

# The strong Catholic engine of Western progress

The standard account of the history of the West from, say, 400-1500 would run something like this:

The breakdown of the Roman Empire sent Western Europe into the centuries-long civilizational morass of the "Dark Ages." The West only began to recover its intellectual élan during the Enlightenment, and it was during that period, when scientists and political theorists unshackled themselves from the repressive bonds of Catholic faith, that "modernity" began to take shape.

Democracy and the free market are primarily Enlightenment projects, although Protestantism had something to do with the rise of capitalism. Catholicism, on the other hand, had to be throttled if democracy, the free economy, and science were to thrive.

Right?

Wrong, according to Baylor University scholar Rodney Stark in his new book, *The Victory of Reason: How Christianity Led to Freedom, Capitalism, and Western Success* (Random House)—a splendid exercise in intellectual bomb-throwing that combines rigorous scholarship with readability.

According to Professor Stark, the West became history's most successful civilization because of the unique theology that undergirded Western culture. Christian theology was both rational and progressive. It held that knowledge of God and of God's purposes could deepen and develop over time, to the point where new doctrines could evolve.

Unlike Islam, which froze doctrine in an unchangeable sacred text, Christianity affirmed the "development of doctrine," and that had a profound cultural impact. It helped create a civilization that was future-oriented, that

## The Catholic Difference

by George Weigel



believed in material as well as intellectual and spiritual progress, and that thought itself obliged to apply human reason to nature so that the world might become a garden of God (as the Benedictines had it).

Stark also shows how this distinctively Christian understanding of theology as a rational and progressive enterprise was "absolutely essential...for the rise of science," even as it planted in our culture an understanding of the dignity of the human

person and the value of work.

Christian ideas were thus crucial, Stark insists, to the medieval evolution of "responsive states" that nurtured a considerable measure of individual freedom, and to the development of capitalism, which is the application of reason to economic life and commerce. Thus, the medieval monks, not dour Dutch Calvinists, were the world's first successful practitioners of market-driven economics.

Despotism—ancient, medieval, or modern—is the great enemy of social and economic progress. And it was Christianity, not the Enlightenment, that vaccinated the

West against totalitarianism, by emphasizing that, while Caesar had his claims, there were limits to those claims—the limits imposed by the superior claims of God. There was nothing like this in Islam. We live with the results of that difference today.

Professor Stark's arguments are buttressed by his relentless demolition of the notion that "invention" stopped with the fall of Rome and didn't start again until the Enlightenment. Really? The so-called "Dark Ages" created the first economies that didn't rely on human muscles, by inventing water mills, perfecting dams, producing paper mechanically, which no other civilization had managed.

Other inventions of the "Dark Ages?" How about windmills, the horse-collar, horseshoes, the heavy plow, fish farming, three-cycle crop rotation, cloth manufacturing, chimneys, eyeglasses, and clocks? Don't forget the round-bottomed ship, the sternpost rudder, and the compass. Or, on the cultural front, the university, modern languages, polyphony, and Gothic architecture, with its flying buttresses and stained glass.

As for science, Stark describes Copernicus, not as an isolated scientist estranged from the Church, but as "one of the best-educated men of his generation, having trained at the universities of Krakow, Bologna (possibly the best university in Europe), Padua, and Ferrara." His heliocentric model of the solar system marked an evolution, not a revolution, for Copernicus stood on the shoulders of Christian scholars; contrary to the regnant mythology, the Polish astronomer was not a forerunner of Richard Dawkins, Carl Sagan, and other contemporary scientists who love playing the village atheist, imagining it an interesting role.

The Victory of Reason is a bracing antidote to the secularist smog that chokes education today. Give it to any college student you know, after reading it yourself.

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

## Stewardship

# Business world adage applicable at parish level

BY DEACON MIKE YORK

Pastoral Associate at St. John the Apostle Parish, Linden

In the business world, it's been said that if you fail to plan, you plan to fail. The same holds true for promoting stewardship in parishes.

While stewardship has been a vital part of St. John the Apostle Parish over the past few years, our pastor, Msgr. Richard McGuinness, and the stewardship team wanted to renew stewardship to further energize the parish community.

So, Msgr. McGuinness, associate pastor Father Luke Tran and other stewardship team members attended a very helpful seminar titled "A Practical Guide to Stewardship in Today's Catholic Parish" hosted by the Archdiocese of Newark's Development Office several times last August and October.

The seminar was very informative, and we left with a roadmap of what is appropriate and realistic for our parish, based on the "Seven Steps to Promoting the Gifts of Time, Talent and Treasure." This was the first stewardship seminar I have attended, and the presenters from the Development Office, the Cunneen Company and Parish Growth Partners were knowledgeable and well prepared.

The seminar helped organize our stewardship efforts and enabled us to see clearly the path we should follow for our parish community. We studied all seven steps, and it was clear that there were a lot of options we could choose with each step. As we developed the plan, we focused on what we could realistically do and priori-

tized what was most important. We developed a sequential process, and we will keep focusing on items that will make the biggest immediate difference.

We left the seminar energized, seeing what worked in other parishes and knowing we could capitalize on these experiences.

Based on what we learned in the seminar, we put a plan in place to do an offertory enhancement process. It included a series of parishioner lay witness talks and a guide to help the speakers with the content. When I heard the talks at Mass, the example of faith-filled Catholics living the stewardship of treasure came across loud and clear. In the spring, we plan to do promote stewardship of time and talent, which will be introduced with lay witness talks as well.

While attending the seminar, we learned about professional companies that help promote stewardship in a broad sense or just to help run an increase offertory process more effectively. We selected a consultant and the result, thanks to the generous response of parishioners, is a significant increase in the weekly offering, up roughly from \$13,000 to \$16,000, with additional responses still forthcoming.

St. John's has about 3,500 families and offers many different ministries, however we know there are folks who are not involved or have limited involvement in parish activities. Our goal as a stewardship team is to

reach out to all corners of the parish community, through our example of how we live as stewards, rather than just by what we say.

Our plan will keep us going for at least a year, and right now we're focused on the spring when we will begin to renew the stewardship of time and talent. We're planning a ministry fair to make our parish ministries more visible and to help our parishioners give more of themselves through volunteering.

Through the help of my fellow deacon in the parish, Deacon Ed Campanella, we have revitalized our ministry booklet. This booklet will help in many ways, including informing new parishioners with a guide to each ministry, and hopefully encourage more participation.

Another key fact we learned from the seminar was that discipleship comes first and from it naturally flows stewardship. It may sound obvious, but it was an eye-opener to realize that you don't create stewards unless you already have disciples of Christ.

We believe stewardship will ultimately bring people closer to Christ. Once you're serious about following Christ, then you'll recognize that your time, talent and treasure are gifts that need to be shared with God and others. One flows from the other. As people share their time, talent and treasure, it enables them to bring Christ to people and attract other people to Christ.





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NJPA



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# Another 'link' in the New Energies chain means pain and gain for Rahway parishes

BY CHRISTY GUERRA

Special to The Catholic Advocate

RAHWAY—No one needs to lecture the parishioners and staff of St. Mark's and St. Mary's churches here about the difficulty that change brings.

During the last 12 months, both parishes have participated in the Archdiocesan New Energies Transition Project, which, by uniting parishes within close proximity to each other, hopes to enhance the quality of parish life by creating a greater sense of community.

Although some parishes have "merged" with each other in order to create a larger, more cohesive community of believers in a certain area, others have instead been asked to "link" together, making common certain programs or events in order to unify both parishes, yet keeping both church buildings and corporations separate.

Now, a year after the process was launched, St. Mark's and St. Mary's—two parishes that have been linked within the archdiocese—have delivered a progress report that details some of the difficulties and benefits the New Energies Transition Project has to offer.

There are three different configurations that the New Energies Transition Project is using as models for parish redevelopment: clustered parishes, merged parishes, and linked parishes.

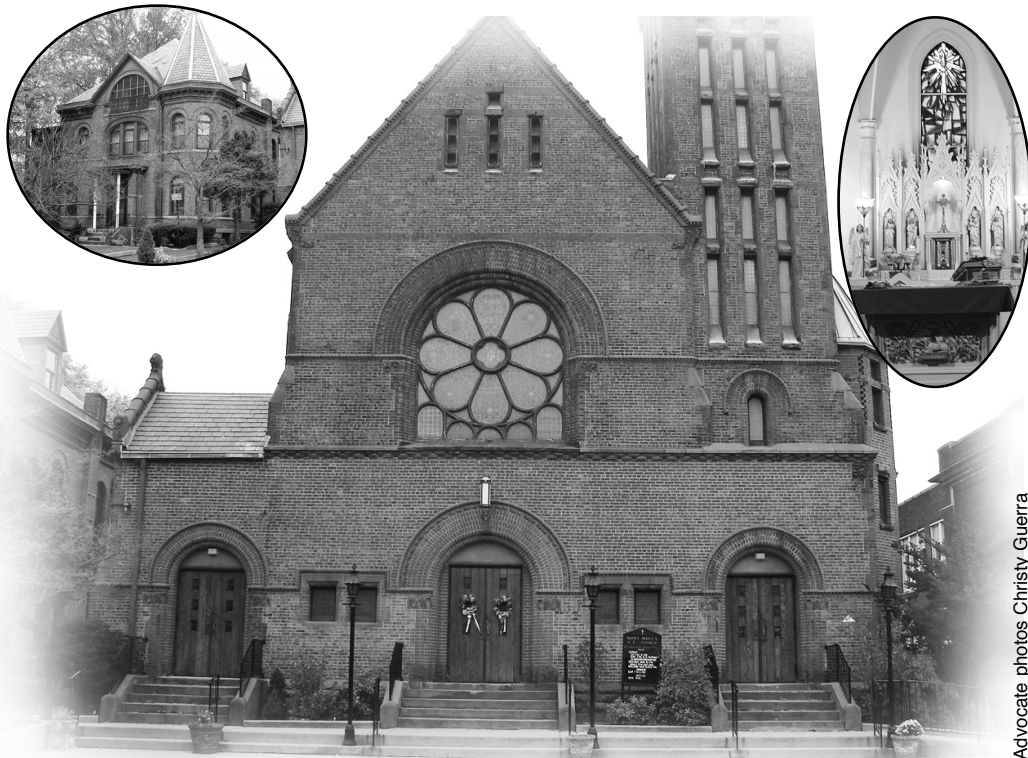
Linked parishes are usually two or three parishes that remain as separate places of worship, but share a pastor and other aspects of ministry. Clustered parishes, like those that are linked, are composed of more communities, usually three or four parishes. Although they, too, stay as separate entities, their parishes may include a joint school or parish council. Merged parishes are those that join together to form a new parish corporation, usually taking a new name, and using a greater amount of resources to create a new and more vibrant worship community.

