.

**August 5**  
**St. Phil’s Singles**, Livingston, movie/dinner, Sony Movie Complex, East Hanover, dinner at Bensi Ristorante, Whippany, 4 p.m., call Judith after 5 p.m. at (973) 560-9728.

**St. Thomas the Apostle Parish**, Bloomfield, “Can You Hear Me Now? Listening to God in a Noisy World,” 9 a.m.- 3 p.m., RSVP by Aug. 3, call Anna at (973) 338-9538.

**Catholic Peace Fellowship**, Metuchen, Union County Peace and World Friendship Fair, Cranford, 1-5 p.m., call Stephen Spiro, (732) 661-1962.

**August 10**  
**St. Michel Parish**, Union, Women’s Prayer Meeting, 10 a.m., call Joyce Cababe at (908) 687-3809.

# Family event to benefit young leukemia victim

RAMSEY—The Knights of Columbus will be sponsor a night of music, food and friendship on Friday, Aug. 4, 7 p.m. to midnight, to benefit the Friends of Rachel Cappio committed to supporting her medical treatments and recovery.

Cappio, 21, a life-long Ramsey resident, was diagnosed this spring with Acute Myelogenous Leukemia (AML), as she was completing her junior year at Fordham University.

The 2003 graduate of Ramsey High School, who was an avid participant in the Ramsey Band and Guard and voted “best sense of humor” in her yearbook, has been undergoing treatment at Memorial Sloan Kettering Medical Center.

“She is in great spirits,” says Michelle Stich, one of her close friends and organizers of the benefit, “We hope the community of Ramsey will come together for live music, raffles and prizes that evening, while supporting a great cause.”

“We realize that we only have a few weeks to get the word out about the benefit,” added Annie Hollenbeck, another long-time friend, “But with the help of the Knights and ‘Ramsey Responds,’ we have put together a great evening.”

Tickets are \$50 per person and must be purchased in advance. For ticket information or to make a donation call (201) 934-1050. The benefit will take place at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 48 Mechanic St.

# Knights to organize memorial picnic Aug. 20

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP — Mother Seton Council 5427 of the Knights of Columbus will host its first George Ruh Memorial Picnic on Sunday, Aug. 20.

Open to the public, rain or shine, the picnic will run from 1 to 6 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Pfliegler Pavilion and Picnic Grove in the rear of 79 Pascack Rd.

The festivities will include softball, golf and horseshoe tournaments with prizes. For the youngsters there will be a moon-walk, games, prizes, surprises and lots of fun.

The cost for adult tickets purchased in advance is \$20, \$25 at the gate. Children 5 to 12 are \$5, those under 5 are free. There is a family cap of \$45 for parents and children under 21.

Picnic tables are available on a first come, first served basis. Tickets may be purchased at the Council in the Members’ Room, Monday through Friday, between 3 and 6:30 p.m. For more information call the Council at (201) 664-0422.

Profits will be donated to the New York Organ Donor Network in George Ruh’s name.

# ‘More’ Parish Profile details

As an amplification to the June 21 Parish Profile on St. Thomas More Parish in Fairfield, *The Catholic Advocate* recognizes the contributions of the parish’s previous pastor, Father Charles P. O’Connor, who died in 2001. Father O’Connor dedicated 25 years of service to St. Thomas More and celebrated his 50th anniversary of ordination in 2000 with a special Mass at the parish. Following his retirement in 2000, Father O’Connor was given the title of “Pastor Emeritus” of the parish by Archbishop (now Cardinal Theodore H. McCarrick on May 25, 2000, as a tribute to his many years of service. Father John D. Gabriel is the current pastor at the Fairfield church.

## Name omitted

In the photo caption on page 18 of the June 21 issue about Archbishop John J. Myers’ pastoral visit to retired archdiocesan priests at the Allendale Community for Mature Living, the name of Msgr. Edward Hajduk was omitted.

# Official Appointments

Archbishop John J. Myers has announced the following appointments:

## ARCHDIOCESAN AGENCY/MINISTRY

**Reverend Ernesto M. Tibay**, Parochial Vicar of St. John the Evangelist Parish, Bergenfield, has also been appointed part-time coordinator of the Filipino Apostolate in the Archdiocese of Newark for a term of three years, effective July 1.

## PASTOR

**Reverend Monsignor John J. Gilchrist**, Pastor of Holy Cross Parish, Harrison, has had his pastorate extended one year, ending June 30, 2007.

**Reverend Monsignor Charles G. Stengel**, Pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish, Jersey City, has had his pastorate extended one year, ending June 30, 2007.

## PAROCHIAL VICAR

**Reverend Louis A. Pereira** has been appointed parochial vicar of St. Stephen Parish, Kearny, through June 30, 2007.

**Reverend Charles Raymond Selker, O.F.M.** was appointed parochial vicar of St. Joseph Parish, East Rutherford, effective June 1.

**Reverend Midyphil B. Billones** has been appointed summer parochial vicar of Assumption Parish, Emerson, through September.

**Reverend Jacob S. Biswas** has been appointed summer parochial vicar of Holy Family Parish, Nutley, through Sept. 30.



**Reverend Devis Chenginiyadan** has been appointed summer parochial vicar of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Mountainside, through Sept. 30.

**Reverend John Moolachira** has been appointed summer parochial vicar of St. Mary Parish, Dumont, through September.

**Reverend William Murmu** has been appointed parochial vicar of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Scotch Plains, through Sept. 30.

**Reverend Joyonto Julian Raksam** has been appointed summer parochial vicar of Assumption Parish, Roselle Park, through Sept. 30.

**Reverend Eric Lakman Wasalathanrige, O.M.I.** has been appointed summer parochial vicar of Holy Trinity Parish, Fort Lee, through Sept. 15.

## CHAPLAIN

**Reverend Robert J. Gelinas**, Parochial Vicar of St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Cedar Grove, has been appointed Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus Father James J. Kelly Council #3632, Verona-Cedar Grove-West Orange.

## RETIREMENT

**Reverend Stanley M. Lobo**, Parochial Vicar of the Church of Madonna, Fort Lee, has been granted retirement, effective July 1.

**Reverend Robert P. Nestor**, faculty member at Seton Hall University, South Orange has been granted retirement, effective Aug. 1.



# NJADP director applauds study of death penalty

Editor,

Earlier this year, the New Jersey State Legislature overwhelmingly passed bipartisan legislation that created a study commission to examine the death penalty in New Jersey and suspended executions pending completion of the study.

New Jerseyans for Alternatives to the Death Penalty (NJADP) would like to acknowledge the good work of the many Catholic communities that actively supported this life-affirming legislation.

Our bishops have long shown leadership on this issue, even before the majority of New Jerseyans came to oppose the death penalty. The New Jersey Catholic Conference, several Catholic Charities offices, the Knights of Columbus, Pax Christi, and catholicvote.org all joined in the effort to promote a culture of life in New Jersey’s criminal justice system.

The NJADP is hopeful that the New Jersey Death Penalty Study Commission will thoroughly examine the many serious questions posed in the bipartisan legislation that created it. The commission’s work will benefit from the continued involvement of New Jersey’s Catholic community.

This is an important moment in New Jersey. It is time to learn from the past 24 years since capital punishment was reinstated in the Garden

State and to consider whether we would be better served by replacing the death penalty with life in prison without parole.

Celeste Fitzgerald  
Director, NJADP  
Trenton  
(Note: Fitzgerald and the NJADP were featured in an article in the April 26 edition of The Catholic Advocate.)

## The evil of abortion

Editor,

Since the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision of the U.S. Supreme Court, over 45 million babies have been slaughtered in this so-called “Christian nation.”

