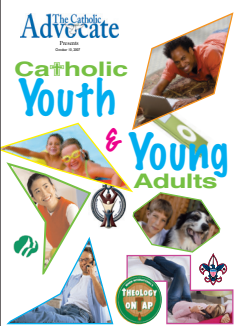




PAGES 17-20



Young hearts inspire all in the archdiocese

Readers will find special articles on youth and young adults throughout this edition.

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Confab to focus on the founder of Opus Dei

John Coverdale (pictured above) and Deacon William Toth to review the life of Saint Josemaria on Oct. 13.

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Stem-cell bond issue sparks soul searching

Only 'adult' research gets blessing from the Church

BY MICHAEL C. GABRIELE
Editor

The emotional debate concerning embryonic stem-cell research and the cloning of human life moves front and center onto the New Jersey political scene when voters go to the polls on Nov. 6.

At stake is a statewide "Stem Cell Research" bond issue question. If approved, the measure would authorize \$450 million in taxpayer dollars for state-sponsored stem-cell research programs. It's expected the overwhelming majority of funds in the bond issue would be earmarked for research on embryonic stem cells.

The Catholic Church strongly supports adult stem-cell research, but remains adamantly opposed to embryonic stem-cell research and cloning.

"Catholic Bishops have consistently opposed human embryonic stem-cell research on the basis that creation and destruction of human embryonic stem cells violate the

sanctity of human life," Patrick Brannigan, executive director of the Trenton-based New Jersey Catholic Conference, said.

"However, the referendum that New Jerseyans will vote on in November does include funding provisions for adult stem-cell research, which the Catholic Church strongly supports and which already has

helped thousands of patients without destroying life," Brannigan continued. "What's more, new clinical uses of adult stem cells are being discovered every week."

Brannigan pointed out that after two decades of research, embryonic stem cells "have not helped a single human being. For this reason, we are

Continued on page 31

Clergy leaders gather to weigh plans on deadlocked urban scholarship bill

BY JAMES GOODNESS
Director of Communications

AREA—More than a dozen priests and a bishop from the Archdiocese of Newark and the Paterson Diocese met on Sept. 24, along with Protestant and Jewish clergy, to discuss grass roots advocacy of the proposed Urban School Scholarship Act (A-257/S-1332/S-2228).

The long-stalled bill, if enacted, would provide funding for children to attend non-public and public schools in seven poor-performing urban districts (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Jan. 24; Oct.

25, 2006; and Feb. 22, 2006). The program would utilize corporate tax credits to fund scholarships.

The New Jersey Education Association is a staunch opponent

Continued on page 28

Catechist forum on Oct. 20 to host religious educators

NEWARK—The sixth-annual archdiocesan Catechist Convocation will be held Saturday, Oct. 20, 8:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Union Catholic High School, 1600 Martine Ave., Scotch Plains.

Parish catechetical leaders, catechists, Catholic School teachers, youth ministers, priests, deacons, music ministers as well as all other parish ministers and parents as the primary religious educators of their children are encouraged to attend this event, which is sponsored and organized by the Archdiocese of Newark's Catechetical Office.

Workshops, hymns, readings and prayers for the event will be offered in English and Spanish. Convocation registration forms can be downloaded from the archdiocesan Web site: www.rcan.org. The cost of regis-

tration is \$35 per person. Contact Elizabeth Foer at (973) 497-4297 or Rocio Pozzo (973) 497-4294 for details. Ron Pihokker is the director of the Catechetical Office.

"Encountering the Living Christ" is the theme for the convocation. Registered attendees can participate in up to three workshops. The event will offer 41 workshops offered in English and 17 in Spanish. Several workshops will explore the use and effects of media and technology with faith-based education issues. For example, "Using Technology to Enhance Religious Education" and "Software and Your Parish—Welcome to the 21st Century" are two sessions that will provide catechists with guidance on the use of databases.

Continued on page 6



Advocate photo — Melissa McNally

ROSARY PRAYER GARDEN—Archbishop John J. Myers (left) led a group of faithful in prayer on Oct. 4 at the blessing and dedication of the Msgr. Robert Egan Rosary Prayer Garden in Kearny. Located at the Archdiocesan Youth Retreat Center, the garden, according to Archbishop Myers, will introduce a new generation to the "simple, calming and focused prayer of the Holy Rosary." Also in attendance were: (left to right) Rev. Msgr. Richard J. Arnolds, pastor of St. John the Apostle Parish in Bergenfield and archdiocesan Vicar for Pastoral Life; Rev. Msgr. John J. Gilchrist, pastor emeritus of Holy Cross Parish in Harrison; and Father Joseph A. Mancini, executive director of the Office of Youth and Young Adult Services.

Vatican official: war the enemy of human dignity

UNITED NATIONS (CNS)—War and armed conflict are no longer sustainable means for promoting or protecting national interests, the Vatican's top foreign affairs official told the U.N. General Assembly.

U.N. agreements concerning disarmament and the nonproliferation of weapons and plans to create "a standing team of expert mediators" to prevent conflict should receive increased support, Archbishop Dominique Mamberti said Oct. 1 at the U.N. headquarters in New York.

Speaking during the general debate that marked the opening of the 62nd session of the U.N. General Assembly, Archbishop Mamberti said the values upon which the United Nations were founded should be reaffirmed so as to "deliver a forceful 'no' to war and an equally forceful 'yes' to human dignity." Respect for human dignity "is the deepest ethical foundation" upon which peace and fraternal relations between nations are built, he said.

"Forgetting, or partially and selectively accepting" this principle of respect "is what lies at the origin of conflicts, of environmental degradation and of social and economic injustice," he told assembly members. A nation's interests are never absolute and must never be defended in a way that harms

"the legitimate interests of other states," he said, adding that nations have a duty to promote the common good around the world.

"In the difficult crossroads in which humanity finds itself today, the use of force no longer represents a sustainable solution," Archbishop Mamberti declared. He urged nations to save the U.N. Conference on Disarmament from a decade-long impasse and ease the "severe strain" on its treaty on the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons. He also sought added support for a nuclear test ban treaty and other measures for arms control.

He called for renewed commitment in bringing peace and moral, political and economic reconstruction to "long-suffering Iraq." He also asked for concerted efforts to establish peace in the Darfur region of Sudan; to create stability in Lebanon; and to bring Israeli and Palestinian leaders to negotiations that would result in a solution that recognizes "the legitimate expectations of each side."

The archbishop praised U.N. plans to devote more resources to preventing conflict by creating a team of expert negotiators. He supports U.N. initiatives to further interreligious and cultural dialogue, saying such a conversation is indispensable for peace.

"The right to religious freedom continues to be disregarded and even violated in certain places" around the world, he warned. Religious leaders must promote peace, shun violence and show that religion is not an excuse for violence since justifying or fueling conflict in the name of religion is a "blatant contradiction," he said.

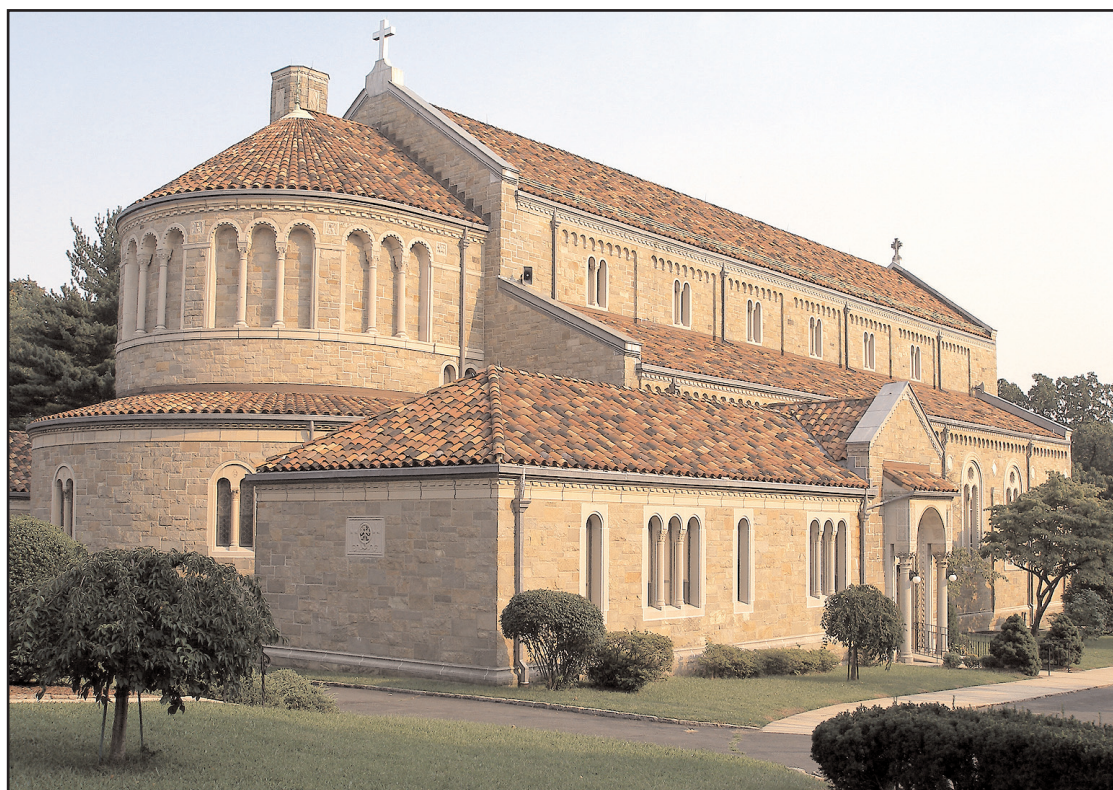
In recent weeks, Archbishop Mamberti has maintained a grueling diplomatic schedule, serving as a negotiator in major international conflicts. Last month he met with Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir regarding the bloody civil war in Darfur Muslim and Christian factions. The archbishop

served as apostolic nuncio to Sudan from 2002 to 2006. He also held talks with Syrian Vice President Farouk al-Sharaa on the exodus of Christian and other refugees from Iraq, many of whom have fled to Syria.

Pope Benedict XVI appointed Archbishop Mamberti as the Vatican's foreign affairs minister in September 2006. Archbishop Mamberti entered the Vatican diplomatic service in 1986 and has held posts in Algeria, Chile and Lebanon. Born in Morocco, he speaks French, Italian, English and Spanish. He was ordained in 1981 and has degrees in civil and canon law.



Archbishop Dominique Mamberti



Submitted photo

Holy Name of Jesus Parish, located in East Orange, will be one of the stops on the Oct. 20 Heritage Tour. Architect Charles D. Maginnis designed the Romanesque structure. Maginnis also designed the landmark Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington D.C. The East Orange parish was founded in 1910 and the cornerstone of the present church was laid in 1929.