St. Mark's and St. Mary's are in close proximity to each other, and share the common bond of older, more traditional parishioners. "We have an

older group that is very strong and very loyal," Genevieve Gorski, a volunteer at St. Mark's and a longtime member of the parish, said. Ruth Breen, a member of St. Mary's, agreed with Gorski's assessment. "Older people keep the parishes going," Breen said.

Both parishes also are steeped in history. St. Mark's, founded by German-speaking Catholics, was founded in 1871, while St. Mary's, traditionally associated with the Irish community, was incorporated as a territorial parish in 1854.

That sense of history and fierce loyalty, however, is what made the parishes at first reluctant to participate in the project. The original plan was for both parishes to merge, but a decision was later made to link both parishes instead.



Advocate photos Christy Guerra

St. Mary's Church in Rahway is a well-known landmark.

The fear that a merger would occur and the closing of one of the churches never left, however, and anxiety spread rumors throughout not only the parishes, but the entire town. "People were talking at Shop-Rite, at the bank, all around town," Father William T. Morris, who served as the administrator at St. Mark, recalled. "They were contradicting everything I was saying from the pulpit. It became very discouraging."

For some St. Mark's parishioners, the fear of closure has never fully diminished. It also did not help that in 2003, due to financial problems, St. Mary's elementary school merged with St. Elizabeth's of Hungary in Linden (now named "Saints Mary and Elizabeth Academy"), causing concerns among parishioners.

Other challenges were present as adjustments were made, such as rescheduling Mass times and combining programs such as Confirmation, which will include young

people from both parishes for the first time this year. One of the biggest adjustments was the installation of Father Morris as pastor of both parishes after Father Michael Feketie, former pastor of St. Mary's, retired earlier this year.

"The initial reaction was overwhelming," Father Morris said, when asked about his feelings on the shift. "But I was glad to work through (the transition) myself."

Being in the first round of the New Energies Transition Project proved to be difficult for the two parishes, as there was little history to lean on as a point of reference to answer questions. Members of St. Mark's and St. Mary's agreed that improvements could have been made in terms of planning, and collectively expressed the wish that more information about the

process had been given from the beginning of the project, as well as a greater presence from those running the project from the Archdiocesan office.

Although both parishes saw their fair share of difficulty, many positive changes are already present at this early stage of the linkage process. Both parishes have formed a linked Pastoral Council and are in the process of creating a joint mission statement. Masses have been rescheduled, and still include a Mass in Spanish to continue support for the ever-growing Spanish-speaking community. In addition, the first linked youth Mass, which was held at St. Mary's church, was well attended.

Members of both parishes said they are excited to share ideas about where to go next as a linked community. "It's a matter of believing in God and praying through obstacles," Gorski said. Father Renerio Agaloos, Parochial Vicar at St. Mary's Parish, agrees that even though it will take a while for parishioners from both parishes to absorb the changes, "we'll be able to get to our goal."

The New Energies project, introduced in 2004, provides a roadmap for the archdiocese's near-term profile. The project, which contains 28 guiding principles, addresses the realities of shifting Catholic demographics in urban and suburban communities, evaluates the sustainability of aging facilities, and makes tough choices regarding financial resources and rising costs throughout the archdiocese.

In another recent development in the New Energies project, a Mass was celebrated at St. Ann's Parish, Newark, on Dec. 18 to recognize the launch of the new Parish of the Transfiguration (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Jan. 11). The Parish of the Transfiguration represents the merger of the St. Ann and St. Rocco communities—both located in Newark.

New Energies  
Update

# March for Life

Continued from page 1

"I feel like its closer than ever. I feel like all the work of the pro-life movement and everything we have tried to accomplish will soon pay off," Russo said.

Along the sidelines of the march, there were a few pro-choice protesters with signs and banners of their own. "I noticed the pro-abortion young people and they were shouting and always looked so angry. Our kids were just wonderful; playing and singing with each other. It was like two different worlds. I hope people who saw us marching stopped and thought and didn't just blindly accept what they are being told (about abortion)," Russo added. "The answer to abortion will come from the youth."

One young person who has strong convictions on the issue of the right to life is Rebecca Florczak, 15, who is a member of the Christian Youth Organization at St. John the Apostle Parish in Linden. This was her first time participating in the March for Life.

"I wanted to go because I consider abortion murder and it needs to end," she declared. "I think the youth have a lot of power and are the future of our country and need to start taking action."

Florczak said she loved the atmosphere at the march and recalled that the people were pleasant and friendly. "The people

from all over the United States were interesting. It surprised me how many people under the age of 35 participated. It was unreal when I got to the top of the Capitol Hill and looked back and saw how many people where there."

She also believed the march strengthened her spiritual connection to God and the Church. "It was amazing. After I left, I felt like I was closer to God, like my relationship with Him was stronger. I would love to go again next year," Florczak said.

*"I could have been the result of an abortion if my mom hadn't decided to have me when she was 18."*

—Leatriz Infante

Joining Florczak was Leatriz Infante, also a parishioner at St. John the Apostle. Infante is involved in the youth choir, teaches 4th grade CCD at the parish and is an adult in the parish youth group. This was her third time at the March for Life and she feels personally connected to the cause.

"I could have been the result of

an abortion if my mom hadn't decided to have me when she was 18," she said.

Infante was also taken by the atmosphere and camaraderie between those who attended the annual rally. "The view from the very top of the Capitol Hill when you turn around gives me goose bumps each and every time I see it. There are people of every race, religion and nationality marching. From the kids who can't walk to the elders who have to be pushed in wheelchairs, every single person gets up to the hill to prove their point," Infante added.

Brian and Bonnie Ludwig also were impressed by the turnout of the rally, even after attending 20 rallies together. The Ludwigs came on a bus with other parishioners from St. Philomena Parish in Livingston.

"The streets were packed and you couldn't move up in the march easily. You had to go on the sidewalks in order to meet up with people. There was a fabulous mood and tone. Everyone was talking, singing and praying. There were no hecklers, just very peaceful with wall-to-wall people of the same mind and heart doing anything they can to end abortion," Bonnie Ludwig said.

"It was a great experience and we are glad we were there. It's a great place to bring your kids to. You feel very comfortable and safe. The march was uplifting," Bonnie's husband, Brian, added. The couple met up with their



Photo by Brian and Bonnie Ludwig

Brain Ludwig (far left) with daughter Dori (far right) and her friends Christina and Michelle attended the 33rd Annual March For Life in Washington, which was held on Jan. 23. Ludwig and his wife Bonnie are parishioners at St. Philomena Parish.

daughter Dori who attends Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio, and her friends, as well as their niece Christi, who traveled 17 hours from St. Louis University, MO, to attend the march.

"We attend because we are totally committed to the sanctity of the human person. We are also on the pro-life commission at our parish and this issue is the heart of our souls," Bonnie Ludwig said.

Brian Ludwig agreed and claimed that abortion is the most important issue in the Church. "The world is hopefully going to do something to protect the unborn or those close to dying," he said.

During the rally, President George W. Bush spoke to the

marchers via telephone and said he is of the same mind as those who took part in the demonstration. President Bush also said he will try to strengthen the adoption program in America, enforce parental notification for underage women who have abortions and several other policies.

"What really impressed the college students where women of Silent No More, who opened up to the audience about regretting their abortion. It took courage to say to everyone that they regret doing it. Going to the march was a great renewal of our commitment to life," Bonnie said.

The organization, Silent No More, maintains a website at: [www.silentnomoreawareness.org](http://www.silentnomoreawareness.org)

## FOCUS

Continued from page 1

Father James Spera, director of Campus Ministry, works with the local group. Saying FOCUS is "on the cutting edge of campus ministry," it also, he explained, "speaks to the call of Pope John Paul II for evangelization." A vital factor, Father Spera stressed, is that "each member is carefully selected and well-trained."

One of the missionaries at Seton Hall is Patrick McLaughlin who joined two years ago at age 34 and is one of the older members. Saying he is one of the few who did not move on right out of college, McLaughlin described his situation as "a later calling." McLaughlin was in the marketing business in Kansas City when his faith journey to FOCUS began.