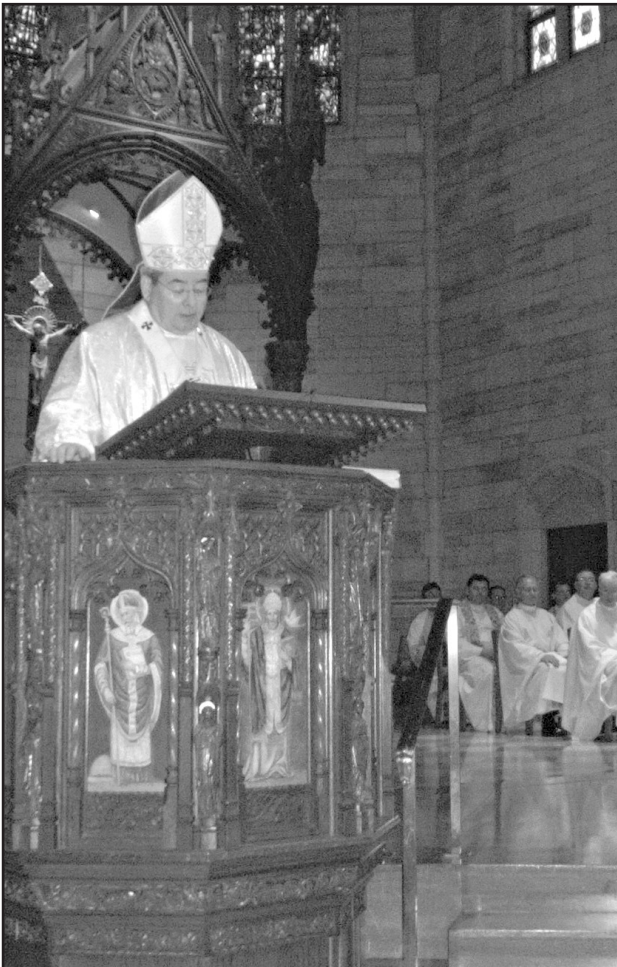
Prior to 1973, the evil of abortion was considered a vicious crime punishable by incarceration and other serious penalties against the gift of life for those involved in this heinous crime.

Suddenly the Supreme Court listens to the lies (and) admitted false testimony from a group of liberal people who convinced aging, confused, liberal Democrats who listened to these pro-abortionists. Doing so they bought their lies, half-truths and exaggerations which, by the way, are documented as just that.

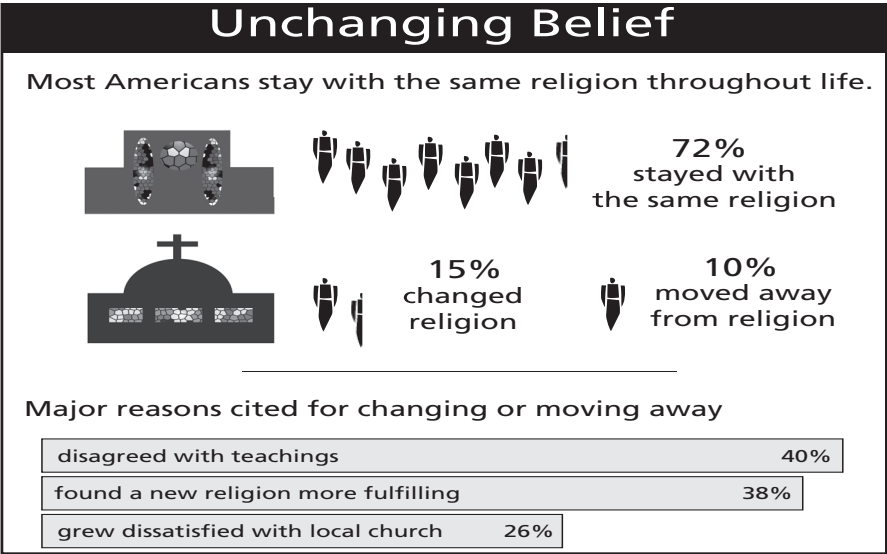
The Christian people of the nation have a responsibility to God to speak out when innocent, defenseless life is being destroyed under the guise of nice words like “pro-choice.” Lets say it like it is: pro-choice is pro-abortion.

Bernard Kiernan  
Fort Lee

**MASS FOR OPUS DEI FOUNDER**—Archbishop John J. Myers celebrated Mass at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, South Orange, on June 25, to mark the feast day of Saint Josemaria Escriva, the founder of Opus Dei. Saint Josemaria founded Opus Dei in 1928. He died on June 26, 1975, and was canonized by Pope John Paul II in Rome in 2002 before an audience of more than 300,000 people. Pope John Paul described the Opus Dei founder as “the saint of ordinary life.” Since Saint Josemaria’s death Opus Dei has grown to a worldwide membership of 87,000 people, including 3,000 in the United States, according to a spokesman for the organization.



Advocate photo - Anne Finnerty Clarke



According to a recent Gallup Poll, most American adults have stayed with the same religion. Ten percent say they moved away from religion all together. (CNS graphic)

## Collecting important data from the survivors of 9/11

It is difficult to imagine anything beneficial could come out of that horrible day of national tragedy almost five years ago when terrorists brought down the World Trade Center.

What happened that clear, crisp Sept. 11 morning ended the earthly existence of many faithful within the Archdiocese of Newark and changed forever the lives of countless others. In the shadow of the Twin Towers, the impact on the archdiocese was and is unequalled anywhere else in the nation.

By any definition, those who got out of the World Trade Center are truly survivors. It is that unique group that is being sought to volunteer for a British university-based study on the evacuation of the World Trade Center on 9/11.

Known as High-rise Evacuation Evaluation Database (HEED), the next round of the three-year, \$3-million project is slated for September. It will be conducted by the U.K. Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, the equivalent of the U.S. National Science Foundation.

As reported in the June 21 edition of *The Catholic Advocate*, the data compiled by HEED will serve as a benchmark for new building codes, high-rise designs and building management procedures. The findings will also help to educate workers in the public safety sector.

Those willing to participate can register online by going to [www.wtc-evacuation.com](http://www.wtc-evacuation.com) and then clicking on the “Participant Registration” link. Those taking part must have been in the World Trade Center on Sept. 11 and speak English.

Reliving that overwhelming day of death and destruction won’t be easy, but participants will know their input will save lives around the world. What better incentive can there be?

## Formation retreats offer refreshment for the soul

For a faith-filled summer, look no farther than the Youth Retreat Center in Kearny.

The Archdiocesan Office for Youth Ministry has scheduled a series of formation retreats over the next three months that will stimulate the mind and nourish the soul.

The retreats offer a unique spiritual experience designed for adults, young adults, clergy, youth ministers, catechists, catechetical leaders, adult faith formation directors and teachers.

There is something for everyone throughout the Church of Newark. For additional information call Sister Loretta DeDomenicis, director of parish outreach and training and youth adult ministry, at (201) 998-0088, ext. 4147.

Summer is a time for well-earned relaxation. While a trip to the shore has its place, the experience is fleeting. Attendance at the youth center retreats will provide a spiritual experience that will last well beyond a tan from the summer sun. Be there!



# More serious attacks on Church lurk behind 'Code'

By now, you have probably heard and read all you will ever want to know about "The Da Vinci Code." The book has sold 50 million copies. The movie is out. Countless television productions have been produced about the book. And, unfortunately, even the Vatican has been forced to get involved in this foolishness.

But allow me to offer a view on the subject. First, the book is a good read and a good novel as mystery novels go. However, as history, it has been clearly shown to be lacking. It is filled with so many factual errors that hardly anyone can defend it.

The religious group Opus Dei has actually benefited from its depiction in the book. From an obscure Catholic movement, it has now become a famous Catholic institution.

No reputable scholar has accepted the fact that Jesus and Mary Magdalene were married; even less than the fact that they left a bloodline. In fact, perhaps it is well that such accusations were brought to light. Now they have been demonstrated and debunked.

The movie is a long, dark, lugubrious mess. Dan Brown's novel has not been well translated into the film. It is almost sad. It could have been a real thriller.

So all of the above has come and gone. It was wind and smoke.