Stewardship Day to feature author Mary Higgins Clark

NEWARK—The Office of Development for The Archdiocese of Newark will host the annual Stewardship Day conference, which will be held on Saturday, Nov. 3, at Paramus Catholic Regional High School, 425 Paramus Road, Paramus.

Mary Higgins Clark, renowned author of suspense novels



Mary Higgins Clark

and an active member of the Catholic community, will serve as the keynote speaker for the event. A resident of New York, Clark has written 24 novels since 1975, which have sold more than 80 million copies.

Father John J. Galeano, parochial vicar of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Jersey City, will serve as the keynote speaker for the Spanish-track segment of Stewardship Day.

Carla Gonzalez, executive director of the archdiocesan Office of Development, said the event will give people the tools they need to enrich their lives as a Catholic and a steward of God.

Contact Lynn Gully, the associate director of stewardship and special projects for the archdiocesan Development Office, at (973) 497-4132 for more information on Stewardship Day. Details on the event also are available on line at the Web site: www.rcan.org/stewardship.

Heritage Tour to visit Orange area

AREA—The Archdiocese of Newark will host its semiannual Heritage Tour on Saturday, Oct. 20, with an all-day bus excursion that will visit four treasured churches in South Orange, East Orange and Orange.

The tour program includes stops at Our Lady of Sorrows, South Orange; Holy Name of Jesus, East Orange; St. John and Our Lady of Mount Carmel, both in Orange. The event is organized and sponsored by the archdiocesan office of Property Management Administration.

Tickets for the tour are \$45 per person, which includes lunch. Contact Ursula Rivera at (973) 497-4132 to register. Information also is available online (Web site: www.rcan.org); go to "Archdiocesan Departments and Ministries" in the upper left corner of the Archdiocese of Newark's home page. Scroll down and click on "Property Management" then, "Patrimony Project" then, "Upcoming Events."

The day begins with a continental breakfast and check-in, 7:30 a.m. to 8:15 a.m., at the Archdiocesan Center, 171 Clifton Ave., Newark, where secure parking will be provided. Tour buses—all climate-controlled vehicles with a lavatory—will depart promptly from the Archdiocesan Center at 8:30 a.m.

Msgr. Robert Wister, professor of Church History at Immaculate Conception Seminary of Seton Hall University, South Orange, along with Troy Joseph Simmons, architectural historian and patrimony manager for the Archdiocese of Newark, will lead the tour. They will provide expert commentary on the history and significant architectural features of each parish.

Once considered the "bedroom of New York" among Manhattan's executive set, the City of Orange and the surrounding communities were nationally known for their well-appointed estates and Victorian homes.

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FREQUENCY FOR THE YEAR

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NJPA



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Alaskan adventure: St. Gabriel group 'focuses' on helping a parish in Nome

Outreach work sparkles under midnight sun

BY WARD MIELE
 Managing Editor

SADDLE RIVER—In a far-away land famous for its cold weather, glaciers and “midnight sun,” youth group members and their chaperones from St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish received a warm welcome.

And then they went to work.

The 18 members of Friends of Christ United in Service (FOCUS) traveled to Nome, Alaska, July 2-10 as a faith-based outreach mission to help with basic maintenance work and other programs at St. Joseph Parish, which has no resident priest.

While in Nome, the pilgrims from the Archdiocese of Newark ran a three-day Bible camp for parish youngsters, marched in the town's Independence Day Parade, were interviewed on the local radio station, soaked in some local culture, enjoyed local cuisine including Alaskan King Crab and even managed some sight-seeing.

Reaching out to help those in need far beyond the confines of Bergen County is nothing new for the Saint Gabriel youth group. Last year they traveled to South Dakota and the year before that Ghana, Africa.

The excursion was another example of the spirit and dedication demonstrated by youth and young adults in the Archdiocese of Newark (see special report in this edition, pages 17-20).

Saying this trip was the “smoothest” of the three that have been taken so far, Father Stephen Fichter, parochial vicar at St. Gabriel's Parish, noted that this was the largest contingent of young people that have gone on the FOCUS expeditions to help others. Msgr. Robert J. Fuhrman serves as the pastor of the parish.

A “wonderful, positive experience” is how St. Joseph Parish administrator Maureen Koezuna described the visit of the young people from Saddle River, during a long-distance telephone interview with *The Catholic Advocate* on Sept 5. The New Jersey native—who has lived in Alaska for the last 25 years following a trip there as a Jesuit volunteer out of college—said emphatically that “everyone is still talking

every day” about the FOCUS young people and their chaperones.

Koezuna said the work done by the FOCUS visitors gave the 450 families of her parish “more of a sense of ownership. They did exactly what we wanted and needed,” she said.

St. Joseph Parish was founded in the early 1900s. The current church building there was built a dozen years ago. (A photo of the church, along with text on its history, is available on the Internet: www.cbna.info/churches/nome.html.)

For 15-year-old Justine Schnell, making her first FOCUS trip was an opportunity to “get closer” to her friends and a “fun way” to become more involved with the mission of the Church. Schnell said youth group members repaired the St. Joseph Parish

youngsters. Describing herself as someone who “loves to travel,” Janet Scott said her motivation was to be able to help people who “have so little.”

Marveling at what the group accomplished working at St. Joseph's Parish, Scott said the parishioners were “tickled pink” about what had been done for them. She remembers fondly having dinner with local families who were “so happy” to accommodate the visitors from New Jersey.

“We were able to complete every task we had planned for each day,” Michael Fogari said, recalling the youth group's various assignments. “The boys began ripping up the patio that connected two sheds located next

to the church building while the girls repainted the Little Sisters' building. During the day we learned so much about how the people of Nome live each day and how different their lives are from ours.”

Fogari enjoyed being interviewed by KNOM radio station in Nome. “Knowing it was going to be heard throughout Alaska, surprisingly, made us a little nervous,” he confessed.

The Sunday Mass of the trip, celebrated by Father Fichter, was, Fogari pointed out, “the first time in months they were able to attend Mass led by a priest. The best part of the trip,

he said, was “learning how close a small town like Nome could be and how much they appreciated us.”

Stressing that everyone worked hard during their stay in Alaska, Father Fichter was appreciative of the hospitality extended by the people of Nome. “We felt like part of the family,” he explained. Father Fichter took particular notice of the laid-back lifestyle of the Alaskans as compared to the hectic pace of people living in northern New Jersey.

Father Fichter noted that, while the FOCUS group was in Nome, it was the time of year when that region receives sunlight 23 hours a day—living up to its name as “the land of the midnight sun.” It was an exotic, disorienting experience, he said, explaining that during the evening hours people typically put cardboard in their bedroom windows to block out the sun so they could sleep and maintain their internal “biological” clocks.

All those who attended the trip “grew in their spiritual life,” he said, adding the trip demonstrated that “the best way to keep the faith is to spread the faith.”



Submitted photos

Members of the Friends of Christ United in Service (FOCUS), based at St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish in Saddle River, traveled to Alaska this past summer to assist in community service projects. Although way up north the local teens enjoyed warm weather, which allowed them to wear shorts and T-shirts. In the top photo, Justine Schnell, Brittany Scott, Laura Czerepak, Caroline Lennon and Caroline Galda sand and clean a shed belonging to the local order of Sisters. In the left photo, left to right, Hans Kalchbrenner, Michael Fogari, Brian Bovino and Jon Katchbrenner make slats for new fencing around the church.

rectory, painted a building for the Little Sisters of Jesus, pulled weeds and installed fencing around and underneath the church building. She was especially moved by seeing the youngsters learning and enjoying themselves at the Bible camp. Equally memorable for her was how the natives welcomed them as if “we had lived there forever.”

Jonathan Kalchbrenner made the journey to Alaska due to a strong conviction that offering such needed help was a “necessary” thing to do. Going to Nome, he added, was “completely different” from anything he has experienced so far and got him out of the “Bergen County bubble.” The affect on Kalchbrenner's faith, he explained, was the realization that “religion brings people together.”

Brittany Scott, a founding member of FOCUS, said the trip to Nome was a chance to help people in need. Scott worked with youngsters at the Bible camp and was inspired by the way everyone functioned as a team. The experience, she went on, “brought me closer to God and gave me a better outlook on life.”

The act of “giving back” was the impetus for chaperone Janet Scott to make the trip with daughter Brittany and the rest of the FOCUS

Interfaith group meets with Iranian president

NEW YORK (CNS)—U.S. religious leaders are “deeply concerned about the prospect of war with Iran,” said a professor from a Catholic college who was part of an interfaith delegation that met

with Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad here on Sept. 26.

But Joseph Fahey, professor of religious studies at Manhattan College, said he left the meeting feeling hopeful because of state-

ments Ahmadinejad made about the “renunciation of war and the quest for peace.”

Protests greeted Ahmadinejad while he was here on Sept. 25 to address the U.N. Security Council and Columbia University. The Iranian president has been widely

criticized for questioning whether the Holocaust ever happened and his statements that Israel should not exist. In addition, Iran’s nuclear program has brought the threat of sanctions from the United States, France and other countries that say Iran is enriching uranium for nuclear weapons.

The interfaith delegation had an hourlong meeting with the Iranian leader. The religious group—made up of more than 100 faith representatives—stressed the need for diplomacy to prevent war. Pax Christi USA (Web site: www.paxchristiusa.org), the national Catholic peace movement that includes theologians, clergy and leaders of national Catholic groups, organized the Catholic delegation.



TINY CROSSES—A volunteer stamps a World Youth Day 2008 logo on small crosses being made at the Mary MacKillop Outreach Center in Sydney, Australia. Workers at the center are making thousands of the crosses to be distributed during the journey of the World Youth Day cross (see related story on page 27).

Mortgage crisis: Home loans are harder to get USA TODAY

Mortgage mess creates lending drought USA TODAY

Credit crisis kills two more mortgage bigs NEW YORK POST

Subprime mortgage worries spur market drop THE STAR-LEDGER

Home loans cut off... THE RECORD

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Russians mull pope's choice of new archbishop

OXFORD, England (CNS)—A Catholic leader in Russia said the Italian missionary recently named as archbishop of Moscow will “be well able to lead the local Church and find ways through difficult situations.”

Archbishop-designate Paolo Pezzi, 47, “is highly educated, with great pastoral experience,” said Father Igor Kovalevsky, secretary-general of the Russian bishops’ conference. The archbishop-designate, a member of the Fraternity of the Missionaries of St. Charles Borromeo, is scheduled to be installed Oct. 27 at Moscow’s Immaculate Conception Cathedral.

However, many Catholics have written the Catholic weekly newspaper, *Sviet Yevangelia*, questioning Pope Benedict XVI’s appointment of the man to

replace Archbishop Tadeusz Kondrusiewicz, who is a Russian citizen. Catholic-Orthodox relations became tense after the 1991 collapse of Soviet Union rule because Orthodox leaders complained of Catholic proselytism. Relations deteriorated after the 2002 creation of four Catholic dioceses in the country.