Explaining he was in the process of "growing spiritually," McLaughlin cited three basic tenants. Members must "fund raise" their salary, commit to a "romantic fast" and not date for the first year and agree to go

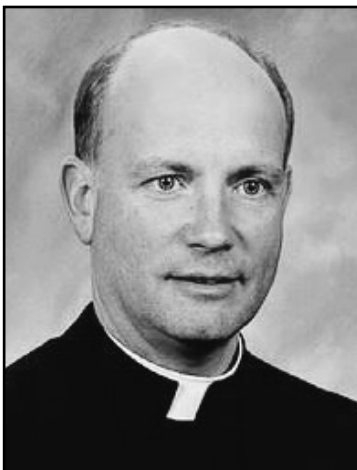
wherever they are assigned. The New Mexico native has been at Seton Hall since August of 2004. FOCUS, he said, does three things: "win, build and send."

He explained, the program wins young people to Christ, builds good habits and sends them out into the world through discipleship. Vocations are encouraged. In fact, McLaughlin pointed out, since its inception, 67 members joined the seminary and 25 entered the Religious life.

Probably the most significant affect on him, McLaughlin feels, is during daily Holy Hour with other members. They recite the Rosary and then take time for quiet prayer, meditation and Scripture reading. He called it a time "to listen to God through the power of prayer and silence."

Last month, Archbishop John J. Myers, who Father Spera said is "deeply committed" to FOCUS, attended a northeast regional leadership conference in Jersey City. In all 456 attended. Of that number 310 were students and 146 among the ranks of Religious, vendors, donors and family members.

Peter Touhill, a junior, pointed



Father James Spera

to the "great fellowship" and the program's ability to help a person "better share their faith." FOCUS, he added, is "rooted in our Catholic Faith...is it a great movement in the Church."

Young people are drawn to FOCUS, he explained, "because it is peer driven." Its affect on college campuses, said Touhill, is that of an "active" ministry to which many students are responding. Touhill now leads a Bible study group in a dormitory basement for up to 15 students. It is, he stressed, "a priority for me."

Senior Jacki Savner, who leads a weekly Bible study group for freshman girls, started participating during her sophomore year and was impressed by the fellowship she experienced and the "happiness and joy" shared by the students. "I wanted to be part of it," Savner recalled.

Being part of FOCUS, she continued, "has given me the tools to become closer to Christ in my life." It has developed within her a deeper interest in a prayerful life and she has learned too how "Christ is involved in my life" and how to convey that to other people. Her family, Savner added, has also "grown closer to Christ."

Junior Amanda Caputi learned about the group from an aunt in Colorado, the birthplace of FOCUS. Calling herself a "something to do person," she soon introduced herself to one of the missionaries at Seton Hall. She noticed too, Caputi said, that FOCUS members "always had a certain spark through their love for God." She also sees FOCUS as an opportunity "to give myself structure."

A member since her freshman

year, Caputi said she has been able to incorporate FOCUS values into her life in "the college atmosphere." She said, too, she has learned who she will be "spiritually as a daughter of God for the rest of my life" and how to share that with others. FOCUS, Caputi stressed, "has helped me grow."

Describing himself as "excited" about the "dramatic changes" on the Seton Hall campus since FOCUS was established, Father Spera cited several reasons for such progress. First, he said, is "the Holy Spirit." There is also a "genuine spiritual need" being met. And, finally, he emphasized, there is an "uncompromising commitment to preaching and living the Gospel."

FOCUS, he added, is "clearly Catholic." Taking that point further, Father Spera noted that it "really works....there is no confusion, it is true loyalty to Catholic teachings."

As evidence of what FOCUS has accomplished, Father Spera said there are now "long lines" for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and attendance at daily Mass has doubled.



February 8

**Archdiocesan Center**, Newark, annulment information meeting, 7:30 p.m., (973) 497-4327.

**The Shrine of Saint Joseph**, Stirling, “The Gospel of Mark and Mark’s Call to Us as a Community of Believers,” 7:30 p.m., (908) 647-0208.

February 10

**St. Mary’s Convent**, Haddonfield, Come and See weekend retreat for women 20- 45-years-old, 7:30 p.m. to noon on Feb. 11, call Sister Kathleen at (856) 858-2372.



February 11

**Queen of Peace Parish**, North Arlington, national premiere of the Jean Delannoy film “The Passion of Bernadette,” 2 p.m., Cost: \$5 donation, (201) 997-00700.

**Lumen Center**, Caldwell, “Mandala: As a Path to Self-Discovery,” 9 a.m.- noon, Cost: \$20, (973) 403-3331 ext. 25.

**St. Phil’s Singles**, Livingston, Valentine’s Day Dance, 7:30 p.m., (973) 340-4001.

Archbishop appoints three new pastors

AREA—Archbishop John J. Myers has appointed three new pastors.

**Father Bryan F. J. Adamcik**, former parochial vicar at St. Stephen Parish, Kearny, is the new pastor of Our Lady of Victories Parish, Harrington Park.

Father Adamcik was ordained on May 25, 1996. His first assignment was as parochial vicar of Assumption Parish, Emerson.

On June 14, 2003, Father Adamcik was appointed parochial vicar at St. Stephen’s Parish.

**Father Charles McDermott**, former parochial vicar of St. Michael Parish, Union, is now pastor.

Msgr. McDermott was ordained on May 17, 1973. His ministry includes parochial vicar of St. Aloysius Parish, Jersey City, and then St. Anne Parish, Jersey City. Msgr. McDermott was appointed parochial vicar of St. Michael Parish in 1994.

**Reverend Aurelio Yanez**, Parochial Vicar of the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Elizabeth, has been appointed pastor of St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Hillside.

Before he arrived at Immaculate Conception Parish, he was a pastor in Columbia. In 2000, he became parochial vicar of St. Paul of the Cross Parish, Jersey City, before coming to Immaculate Conception Parish.

Cathedral Concert Series to mark Mozart’s birthday

NEWARK—The Cathedral Concert Series continues at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart on Sunday, Feb. 19 with Music Of Mozart, a concert commemorating the 250th anniversary of the birth of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

The 4 p.m. performance will feature Christopher Collins Lee, violin; John Romeri, flute; André Tarantiles, harp; Lorraine Ernest, soprano; John Miller, organ and the Cathedral Chamber Orchestra.

Works to be performed include the Double Concerto for Harp and Flute, the beloved “Exultate Jubilate” and the famous “Eine Kleine Nachtmusik.” A pre-concert lecture by Lee begins at 3:40 p.m. He will play the violin of Leopold Mozart (Wolfgang’s father).

Suggested donation is \$15. For more information, call (973)-484-2400, or visit [www.cathedralbasilica.org](http://www.cathedralbasilica.org).

How to report abuse

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

Individuals who wish to report an allegation of sexual misconduct may do so by calling the Archdiocesan Office of Child and Youth Protection at (201) 407-3256.

**Assumption of Our Blessed Lady Parish**, Wood-Ridge, overnight adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament, 5:30 p.m. through 8 a.m. Feb. 12, (201) 438-5555.

**St. Mary Parish**, Rutherford, Anointing of the Sick, 3:45 p.m., (201) 438-2200.

February 12

**St. Adalbert’s Parish**, Elizabeth, Mass honoring married couples, 10:45 a.m., (908) 352-2791.

**Shrine of Saint Joseph**, Stirling, Valentine’s Jewelry Sale, 9 a.m.- 5 p.m. an Feb. 12 at 9 a.m.- 3 p.m., (908) 647-0208.

**Our Lady of Sorrows Parish**, South Orange, blood drive, 8:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m., 1-800-BLOOD NJ.

**Union Catholic High School**, Scotch Plains, blood drive, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 1-800- BLOOD NJ.

February 13

**Aquinas Academy**, Livingston, 10 percent of food bills from Calabria Pizzeria will be donated to the school, all day, (973) 992-8496.

February 15

**St. John the Apostle Parish**, Linden, Healing Mass, 7:45 p.m., (908) 486-6363.

February 16

**Felician College**, Lodi, annual auction, March 11, 5 p.m., RSVP by Feb. 16, Cost: \$60, (201) 559-3315.

February 17

**St. Mark’s Social Club**, Rahway, Valentine Pizza Party Social for unmarried mature adults, 7 p.m., Cost: \$3, call Nina at (732) 381-1298.

February 18

**Lumen Center**, Caldwell, “Prayer Shawl Ministry—Called to be Heroes,” 10-11:30 a.m., (973) 403-3331 ext. 25.

**St. Phil’s Singles**, Livingston, bingo night, 7:30 p.m., (973) 340-4001.

**Notre Dame Parish**, North Caldwell, support group for father’s whose children have died, 10 a.m., (973) 497-4327.



**Knights of Columbus** (Mother Seton Council #5427), Washington Township, 50’s dance, Feb 25, 7 –11 p.m., RSVP by Feb. 18, (201) 664-0422.

February 19

**St. Andrew Parish**, Westwood, pancake breakfast, 8 a.m.- noon, Cost: \$5, (201) 666-1100.

February 22

**St. John the Evangelist Parish**, Leonia, “Called to Be Catholic—Church in a Time of Peril,” 7:30 p.m., call Geri at (201) 944-4346.

Other

**Family Life Ministries**, Archdiocesan Center, Newark, Eight-week training program on ministering to the bereaved, March-May, (973) 497-4327.

Our Policy

To publicize an upcoming event at your parish, school or organization on the “Around the Archdiocese” page, please note:  
• Submissions must include the name of the sponsoring organization, a phone number for the contact person and event specifics, including the date, place and time.  
• Deadline for submission is 10 days prior to publication date.  
The Catholic Advocate publishes submissions as space allows and cannot print an item more than once.  
• Contact by **email**: [mielejos@rcan.org](mailto:mielejos@rcan.org), **fax**: 973-497-4192, or **mail**: The Catholic Advocate, Around the Archdiocese, P.O. Box 9500, Newark, NJ 07104

Official Appointments

Archbishop John J. Myers has announced the following appointments:

ARCHDIOCESAN AGENCY/MINISTRY

**Deacon Gregory C. Quinn**, Permanent Deacon at St. Thomas More Parish, Fairfield, has also been assigned as co-director of Prison Ministry for the Archdiocese of Newark, effective Jan. 18.