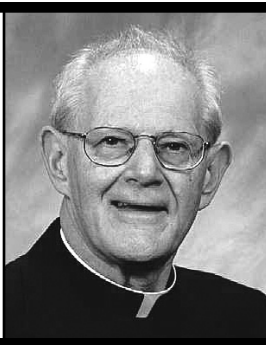
However, there are, in reality, far more serious attacks upon the Christian faith in general and the Roman Catholic Church in particular. They are on two levels—one academic and one popular.

On the academic level there is an all-out assault upon the Roman Catholic Church by certain scholars. They have operated primarily in universities, but now they are in the open—in books and in the media. These people are coming out of the shadows. They lurk behind the Dan Brown novel.

I will name some of them. They are the scholars of the

## Voices

By Rev. Msgr. John Gilchrist



"Jesus Seminar," primarily John Dominic Crossan, an ex-priest, and his friends who are tearing the heart out of the faith of millions by casting doubt on the scriptural image of Jesus. There are people like Elaine Pagels of Princeton, and Bart Ehrman of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, who are

making a lot of money trying to convince students and ordinary people that the so-called Gnostic Gospels are of equal rank and are to be believed in the same way that our own sacred scriptures are to be

believed.

Trust me—I have spent several years reading the Gnostic writings. They were discovered in 1945 in Nag Hammadi, Egypt. They are absolute nonsense. Even the so-called "Gospel of Thomas," which may echo some of the sayings of Jesus, has the following statement:

"Simon Peter said to them: Let Mary go away from us, for women are not worthy of Life. Jesus said: Lo, I shall lead her, so that I may make her a male...For every woman who makes herself a male will enter the Kingdom of Heaven." (Vs 114)

How about that?

The Church rejected these Gnostic books because they were fraudulent and untrue. Now modern scholars have found them and are dragging them back into view as truth. As one Catholic scripture scholar, Fr. Gerald O'Collins, S.J., put it about the "Gospel of St. Judas": "It was junk then and it is junk now." That statement applies to all of the Gnostic literatures.

The last people I want to mention are even worse. They are proven confidence men and hustlers. Their names are Michael Bargent, Richard Leigh and Henry Lincoln.

Bargent and Leigh produced a terrible book called "The Dead Sea Scroll Deception." It was filled with untruths about the Catholic Church and the scholars who translated the Dead Sea Scrolls. They wrote calumnies about the Dominican Fathers of Ecole Biblique—the Catholic Bible School in Jerusalem and the Roman Church.

When the scrolls were finally published in full, these men were exposed as the deceivers they were. But their book sold millions of copies.

These are the same men who have combined with Lincoln to produce "Holy Blood, Holy Grail." This book pretends to be non-fiction. It is the source from which Dan Brown drew his material for the "Code." It is now number two on *The New York Times* best-seller list. It is far more dangerous than The Da Vinci Code because it claims to tell the truth. These men are not scholars. They are not true historians. They are hucksters. And therein lies the danger to the faith of millions. They are deceivers of the first rank.

It will take a long time to refute these gentlemen. Let us hope that a few Catholic scholars will spend the time to deal with them and their misrepresentations. The faith needs defenders right now.

In the meantime, friends, let us—you and I—the simple people, look to the Holy Church and the Holy Scriptures. It is there that we will find the truth.

(Rev. Msgr. Gilchrist is pastor of Holy Cross Parish, Harrison.)

*There is an all-out assault upon the Roman Catholic Church by certain scholars.*

# The model for compassionate Christian leaders

Readings: Jer 23:1-6; Ps 23; Eph 2:13-18; Mk 6:30-34.

What would you list as the greatest needs of our Church and society today?

Some of us would focus on particular problems and wish for a solution. Perhaps others would point to the need for wise and courageous leaders. Don't many tragic problems arise from a lack of direction in the lives of many people?

The prophets of ancient Israel arose in response to inadequacy on the part of the kings, priests and judges of a given time. There are numerous instances in biblical records when the dynastic leaders and their appointed judges failed in teaching and/or in their example.

Jeremiah castigated the shepherds of his day and, through him God promised a better future. After the Exile (586 B.C.), "I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold..."

When King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon visited Jerusalem in 597 B.C., he deposed Jehoiakim, the king of Judah, and set up his uncle, Mattaniah, as a puppet. To show his power, Nebuchadnezzar changed the man's name to Zedekiah (meaning "The Lord is my Righteousness").

Manipulated by Babylon, this man failed to live up to the meaning of his name. Under the threat of Jerusalem's destruction and the exile of survivors, Jeremiah echoed God's ancient promise to King David. If those anointed to succeed him failed, God would send his anointed One (Messiah) par excellence. The people must not give up hope for proper governance!

## Sunday Readings

16th Sunday  
of Ordinary Time  
(July 23, 2006)

By Father Lawrence Frizzell



"Behold the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch (see Is 11:1-3) and he shall reign and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel dwell in peace. This is the name he will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness'" (Jer 23:5-6).

The Hebrew name "YHWH Zedekainu" is clearly playing on the name Zedekiah. Righteousness calls for right order in society in imitation of God, and this implies integrity. The righteous shoot from the Davidic dynasty will bring justice in the order of daily life and the ideal of integrity will be experienced in a new way by God's people. We find that the Gospel is permeated with this perspective.

When the apostles returned from their mission, Jesus

invited them to retreat from their manifold activities to get their bearings spiritually. Alas, this effort was futile. People arrived at the place where Jesus sought quiet "and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd." How could he ignore their earnest search to satisfy a spiritual hunger? So "he began to teach them many things" (Mk 6:34).

This compassion and the demand to pursue righteousness that Jesus recognized as essential to His mission led Him to the Cross. If the people of Israel were scattered like sheep at times because their shepherds failed, how much greater was the need of others, "having no hope and without God in the world" (Eph 2:12). The compassionate Christ brought them near by His sacrifice so that He could teach and nourish them. The purpose of His mission and his death was to bring peace among the nations and to reconcile humanity with God so that through him we may have access in one spirit to the Father.

Every person who aspires to political leadership should reflect profoundly on his or her motivations. No one provides a better model than Jesus.

Only by imitating his model of using authority as an act of service can potential leaders avoid the constant danger of prostituting their position to self-aggrandizement. This point applies to every role of responsibility in adult life. May the Good Shepherd guide us.

(Father Lawrence Frizzell is director of the Institute of Judeo-Christian Studies at Seton Hall University.)

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# Directory tracks 'increase' in US Church population

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The U.S. Catholic population apparently rose by more than a million last year according to figures in the 2006 Official Catholic Directory, but it actually may have fallen once a correction is made for the plainly erroneous figures for the Boston Archdiocese.

The 2006 figures are also skewed by a lack of any data from the New Orleans Archdiocese, which was devastated by Hurricane Katrina last Aug. 29 and unable to provide statistical data for this year's directory.

Even with adjustments to account for lack of data from New Orleans, the U.S. Church clearly registered declines in Catholic school enrollments and in almost every area of sacramental practice between 2005 and 2006, according to the directory.

The directory reported a net increase in the Catholic population of about 1.3 million last year, to 69,135,254, but that figure was based on counting the Boston Archdiocese as having 3,974,846 Catholics in a total population of 1,845,846—a reversal of figures that gave the archdiocese some 2.1 million more Catholics than it has.

With the correct Boston number, the total figure is 67,006,254 Catholics. Last year's figure was 67,820,833.

Even if the nearly 500,000 Catholics New Orleans reported in 2005 are added to the 2006 total, the correction of the Boston figures would lead to a net decline nationwide of about 300,000 Catholics between 2005 and 2006.

The new directory shows significant declines in Catholic education and sacramental practice, well beyond what could be accounted for by the lack of data from New Orleans.

The number of students in Catholic high schools dropped to just under 680,000, a decline of 13,000. Elementary schools enrolled 1.76 million children, almost 84,000 fewer than the year before.

The number of teachers in Catholic schools dropped by nearly 8,000, to just under 173,000.