Canada confab of bishops to weigh issues

OTTAWA (CNS)—Canada’s bishops will focus on prioritizing their national activities during their plenary meeting slated for Oct. 15-19 in Cornwall, Ontario. Issues such as ecumenism and concern for refugees and migrants represent national concerns.



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Stewardship connects young adults with the Church

BY CARLA GONZALEZ

Special to *The Catholic Advocate*

Today many young adults struggle with living the Catholic stewardship way of life. Stewardship consists of giving time, talent and treasure to God as a gift of gratitude for all the blessings we have received from Him. It is intentional, planned and proportionate to our blessings.

Various surveys indicate that while a large number of young adults are strong believers in God, many do not feel connected to His Church. In a recent study, 80 percent of people in their 20s said their faith is very important in their lives and nearly 60 percent claimed to have made a personal commitment to Jesus Christ. Three-fourths of this age group told The Barna Group Ltd., a research organization based in Ventura, CA (Web site: [www.http://www.barna.org](http://www.barna.org)), that they had prayed at least once during the past seven days.

But in a typical week, just three out of 10 "twenty-somethings" attend Mass. Only 30 percent of adults in their 20s donated to a church during the past year; the same percentage reads the Bible during any given week.

Some blame the Church for not having more programs geared

toward this age group. They believe young people feel disconnected and feel that the Church does not reach out to them; therefore, they abandon the Church, yet remain believers of God.



Others blame the demands of their numerous young-adult responsibilities—spouses, children, careers, school, etc. These responsibilities can be overwhelming and seemingly use up all their available time, talent and treasure.

The reality is that with God all things are possible. Is what we are giving Him reflective of how much He has given us? If not, we need to start scheduling our time with God as the priority. Put Him

on your schedule first and then schedule everything else around that. Give Him a proportion of our wages and then pay the bills.

The first step is to get more involved by contacting your parish, asking about the different ministries and joining one that interests you. If your parish is conducting a ministry fair, be sure to attend. If your parish does not have a ministry you would like to join, offer to start one and take the lead. Many parishes conduct their stewardship renewal and ministry fairs in the fall, so this is an excellent time to get involved.

If joining a ministry is not for you, then consider how much time you are able to offer, your level of commitment, and your talents. There may be other things you can do without joining an established ministry. For example, if you are handy, offer to fix the things around the parish or offer to mow the lawn and cut the shrubs.

The "treasure" part of stewardship means giving God a portion of your wages first and then paying the bills. It is a scary thought, but by doing so your gift becomes sacrificial—coming from your substance

and not from your abundance. When you give from your substance rather than your abundance, a conversion takes place. The things you think you need are placed second to helping those who lack basic necessities. You begin to act on a belief that security lies in your relationship with God and not in your material possessions.

Because today's young adults are the Church's future, this group is uniquely positioned to shape the Church for many years to come. What will the Church be like 25 or 50 years from now? Will there be enough active Catholics to support all the parishes we have today?

Much has been written about the shortage of priests, but without more young people becoming involved in the Church today, where will tomorrow's time, talent and treasure come from?

One answer to these important questions is stewardship. Today's young adults need to be involved in their parishes to make sure there will be a Church for future generations.

When you become involved with your local parish and to other worthy causes, you will see the positive difference in your own life. A person who sows sparingly will reap spar-



Carla Gonzalez

ingly, and one who sows bountifully will reap bountifully.

Finally, please join us at our annual Stewardship Day on Nov. 3 at Paramus Regional Catholic High School. Contact Lynn Gully, the associate director of stewardship and special projects for the archdiocesan Office of Development, at (973) 497-4589 for more information, or visit the Web site www.rcan.org/stewardship.

(Editor's note: Carla Gonzalez is the executive director of the archdiocesan Office of Development.)

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Convocation

Continued from page 1

In addition, there will be workshops for catechists who teach with children who have special needs, as well as sessions that will explore music, stewardship, social concerns and sacraments. Each workshop runs for one hour and 15 minutes and there will be a certificate toward an area of certification will be given for each workshop attended.

“Videos with a Message” will be one of the featured programs at the convocation. Mary Jean Conroy and Pat Pula, two archdiocesan catechetical leaders, will deliver a presentation on “Nooma” videos and their uses. The name Nooma is an English phonetic spelling of the Greek word “pneuma,” which is commonly translated to “spirit” or “breath.” Pneumatology refers to the study

of spiritual beings, particularly the interactions between humans and God. Nooma, (Web site: www.nooma.com) is a nonprofit producer of faith-based films on DVD format, is based in Grandville, MI.

Other workshops include “Effective Time Management Means More Energy for Ministry,” presented by Deacon John Flanagan of the Trenton Diocese; “Virtual Space, Real Religion: Using the Internet for Adult Faith Formation” led by Terri Miyamoto, a catechist from Staten Island, NY; “Multicultural Spirituality for a Multicultural Church,” by Sister Caroljean Willie, S.C.; “Encountering Christ at the Movies,” by Father Thomas A. Dente, the director of the archdiocesan Worship Office; and “Media and Morality—Using the Media to Teach the Moral Message,” by Joseph F. Wilson, a teacher at Paramus Catholic High School.



Father Joseph A. Petrillo

Lourdes plans Ministry Fair

WEST ORANGE—Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, 1 Eagle Rock Ave., will host its “Ministry Fair Celebration” Oct. 13 and 14 (Saturday and Sunday), a two-day event that will spotlight ministries serving the parish community.

The fair, to be held at Connor Hall, will look to attract new participants for parish ministries, in the spirit of stewardship and community outreach. For example, the parish recently launched a youth ministry group—a joint venture with St. Joseph’s Parish, also based here. Other ministry groups include the Rosary Society, Holy Name Society, Knights of Columbus and the Cana Social Club.

The first day will begin with Mass at 5:30 p.m.; the following day will include masses at 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Father Joseph A. Petrillo is the pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes, while Katherine C. Sheridan serves as the ministry fair director. Call the parish at (973) 325-0110 for more information.



ROSARY PILGRIMAGE—Rev. Brother Pius Pietrzyk, O.P., of the Dominican House of Studies, Washington, D.C., was the featured speaker at the rosary pilgrimage devotions held at Rosary Shrine, Monastery of Our Lady of the Rosary, Summit, on Oct. 7. The Dominican Nuns—a cloistered community of prayer founded on Oct. 2, 1919, from the Monastery of the Perpetual Rosary, Union City—hosted the rosary pilgrimage. Ordained a deacon in January 2007, Brother Pius serves at the parish of St. Jane Frances de Chantal, Bethesda, MD. He is completing his studies for a Pontifical License in Sacred Theology, and hopes to be ordained to the priesthood in May 2008. Call the Dominican Nuns at (908) 273-1228 for details on the pilgrimage.



Advocate photo – M. Gabriele

FESTIVAL OF FAITH—More than 800 people gathered for the archdiocesan Festival of Faith, which was held in Newark on Sept. 29. Those in attendance collected literature, met representatives from archdiocesan ministries and sat in on various speaker presentations. The Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Barringer High School and the Archdiocesan Center housed the festival’s programs. One highlight of the event was the sacred statue of Our Lady of America, which was on display at the cathedral.



Advocate photo – Melissa McNally

MALTA MASS—A Mass was celebrated Sept. 28 at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark for the seventh biennial membership conference of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta. Archbishop Celestino Migliore, Apostolic Nuncio and Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations (third from left) served as the main celebrant at the Mass, which was one of several events held Sept. 28-30 to mark the milestone for the group. Also pictured are (left to right) Most Rev. Frank J. Rodimer, Bishop Emeritus of Paterson; Most Rev. Paul G. Bootkoski, Bishop of Metuchen; and Most Rev. Thomas A. Donato, Regional Bishop of Hudson County.

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PS Form 3526, September 2006 (Page 2 of 3)

Fear and trembling: the soulful signs of a true faith

Sometimes events seem to coincide in such a manner that it almost seems as if God were sending us a message.

Recently I was at a dinner with friends. It was a pleasant meal with people whom I hadn't seen for a while. They were all good people and religious as well.

After the meal, as we sat around reminiscing about the past, one person began to speak about a book he had read. It was written by a man who had been a priest and had left the priesthood. In the course of time, he had come to a point where he was not an atheist, but perhaps an agnostic—a man with many doubts. And yet he wrote about the Church and people without animosity or resentment but with great charity.

At that point, I was taken by surprise because the conversation suddenly took an entirely different tone. It was as if the other folks present had found a release to express their innermost thoughts.

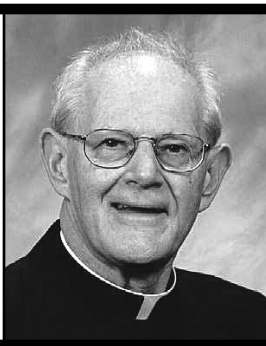
One spoke of his doubts about the faith. He spoke of lying awake analyzing the "Our Father" prayer. What did it mean to call God "Father?" He is so infinite; we are so finite, so small. What is this heaven? Is God a king who demands tribute? In that prayer the "Our Father" the gentleman admitted that he is only comfortable with the last words about forgiveness. The rest of the Our Father prayer leaves him with a sense of doubt and even discomfort.

Another person spoke of the fact that for him the real meaning of life is simply to love our neighbor and to do good to other humans. He seems to have a more pragmatic faith.

Another person burst out unexpectedly with feelings of anger against the Church. He spoke of priest pedophiles

Voices

By Rev. Msgr. John Gilchrist



and the guilt of the bishops who permitted their crimes. He mentioned a certain bishop who was ostracized by the other bishops because he had spoken out against the hierarchical system that had permitted such a situation.

Another spoke in a very simple and beautiful manner of his love for God and the prayer of love for Jesus that seems to emanate effortlessly from his heart.

Another said that he personally found the meanings of theology in the form of poetry that flows from the inner spirit of mankind. Another said that the Catholic Church needed to move to a new theology for a new time.

And so the evening went on with many expressing their doubts, fears, angers, and emotions about God, religion, love and life.

My mind was filled with their words as I drove home

through the dark night.

The next day, as I awoke to the news on the clock radio, the reporter was giving information about Mother Teresa and some private letters that had been released by the Vatican (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Sept. 5). Those letters revealed her own "dark night of the soul" and her own doubts and fears as a religious. They were emotions that no one would expect from Mother Teresa of Calcutta.

As I reflected upon all of this, I realized that Mother Teresa and the people with whom I had shared a meal had been at one in uttering their struggle of faith. Only those who walk in such a darkness of yearning, seeking and desire for God can fully realize what pure faith really requires. It sometimes demands the walking of a lonely road where God seems to be totally absent. There is only the silence and emptiness of the human soul struggling for a sign of the Divine.

One religious man put it to me this way: "We will all die wondering."

I don't believe that. Those who can be so concerned about the Transcendent Being are not far from the Kingdom of God. The very anguish of their soul is a sign of faith.