PASTOR

**Reverend Bryan F.J. Adamcik**, Parochial Vicar of St. Stephen Parish, Kearny, has been appointed Pastor of Our Lady of Victories Parish, Harrington Park, effective Feb. 1.

**Reverend Charles B. McDermott**, Parochial Vicar of St. Michael Parish, Union, has been appointed Pastor effective Feb. 1.

ADMINISTRATOR

**Reverend Joseph J. Astarita**, Parochial Vicar of the Our Lady of the Visitation Parish, Paramus, has been appointed Administrator of St. Aedan Parish, Jersey City, effective Feb. 5.

CHAPLAINCY

**Reverend Thomas E. Pendrick**, Parochial Vicar of Our Lady of Peace Parish, New Providence, has been appointed Chaplain of Bergen Catholic High School, Oradell, effective Jan. 18 with residence at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Ridgewood.

**Reverend Thomas M. Cembor**, Parochial Vicar of St. Raphael Parish, Livingston, has been appointed Chaplain at Mountainside Hospital, Montclair, with residence at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Rectory, Montclair, effective Jan. 18.

**Reverend John T. Michalczak**, Chaplain at Bergen Regional Medical Center, Paramus has been appointed Chaplain at Holy Name Hospital, Teaneck, with residence at the hospital, effective Jan. 18.

**Reverend Stephen A. Carey**, Pastor of Madonna Parish, Fort Lee, has also been appointed Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus, Coronation Council #1863, Fort Lee, effective Jan. 17.



**Reverend Larry Evans II**, Parochial Vicar of the Church of the Presentation, Upper Saddle River has also been appointed Chaplain for the Policemen’s Benevolent Association of Upper Saddle River, Local #218, effective Jan. 19.

PASTOR EMERITUS

**Reverend Benedict P. Militello** has been designated Pastor Emeritus of Most Holy Name Parish, Garfield, effective immediately.

RETIREMENT

**Reverend Monsignor Jeremias R. Rebanal**, Pastor of St. Aedan Parish, Jersey City, and Coordinator of the Filipino Apostolate has been granted retirement, effective Feb. 5



# Read all about it during Catholic Press Month

Catholics often cannot rely on the secular press for insight into their faith. That is the job of the Catholic press.

February is Catholic Press Month. This year's theme is "Choose the Right Path...Let the Catholic Press Lead You."

It is a time for the Catholic press and its readers to reflect on how well that job is being done and how it can be improved. It can always be improved.

The "big" stories such as the death of Pope John Paul II and the selection of his successor, grab the attention of print and electronic media worldwide. So does, unfortunately, the negative news. But that coverage is fleeting, generic and many times deficient on crucial elements of the Catholic faith.

The Catholic press, whether it be newspapers, the Internet, magazines or broadcast venues, brings the Catholic perspective to Catholic issues. Of particular importance is the emphasis on what is happening locally, a vital element of *The Catholic Advocate's* mission. That is the value and responsibility of the Catholic press. Through stories on faith in action, the Catholic Church reaches out to and connects with its people through the Catholic press. It is an awesome responsibility and singular privilege not taken lightly.

This is indeed an age of instantaneous information overload. Still, quality over quantity remains essential. For Catholics that is the Catholic press.

*Archbishop John J. Myers on Jan. 31 issued statements on the passing of Coretta Scott King and the confirmation of Samuel Alito as an Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.*

## On Mrs. King

The people of the Archdiocese of Newark mourn the passing of Coretta Scott King, who for so many people and for so many years has been a symbol of peace and brotherhood.

We remember Mrs. King in a special way here in Newark. In 1968, at a time when many places in this nation were unreceptive or ambivalent to the message of human rights, the Archdiocese welcomed the Kings to our Queen of Angels Parish and stood with them in the struggle for equality.

Though Coretta Scott King will surely be missed, her efforts to continue to promote the King legacy will long be remembered and valued.

## On Justice Alito

I congratulate President Bush on his appointment of Samuel A. Alito, Jr. as Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, and I congratulate Justice Alito and his family on his confirmation today by the U.S. Senate. I am looking forward to the opportunity to congratulate him personally in the near future.

Throughout his confirmation process, Justice Alito demonstrated great dignity and expertise. He showed us all that he is a good and faithful man, respected by members of his profession, eminently qualified to serve and committed to the rule of law and the U.S. Constitution.

His fellow parishioners at Most Blessed Sacrament, Roseland, and I will always keep him in our prayers, asking Our Lord to grant him wisdom as he deliberates on the important matters of the Court, and strength to remain true to his convictions.

# God's pro-life people cannot remain silent

Editor,

I have to commend Bernard Kiernan for his Jan. 11 letter in *The Catholic Advocate* about the evil of abortion and the silence and apathy so many Christians show towards this horrible slaughter.

As Mr. Kiernan so eloquently said, unless we pro-life people of God have the courage to speak out, this detestable, depraved evil will not go away.

The clergy for the most part are

reluctant to speak out. But the people, the Church militant, have to let their voices be heard.

Pray God we do and are heard by the bishops and clergy who seem unable to deal with the horrible evil as evidenced by the past 33 years of innocent, defenseless, legalized killing of babies.

I implore all Christians to get involved. Stop the apathy and silence that seems so common by so many Christians.

Ed Bradley  
Coytesville



Young people lead the 33rd annual March for Life up Constitution Avenue in Washington, D.C. on Jan. 23.

## 'New Faithful' youth of NJ to gather on April 5 for pro-life rally at SHU

BY JOE MELE AND ANDREA ZIMMERMAN  
Special to *The Catholic Advocate*

There's a hot, new trend quietly sweeping our nation's youth; a subtle yet significant shift in the mindset of many young adults.

This trend won't leave a permanent mark like tattoos or strategically placed piercings, but it could make a lasting impression on your soul.

Young people are flocking to a new way of thinking about faith and values. They're frustrated with labels and assumptions associated with terms like Generation X—slacker, apathetic, agnostic, and they are ready to take positive action.

The movement is known as "the New Faithful," a term coined by author Colleen Carol Campbell in her book *The New Faithful: Why Young Adults Are Embracing Christian Orthodoxy*. Young Catholics, Protestants and Orthodox Christians are showing a hunger for Christian truth, a desire to serve and an attraction to traditional devotions.

The New Faithful youth of New Jersey will be seen in action at this year's third-annual Salesian New Jersey Pro-Life Youth Rally, to be held on Wednesday, April 5. The dioceses of Paterson and Metuchen and Archdiocese of Newark will meet at Seton Hall University, South Orange, under the leadership of the Salesians of Don Bosco, to host an expected 700 high school students interested in making a statement for life.

Contact Father Steve Ryan, SDB, the director of the Salesian Youth Ministry office, South Orange, at (973) 761-0201 for more information on the rally.

This year's Pro-Life Youth Rally program will address some serious concerns for today's teens: sexuality as a choice, the alternative of abstinence, and the physical and emotional consequences of each decision. The keynote speaker, Pam Stenzel, has touched the lives of young people from Canada to Australia using candor, insight, and humor to connect with students on the tough issue of teen sexuality.

A team of dedicated, focused young adults aimed at making a difference is shaping the rally. The "Young Apostles," a

group of local high school students from St. Benedict's Preparatory, Delbarton School and Villa Walsh Academy, are tackling a variety of tasks to make the rally relevant for their peers. They've taken on the important responsibilities of writing and preparing skits on pro-life issues and researching important pro-life topics to integrate throughout the program.

The April 5 rally will encourage young people to make courageous choices—to embrace life, address the challenges of chastity as a difficult and rewarding choice, and to live with meaning and purpose. These enthusiastic young people are passionate about their mission and the role they are playing in shaping other teen's attitudes on these important topics.

The New Faithful crave an alternative to a life filled with self-centered attitudes and the pursuit of pleasure. They embrace the teachings of the Beatitudes, the Golden Rule and the theological virtues of faith, hope and love. You'll find them at rallies, daily Masses, confessionals and religious conferences. They're focused on making a difference in today's hot social and political issues, like abortion and stem cell research.

Last month thousands of such young people heard the call to be Prophets of Life, Love and Joy in our nation's capital. In typical New Faithful fashion, these dedicated, young would-be prophets were seen marching in support of the rights of the unborn during the anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision to legalize abortion in the *Roe v. Wade* case.

Pope John Paul II called young people across the world to a life of prayer, self-sacrifice and service to others. The New Faithful truly are answering that call.

Andrea Zimmerman, Ed.D. has been a volunteer with the Salesian Pro-Life Youth Rally the past three years and is also a volunteer on the Salesian Eastern US Providence Youth Board. Joe Mele is a graduate student at the University of Scranton studying Community Counseling. He has been involved with the Salesians of Don Bosco for a year.

Father Ryan is coordinator of Youth Ministry for the Eastern Province of his Salesian congregation and is vocation director for the Salesians.

CNS photo



# Gentle words of praise for 'quiet' Christians

**C**atholics are truly catholic. The word means universal. Our fellow members of the Church come in every race and ethnic group on the planet. They range from liberal to conservative, from devout to non-practicing, from totally honest to complete malefactors.