There were some 729,000 high school students enrolled in parish religious education programs, 26,000 fewer than the previous year. Elementary students in religious education numbered nearly 3.5 million, but the total was 81,000 below the previous year's figure.

In all, the number of Catholic children receiving faith formation in Catholic schools or religious education programs last year was 204,000 lower than the year before.

Catholic colleges and universities reported 764,000 students, about 9,000 fewer than the year before.

In key sacramental moments, according to the directory:

- There were only about 212,000 Church-recognized marriages last year, 11,000 fewer than the year before.

- Confirmations numbered more than 630,000, down 15,000 from the year before.

- First Communion numbers nearly 833,000, a drop of almost 40,000.

- Infant baptisms totaled 943,000, down by 34,000.

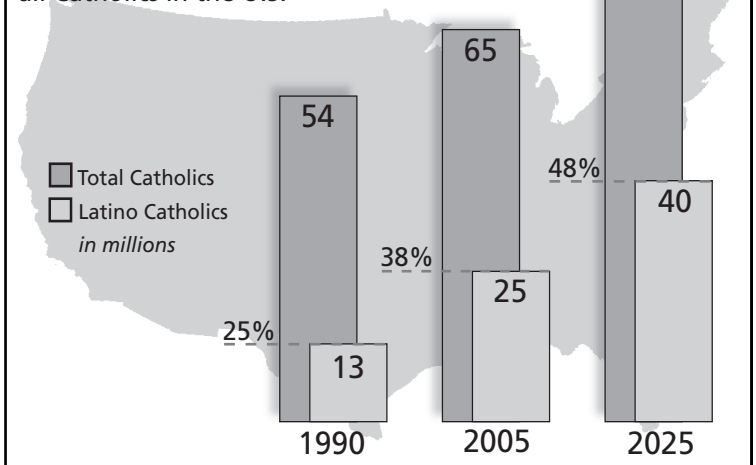
- Adult baptisms and receptions into full communion totaled more than 154,000, about the same as the year before.

- There were 438 priestly ordinations, 29 fewer than the year before.

The total number of priests in U.S. dioceses and religious orders was 42,271. This was 1,151 fewer than the year before—but only about 740 fewer if New Orleans priests had been counted. The number of women religious declined more than 2,000, to 67,773. There were 5,252 religious brothers, 265 fewer than the year before.

## Catholic Population

An analysis of census data shows that within 20 years Latinos will make up almost half of all Catholics in the U.S.



An analysis of census data shows that within 20 years Latinos will make up almost half of all Catholics in the United States. (CNS graphic)

For the first time since the permanent diaconate was revived after the Second Vatican Council, the total number of permanent deacons in the United States—14,995—showed a decline, but it was very slight at 32 below the previous year's total. If the 186 permanent deacons in New Orleans had been counted, the number would have gone up instead of down, continuing the long-term upward trend.

Although 46 new parishes were opened across the country last year, they did not offset parish closings or mergers. The 18,992 parishes listed represent a net loss of 305 parishes last year.

# Contemplating truth at the 50-yard line of faith

In a series of talks and interviews surrounding the announcement of his retirement as archbishop of Washington, Cardinal Theodore McCarrick frequently told his favorite John Paul II story: the story of the pope walking up the center aisle of the Newark cathedral in October 1995, touching people on both sides.

This, Cardinal McCarrick suggested, was how priests and bishops ought to act—sticking to the “middle,” in order to be in touch with everyone. Or, as he told National Public Radio: “The job of a priest always forces you to the middle...We’ve got to be in the middle so that we don’t let those on the left or the right get lost.”

I have other memories of events in Newark’s magnificent Sacred Heart Cathedral that evening, of what led up to them, and of what followed.

The Clinton White House had rather brashly informed the Holy See that the president would meet the Pope at the door and escort John Paul up the aisle of the cathedral. The Holy See politely replied that the Pope would enter the Newark cathedral the way he entered every other church in the world—without the guidance of politicians. The Holy See prevailed, and John Paul did indeed touch some of the many people reaching out to him as he walked to the sanctuary to preside over evening prayer.

At the end of the service, two people walked down the aisle of Sacred Heart Cathedral, craftily shaking hands on all sides: President and Mrs. Clinton. John Paul II departed by a side aisle in order to pray at the Blessed Sacrament chapel. New Jersey public television juxtaposed these simultaneous events on a split screen: the politicians doing their thing, the priest and bishop being a priest and bishop. It was a striking, and telling, difference.

It’s not easy to know what Cardinal McCarrick means

## The Catholic Difference

by George Weigel



by his oft-repeated admonition to moderation. He certainly wasn’t moderate; he wasn’t ready to split the differences at the 50-yard line, so to speak, when things he believed in were at stake.

To take one example: students from impoverished families in Washington, D.C., can use tax-funded vouchers to attend Catholic schools because Cardinal McCarrick was thoroughly immoderate, indeed relentless, in lobbying Congress on their behalf.

Then there are questions of doctrine. Shortly before the Holy See announced that Pope Benedict had accepted Cardinal McCarrick’s retirement, R. Scott Appleby wrote in The Washington Post about three Catholics, representatives of a “people’s Church,” which Dr. Appleby described as “Catholicism’s great hope” in the 21st Century: “a Jakarta nun who describes herself as both a devout Catholic and a devout

Muslim; a Sri Lankan Jesuit whose Asian-inflected theology of Christ and the Church has little room for the ancient dogmatic formulas preserved by Rome; the president of a Benedictine college in Manila who has no qualms about celebrating Mass without a priest.”

Is this the 50-yard line? Or, to vary the sporting metaphor, is this somewhere out in the parking lot, way beyond the left-field bleachers?

Jesus of Nazareth is the Christ of God or He isn’t; Mohammed is the final Prophet or he isn’t; you can’t split the difference at the 50-yard line. Is the “ancient dogmatic formula” which attests to “Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord” true? Or is it false? To stand in the center of the aisle and claim to be in communion of mind and heart with people who both affirm and deny that formula is to confess to severe intellectual confusion.

Is a validly ordained priest necessary for the valid consecration of the Eucharist, or isn’t he? It’s hard to believe that Cardinal McCarrick would have wanted his archdiocesan vocation director to stand in the center of the aisle on that one.

That priests and bishops must be able to minister to people across the spectrum of reasonable theological and political opinion goes, or should go, without saying. That priests and bishops can be true ministers of the Gospel by thinking and acting as if every question were a football field on which truth lies at the 50-yard line is another matter entirely; see Revelation 3.16.

(George Weigel is a senior fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C.)

*Jesus of Nazareth is the Christ of God or He isn’t; you can’t split the difference at the 50-yard line.*



# A dazzling jewel in Englewood, St. Cecilia touts diversity, works hard to demonstrate 'concern'

BY MELISSA MCNALLY  
Staff Writer

The Catholic parish in Fort Lee was divided in 1863 and Father Patrick Corrigan was assigned to care for the faithful in the new Englewood mission, where he secured use of the local police station for religious services. His successor Rev. Dr. Henry A. Brann, wasted no time in getting the parish community to build its own church.

Three years later, enough money was collected to purchase a plot, which was dedicated on Nov. 11, 1866 by Bishop James Bayley. Carmelites of the Province of the Most Pure Heart of Mary began services.

The Carmelite presence in New Jersey spread from St. Cecilia to nine parishes, a retreat center and a shopping mall chapel. An elementary and high school were essential parts of the development.

St. Cecilia Parish is vibrant, bilingual house of worship with direct services to the poor, for shelter the homeless, a public education center, an elementary school, a Korean center of learning, and a home nurses' association. It is also the Eastern Shrine of St. Therese, the Little Flower.

The first attempt to establish a school was made in 1867 by Father Patrick Cody who had charge of the St. Cecilia's mission from Madonna Parish in Fort Lee. In 1869, the Carmelites assumed leadership of the school and erected a frame building near the original church. There were four Sisters of Charity, the first religious women to take up residence in Bergen County. Their efforts continued and grew until an elementary school and high school were founded.