Their yearning for the Creator gives me an even greater trust in the Lord, whom I cannot see, but whose presence I can feel in the very depths of my being.

"My soul thirsts for God, the Living God. When shall I go and behold the face of God?" (Psalm 42).

(Msgr. John Gilchrist is the pastor emeritus of Holy Cross Parish, Harrison.)

Those concerned about the Transcendent Being are not far from the Kingdom of God.

Obituaries

Father Richard J. Chilmark

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Sept. 26 at Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Parish, Roseland, for Father Richard J. Chilmark, 73, who died on Sept. 23.

Father Chilmark's assignments in the archdiocese included: St. Henry Parish, Bayonne (1960-1987); Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Parish, Roseland (1988-1998) and St. Barnabas Medical Center, Livingston, where he served as chaplain from 1998-2004.

Father Stephen F. Duffy

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Sept. 14 at St. Agnes Parish, Atlantic Highlands, for Father Stephen F. Duffy, 72, who died on Sept. 9.

Assignments for Father Duffy in the archdiocese included: St. Augustine Parish, Union City (1965-1969); St. Joseph Parish, Jersey City (1969-1971); Roselle Catholic School (1985-1997); St. Teresa of Avila Parish, Summit (1988-1991) and St. Paul the Apostle Parish, Jersey City.

Father Denis R. McKenna

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Oct. 3 at Mount Saint Mary Academy, Watchung, for Father Denis R. McKenna, 88, who died on Sept. 29.

Father McKenna attended Seton Hall University and Immaculate Conception Seminary, Darlington. Father McKenna's assignments in the archdiocese included: Our Lady of Assumption Parish, Bayonne (1947-1952) and St. Mary of Assumption Parish, Elizabeth (1952-1972).

He was named pastor of St. Leo Parish, Irvington, in 1972 where he served until his retirement in 1994. Upon retirement, he was named Pastor Emeritus of St. Leo Parish.

Father Malachy M. McPadden

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Aug. 8 at St. Mary's of the Immaculate Conception Parish for Father

Malachy M. McPadden, O.S.B., a Benedictine Monk of the Newark Abbey. He died at the age of 78 on Aug. 4 at Father Hudson House in Elizabeth.

A lifelong resident of Newark, Father McPadden was a graduate of St. Benedict's Prep School and received a bachelor's degree from Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, PA, and a master's degree from Assumption College, Worcester, MA.

Ordained to the priesthood in 1957, Father McPadden was a Religion and French teacher in Newark for 50 years. Among his academic accomplishments, he produced the "First History of the Newark Abbey" in 1992.

Sister Filomena D'Ambrosio

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Sept. 7 at St. Lucy Chapel at Villa Walsh, Morristown, for Sister Filomena D'Ambrosio, M.P.F., 89, who died on Sept. 4.

Archdiocesan assignments for Sister Filomena included: Our Lady of Sorrows School, Jersey City; Holy Rosary School, Jersey City; St. Bartholomew School, Scotch Plains and St. Rocco School, Newark. She was teacher and principal of the Mount Carmel Guild, later Catholic Community Services of the Archdiocese of Newark, for 37 years.

In 1970, Sister Filomena founded the St. Patrick School for Special Education in Newark and served as its principal for 26 years. She also volunteered at the Senior Day Center of the Mount Carmel Guild and St. Mary's Life Center, Orange.

Sister Hildegarde Marie Mahoney

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Sept. 11 at Holy Family Chapel, Convent Station, for Sister Hildegarde Marie Mahoney, S.C., 95, who died on Sept. 9.

Sister Hildegarde graduated from the College of St. Elizabeth, Morristown and began her ministry in educa-

tion at St. Cecilia High School, Kearny. After earning her master's and doctoral degrees, she became a professor of classics at the College of St. Elizabeth and was president from 1952-1971.

She worked for the enactment of New Jersey's first general scholarship law and served as a member of the first NJ State Scholarship Commission. She also served as chairperson of the New Jersey State Commission on Women and was the first Sister to be named President of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

Sister Hildegarde served as General Superior of the Sisters of Charity from 1971-1979 and received the Church's *Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice* medal by Bishop Frank Rodimer in recognition of her lifelong ministry in the service of the Church of Paterson.

Sister Marguerite Francis Goodwin

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Oct. 1 at Saint Anne Villa, Convent Station, for Sister Marguerite Francis Goodwin, S.C., 88, who died on Sept. 27.

Sister Marguerite began her education ministry at St. Michael High School, Union City and was an instructor/professor at the College of St. Elizabeth, Morristown, for 40 years.

Sister Teresa D'Alessandro

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Sept. 10 at St. Lucy Chapel at Villa Walsh, Morristown, for Sister Teresa D'Alessandro, M.P.F., 96, who died on Sept. 6.

Sister Teresa's assignments in the archdiocese included: St. Joseph School, Lodi; St. Joseph School, East Orange; Our Lady Queen of Peace School, Maywood and Our Lady of Mount Carmel School, West New York.

She also served in mission centers, teaching religious education at St. Rocco Parish, Union City and in other parishes in New York and New Jersey.

Church affirms policy on dignity of patients in a 'vegetative state'

WASHINGTON—In response to a request by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), the Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith has reaffirmed the Catholic Church's teaching on providing nutrition and hydration to patients in a persistent "vegetative state."

The bishops presented two questions in a formal manner, known as a "dubium," to the congregation. Pope Benedict XVI approved the reply. The responses reaffirmed the Church's position that patients in a "vegetative state" are living human beings with inherent dignity and deserve the same basic care as other patients. This basic care would include nutrition and hydration, even when provided through artificial assistance.

"The administration of food and water even by artificial means is, in principle, an ordinary and proportionate means of preserving life," according to the congregation's response. "It is therefore obligatory to the extent to which, and for as long as, it is shown to accomplish its proper finality, which is the hydration and nourishment of the patient. In this way suffering and death by starvation and dehydration are prevented."

The statement comes as the Archdiocese of Newark is marking October as "Respect Life Month" with a series of programs organized by the Linden-based Respect Life Office, which is directed by Father Joseph Meagher, (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Sept. 19).

Msgr. Robert J. Fuhrman, archdiocesan director of Pontifical Mission Societies and the pastor of Saint Gabriel the Archangel Parish in Saddle River, believes the clarification from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith is essential when considering end-of-life issues.

"A life doesn't lose its dignity or sanctity because of an injury. Even though the truth may be against what society thinks, it is no less the truth," Msgr. Fuhrman said.

The Church's position on artificial hydration and nutri-

tion has been brought to light, Msgr. Fuhrman believes, because of advances made in medicine in recent years.

"(Life issues) have become a question of convenience," he continued. "We eliminate something or someone if it is no longer convenient for us. We are told to just get rid of it. We just can't walk away."

The bishops also asked for clarification as to whether nutrition and hydration could be removed if physicians determined that the patient would never recover consciousness. The congregation affirmed that the patient must receive "ordinary and proportionate care which includes, in principle, the administration of water and food even by artificial means" regardless of the prognosis of recovery of consciousness.

A Vatican commentary noted some possible exceptions. "When stating that the administration of food and water is morally obligatory in principle, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith does not exclude the possibility that, in very remote places or in situations of extreme poverty, the artificial provision of food and water may be physically impossible," the commentary said.

"Nor is the possibility excluded that, due to emerging complications, a patient may be unable to assimilate food and liquids, so that their provision becomes altogether useless. Finally, the possibility is not absolutely excluded that, in some rare cases, artificial nourishment and hydration may be excessively burdensome for the patient or may

cause significant physical discomfort, for example resulting from complications in the use of the means employed.

"These exceptional cases, however, take nothing away from the general ethical criterion, according to which the provision of water and food, even by artificial means, always represents a natural means for preserving life, and is not a therapeutic treatment. Its use should therefore be considered ordinary and proportionate, even when the 'vegetative state' is prolonged," the commentary continued.

The bishops asked the Holy See for clarification of the Church's teaching after Pope John Paul II's address on March 20, 2004, to an international congress sponsored by the Pontifical Academy for Life and the World Federation of Catholic Medical Associations.

"We are grateful that the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith responded to our request with such a thorough investigation and explanation," Bishop William E. Lori of Bridgeport, CT, the chair of the USCCB's Committee for Doctrine, said in introducing the response. "We hope the Church's documents on this issue will provide help and guidance to pastors, ethicists, doctors, nurses and families involved in the care of those diagnosed as being in a persistent 'vegetative state.'"

Last year Seton Hall University's (SHU) lecture series "A Question of Clarity" examined ethical, legal and medical end-of-life issues (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Nov. 8, 2006). The forum, co-sponsored by the Order of Malta on SHU's South Orange campus, took on an added edge with a presentation from Bobby Schindler, the brother of

Terri Schiavo—the comatose Florida woman whose plight in the mid-1990s sparked a national debate on end-of-life issues.

Schiavo fell into a coma in 1990 and after three years was diagnosed as being in a "persistent vegetative state." An emotional dispute over her fate received national media attention, setting off various legal maneuvers in

Florida courts and Federal District Court. Her feeding tube was removed on March 18, 2005 and she died 13 days later at Pinellas Park hospice in Florida. The Schindler family is Catholic and Bobby Schindler told the SHU forum he was "horrified" when the feeding tube was removed from his sister.

The responses from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (www.usccb.org/comm/hydrationletter.doc), a commentary (www.usccb.org/comm/hydrationcommentary.doc), approved by Cardinal William Levada and bishop members of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, and from the USCCB's Committee on Doctrine and Committee on Pro-Life Activities (www.usccb.org/comm/hydrationq&a.doc) can be found on the Web.

The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith is the oldest of the nine congregations of the Roman Curia. The congregation, which is headed by Cardinal Levada, oversees Catholic doctrine. Founded in 1542 by Pope Paul III, the congregation originally was known as the Sacred Congregation of the Universal Inquisition, as its duty was to defend the Church from heresy. Pope St. Pius X in 1908 changed the name to the Sacred Congregation of the Holy Office. It received its current name in 1965 from Pope Paul VI. The group's primary duty is to promote and safeguard Catholic doctrines on faith and morals.

The Pope Speaks

Pope Benedict XVI



Pope calls for peace in Myanmar conflict

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS)—Pope Benedict XVI appealed for a peaceful resolution to the crisis in Myanmar and urged the entire Church to pray for the troubled Asian country.

The pope's comments came during his Sunday blessing on Sept. 30 after at least 10 people were reported killed when the country's military junta cracked down on anti-government protests.

"I am following with great trepidation the extremely serious events in Myanmar, and I want to express my spiritual closeness to this dear people as they pass through a moment of difficult trial," the pope said. "While assuring my sympathetic and intense prayers and inviting the entire Church to do likewise, I express the hope that a peaceful solution may be found for the good of the country."

In late September, government soldiers violently dispersed demonstrations led by Buddhist monks in Yangon, Myanmar's capital. Soldiers fired on crowds occupying or barricading Buddhist monasteries and arrested many of the monks.