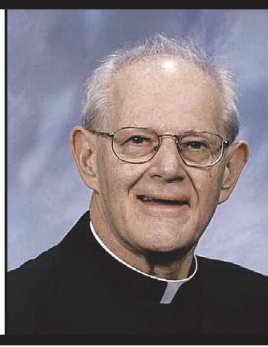
One of the great gifts that our Church can give is anonymity. The word, of course, means "without a name." In this context I refer to millions of men and women—devout, but very personal. They do not wear their religion on their sleeve. A miraculous medal may hang around their necks, but it is not usually visible. There is a rosary in their pockets, but when they say their beads, the rosary is almost invisible in their hands whether on foot or in the car or on public transportation.

These are the ones who slip into a church for daily Mass or to say a prayer or to light a candle. They drop a dollar or two in a poor box, or slip something to a beggar on the street. If you should happen to be in a big city like New York, you will see them on line outside of a confessional.

When they are at work they often place a small

## Voices

By Rev. Msgr. John Gilchrist



holy picture or a statue of a saint in their office workspace.

Many of these people are almost invisible. They are not "joiners" so they are not in many church societies. Nor do they exercise ministries unless they are asked.

Often they do not sing at the liturgy. They listen and join in spirit. They are not great greeters at the

kiss of peace; a small gesture or a quick handshake will do. They are not found in processions or public demonstrations of devotion. But their offering is in

the basket on Sunday. And they are the ones who truly hear the message of the homily. They carry it home in their hearts.

They are the "quiet" Christians. The gift that they appreciate the most is anonymity. They prefer the hidden life, the more gentle inner form of devotion.

We must be careful that we do not push or pressure these folks into what we decide is "community." The Mystical Body of Christ has many parts. Each person has his or her own DNA, his or her own fingerprints, his or her own voice. No person can be duplicated. Each soul is special. Each person has had special life experiences. The greatest gift we can give a person is respect. That means respect for a person's lifestyle.

So, it is important that our Church continue to respect that form of quiet piety that we find in hidden souls. Underneath, in the interior world of spirituality, these souls may do far more to bring God's blessing into the world than those of us who make a great show of our Christianity.

I salute you, you invisible friends of God. Pray for us who make a lot of pious noise. You probably hear God a lot more clearly than we do. You are the foundation stones of Christ's Church.

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

*One of the great gifts  
that our Church can give  
is anonymity.*

## Pope says Lent is time to see others through eyes of Christ

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Especially with fasting and almsgiving, Lent is a time to learn how to see others with the eyes of Christ and to express his compassion for the poor, according to Pope Benedict XVI.

"In the face of the terrible challenge of poverty afflicting so much of the world's population, indifference and self-centered isolation stand in stark contrast to the gaze of Christ," he declared in his message for Lent 2006.

The pope's message was released Jan. 31 at the Vatican. This year, for Latin-rite Catholics, Lent begins March 1, Ash Wednesday.

In the message, the pope encouraged Catholics to try during Lent to see and to react to those suffering around them with the same attitude Jesus showed in St. Matthew's Gospel, which says, "Jesus, at the sight of the crowds, was moved with pity."

Pope Benedict said responding to the needs of others like Christ meant not only meeting their material needs, but also offering them the Gospel. "It is quite impossible to separate the response to people's material and social needs from the fulfillment of the profound desires of their hearts."

While poverty and underdevelopment are "an outrage against humanity," he went on, economic programs alone cannot provide everything necessary for full human development.

Development also "involves the proclamation of the truth of Christ, who educates consciences and teaches the authentic dignity of the person and of work," the pope pointed out.

Each and every Christian has an obligation to be personally involved in promoting development with gifts of time, money, prayer and action, he said. "It is clear that no economic, social or political project can replace that gift of self to another through which charity is expressed.

Pope Benedict said that in their work for peace and justice some Christians mistakenly have thought "they should first improve this world and only afterward turn their minds to the next. The temptation was to believe that, in the face of urgent needs, the first imperative was to change external structures." In consequence, he stressed, "believing" was replaced with "doing."

But the greatest gift a Christian can give to another is the gift of faith in Jesus, who promises victory "over every evil that oppresses us," the pope remarked.

Especially during Lent, he wrote, Christians must try to model themselves on Jesus, bearing "the material and spiritual needs of their neighbors."

Each year, the papal Lenten message focuses on charity and is distributed by the Pontifical Council Cor Unum, which promotes and coordinates Catholic charitable activity.

Msgr. Karel Kasteel, Cor Unum secretary, told Vatican Radio Jan. 30 that the message touched many of the same themes treated in the pope's encyclical "Deus Caritas Est" ("God Is Love").

But the Lenten message, he said, "is addressed specifically to the faithful who want to make Lent a fruitful period for the development of their spiritual lives."



Advocate photo-Ward Miele

**GETTING READY**—Administrators and pastors met last month at the Archdiocesan Center in Newark to discuss this year's Archbishop's Annual Appeal (AAA) which began this past weekend. At the meeting, Most Rev. Thomas A. Donato, Auxiliary Bishop of Newark, said the AAA should be thought of as a "partnership" that helps the entire Church of Newark and not just a single parish. Contact the archdiocesan Development Office at (973) 497-4130 for more information on the AAA.

## A John Paul II miracle?

ROME (CNS)—The Polish priest charged with shepherding Pope John Paul II's sainthood cause said he believes the healing of a French nun suffering from Parkinson's disease could be the miracle needed for the pope's beatification.

Msgr. Slawomir Oder, postulator of the cause, announced on Italian radio in late January that he had chosen the case of the French nun from among the many apparently miraculous healings people from around the world had reported to him.

He told Catholic News Service Jan. 31 that the case involved a French religious who had been diagnosed with Parkinson's when she was "very young; it was a precocious onset."

Pope John Paul had suffered from Parkinson's, a progressive disease that attacks the nervous system.

Msgr. Oder had refused to talk about the French nun's case in late November when Pope John Paul's former personal secretary, Archbishop Stanislaw Dziwisz of Krakow, Poland, told reporters her healing would be submitted to Vatican investigators.



# Benedict XVI issues first encyclical

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In his first encyclical, Pope Benedict XVI called for a deeper understanding of love as a gift from God to be shared in a self-sacrificial way, both at a personal and social level.

The pope said love between couples, often reduced today to selfish sexual pleasure, needs to be purified to include “concern and care for the other.” Love is also charity, he said, and the Church has an obligation to help the needy wherever they are found—but its primary motives must always be spiritual, never political or ideological.

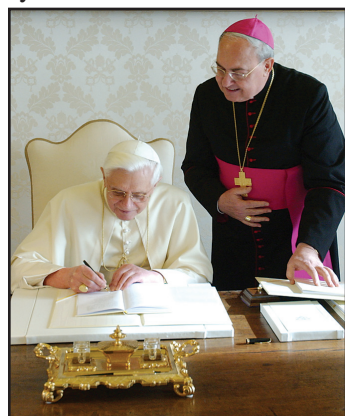
The nearly 16,000-word encyclical, titled “Deus Caritas Est” (“God Is Love”), was issued Jan. 25 in seven languages. Addressed to all Catholics, it was divided into two sections, one on the meaning of love in salvation history, the other on the practice of love by the Church.

The pope said his aim was to “speak of the love which God lavishes upon us and which we in return must share with others.” The two aspects, personal love and the practice of charity, are profoundly interconnected, he wrote.

The encyclical begins with a phrase from the First Letter of John: “God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.” The pope said the line expresses the heart of the Christian faith, which understands the creator as a loving God and which sees Christ’s death as the ultimate sign of God’s love for man.

In today’s world, however, the term “love” is frequently used and misused, he said. Most commonly, it is understood as representing “eros,” the erotic love between a man and a woman. The Church, from its earliest days, proposed a new vision of self-sacrificial love expressed in the word “agape,” he noted.

At times, the pope said, the Church, with all its commandments and prohibitions, has been accused of poisoning eros or of being ready to “blow the whistle” just when the joy of erotic love presented itself. But in modern society, he said, it has become clear that eros itself has been



CNS photo

Pope Benedict XVI signs his first encyclical in his private library in the Vatican Jan. 23. With him is Archbishop Leonardo Sandri, assistant papal secretary of state.

exalted and the human body debased. “Eros, reduced to pure ‘sex,’ has become a commodity, a mere ‘thing’ to be bought and sold, or rather, man himself becomes a commodity. This is hardly man’s great ‘yes’ to the body. On the contrary, he now considers his body and his sexuality as the purely material part of himself, to be used and exploited at will,” he said. Properly understood, eros leads a man and woman to marriage, a bond that is exclusive, and therefore monogamous, as well as permanent. While it is true that the happiness of eros can give people a “foretaste of the divine,” eros needs to be disciplined and purified if it is to provide more than fleeting pleasure. The solution is to rediscover a balance between the ecstasy of eros and the unselfish love of agape, he went on.

The key to regaining this balance, he said, lies in a personal relationship with God and an understanding of the sacrificial love of Jesus Christ. He said Christ gives the ultimate lesson in “love of neighbor,” which means: “I love even the person whom I do not like or even know.”

The pope said there was an essential interplay between love of God and love of neighbor. “If I have no contact whatsoever with God in my life, then I cannot see in the other anything more than the other, and I am incapable of seeing in him the image of God.”

“But if in my life I fail completely to heed others, solely out of a desire to be ‘devout’ and to perform my ‘religious duties,’ then my relationship with God will also grow arid,” he stressed.