St. Cecilia's Interparochial School was formed in 1990 with the merging of St. Anastasia Parish School of Teaneck and St. Cecilia Parish School. Both Carmelite parishes have had a long history of cooperation and continue to offer an opportunity for Catholic education.

Today, there are approximately 1,265 families in the parish with many new members from Central and South America. The congregation also has a younger median age

than in the past. The parish has been a stable community for 30 years, with a good mix of Hispanics, Anglos and African-Americans. During the last decade, it welcomed many new members, mostly from Colombia, and more recently from Mexico, who now comprise half of the parish population.

"I have been pastor here for the past eight years," Father Robert Wolfe, O. Carm., said. "I have seen the number of senior members of our parish diminish and a large growth of ethnically diverse new members. Remarkably, the support of our parish has remained the same over the eight years. Change is a part of our lives here at St. Cecilia. Our strongest characteristic is that we are an ethnically diverse worshipping community. We welcome the homeless, the needy, and those who are seeking a new place of worship."

The parish has responded to the many needs of the new faces in the parish community: a Spanish Mass is celebrated each Sunday, groups of parishioners reach out to those who have recently arrived from Latin American countries and the Office of Concerns offers social services to the homebound, elderly and poor.

*'Change is a part of our lives here at St. Cecilia. Our strongest characteristic is that we are an ethnically diverse worshipping community. We welcome the homeless, the needy, and those who are seeking a new place of worship.'*

—Father Robert Wolfe, O. Carm.

Eleanor Gragnano has worked at the Office of Concern for the three years and has been a parishioner for 77 years. She also worked in the parish's rectory for 12 years.

"I love the flower shrine. I love the Carmelites. I love everything about St. Cecilia Parish," she said.



Photo courtesy of St. Cecilia Parish

St. Cecilia Parish, established in 1866, is home to the Office of Concern, which provides food for almost 300 families per week. Highlighting its spirit of cultural diversity, the parish has welcomed many new members from Colombia and Mexico during the last 10 years.

Gragnano went to the parish's elementary and high school and looks back at her times there fondly. "I was in the choir in grammar school and we would make flower devotions. There was always something to do at school. I loved high school. When we all left, we cried, believe it or not. It was a home away from home," she said. "I remember

pionships during the 1960s, including victories in the first two Super Bowls. In fact, the trophy presented to the winner of the Super Bowl bears his name.

A graduate of Fordham University in New York, Lombardi joined the staff at St. Cecilia in 1939, coaching the football, baseball and basketball teams as well as teaching Latin, algebra, physics and chemistry. He left St. Cecilia in 1947 for a coaching position at Fordham. Lombardi became head coach of the Packers in 1959. He died of cancer on Sept. 3, 1970. One year later he was inducted into the Professional Football Hall of Fame. (Note: Biographical information on the former St. Cecilia teacher and coach was collected from the Vince Lombardi Web site.)

Gragnano continues to enjoy her days at St. Cecilia Parish while working at the Office of Concern. "We minister to the needy including the homeless. Sister Regis Kentz started the office 25 years ago. The list of people we help every week keeps getting longer; now it's up to 280 families.

"We do what we can to help by giving food every week to those that qualify. We can't give them financial aid but we can direct them to places like Catholic Charities to get social assistance. It is very rewarding work. Most of the people we serve are gracious and grateful," she said.

Another long-time parishioner is Beatrice Tzortzinis, who serves as the secretary of St. Cecilia Interparochial School. "We all work together well and try to help the people of our parish," she said. "Our school's basketball teams really bring people together. I get calls from former students asking about the school.

"It is a beautiful church and there are people who have been here for longer than I have and can tell how the parish was in the past," Tzortzinis, who has been a parishioner for 30 years, continued. "People used to have large families and their children still come back. For example, my son lives in Virginia, but he is getting married here. It's just home."

(St. Cecilia Parish is located at 55 West Demarest Ave. in Englewood.)



# AAA '06 campaign

Continued from page 1

Reviewing last year's AAA campaign, Gonzalez pointed out that funds were dedicated to support the education of archdiocesan seminarians. This year, the Church of Newark had the largest class of seminarians in the United States (see *The Catholic Advocate*, May 24 and 10 editions). Gonzalez took pride in the fact that AAA funding went to support and edu-

cate the 17 seminarians who were ordained on May 27. Last year \$1.8 million of AAA funding was dedicated to seminarian education and formation. Another major recipient of AAA funds is Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark, a unit of Catholic Health and Human Services Corp. Last year Catholic Charities received \$1.5 million to support its work to aid nearly

100,000 people in the archdiocese in need of food, shelter, job training, counseling and other special health and social services. Gonzalez said the level of AAA funding for Catholic Charities is reviewed each year as "the number of people in need increases." AAA funds also go to support retired priests, enabling them to "live with dignity and respect," Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez also noted that each year about half of the AAA donations go to support archdiocesan parishes and schools, which historically represents the major portion of funding supported by the annual campaign. About 50,000 children receive faith-based education at over 150 elementary and secondary schools throughout the archdiocese. AAA funds also are dedicated to Youth and Young Adults Ministries and Youth Retreat Center, which is headquartered in Kearny.

The 2006 AAA campaign kicked off last February (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Jan. 11) with the theme "It Is In Giving That We Receive." Earlier this year, Archbishop John J. Myers, in a letter to the 230 parishes throughout Bergen, Essex, Hudson and Union counties, wrote that because of the generosity of parishioners via AAA donations, the Archdiocese of Newark is "able to help those

who are vulnerable and poor." Contributions to the AAA help to serve "the neediest of those in need—children, families and individuals...for whom no other resources may exist." "We face a tremendous challenge every year and only with your support will we be able to help the increasing number of people in need," Archbishop Myers continued in the letter. "Too often, we get caught up in the materialistic world and forget that God wants

us to share the gifts He bestowed on us with those less fortunate. I ask you to prayerfully consider making a gift to the 2006 AAA." The Development Office budgets its annual funding for archdiocese programs based on AAA pledges. An overview of AAA projects and funding efforts is available online at [www.rcan.org/AAA](http://www.rcan.org/AAA). Contact the archdiocesan Development Office for more information at (973) 497-4130.



Advocate photo - M. Gabriele

Carla Gonzalez, executive director of development (left), reviews AAA data with Raymond Quintana, operations manager. Compared with the equivalent 2005 period, AAA pledges and payments this year are up around 5 percent, while the number of donors has risen 7 percent.

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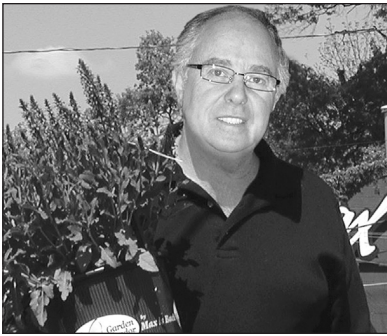


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Representing the metropolitan area at the convention were, left to right, Elena Hanrahan from the Brooklyn Council and the Newark Council's D. Jean Schneider and Mary Loftus.

## First American woman to lead world group

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Karen Hurley of Harrisburg, PA, is the new president-general of the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations, becoming the first U.S. woman to hold that post in the group's 96-year history.

Hurley began her four-year term during the organization's general assembly in Arlington, Va., which concluded June 7. Attending the general assembly from the Newark Archdiocesan Council were D. Jean Schneider and Mary Loftus.

In a telephone interview with Catholic News Service, Hurley said she considers her election "quite an affirmation for all the women in the U.S. who have worked so hard," as well as an "affirmation of the gifts we bring."

Hurley, 48, has served as vice president for North America of the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations for five years and was a member of the board for five more. The organization is made up of 100 national Catholic women's organizations around the world, including the U.S. group, the National Council of Catholic Women.

"Our strength lies in the faith and action of our members; let us focus on membership growth and development," she said in an address to assembly participants.

Hurley said much of her agenda for the next years will be shaped by the 12 resolutions approved at the assembly in Arlington.