Separately, the pope also encouraged the dialogue between North and South Korea and hailed recent important developments between the two Koreas.

"These (discussions) give hope that the reconciliation efforts under way can be consolidated to the advantage of the Korean people and to the benefit of peace and stability in the entire region," he said.

The day the pope spoke, the latest round of six-nation talks on North and South Korea recessed after reaching a draft agreement on North Korean nuclear disarmament. Meanwhile, North and South Korean representatives were preparing to hold a historic three-day summit in early October.

'The administration of food and water even by artificial means is, in principle, an ordinary and proportionate means of preserving life.'

—Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith

Vegetative State

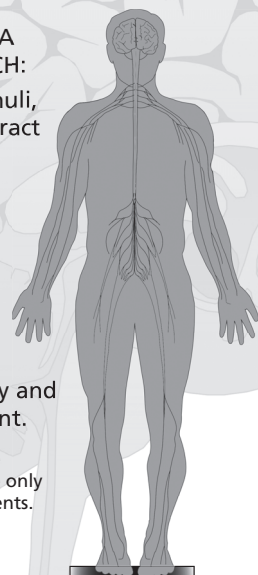
Severe brain injury occurs when a prolonged unconscious state or coma lasts days, weeks or months.

VEGETATIVE STATE DESCRIBES A SEVERE BRAIN INJURY IN WHICH:

- A person can respond to stimuli, but there is no ability to interact with the environment.
- Eye opening can be spontaneous or in response to stimulation.
- General responses to pain exist (increased heart rate, respiration or sweating).
- Sleep-wake cycles, respiratory and digestive functions are evident.

There is no test to specifically diagnose vegetative state. The diagnosis is made only by repetitive neurobehavioral assessments.

Source: Brain Injury Association of America
Reviewed by Carlos H. Espinel, M.D.
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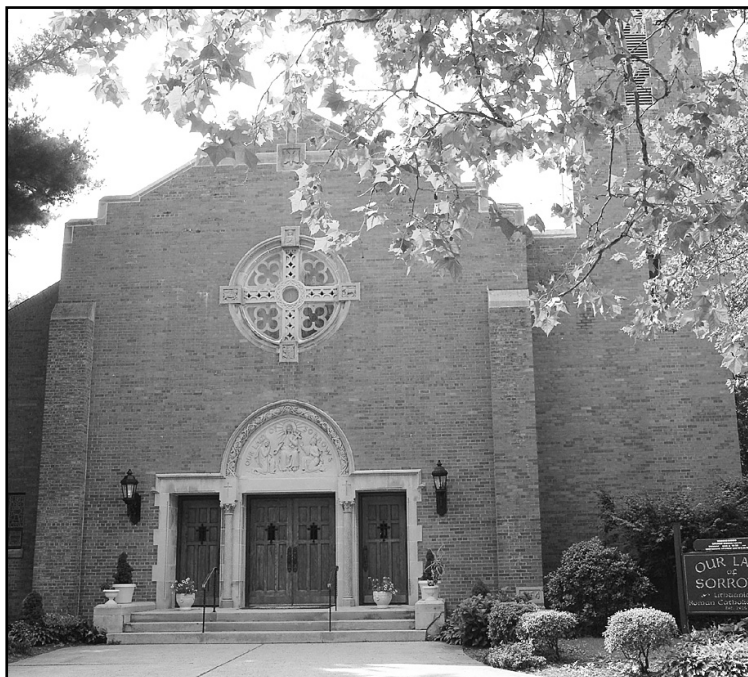
'Blue-collar' faith community honors its diversity and Lithuanian heritage

BY MELISSA MCNALLY
Staff Writer

Like so many faith communities throughout the Archdiocese of Newark, Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Kearny, had its birth in humble surroundings. It was created not only to fulfill religious needs, but also to satisfy emotional and social demands.

The parish was established formally in 1915 to serve approximately 700 Lithuanians in Harrison and 400 in Kearny. The first place of worship was the hall of nearby St. Cecelia Parish. The Lithuanians yearned to worship in their native tongue with their national customs. The Blessed Mother had long been loved and venerated by their forefathers in Lithuania and it seemed appropriate that the people of the newly erected parish choose Our Lady of Sorrows as its patroness.

In February 1915, the new parish celebrated its first Mass. During his 30-year tenure, the fourth pastor, Father Leo Voiciekauskas, built a new church and rectory dedicated in



Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, formally established in 1915, was designed to serve approximately 700 Lithuanians in Harrison and 400 in Kearny.

1954. In 1965, a school was purchased and a convent built.

Today, Our Lady of Sorrows is a thriving spiritual institution. Most of its parishioners are from Kearny, but it also draws worshippers from Harrison, North Arlington, Lyndhurst, Belleville and Nutley.

The parish is growing through an influx of non-Lithuanians. The laity has proven that it is willing to undertake apostolic and other tasks for the good of the parish. Many of the parish societies and organizations are primarily spiritually oriented, though many also serve cultural and social functions.

Five years ago the parish welcomed Father James J. Reilly as its administrator. He was appointed pastor on May 5, 2005.

Father Patrick Wilhelm, parochial vicar of the parish, believes Father Reilly keeps the parish of 565 families involved and also nurtures its Lithuanian roots.

"One of the things that makes our parish special is the inspired leadership of our pastor. Like the conductor of a great orchestra, he is aware of the role played by each member of the parish and directs each one in close harmony to function in concert to fulfill the mission of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, which is 'to live the beatitudes of Jesus and put them into practice in our daily lives as we answer His call to evangelization,'" Father Wilhelm said.

The parish, known as the "little parish with a big heart" today only has about a 10 percent

Lithuanian population, with other ethnicities, such as Irish, Italian, and Filipino, making up the parish family. Activities including Thanksgiving food drives, a Christmas Giving Tree and Easter sharing allow parishioners to express their faith through helping the community. Groups such as the Rosary Society, Men/Women's Group, Holy Name Society, and the Social Concerns Committee foster spiritual life while reaching out to others.

"The parish youth serve in various ministries including altar servers. Ministers and lectors focus on the spiritual and the social. Many, especially seventh and eighth graders in our pre-confirmation program and high school students are involved in helping

Our Lady of Sorrows, Kearny

our CCD catechists, as well as being involved with our Social Concerns Committee," Father Reilly explained.

Father Wilhelm agrees that the spirit of giving and unity is strong at his parish. "The people of this parish form a close-knit community in terms of their Catholic faith. No other parish in our deanery combines the spiritual and social dynamism that makes us an oasis attracting new worshippers from the surrounding area."

Deacon Len Mackesy has first-hand knowledge of how the spiritual and social are united at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish. As a deputy police chief with the

Port Authority of New York and New Jersey on Sept. 11, he was given scrap steel from Ground Zero that the parish had fashioned into a 50-pound memorial cross set in brown marble. The cross was blessed in a well-attended Mass in 2002.

"From my perspective, the people of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish have always been very giving and caring, true to the message of the Gospel. What was always impressive was that we are, and have always been, a truly blue-collar parish," Mackesy said. "From the time when the Lithuanians composed the majority of the parish population, to today's more culturally diverse census, the parish has always cared about the needs of others around them and truly gave from the heart. No matter what was ever asked of the parishioners, they always come through in grand fashion—not in the spirit of boasting, but in the spirit of wanting to do the right thing for others."

Led by Mackesy's wife Jane, the Social Concerns Committee began 15 years ago to provide aid to neighboring communities in need of clothing, food and other essentials. "Through the years, these programs have grown dramatically in generosity and spirit. The response from Our Lady of Sorrows Parish is always overwhelming with those we knew sometimes could least afford it being the most generous. Over time, the demographics of Kearny changed and we began distributing these things to the people of our own parish and local community," Deacon Mackesy said.

Deacon John Sarnas, a lifetime parishioner, has witnessed the demographic changes in his community. However, the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, a significant feast day in the Lithuanian culture, still attracts a large crowd. This year the triduum took place Sept. 13-15.

"We have three masses on three days in honor of Our Lady with a guest homilist every night. The celebration brings people together. It's a way to celebrate and acknowledge the parish's Lithuanian heritage," Deacon Sarnas noted.

Our Lady of Sorrows Parish also fosters traditional Catholic

Meet the Pastor



Rev. James J. Reilly

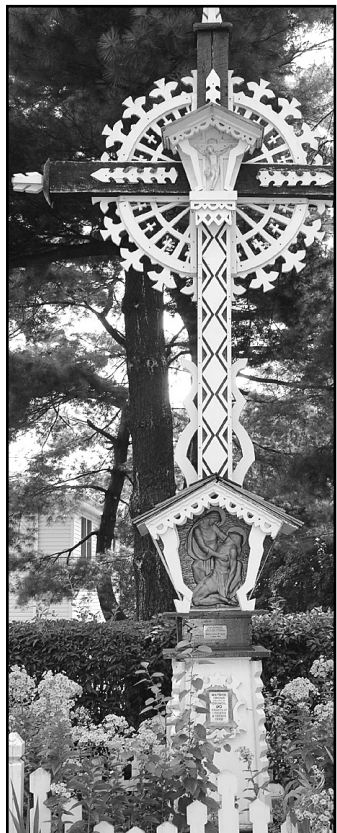
Birthday: July 2, 1942
Hometown: Jersey City
Seminary: Immaculate Conception, Darlington
Undergraduate: Seton Hall University
Graduate School: S.T.L. degree in (Systematic) Theology; Catholic University of America, Washington D.C.; M.H.C.A. master's degree in Church Administration, Catholic University of America; M.P.A. master's degree in Public Administration, Farleigh Dickinson University
Ordination: May 25, 1968
Heroes: Father and Mother
Favorite Saint: St. Patrick
Favorite Sport: Football
Favorite Food: Meat and potatoes/anything Italian
Favorite Movie: *A Man for All Seasons*
Last Book Read: *Assault on Reason* by Al Gore
Occupation if I Weren't a Priest: Politics or academia

spirituality and popular religious devotions. Every Monday night at 7 p.m. from September through June, there is a novena honoring St. Jude, with confession and a blessing with a relic of the saint. This year, Msgr. John Gilchrist will celebrate Mass during the novena in October through November.

On Sept. 22, St. Padre Pio was honored with special prayers before Mass and a social. A new statue of the Saint was recently dedicated and installed and special prayer cards and blessed medals were given out at the celebration.

"Our Lady of Sorrows Parish is very down to earth and welcoming. People who have been away from the Church can come to this parish and feel at home. Although a small parish of over 500 families, it has a tradition over the years of providing vocations for the Archdiocese of Newark and beyond both to the permanent diaconate and priesthood. Stewardship has also been a successful program here, so many parishioners share their time, talent and treasure," Deacon Sarnas added.

(Our Lady of Sorrows Parish is located at 136 Davis Ave.)