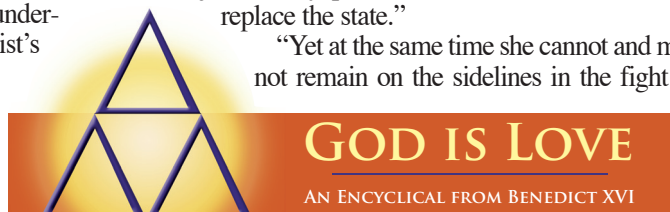
The second half of the encyclical makes two main points:

- As a community, the Church must practice love through works of charity and attend to people’s sufferings and needs, including material needs.
- The Church’s action stems from its spiritual mission and must never be undertaken as part of a political or ideological agenda.

The pope said there was a connection between the commitment to justice and the ministry of charity, but also important distinctions. Building a just social and civil order is an essential political task to which the church contributes through its social doctrine, but it “cannot be the Church’s immediate responsibility,” he said.

“A just society must be the achievement of politics, not of the Church,” the pope wrote. “The Church cannot and must not take upon herself the political battle to bring about the most just society possible. She cannot and must not replace the state.”

“Yet at the same time she cannot and must not remain on the sidelines in the fight for



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justice,” he said. The Church’s role is to make the rational arguments for justice and awaken the spiritual energy needed for the sacrifices that justice requires, the encyclical notes. “Christian charitable activity must be independent of parties and ideologies. It is not a means of changing the world ideologically, and it is not at the service of worldly stratagems, but it is a way of making present here and now the love which man always needs.”

The pope examined and rejected the Marxist arguments that the poor “do not need charity but justice,” and that charity is merely a means of preserving a status quo of economic injustice. He said the Church must help the needy wherever they are found, and he cited Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta as an example of love in action.

“One does not make the world more human by refusing to act humanely here and now,” he said. And charity will always be necessary, even in the most just society. In any case, he said, it is an illusion to think that the state can provide for all needs and fully resolve every problem.

“We do not need a state which regulates and controls everything,” but a state that supports initiatives arising from different social forces, he said. The Church is one of those forces, according to the pope.

The pope said that those working for Catholic charitable organizations need to be witnesses of the faith as well as professionally competent in humanitarian affairs.

The Church’s charitable activities, he said, should not be seen as opportunities for proselytism, in the sense of imposing the church’s faith on others.

“But this does not mean that charitable activity must somehow leave God and Christ aside,” he said. Without proposing specific guidelines, he added: “A Christian knows when it is time to speak of God and when it is better to say nothing and to let love speak alone.”

The pope said that prayer should not be forgotten as the church tries to alleviate the immense needs around the world.

“People who pray are not wasting their time, even though the situation appears desperate and seems to call for action alone. Piety does not undermine the struggle against the poverty of our neighbors, however extreme,” he said.

## The Pope Speaks

Pope Benedict XVI



## Our Lord’s compassion

Dear brothers and sisters,

Our reflection today centers on Psalm 145 (144), which presents the Lord as a loving king who is full of compassion. The spiritual heart of this prayer is an intense and moving celebration of God’s majesty.

In fact, the royal symbolism is an expression of God’s saving plan for all men and women: Far from being indifferent to humanity, he wishes to establish on earth a kingdom of harmony and peace, and to this end God enters our history through wonderful works and mighty deeds. Unlike territorial kingdoms, which so often have been marked by power or even oppression, the psalm evokes a reign of gentleness, grace and justice. Indeed, the king is “slow to anger and abounding in love.”

St. Peter Chrysologus notes that, even greater than the Lord’s works is the Lord’s mercy. Let us too raise our voices today in praise of God’s benevolence, mercy and care for all humanity!

## 'Eagles Wings' tops liturgical song list

WASHINGTON (CNS)—“On Eagle’s Wings,” the musical reworking of the 91st Psalm by Father Michael Joncas, topped all other songs in an online poll asking which liturgical song most fostered and nourished the respondent’s life.

Two songs made popular by the St. Louis Jesuits—“Here I Am, Lord” and “Be Not Afraid”—came in second and third, followed by “You Are Mine,” by David Haas.

The online poll was sponsored by the National Association of Pastoral Musicians. The poll was featured last year in an issue of its membership magazine, *Pastoral Music*, and announcements about the poll were distributed to diocesan newspapers in an effort to get the input of “rank-and-file Catholics,” said J. Michael McMahon, the association’s president.

In the poll, respondents could vote for only one song. No songs were listed on the Web site to give them suggestions. About 3,000 people took part in the poll.

Of the 25 liturgical music songs mentioned most, songs written after the Second Vatican Council took not only the top four positions, but six of the top nine, and 12 of the top 25. The fourth-ranked song, “You Are Mine,” received 138 votes, 81 percent more votes than the fifth-ranked song, “How Great Thou Art,” which got 76.

McMahon, in a telephone interview with Catholic News Service, cautioned against the notion that post-Vatican II music has dominance over all other liturgical music. “We got 670 different songs mentioned,” he said. “Even the top choice is only 8 percent of the total,” or 242 votes.

Rounding out the pastoral musicians association’s top 10 was, in sixth place, the traditional Catholic hymn “Holy God, We Praise Thy Name,” whose lyrics are ascribed to Ignaz Franz, followed by John Newton’s “Amazing Grace,” Marty Haugen’s “All Are Welcome,” Sebastian Temple’s “Prayer of St. Francis,” and “Ave Maria.”



# Path to peace in Haiti explored

JERSEY CITY — Speaking last month at a prayer service at St. Patrick Parish, Msgr. Willy Romelus, Bishop of Jeremie in Haiti, spoke about the path to peace in his country.

Noting the many parishioners in attendance, Msgr. Romelus remarked that his audience found the time to pray for Haiti. Doing so, he stressed, “sends a message to the world, so it may be understood that only God can give us what we are looking for.



Msgr. Willy Romelus

“If everyone in the Church in Haiti and abroad could make a chain to pray, how wonderful it would be because no good prayer goes up without coming down. God is love, He loves everyone. He is preparing a feast for us and has a great desire to see each of us attend this feast. It is why He sent Jesus to take away the sins of the people.”

Msgr. Romelus went on to note “when God promises, He delivers. He promised Jesus and He delivered Him through Mary. We must

welcome Jesus outside as well as inside our heart. Remember that Jesus accepted to be little, to be humiliated and to die for us. Jesus wants to live in us.”

Asking if everyone is a child of God, Msgr. Romelus said “if yes, we must stick together, we must

live in love, happiness and peace. How beautiful the world would be. We need peace here and everywhere in the world, especially in Haiti. Jesus will be the one who brings the peace. That peace will come if we do what He asks of us.”

The monsignor called upon the Lord “please forget everything that we did to you and let your people return to the land of Haiti...Haiti needs a real peace, the peace of God, please put an end to our trouble.”

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Pray for them...

Monica Orians, mother of Rev. Thomas Orians, director of campus ministry at Caldwell College, died Jan. 25.

Ann Iaquinto, mother of Rev. Robert M. Iaquinto (retired) and Rev. Richard Iaquinto, OSB of Weston, VT., died Jan. 26.

Doris B. Portas, sister of Rev. Msgr. Edward G. Bradley, director of the Ministry to Retired Priests for the Archdiocese of Newark, died Jan. 30.

Patricia Walsh INCOME TAX SERVICES Electronic Filing (201) 612-0300 112 Prospect St. • Ridgewood, NJ 07450

When Jesus turned around and noticed them following him,

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

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

"Come and see," He answered.

John 1:38-39

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

MISSION NEWS

The help received from the Propagation of the Faith is literally our 'lifeline,'" says one seminary rector in India. Although the seminarians grow most of their own food and their parents are able to offer some financial assistance, these students would not be able to prepare to serve their people as priests without help offered through the Propagation of the Faith. "Daily the seminarians pray for the great sacrifices made for them," says another rector in that country. "We continue to ask God to bless you and the important contribution you make toward the Church in India."

With God's grace and your help, young men who hear Christ's call to follow Him as priests may respond "Yes!" well into the future. Through a Gift Annuity with the Propagation of the Faith, you can help the future missionary work of the Church and benefit as well. A Gift Annuity with the Propagation of the Faith can provide you with income for your lifetime at a favorable rate of return. Please write for information; your inquiry will be kept in confidence.

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Please remember The Society for the Propagation of the Faith when writing or changing your will.



# SMA events will celebrate Black History Month

TENAFLY—The Society of African Missions (SMA), a worldwide Catholic missionary organization that serves Africa, has a full schedule of events in celebration of Black History Month.

This year's events salute two special anniversaries—the 50th anniversary of SMA and the Centenary of the Catholic Church in Liberia.

The opening weekend offered an African-style Catholic Mass followed by a banquet of African foods. Other celebration highlights include a symposium on Liberia—the West African country in the headlines for its new president—and a new Liberia exhibit at the African Art Museum of SMA.

All events are free and held at SMA American Province

Headquarters, 23 Bliss Ave.

On Sunday, Feb. 12 at 1 p.m. will be the opening of a new exhibit in the African Art Museum. Liberia: The First One Hundred Years is a narrative and photographic display of the work of SMA during the first century of the Catholic Church in Liberia.

A Symposium on Liberia, an afternoon of talks on Liberia by various missionaries, groups and other professionals who worked there will take place on Saturday, Feb. 18 from 2 to 6 p.m. The programs include a musical presentation on the African-American spiritual.

There will be a discussion of communications in Liberia with special focus on Radio Veritas, the Catholic radio station that has been

honored for excellence by the Press Union of Liberia (PUL).

SMA priests who served as teachers in Liberia will be joined by representatives of other religious groups who also worked as educators there to discuss the role of Catholic schools in the development of education in that country.