One goal that the organization hopes to accomplish quickly, she said, is the Vatican declaration of St. Maria Goretti as the "patroness of the innocence of children" and the observance of her feast day on July 6 as "a day of prayer throughout the universal Church for all those who are being sexually abused, and a day on which to pray for the healing of all those who have suffered sexual abuse in their childhood."

Other resolutions called for the protection of abandoned children; actions to protect the environment; the ratification of an international covenant against the death penalty; an end to the trafficking of children; humanitarian aid for those with AIDS or HIV and information on how to prevent its transmission in line with Church teachings; and a campaign against the manufacture, storage and use of weapons.

## Africa collection authorized

AREA—Archbishop John J. Myers has authorized a voluntary collection for the Church in Africa for any weekend during August.

The request for the collection came from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' (UCCB) Ad Hoc Committee for the Church in Africa, which initiated an annual appeal for the Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa. Proceeds will help build the pastoral capacity of the Church in Africa while strengthening the fraternal relationship between the bishops of the United States and Africa.

The USCCB will work with the national Episcopal conferences in Africa to review and monitor the distribution of grants based on clear criteria. It will not duplicate the humanitarian or development assistance provided by Catholic Relief Services.

Personal checks should be made out to: Archdiocese of Newark, Church in Africa and mailed to Office of Finance, Archdiocese of Newark, P.O. Box 9500, Newark, N.J. 07104.





**TAKE OUT THE BROOM**—Holy Trinity Interparochial School swept the Girls' 3/4th, 5/6th, and 7/8th grade divisions to win the Overall Girl's Champion title at the recent Good Shepherd Academy Track Meet. Among the top scorers were, left to right, first row, Kristen Ulrich, Meghan Hrinkevich and Mary Kate Hrinkevich. In the second row are Patricia Whitehead, Amanda Williams, Amanda Sovany and Caroline Williams.

## Felician slates MBA program

LODI—Felician College has launched a new Master of Business Administration (MBA) program.

The 36-credit program places more focus on qualitative rather than quantitative learning to prepare students to become innovative managers and entrepreneurial leaders. Whether graduates ultimately start their own businesses or pursue careers in the corporate world, the Felician MBA will equip them with analytical and creative competencies to succeed and prosper.

The two-year program offers tracks in corporate entrepreneurship and new venture creation.

"This MBA program is intended to develop the rain-makers and visionary leaders within organizations," explains Dr. William Morgan, Dean of the Division of Business. "The knowledge economy, which has been in the forefront of the U.S. economy, is being over-

shadowed by an economy based on creativity. It's getting to the point where the bottom line of organizations is becoming more dependent on the creative talents and entrepreneurial spirit of its workforce. By using a facilitated classroom and online (hybrid) cohort learning model, this program will serve as an incubator to inspire innovative and entrepreneurial thinkers to new levels of success."

Classes meet just one night a week, and the program is offered on campus in Lodi and

Rutherford, on-site at Don Bosco Prep School in Ramsey and at corporate locations throughout New Jersey. The Felician MBA degree program is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and approved by the International Assembly of Collegiate Business Education (IACBE).

For more information about the program and to register for upcoming information sessions, contact the Felician Office of Adult and Graduate Admission at (201) 559-6077.

## Scholarship program taps BCHS graduate

ORADELL—Timothy Bishop of New Milford, a graduate of Bergen Catholic High School (BCHS), was recently selected to receive a 2006 Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship. He is one of only 192 graduating seniors from New Jersey to receive this award.

During his scholastic career at Bergen Catholic, he was inducted into the National Honor Society and the Latin Honor Society and was named as a National Merit Scholarship Commended Student, an Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar, a Garden State Scholar, and a Blessed Edmund Rice Scholar. He received The Brother Eugene D. McKenna, C.F.C. Alumni Scholarship, The Rensselaer Medal (for Outstanding Achievement in Science and Mathematics), and the Foreign Language Educators of New Jersey Award (for Outstanding Achievement in Foreign Language Study), and also won the school's Red & Gold Award (for outstanding service). He finished in the top 10 percent of the Class of 2006, and was a member of the football and lacrosse programs.

He will attend Williams College in September.

The Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program is a federally funded program offering a merit scholarship for outstanding high school seniors who have been accepted at an institution of higher education. The Byrd Scholarship Program, which is named for the long-time West Virginia legislator, rewards academic excellence in high school and encourages students to continue their education. The federal government allocates the funds that determine the amount of the scholarship award.



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## AHA Principal, Jennifer Moran, named administrator of the year

DEMAREST—Jennifer Moran, principal of Academy of the Holy Angels (AHA), has been named Administrator of the Year by the Bergen County Professional Counselors Association, an organization of counselors who are dedicated to the personal growth of students, parents and educators.

The award was presented to Miss Moran for "the years of dedicated service, work and caring" as

a secondary school administrator.

Moran has been a member of the Holy Angels community for 19 years. She has been principal for the past 11 years. Commenting on the award she said "I have long realized that the often unheralded work of school counselors is integral to the success of each student. I am proud to be laboring in the same field as these dedicated professionals."





**INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE**—A delegation from Seton Hall University was in China recently to discuss plans to expand SHU’s international exchange program. On hand were, left to right, Professor Jason Yin, chair of the management department, Seton Hall’s Stillman School of Business; Karen Boroff, Dean of the Stillman School of Business; Msgr. Robert Sheeran, president of SHU; Joseph Cardinal Zen; and Phyllis Hansell, Dean of Seton Hall’s College of Nursing. While in China three agreements were written, two in Macau and one in Shanghai. The Seton Hall delegation visited the University of International Business and Economics to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the academic exchange program between Stillman and the University of International Business and Economics (UIBE). Msgr. Sheeran delivered an address at Macao Polytechnic Institute at a symposium marking the 500th anniversary of the birth of Saint Francis Xavier, the Jesuit Apostle to Asia. Joseph Cardinal Zen, Cardinal of Hong Kong, met with Msgr. Sheeran to discuss the Church in Hong Kong. Said Msgr. Sheeran: “Cardinal Zen has a remarkable commitment to the Church and people of China.”

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# Serio family establishes a memorial scholarship

CALDWELL—The parents of Caldwell College alumnus Matthew Serio, Class of 2004, have set up a memorial scholarship in their son’s name for students who are interested in studying abroad.

“Caldwell College was a very special place for our son Matt,” said his father Ralph Serio. “In his memory we are establishing an endowed memorial scholarship fund to assist students in realizing their dreams of studying abroad.” Ralph, along with his wife Veronica, also a Caldwell College alumna, said the scholarship will help them keep their son’s memory alive in a place he loved and it will help students explore their passion for traveling and learning new things, which they said their son loved to do.

Matthew attended James Caldwell High School where he was on the football and wrestling teams. He enjoyed playing the violin.

Caldwell College has a strong commitment to study abroad programs. Most recently, students have studied abroad in England, Australia, France, Korea, Prague, Vienna, Rome and at Sea.

To make a gift to the Matthew Serio Memorial Scholarship, please contact Kristen Koehler, Executive Director of Development at Caldwell College at (973) 618-3211 or [kkoehler@caldwell.edu](mailto:kkoehler@caldwell.edu). Or send the donation directly to Koehler at Caldwell College, 9 Ryerson Avenue, Caldwell, NJ 07006. All gifts are tax deductible.



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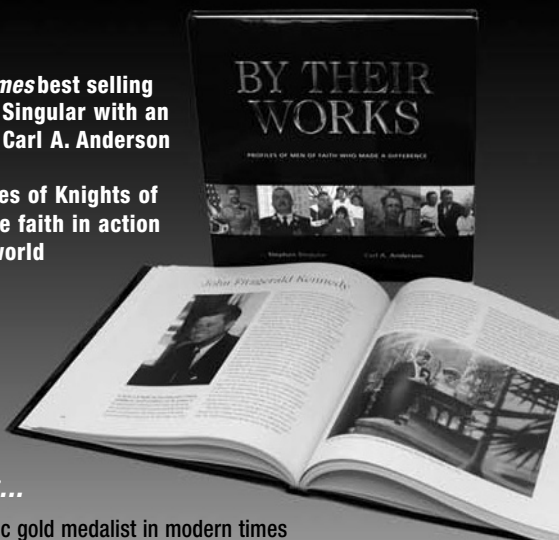
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Advocate photo - Ward Miele

Father Gomes settles into his new office on the second floor of the Archdiocesan Center in Newark.