Advocate photos - Melissa McNally

The Wayside cross at the entrance of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish highlights the community's heritage. Today, the parish has only has a 10-percent Lithuanian population, with other ethnicities, such as Irish, Italian and Filipino, included in the congregation.

AIDS shelter gets grant from Horizon

NEWARK—Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark has received a \$25,000 grant from The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey to support the work of St. Bridget's Residence in Newark, a transitional housing program serving homeless men living with HIV and AIDS.

Operated by Catholic Charities, St. Bridget's Residence is affiliated with Saint Michael's Medical Center and Peter Ho Memorial Clinic, the oldest and largest clinic for the treatment of HIV and AIDS in the state.

"We are enormously grateful to The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey," Allan Daul, executive director of Catholic Charities, said. "With strong support like this, St. Bridget's can continue to provide residents with medical case-management services, referrals to mental-health and substance-abuse counseling, and educational workshops on nutrition, health, stress reduction and other life skills areas. This grant will certainly go a long way in enabling St. Bridget's Residence to maintain the pursuit of its vital mission."

Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey created The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey in 2004 to promote the health, well being, and quality of life of New Jersey residents, while encouraging community involvement and volunteerism.

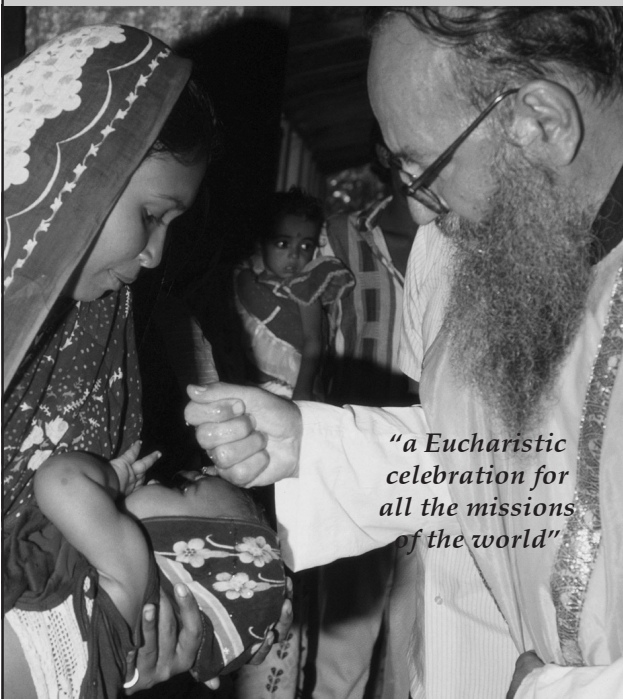
The dual goals of the foundation are to improve the health of

New Jersey residents by promoting quality healthcare programs and access and to enhance arts and cultural opportunities for New

Jersey residents. More information is available on the Horizon Foundation Web site: www.horizonblue.com/foundation.

October 21, 2007
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Columbiettes donate 500 backpacks

SOMERSET — Over 500 backpacks for distribution to Catholic school students were donated at the 52nd annual New Jersey Columbiette's convention, which was held at the Somerset Plaza in June.

The backpacks, presented by Lorraine Batvinskas—who at the time served as state president of the organization—were filled with assorted school supplies for students. Group members also filled nearly 1,000 shoeboxes with personal hygiene items for distribution at Catholic Charities' shelters.

Another highlight of the annual convention was the presentation of donations to young men and women studying for the religious life. A total of \$1,100 was collected and donated from organization representatives in the Archdiocese of Newark.

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October 12

WorldWide Marriage Encounter Weekend, through Oct. 14, call Sal and Sylvia Vassallo (800) 823-5683 or go online at www.wwme.org.

Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Jersey City, The Living Rosary, 7:30 p.m., call (201) 332-2237.

October 13

St. Joseph of the Palisades High School, West New York, Diamond Anniversary Gala, the Crown Plaza Hotel, Secaucus, 7 p.m., cost: \$100, call (201) 864-9700, ext. 108.

St. Michael Parish, Union, "Voices Unite," 6:30 p.m., cost: \$40, call (908) 688-7011.

Knights of Columbus Council 1146, Rahway, pancake breakfast, 8 - 11:30 a.m., cost: \$5, call (732) 388-3990.

St. Mary Parish, Rahway, Pre-Cana Workshop in Spanish, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., cost: \$20 per couple, call Reina Basuado (973) 497-4326.

St. Joseph Parish, Mendham, The Orchestra of St. Peter's by the Sea performance, 7:30 p.m., cost: \$50, call Marcia Dickson (973) 543-4086.



Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Ridgewood, Rosary Altar Society's annual communion breakfast; rosary will be recited at 9:10 a.m. followed by Mass, cost: \$15, call (201) 652-6946.

St. Phil's Singles, Livingston, dinner at Ricci's at Castle Ridge Italian Restaurant, East Hanover, 7 p.m., RSVP by Oct. 12, call Judith (973) 560-9728.

Mother Seton Regional High School, Clark, "Human Trafficking: Stories for Action," 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., call Judith Mertz (908) 436-0099.

October 14

St. Margaret of Cortona Parish, Little Ferry, Communion Luncheon, 1 p.m., call Regina Coyle (201) 440-3398.

Knights of Columbus Council 5427, Washington Township, flea and craft market, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., call Jerry Rider (201) 845-8358.

Immaculate Conception Convent Chapel, Lodi, Taize Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, 7 - 8 p.m., call Sister Marilyn Minter (973) 473-7447.

College of St. Elizabeth, Morristown, women's college open house, 1 - 4 p.m., call (800) 210-7900.

St. Paul Parish, Ramsey, candlelight living rosary, 7 p.m., call (201) 327-0976.

Bergen Catholic High School, Oradell, craft show, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., cost: \$2 adults/\$1 seniors, call (201) 384-6676.

The Shrine of St. Joseph, Stirling, "12-Step Spirituality," 2 - 4 p.m., call (908) 647-0208.

October 16

College of St. Elizabeth, Morristown, Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk to speak for Respect Life Month, 7 p.m., call Sister Marian Jose Smith (973) 290-4084.

St. Bartholomew the Apostle Parish, Scotch Plains, "Praise 'n Worship" Holy Hour, 9 - 10 p.m., call (908) 322-5192.

Trinitas Hospital, Elizabeth, "Healthy Desserts," 4:30 - 6 p.m., call (908) 994-5138.

October 17

Holy Spirit Rectory, Union, bereavement group session, 7:30 p.m., for seven consecutive Tuesdays, call (908) 964-7653.

Holy Family Parish, Nutley, meeting of the St. Lucy Filippini Sodality, 8 p.m., call (973) 667-2633.

Lumen Center, Caldwell, lessons in beading, 6:30-9 p.m., cost: \$25, call (973) 403-3331, ext. 25.

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

Young Men's and Young Women's Hebrew Association, Union, "Everything You Wanted to Know about Lung Cancer," sponsored by Trinitas Comprehensive Cancer Center, 7 p.m., RSVP by Oct. 12, call (908) 289-8112.

October 18

St. Joseph Parish, West Orange, tricky tray fund-raiser, at Hanover Manor, East Hanover, 6 p.m., cost: \$40, call Mary (973) 731-8228.



Corpus Christi Community Theatre, Hasbrouck Heights, "The Odd Couple," female and male versions of the play, through Oct. 28, 8 p.m., cost: \$10 in advance/ \$12 at door/ \$8 for seniors and students, call (201) 462-0214.

October 19

Seton Hall University, South Orange, "The Crucible," 7:30 p.m., through Oct. 28, cost: \$15 regular/ \$12 seniors and alumni/ \$8 SHU students, call (973) 761-9098.

Knights of Columbus Council 2188, Westwood, Oktoberfest, 6 p.m., cost: \$10 per person, call Frank Bonanno (201) 666-9035.

Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus, North Arlington, Harvest Moon Dinner Dance, 7 p.m., cost: \$20, call (201) 991-9606.

Vincentian Renewal Center, Princeton, The Gennesaret Retreat (for those living with serious illness or disability), through Oct. 21, call Hilare Reinold (732) 566-7237.

Official Appointments

Archbishop John J. Myers has announced the following appointments:

CHAPLAINCY

Reverend Kevin A. Gugliotta, parochial vicar of St. Bartholomew the Apostle Parish, Scotch Plains, has been appointed chaplain for the Knights of Columbus, Father John S. Nelligan Council No. 5730 in Scotch Plains, effective Sept. 13.

Reverend James M. Moran, chaplain at Pascack Valley Hospital, has been appointed chaplain to the Engaged Encounter Program of the Archdiocese of Newark for a term of three years, effective Sept. 13.

Reverend Michael

Otuwurunne has been appointed chaplain at Bergen Regional Medical Center, Paramus, with residence at St. Mary Rectory, Dumont, effective Sept. 1.

Reverend Stephen J. Toth, parochial vicar at St. John Church, Orange, has been appointed chaplain at The Valley Hospital, Ridgewood, with residence at St. Francis de Sales Rectory, Lodi, effective Oct. 1.

RETIREMENT

Reverend William P. Wilson has been granted retirement, effective Sept. 1.

October 20

St. Phil's Singles, Livingston, Halloween Dance, 7:30 p.m., cost: \$13 in costume/\$15 without, call Frank (973) 340-4001.

College of St. Elizabeth, Morristown, forensic psychology symposium, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., call (973) 290-4104.

Lumen Center, Caldwell, "Biblical Relations," 9:30 a.m. - noon, cost: \$25, call (973) 403-3331 ext. 25.

St. Joseph Regional High School, Montvale, Christmas Craft Spectacular, also on Oct. 21, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., cost: \$2, call (201) 391-2099.

Resurrection Parish (St. Michael Church), Jersey City, Novena of St. Jude, through Oct. 28, two-day festival at the close of novena, call (201) 434-8500.

St. Andrew Parish, Westwood, Catholic comedy, 7:30 p.m., cost: \$30, call (201) 666-1100.

St. Bartholomew Academy, Scotch Plains, Casino Night, 7-11 p.m., cost: \$50 per person, call Karen Ryan (908) 889-4684.

Ritz Theatre, Elizabeth, "A Night of Praise and Worship with Don Moen," 8 p.m., cost: \$35/ \$55/ \$75, get information online at: www.worshipinjersey.com.

Benedictine Academy, Elizabeth, all-female academy open house, 10 a.m., call (908) 352-0670, ext. 104.

The Shrine of St. Joseph, Stirling, jewelry sale to benefit missions, also on Oct. 21, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., call (908) 647-0208.

October 21

Immaculate Conception Convent Chapel, Lodi, "An Evening of Praise, Worship and Song," 7 - 8:30 p.m., call Sister Marilyn Minter (973) 473-7447.

St. Mark Parish, Teaneck, Holy Name Hospital's "Walk to Remember," to honor the memory of babies who die each year, 2 - 4 p.m., call (201) 833-3058.