Theresa Hicks, a registered nurse and SMA missionary who served for more than 20 years in Liberia and is a coordinator of the SMA Lay Missionary Community in Takoma Park, MD, will explore the significant achievement of and challenges encountered by Catholic clinics, hospitals, and other health services in Liberia.

SMA missionary priests will discuss the efforts and impact of the Church on matters related to fair government practices, violence, quality of life, and other humanitarian issues.

Available as well will be a look at the legendary story of how the African people enslaved in America created an original music that enabled them to secretly communicate with each other, teach their young, record their history and heal their pain. Through the art of storytelling, song and

dance, Calvin Earl—a Jersey City musician—will provide insight into this historical music by revealing the secret codes and unleashing the raw rhythmic sound frequency that has been hidden in plain view for centuries.

On Sunday, Feb. 26 at 2 p.m. there will be a presentation—The History of SMA and Its Work: A Celebration of 150 Years of Service to African and to People of African Heritage.

The program will feature lively presentations by SMA missionaries who served in East and West Africa as well as in SMA missions in the United States, the Philippines, the Bahamas and other worldwide locations.

For more information about SMA, its missions, and the 150th anniversary year events, call the media office at (201) 567-0450, Ext. 218 or visit website at [www.smafathers.org](http://www.smafathers.org).

## Local artist among logo contest finalists

TENAFLY—A Fort Lee resident, Dolores Steinberg, was among three artists recently honored by Society of African Missions (SMA) as national finalists in the organization's International Logo Contest. The two other national finalists are from Ohio.

All three received a certificate of honor and a cash prize of \$200. Awards were presented at the opening ceremonies of SMA's 150th Anniversary Year held recently at its

national headquarters.

SMA is an international Catholic missionary organization that serves in Africa. Jubilee Year celebrations began in December.

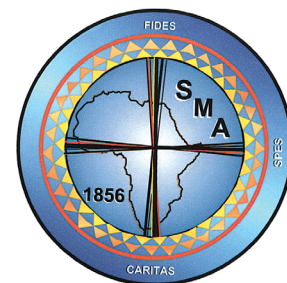
As a special project of the anniversary year, an International Logo Contest (2004-2005) was launched, opening the competition to the general public around the world.

"We believed this would help more people learn about SMA and our work in Africa," said Linda Telesco, United States contest coordinator.

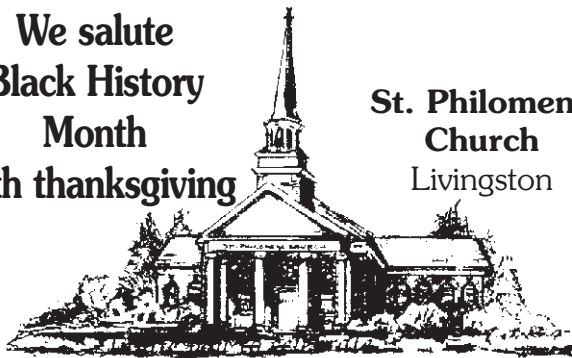
Each branch administered the contest locally, selecting three national finalists. The new logo was designed by Tomasz Szuster of Poland.

Commenting on her design, Steinberg said "The circles represent continuity, community and the map of the world. Blue was chosen to reflect a global perspective, since it suggests a world map. The flame-colored pointed designs were suggested by African patterns I had seen in artworks at the African Art Museum of SMA. I saw that some of those patterns designated the chief of a tribe.

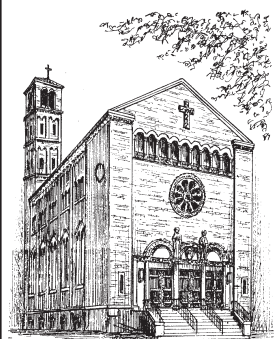
"I used those because Christ is the chief in the spiritual sense and also because they represent flames of love I associate with the Founder of SMA. Aiming for simplicity, I chose the other elements because they are the essentials of the design. The light from the cross illustrates Christ, through SMA, enlightening Africa. The outer circle contains the whole design."



**We salute  
Black History  
Month  
with thanksgiving**



**St. Philomena  
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For peace and an end to war.  
For harmony  
and an end to racism.  
For prayer and an end to struggle.  
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during  
Black History Month*

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**The Office of Black Catholic Affairs  
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Our heritage as  
*African-Americans...*

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and the  
**Accomplishments of African-Americans**

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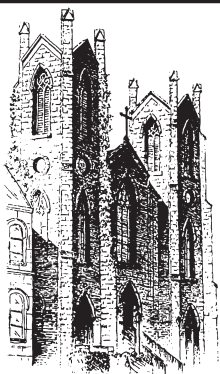


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# Bergen Catholic promotes four

ORADELL — Brother Lawrence T. Murphy, C.F.C., president of Bergen Catholic High School, and Dr. Joseph S. Fusco, principal, have announced the promotion of four administrators that took effect at the beginning of the school year.

**Anthony Mattera**, dean of students the past seven years, is now vice principal. He received a B.A. in History and Secondary Education from Iona College, and earned an M.A. in Administration and Curriculum Development from St. Peter's College.

The Paramus Catholic High School graduate arrived at Bergen Catholic in 1994, and has taught history the past dozen years. In addition to his duties as dean of students, he was the chairman of the History Department for three years and the director of activities for three years. Mattera coached football 11 years and lacrosse two years.

**Joseph Haemmerle**, entering his 15th year at Bergen Catholic,

has been named assistant principal for technology. He remains director of admissions, a position he has held since 1998. A Bergen Catholic alumnus from the Class of 1986, he taught history, religion and freshman study skills during his first seven years at Bergen Catholic.

The St. Peter's College graduate, who also earned an M.A. from Seton Hall University, has been a varsity football assistant coach since 1988, and started a lacrosse program a decade ago. He has also served as assistant athletic director and as moderator of the school's Red and Gold Club, John Brady Memorial Academic Challenge and Super Dance.

**Craig Lapierre** has been promoted to dean of students for upperclassmen.

The Michigan State University (B.S. — Psychology) and St. Peter's College (M.A. — Teaching and Administration) graduate has been at Bergen Catholic since 1998 and has taught a variety of



Bergen Catholic High School's new administrators include (left to right) Assistant Principal for Technology Joseph Haemmerle of Hillsdale, Upperclassmen Dean of Students Craig Lapierre of Hawthorne, Underclassmen Dean of Students Richard Ardito of Saddle Brook, and Vice-Principal Anthony Mattera of Emerson.

science courses at the school, including astronomy, biology, earth science and physics. He has also coached several teams at including lacrosse, eight years; football, seven years; and Mock Trial teams, four years.

**Richard Ardito**, a 1998 graduate of the school, returns for his third year at his alma mater as the

newly appointed dean of students for underclassmen.

The Fordham University graduate (with a B.A. and M.A. in both History and Theatre) has taught U.S. and world history and criminal justice. He was instrumental in the creation of a new course in public speaking and communications.

Ardito has been a major contributor to the Fine Arts Department, directing the *Twelve Angry Jurors*, the school's first major drama production in more than 10 years, and assisting in the Drama Club's presentation of *Strength for the Journey*. He is also an assistant coach for the swimming team.

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Lunch and Table-Talk guided by Gregory Glazov, D.Phil.

Coordinator of the Great Spiritual Book Program and Professor of Biblical Studies at ICSST

Saturday, March 4, 2006 • 10:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Lewis Hall, Seton Hall University

Please bring a copy of *The Hiding Place* and a \$5 registration fee (includes lunch). Advanced registration required.

R.S.V.P. to [theology@shu.edu](mailto:theology@shu.edu) or (973) 761-9575



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## Eminent domain put on 'trial'

ROSELLE—The Roselle Catholic High School American Constitutional Law class recently held its second mock trial of the semester. Eminent domain was the issue of the mock test case.

The 11 students followed the exact procedures used within the United States Supreme Court. The class was separated into opposing lawyer groups.

The class worked four weeks gathering research information and materials while meeting regularly. Students were encouraged to find facts of actual historical cases throughout American history and use those facts to argue for their particular side. The final step in the process was a "mock" trial held in the school's library to decide an outcome.

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July 9th Opening Event with Dr. Adele J. Gonzalez

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#### Week 2 Classes

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**Director of College Placement Office:** This position (12 months) is responsible for all facets of the college process including but not limited to counseling students/parents, monitoring/processing applications, providing academic guidance, contacting/visiting colleges in support of students and advising teachers on recommendations.

**Dean of Students:** This position (10.5 months) is responsible for all facets of student management including but not limited to working with students, parents and faculty to insure the existence of an orderly, respectful and positive

campus environment. Some teaching duties are required.

**Director of Co-Curricular Activities and Facilities Management:** This position (12 months) is responsible for all facets of Co-Curricular Activities and Facilities Management including but not limited to chairing the Activities Council, assisting club moderators and supporting all student events and overseeing the day to day campus operations.

These newly created positions require the following skills: Excellent communication skills, strong service orientation, problem solving abilities, collaborative management style, and interpersonal/organizational skills. Qualified applicants will possess appropriate degrees, experience in secondary education and demonstrated school leadership. **Interested candidates should forward a cover letter, resume with salary requirements, statement of educational philosophy, transcripts and three letters of recommendation on or before March 15, 2006 to:**

**Mr. Timothy M. Lynch**  
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Summit, NJ 07901  
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Email materials to  
[tlynch@oratoryprep.org](mailto:tlynch@oratoryprep.org)

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## Diocese of Trenton Principal Opening for New Catholic School

The Diocese of Trenton is seeking a highly qualified elementary school principal for a newly merged Pre-K-8 Catholic elementary school in northern Monmouth County in New Jersey.