## Father Gomes accepts post for adjunct clergy

NEWARK — Father John Stanley Gomes is the new director of adjunct clergy for the Archdiocese of Newark.

A Bangladesh native of Dhaka, Father Gomes was ordained 11 years ago at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

Born Oct. 3, 1965, Father Gomes, called by his middle name by family and friends, immigrated to the United States in 1989.

Father Gomes, who had been spiritual director of the College Seminary, St. Andrew's Hall, Seton Hall University, lived in Jersey City after coming to this country. He speaks Bengali, English and Spanish.

Father Gomes attended Holy Spirit National Seminary in Dhaka and from 1990 to 1995, Immaculate Conception Seminary at Seton Hall University. Father Gomes received a Master of Divinity degree from the School of Theology.

He worked in three urban parishes over seven years before being named spiritual director at St. Andrew's and associate director of campus ministry at Seton Hall in June 2002. He received spiritual director's training at Creighton University in Omaha, NE, in 2002 and last year received a certificate in Christian Spirituality from Seton Hall.

In his new position, Father Gomes said his goal is to "serve the Archdiocese of Newark by helping pastors get good adjunct priests and to serve the needs of the adjunct priests while they are here." He also emphasized his job is to "meet the needs of the parishes (and) be a resource person during the transition period for the newly arrived priests." All of that, he stressed, will be done "for the glory of God."

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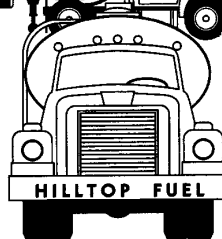
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# Vatican approves Bon Secours Ministries

MARIOTTSTVILLE, MD—The Sisters of Bon Secours, USA, have received approval from the Vatican's Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life (CICLSAL) for formation of Bon Secours Ministries as the public juridic person and sponsor of Bon Secours Health System, Inc. (BSHSI).

Bon Secours New Jersey Health System, which is based in Hoboken and operates St. Mary Hospital, is part of the national Bon Secours healthcare organization.

As part of their planning for the future, the Sisters chose to invite lay leaders to share the sponsorship role of BSHSI. This new sponsorship model ensures the continuance of the Sisters of

Bon Secours' Catholic health ministry into the future in a manner consistent with the charism of Bon Secours and the Sisters' mission and values.

The Sisters of Bon Secours have sponsored Bon Secours facilities since 1919 when the first Bon Secours Hospital opened in Baltimore. For the past 23 years, the Sisters have been the sole sponsorship entity for BSHSI. "In the Sisters' tradition of innovation and collaboration, and after an extensive strategic planning process, the Sisters of Bon Secours in the United States chose the new model of sponsorship as a reaffirmation of their commitment to the Bon Secours Health System to be a part of the congregation's ministry," said Sister Alice Talone, C.B.S., president of the Sisters of

Bon Secours, USA.

Sister Patricia Eck, C.B.S., chairperson of the board of directors of BSHSI added, "This new sponsorship model provides a Church-approved structure for the future while maintaining the mission of the health system to give 'good help to those in need.' The Sisters will continue to be influential in major activities and decisions in our local facilities and continue to serve on our boards."

Bon Secours Ministries provides a sponsorship structure that keeps BSHSI rooted in its history and religious tradition, focuses on the current needs of BSHSI as a Catholic ministry in the midst of a changing and complex healthcare environment, while providing a prophetic and challenging call to create together a future of healing

and hope. The creation of Bon Secours Ministries is consistent with the commitment made by the Sisters of Bon Secours in September, 1999: "We commit ourselves to walk humbly with our lay Sisters and Brothers—mutually sharing our vision of participating in the struggle for a more humane world." Its purpose, as noted in the Vatican decree establishing Bon

Secours Ministries, is to carry "forward the healing ministry of Jesus Christ in the Church."

"Although this is a very important development, it will have very little impact on the day to day operation of the health system office or local systems. Our coworkers will not see any differences in the way we serve our communities or operate our facilities," explained Richard J. Statuto, president and chief executive officer of Bon Secours Health System.

## Students' visit delights seniors

ALLENDALE—As the seniors at the Allendale Community for Mature Living were sitting down to lunch recently, several young women began distributing colorful, hand-painted clay flower pots.

The donation came about as part of a combination Read-A-Thon and community service program at the George Washington Elementary School in Mahwah. "The school has been encouraging the children to read at least 100 minutes a week. Our theme was George Washington School

is Blooming with Books, and the children were rewarded with paper flowers for their efforts," explained Debbie Cantow, a parent volunteer at the school. "But we like to have every project at the school also involve a community service component, so it was decided that the children would

each paint a clay flower pot, plant seeds in the pots, inscribe their names, and then give the pots to the seniors. SECOR Farms in Mahwah donated the flowers, and Home Depot the soil. Several parents, including myself, then brought the pots to the Allendale Community."



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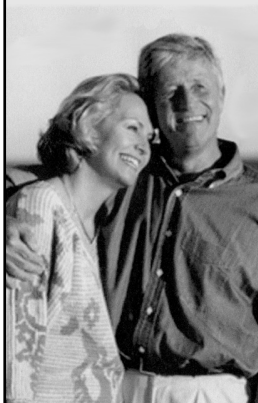
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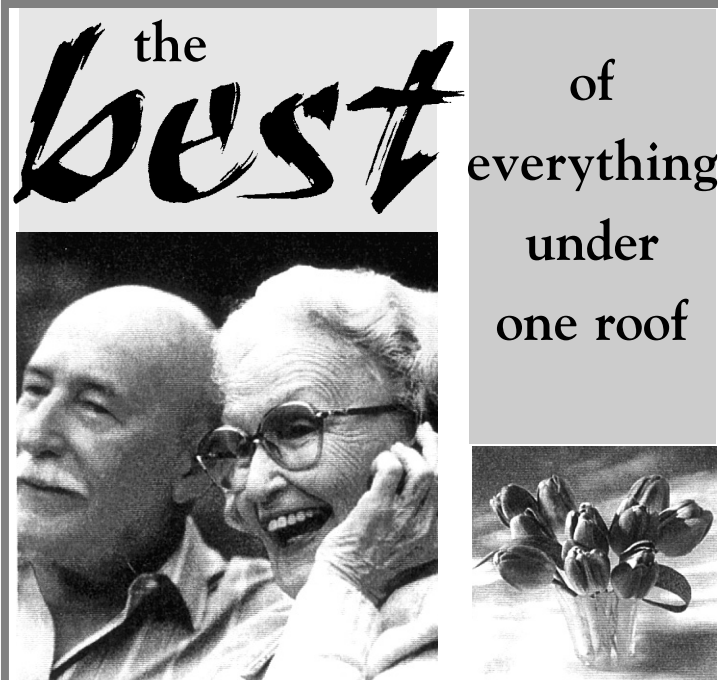
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# St. Joseph's garners 'heartfelt' national awards

PATERSON — St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center has been recognized by the American Heart Association (AHA) and the American Stroke Association, a division of the AHA, as only the fourth hospital in the United States and first in the metropolitan area to receive Level 2 Performance Improvement Awards in all three

AHA "Get With The Guidelines" quality initiatives: coronary artery disease, heart failure and stroke.

This significant national, regional, and state "triple crown" recognition cites the center's efforts to effectively implement specific care procedures with the overall goal of providing quality long-term care.

"This is a monumental achievement and St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center has distinguished itself nationally as one of just four hospitals in the United States to complete all three Level 2 modules of the Get With The Guidelines program. The St.