St. Peter's College Chapel, Jersey City, Irish Language Mass, 10 a.m., call (201) 208-1847.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Ridgewood, career resources ministry, four-part series of fall/winter workshops, noon, call Carol Shea (201) 447-4215.

College of St. Elizabeth, Morristown, "Noche con Sabor Latina," 5:30 p.m., call Jason Rodriquez (973) 290-4223.

October 22

Trinitas Hospital, Elizabeth, Women's Imaging Center mammogram appointments begin at 10 a.m., also on Oct. 29 at 11 a.m., pre-register by Oct. 16, call (908) 994-5836 or (908) 994-8244.

October 23

College of St. Elizabeth, Morristown, "The Effects of Abortion on Society," 7 p.m., call Sister Marian Jose Smith (973) 290-4084.

The Academy of St. Elizabeth, Convent Station, open house, 7 p.m., call (973) 290-5225.

The Shrine of St. Joseph, Stirling, "Forgiveness: What It Is-What It Isn't," 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., cost: \$20, also an evening session at 7:30 - 9 p.m., call (908) 647-0208.

How to report abuse

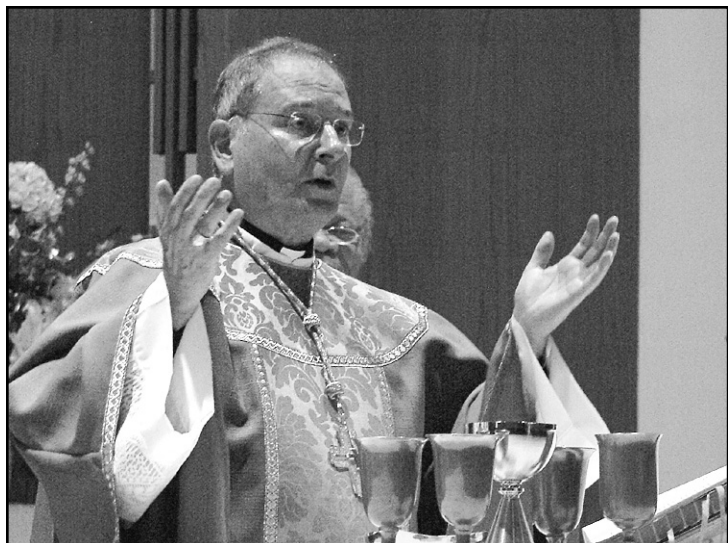
The Archdiocese of Newark takes very seriously any and all credible complaints of sexual misconduct by members of the clergy, Religious and lay staff of the archdiocese. We encourage anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct to inform the archdiocese immediately so that we may take appropriate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

St. Joseph's Medical Center reflects on 140 years

Newark neighbor continues to offer leading-edge care

BY NANCY COLLINS
Special to The Catholic Advocate



Submitted photo

Most Rev. Arthur J. Serratelli, Bishop of the Diocese of Paterson, celebrated Mass on Sept. 8 at St. Agnes Church, Paterson, in honor of St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center's 140th anniversary. The Sisters of Charity choir performed at Mass, which was followed by a reception held in honor of the medical center's founders and sponsors.

AREA—St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center, through a series of celebrations, is marking the 140th anniversary of the founding of Paterson's first hospital. Established by the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth in 1867, St. Joseph's Hospital opened its arms to the community in a 12-bed house on Church Street in Paterson.

"St. Joseph's Day," proclaimed by the City of Paterson, was celebrated on Sept. 8 with a 140th anniversary Mass and re-

ception attended by the Sisters of Charity, members of the board of trustees, physicians and staff.

One hundred and forty years ago a small group of Sisters, with help from Father William McNulty and a handful of volunteers, cared for those in desperate need—the industrialized city's ill, the injured and the hungry poor. In their second year of operation, the Sisters purchased the Fonda Farm on Main Street, which is the site of present St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center and St. Joseph's Children's Hospital.

Each passing year brought in-

novations as St. Joseph's Hospital expanded its healthcare resources. Buildings and wings were added during nearly a dozen expansions in the 20th century. Before the turn of the century, St. Joseph's offered a dispensary, maternity unit and pathology laboratory. A radiology department was established in 1902.

Today, St. Joseph's Healthcare System provides a spectrum of technically advanced services: ambulatory and community health; behavioral health; cardiovascular; oncology; nephrology; renal; pediatric; and emergency/trauma.

Earlier this year, St. Joseph's Children's Hospital launched a new high-definition (HD) telemedicine suite in collaboration with St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, TN (see *The Catholic Advocate*, May 9). HD telemedicine allows medical interactions between physicians and patients across any geographic boundaries integrated with a supporting medical data from imaging, photos, videos and electronic health records.

St. Joseph's Healthcare System is the largest employer in Passaic County and the third-largest provider of charity care in New Jersey. It maintains a strong commitment to the mission, vision and values set forth by the hospital founders and sponsors, the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth.

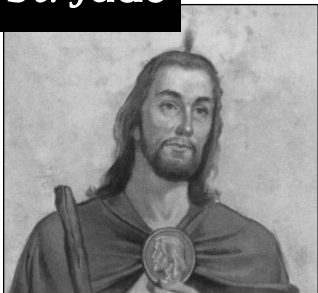
This dedication to the spirit of "Toward Boundless Charity," held by the Sisters, St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center/St. Joseph's Children's Hospital staff, nurses (twice awarded the Magnet Award for Nursing Excellence), clinicians, and administrative professionals has never wavered. The 140th anniversary slogan is: "Tradition, Excellence, Progress," where the mission of the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth is fulfilled each day.

Please see page 28 of this edition for a story sidebar on the medical center's Oct. 13 charity ball.

For more information about the programs and services available at St. Joseph's Healthcare System—St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center and St. Joseph's Children's Hospital in Paterson, St. Joseph's Wayne Hospital in Wayne, St. Vincent's Nursing Home in Cedar Grove, and Visiting Health Services of NJ—call (973) 757-7547 or visit the Web site www.stjosephshealth.org.

(Editor's note: Nancy Collins is the director of public relations for St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center.)

Friends of St. Jude



Nine Day Novena to St. Jude

You can mail or place intentions in sealed envelope, (no donations please) in basket in front of the shrine of St. Jude, in church. They will be taken and placed on the tomb of St. Jude, in St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican City, Italy.

Mail to: St. Jude Novena

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ST. THERESA CHURCH

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October 22-23-24-25-26 . . 9 AM & 7:30 PM

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Symphony Orchestra to play at Newark cathedral Nov. 4



Advocate photo – M. Gabriele

Concert to benefit schools

NEWARK—The New Jersey Symphony Orchestra will perform a benefit concert for Catholic education on Sunday, Nov. 4, 4 p.m., at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart. The Archdiocese of Newark, through its Schools Office and the office of the Superintendent of Schools, will host the event.



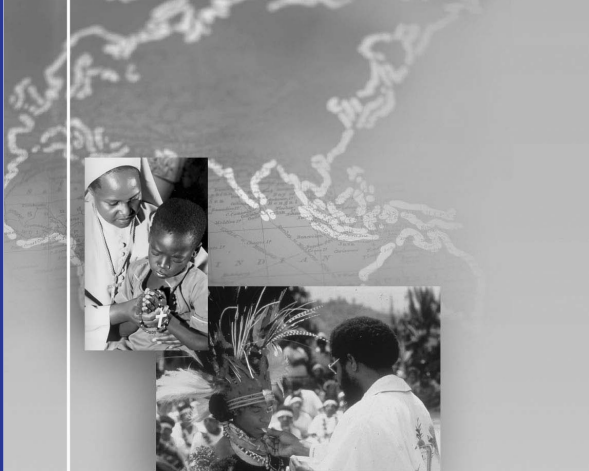
“I strongly believe in education modeling,” Father Kevin M. Hanbury, archdiocesan vicar for education and superintendent of schools, said, referring to the notion of students learning through real-world examples of positive action. “Since our faith-based schools are asked to raise funds to defray the costs not covered by tuition alone, I thought about what we, in the Schools Office, could do on our end. I then contacted the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra. The group was pleased to be invited to play in the Cathedral Basilica, because they have never performed there before.”

Father Hanbury said proceeds from the benefit concert will be distributed to archdiocesan elementary and secondary schools. “Hopefully this is an incentive for every school and parish to participate,” he said, explaining that invitations with ticket-order forms recently were sent to every parish, choir director, and Catholic school in the archdiocese. “If each parish and school were to sell five tickets to this event, we would be raise over \$75,000,” he said.



Tickets are priced at \$30 per person (or \$50 for the purchase of two tickets). Father Hanbury urged those interested in attending the event to contact their local parish or school to inquire about ordering tickets. Information on the concert also is available by calling the archdiocesan Schools Office at (973) 497-4270.

The program will include selections from Handel and Schubert. John J. Miller, archdiocesan director of music ministries, will perform with the symphony on the cathedral organ. Ryan McAdams, recently appointed music director of the New York Youth Symphony, will serve as the conductor for the Nov. 4 concert. McAdams is completing a successful Fulbright Fellowship as conducting apprentice of the Royal Stockholm Philharmonic.

www.worldmissions-catholicchurch.org
WORLD MISSION SUNDAY




World Mission Sunday, a Eucharistic celebration for all the missions of the world. The offerings collected on World Mission Sunday—the next-to-last Sunday in October—are destined for a common fund of solidarity distributed in the Pope’s name, by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, among the Missions and missionaries of the world.