The applicant must be a practicing Catholic who is a proven dynamic, educational leader with prior administrative experience, preferably in Catholic education and possesses certification as an elementary school principal in New Jersey or its equivalent. The applicant must have the ability to work collaboratively with faculty, staff, parents and a School Board as well as demonstrate achievement in improving instruction, program development, staff development and evaluation with an understanding of elementary standards based curriculum. It is essential that the candidate be visionary and knowledgeable in leadership, curriculum, finance, development and marketing.

This position is scheduled to begin July 1, 2006. Interested applicants should forward a letter of interest, resume and statement of educational philosophy and references by February 20, 2006 to:

Chairperson of the Search Committee  
Mother Teresa Regional School  
Office of Catholic Schools  
701 Lawrenceville Road  
Trenton, NJ 08648  
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## Diocese of Trenton Announces the Formation of a New Catholic Regional School

The Diocese of Trenton is seeking a strong visionary and managerial elementary school principal for a newly formed Catholic Regional Elementary School in Burlington County as of July 1, 2006. This is an exciting opportunity for a qualified candidate who can demonstrate leadership in Catholic Identity, Instructional Programs and Financial Viability. The candidate must be a practicing Catholic who is a proven dynamic, educational leader and possesses New Jersey State Principal Certification or its equivalent.

A candidate must have the ability to work collaboratively with faculty, staff, parents, and a School Board as well as demonstrate achievement in improving instruction, program development, staff development and evaluation, marketing and elementary standards based curriculum.

Interested candidates should forward a letter of interest, resume, statement of educational philosophy and references by February 20, 2006 to:

Chairperson  
Pope John Paul II Regional School  
Office of Catholic Schools  
Diocese of Trenton  
701 Lawrenceville Road  
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**Send Resume to:**

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**157 E. Fourth Ave.**

**Roselle, NJ 07203-2004**

**Email: [www.pattiestjoseph@yahoo.com](mailto:www.pattiestjoseph@yahoo.com)**

## 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.

**D.E.R.**

#### 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.

**L.F.J.**

#### 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.

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**S.T.G.**

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**T.P.**

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**T.P.**

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8 a.m. - WADO 1280 AM

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

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

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

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

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

## SATURDAY

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



## TV Masses

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

**WLNY-TV Ch. 55**  
8:30 a.m. - Monday-Friday  
9 a.m. - Sunday

**WNYW, Ch. 5**  
5:30 a.m.- Sunday

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



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

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

Portuguese Mass 5:30 a.m - Sunday

Mass from Our Lady of the Angels Monastery,  
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Weekends - WNET Ch 13

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**GENERATION TO GENERATION** — Open since 1893, St. Joseph of the Palisades Elementary School, West New York, has seen many generations come through its doors. This year 11 students' parents attended. Four of that number had grandparents who attended. The students include, front row, left to right, James Rodgers, Thomas Rodgers, Nicholas Rodriguez, Lilly Wofsy, Bethann Drasheff and Jerry Drasheff. In the back row are Jessica Milian, Michael Cocciaferro, Allison Montalvo and Megan Wofsy.

## Farm 'raises' consciousness

NEW YORK — Catherine Borowski, a member of St. Agnes Parish, Clark, and a student at Fordham University, traveled recently to Vanceburg, KY, to volunteer at the Glenmary Farm, an immersion program of the Glenmary Home Missioners.

Glenmary is a Catholic society of priests and brothers who, along with coworkers, is dedicated to serving the spiritual and material needs of the people throughout Appalachia and the rural South and Southwest.

Located in Lewis County, an Appalachian county in the northeastern region of Kentucky, The Farm raises not crops, but consciousness in the hundreds of young people who volunteer in the program each year.

The program began in 1972 as an attempt to interest young men in joining Glenmary as priests or

brothers. Although young men pursuing religious vocations through Glenmary have often participated in work at The Farm, the program today has an even broader mission.

Each year hundreds of men and women come from all over the United States to experience rural, and specifically, Appalachian culture.

Borowski and a group of Fordham students worked on construction projects with People's Self-Housing, and also participated in a "ministry of presence" as they visited a nursing home, a senior citizens' center and an adult day care program.

Persons working with young men and women who would like to bring a group of volunteers to Eastern Kentucky should contact Joe Grosek, Glenmary Volunteer Program, PO Box 7, Vanceburg, KY 41179, (606) 796-3421; jgrosek@glenmary.org.

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# Forgiveness forum set for Feb. 25

BLOOMFIELD — Father Martin Padovani, who specializes in individual, marriage and family therapy, will speak on the need for forgiveness and reconciliation at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish on Feb. 25 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Father Padovani was ordained in 1960 and is a former director of vocations and public relations for the Divine Word Missionaries, Bordentown.

Father Padovani is a licensed marriage and family therapist and a member of the Burlington County Mental Health Board.

Father Padovani was a member of the Council of Priests of the Trenton Diocese. He is the author of the well-known book *Healing Wounded Emotions* published now in its 15th printing. His new book *Healing Wounded Relationships* is now available.

In June 2002 Father Padovani completed nine years as the Rector of Divine Word Missionaries in Bordentown.

In his address, Father Padovani will stress the tremendous misunderstandings people have in regard to both forgiveness and reconciliation, the difference between them and why they aren't working in their lives. He welcomes questions for clarification at the end of his presentations.

A continental breakfast will be served. Participants should bring a bag lunch. RSVP by Feb. 23 to Anna at (973) 338-9538.

# Rabbi to speak

SOUTH ORANGE — Rabbi Jehiel Orenstein of Congregation Beth El will speak Feb. 19 at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish as part of the South Orange-Maplewood annual Holocaust Memorial. Rabbi Orenstein is scheduled to speak at 9:15 a.m.



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Word (Christ) and his Paschal Mystery. Join us as we experience  
Christ's presence in word, image, song and one another.

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## SFIC girls' hoops play outstanding

PARAMUS—The Scholarship Fund for Inner-City Children (SFIC) showcased some outstanding girls high school basketball at its second annual Basketball Festival at Paramus Catholic.

The Basketball Festival, sponsored by Aeropostale, featured Paramus Catholic defeating St. Anthony, 62-43, Immaculate Heart Academy (IHA) rolling by Mount St. Dominic, 34-21 and Academy of the Holy Angels edging Roselle Catholic 40-37.

There were plenty of standout performances in the festival. Paramus Catholic received 14 points each from Fritzi Flores and Lauren Siritella on the way to its victory while IHA received 12 points from Aileen Daniels to post its win. Tayler Wejnert was the key to Holy Angeles' victory by scoring 31 of the team's 40 points.

The SFIC also continued its tradition of honoring players with its Academic Excellence Awards. SFIC Trustee and Event Director Bill Fitzpatrick along with SFIC Development Director Susan Campbell made presentations to Holy Angels' Caroline Graham, IHA's Kelsey Moss, Paramus Catholic's Natasha Sholakh, Roselle Catholic's Letitia Torres, St. Anthony's Shanna Allen and Mt. St. Dominic's Beth Lipman.

## St. Michael's Medical Center alerts women on dangers of heart disease

NEWARK—The director of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery at Saint Michael's Medical Center is calling for women to be more aware of heart disease, with February noted as American Heart Month, and Feb. 17 designated as National Women's Heart Day.

Although often thought of as a disease that predominantly afflicts men, heart disease is also the number-one cause of death among women in the United States, explained Dr. Mark William Connolly.

"It's vital that women realize how prevalent heart disease is, because, although it's typically thought of as a man's disease, it is the number one killer among women," Dr. Connolly said. "Women have to be aware of the risk factors that contribute to heart disease, watch for the symptoms, and make real changes in their lifestyles."

Women with heart problems often show different symptoms than men, Dr. Connolly said, urging them to be aware of common symptoms. Symptoms include chest or arm discomfort, especially while under stress or during activity; fatigue; shortness of breath; dizziness; nausea; abnormal heart beats (palpitations); spreading pain to one or both arms, back, jaw, or

stomach; and cold sweats.

He said the risk factors leading to heart disease include advancing age, a family history of early coronary artery disease, diabetes, a sedentary lifestyle, high cholesterol/high blood pressure (hypertension), stress, being overweight and cigarette smoking.

Dr. Tyrone Krause, associate director of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Saint Michael's, recommended that women follow a heart-healthy regimen: "Some relatively simple things can make a lot of difference," Dr. Krause said. "A regular exercise regimen, for example; exercise at least three times a week, for 30 minutes, in the correct heart-rate zone for your age."

Dr. Connolly has championed a number of new procedures to treat those suffering heart disease, including minimally invasive heart surgery. Dr. Krause has pioneered a number of procedures in the area of adult heart surgery, including minimally invasive heart surgery and complex valvular and bypass procedures.

Saint Michael's Medical Center has remained at the forefront of cardiac innovation since it opened New Jersey's first specialty center for the study and treatment of cardiac disease in 1937. It is affiliated with Cathedral Healthcare System, a nonprofit, multi-hospital system that also



Dr. Tyrone Krause (left) and Dr. Mark William Connolly, of St. Michael's Medical Center, urged women to be aware of the symptoms and risks of heart disease. Saint Michael's Medical Center is New Jersey's only approved Carotid Revascularization Endarterectomy vs. Stenting Trial (CREST) site—one of only 85 centers throughout North America chosen to participate in the project.

comprises Saint James Hospital and Columbus Hospital. All are affiliated with Catholic Health and Human Services Corp. and

support the mission of the Archdiocese of Newark. More information is available online at [www.cathedralhealth.org](http://www.cathedralhealth.org).

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