Joseph's team is to be commended for its commitment and success at providing high level quality care," stated the American Heart Association's representative Kathleen Chumer.

"St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center is truly dedicated to

making its cardiovascular and neurology-stroke services the very best in the country," stated Robert. T. Faillace, M.D., chairman of Cardiovascular Services and the physician-leader designated as the Get With The Guidelines Champion at the medical center. "We are extremely pleased to be recognized as a national leader in disease management by the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association. The medical center was the first hospital in New Jersey to receive the Get With The Guidelines Level 1 "triple crown" achievement awards for coronary artery disease, stroke, and congestive heart failure in January 2006. Just five months later, this second set of Get With The Guidelines "triple crown" awards recognizes St. Joseph's outstanding record of medical successes," he added.



**NURSES OF THE YEAR**—At Trinitas Hospital in Elizabeth, Anne Marie Vitale, RN, Same Day Unit, Nurse of the Year for 2005, left, and Yanick St. Fleur, RN, 9 South nursing unit, Nurse of the Year for 2006, second from right, were feted at a joint celebration. The nurses were selected based on nomination letters from managers and fellow employees. Both were cited for their "professionalism, dedication to patient care, and their sense of camaraderie and teamwork." Gary S. Horan, FACHE, President, center, Bernadette Countryman, senior vice president, clinical operations and chief nursing officer, second from left, and Mary McTigue, director of nursing, right, officiated at the reception. Trinitas Hospital is a full-service healthcare facility and a Catholic teaching hospital sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth in partnership with Elizabethtown Healthcare Foundation.

## Hospice benefit tees off Sept. 11

ROSELLE—The 20th annual Center for Hope Hospice and Palliative Care benefit golf outing will take place on Monday, Sept. 11 at the Roselle Golf Club.

Sponsors and contributors will receive recognition in the program and have a sign displayed during the outing.

The \$185 per person cost includes 18 holes of golf, a cart, breakfast, lunch, a cocktail hour and dinner. For those wanting to attend the cocktail hour and dinner only the cost is \$80.

For sponsorship details and additional information call Larry Reagan at (732) 244-1044.

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Anna Marie Baum

# Director returns to her roots

ALLENDALE—Anna Marie Baum, an experienced caregiver and nurse, has been appointed director of residence services of The Allendale Community for Mature Living in Bergen County.

The Allendale Community for Mature Living is unique in that it features three fully licensed residences on its campus.

Baum’s new position represents a return to her professional roots and, in fact, to the same facility where she began her career as a nurse’s aide. “It was a great working and living environment then and it is now,” said Baum. “I give most of the credit to the resident-centered culture that is a direct outgrowth of Allendale being a physician-owned facility.”

Baum compiled an impressive nursing track record since earning her license in 1986.

# Healing Mass

WYCKOFF—Father Frank O’Connor, who visits annually from Ireland, will celebrate a healing Mass at St. Elizabeth Parish on July 27 at 8 p.m.

The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be administered to all those who request it and prayer teams will be available to pray for individual needs.

For additional information call the parish office at (201) 891-1122.

# Open house

MONTCLAIR—Senior Care and Activities Center will hold an open house for caregivers and senior citizens on July 26 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Senior Care offers adult day care, a club program and caregiver support. It is located at 110 Greenwood Ave.

RSVP is required. Call (973) 783-5589, ext. 14.

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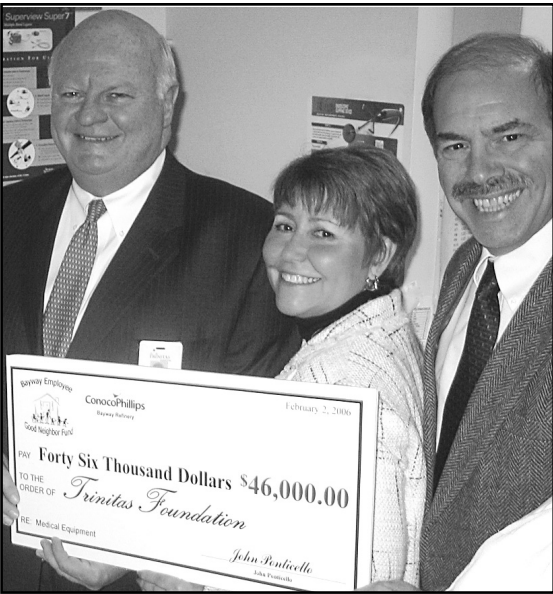
ELIZABETH—A substantial donation from the ConocoPhillips Bayway Refinery has enabled Trinitas Hospital to purchase of a state-of-the-art imaging station.

“We thank ConocoPhillips for being a strong partner by helping to create an advanced imaging program here at Trinitas Hospital,” stated Nadine Brechner, executive director of the Trinitas Health Foundation. “Trinitas is lucky to have ConocoPhillips as a neighbor because of their wonderful commitment to the health of our community,” she added.

The \$46,000 donation was used to underwrite the cost of one of four stations the hospital purchased to replace older equipment. These stations represent an information management system that captures highly-detailed images during certain procedures. The speed and accuracy of the new equipment allows physicians to more accurately diagnose and monitor patients’ wellness. It provides instant access of comprehensive patient medical information and exam history, and provides detailed post-procedure instructions for patients to follow once they return home.

Trinitas Hospital now has three procedure rooms where the equipment is used as well as a mobile station for use with patients in the Intensive Care Unit and the Emergency Department.

“On behalf of the 6,000 patients who utilize this equipment each year at Trinitas Hospital, I am pleased to thank the employees of ConocoPhillips for helping to enhance our ability to provide the very best of care,” noted Gary S. Horan, FACHE, president and chief executive officer of Trinitas Hospital.



From left, Gary S. Horan, FACHE, president of Trinitas Hospital, and Nadine Brechner, executive director of the Trinitas Health Foundation, accept ConocoPhillips’s donation to the hospital from John Ponticello, manager of the ConocoPhillips Bayway Refinery.

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PRAYER TO THE  
BLESSED VIRGIN

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

PRAYER TO THE  
BLESSED VIRGIN

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

PRAYER TO THE  
HOLY SPIRIT

Holy Spirit, You who solve all problems, who light all roads so that I can attain my goals. You who give me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me, and that in all instances of my life, You are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things and to confirm once again, that I never want to be separated from You, even and in spite of all material illusion. I wish to be with You in eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine. Amen. Say this prayer for 3 consecutive days. Published in gratitude of grace attained and for many requests granted. **J.M.C.**

## NOVENA TO ST. JUDE

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

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## NOVENAS

## PRAYER TO ST. JUDE

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

J.M.C.

## PRAYER TO ST. JUDE

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

C.Q.

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C.L.M.

## PRAYER TO ST. CLAIRE

Ask St. Claire for three favors; one Business and two impossible. Say nine Hail Mary's for nine days with a lighted candle. Published the ninth day "May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, adored, and glorified today and every day. Requests will be granted no matter how impossible they seem. Publication must be promised.

J.M.C.

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**HAVE A SAFE SUMMER**—Father Robert Laferrera, pastor of St. Mary Parish, Dumont, blesses students during a special prayer service on the last day of school as Principal Catherine Gibson looks on.

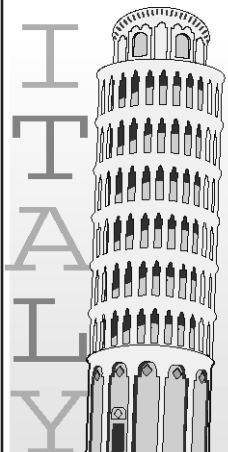


**LUNCH TIME**—On their last day of Kindergarten at Holy Trinity Interparochial School, Siobhan Hunziker, Madeline Davis, Sydney VonOehsen, Samira Morin, Patricia Lezynski and Benjamin Parma enjoy a visit with farm animals from Quiver Farms. The Mountainside campus has openings for September in its full-day Kindergarten. Call (908) 233-1899 for information.

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