“When the World Mission Rosary is completed, one has embraced all continents, all people in prayer.”
—Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

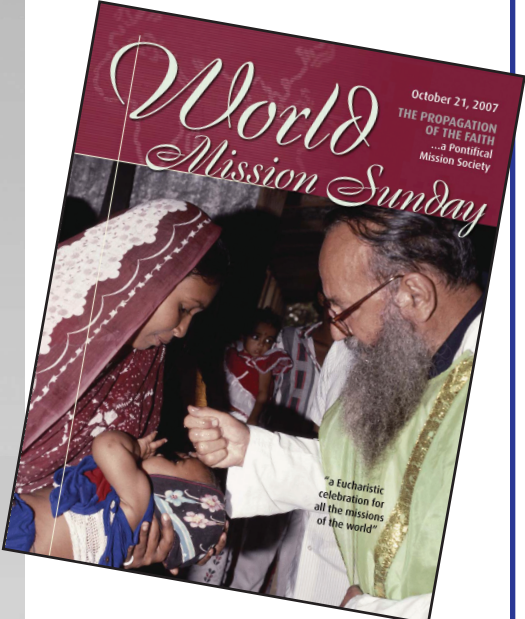
Each decade of the Rosary calls to mind an area where the Church continues her evangelizing mission:

- Green for the forests and grasslands of Africa
- Blue for the ocean surrounding the islands of the Pacific
- Red calling to mind the fire of faith that brought missionaries to the Americas
- Yellow, the morning light of the East, for Asia
- White symbolizing Europe, the seat of the Holy Father




Pontifical Mission Societies
The Society for the Propagation of the Faith
Archdiocese of Newark, P.O. Box 9500 • Newark, NJ 07104-0500
Rev. Msgr. Robert J. Fuhrman, Archdiocesan Director
(973) 497-4375

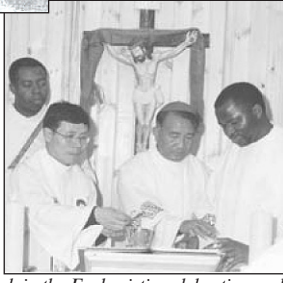
Pontifical Mission Societies
The Society for the Propagation of the Faith
Archdiocese of Newark
World Mission Sunday is October 20-21



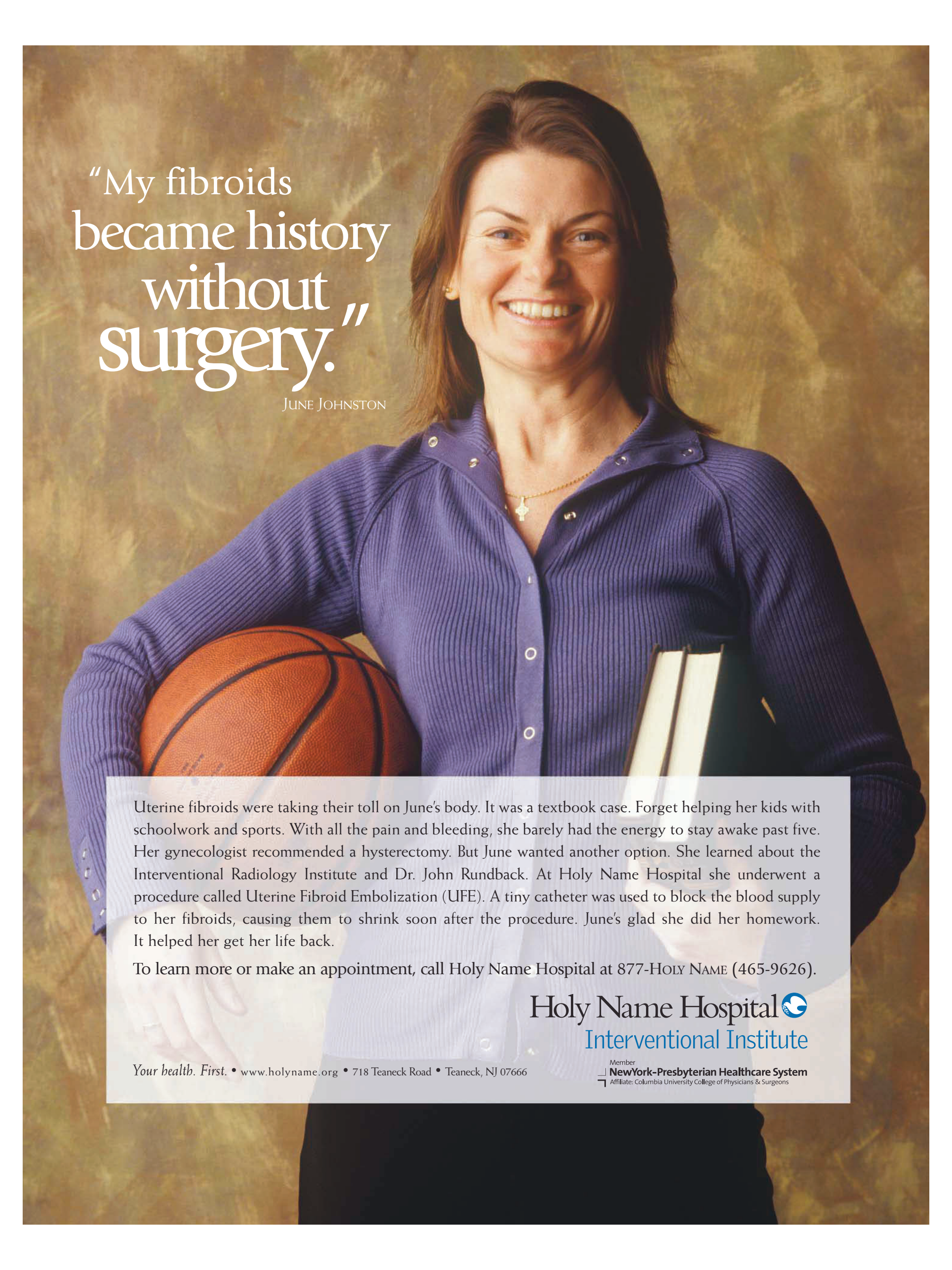
Please generously support the work of the Mission Church through your prayers and financial sacrifices.
A special collection will be taken around the world on Mission Sunday to help those who have less of this world’s goods.



“Growing up I met so many Sisters who visited the sick and families, who taught about Jesus,” recalls Sr. Christine Mwaka



World Mission Sunday, which seeks to heighten awareness of the missions, as well as to collect funds for them, is an important date in the life of the Church, because it teaches how to give; as an offering made to God, in the Eucharistic celebration and for all the missions of the world.



"My fibroids
became history
without
surgery."

JUNE JOHNSTON

Uterine fibroids were taking their toll on June's body. It was a textbook case. Forget helping her kids with schoolwork and sports. With all the pain and bleeding, she barely had the energy to stay awake past five. Her gynecologist recommended a hysterectomy. But June wanted another option. She learned about the Interventional Radiology Institute and Dr. John Rundback. At Holy Name Hospital she underwent a procedure called Uterine Fibroid Embolization (UFE). A tiny catheter was used to block the blood supply to her fibroids, causing them to shrink soon after the procedure. June's glad she did her homework. It helped her get her life back.

To learn more or make an appointment, call Holy Name Hospital at 877-HOLY NAME (465-9626).

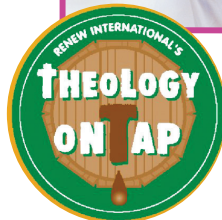
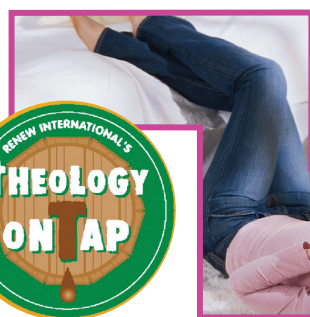
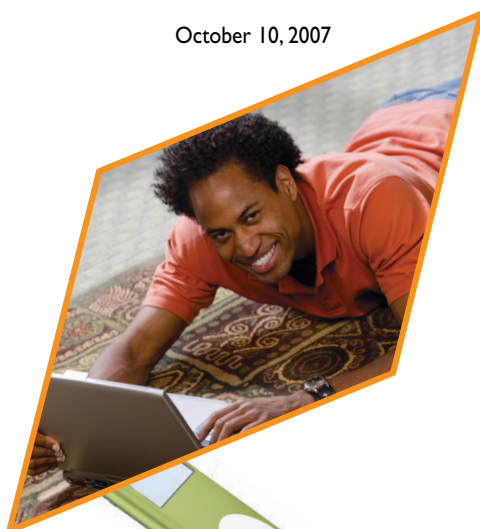
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Catholic Youth

& Young Adults



Pondering questions that affect our most valuable resource

BY GLEN MCCALL
Special to The Catholic Advocate

It is said that a society can best be judged by the way it treats its youngest and oldest generations. With World Youth Day approaching (July 15-20, 2008 in Sydney, Australia), it is only fitting to take a look at our youngest generation. How would we, as a society, a nation and most importantly as a Church, be judged when dealing with our youth?

The major issues facing teenagers and young adults today are much different than those of 25 years ago. These issues are having a significant impact on the moral, cultural and spiritual development of this entire generation.

Fear

Today's teenagers and young adults are the first generation in our country that has been taught to fear rather than trust other human beings. Gang violence, random street shootings, the sale of illicit drugs in school rest rooms and even classmates bringing weapons into school are all part of daily life.

During a recent youth group discussion, when asked, "what is the biggest fear you have?" the

top response given by high school students was "another Columbine (mass murder) happening at my school."

This instilled fear permeates into every fabric of our society ever since Sept. 11, 2001. Today's teens were the first to see their own country devastated by terrorist activity on their own soil and subsequently, have grown up with that constant fear we all face—when and where will the next attack take place.

This fear of terrorism manifests itself in many places, such as cement barriers, disguised as decorative planters outside the entrances of shopping malls to keep vehicles filled with explosives from driving inside. The fear is constant, conscious and unconscious, infusing itself into every aspect of life. For those of us who are older, we have had to learn how to deal with it; our youngest generation has had to learn how to grow up with it.

Stress and Anxiety

One of the greatest lessons my mother taught me was that I was not perfect and never would be perfect, but I must always try my best and strive to reach my full potential.

Continued on page 18

Council looks to address empty spaces in the pews

BY CHRISTY GUERRA
Special to The Catholic Advocate

NEWARK—Although the winter days may seem far off, the Young Adult Council of the Archdiocese of Newark is hard at work making plans for the third annual Young Adult Month in January.

Young Adult Month is designed to reach out to members of the Church who have "fallen through the cracks," especially Catholics in their 20s and 30s.

This January the council has in mind an exciting lineup of events. The Young Adult Council grew out of a need to minister to those in the Church who seemed to "disappear" once they left the comfort of their high school youth ministry programs to head out into the world. While some young adults return to the Church upon marriage or the birth of their children, many remain disillusioned by the lack of spirituality around them and feel as though there isn't much

the Church has to offer.

The Young Adult Council, headed by Salesian Sister Loretta DeDomenicis, director of parish outreach and training for the archdiocese at the Kearny Youth Retreat Center, works to change those perceptions by offering events at which young adults can find spiritual nourishment targeted towards life-changing issues they themselves are facing: college graduation, new jobs, marriage and children.

Since the council's formation three years ago, the Archdiocese of Newark has seen a boom of interest from young adults. Friendships were formed during Young Adult Month last year, as many of the young adults can attest.

"Being part of the young adult council has helped me tremendously," said Anthony Tarabocchia, a Moonachie resident and recent addition to the group. "I've been able to find friends with good values who treasure their faith, which makes me want to discover more of my own."

Although events exist in the archdiocese throughout the calendar year for young adults, Young Adult Month, held each January, is a special time of evangelization. It offers a slate of events that not only provide fun, but an honest look at faithfulness and the world of joy God calls everyone to, through the same channels by which Jesus taught: through service and learning. Events, such as gathering together for a meal or taking time to step away from the noise of the clamoring world and "retreat" to listen to God's voice provides social interaction and evangelization "moments."

January 2008 will be part of this trend of outreach, education and evangelization for archdiocesan young adults. One of the hallmarks of Young Adult Month, and one of its most popular events—Theology on Tap—will be held throughout the archdiocese's four counties every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings of the month. Each session features a dynamic speaker, who presents time-

ly, meaningful topics for young adults to consider and discuss, all while having the chance to socialize with friends.

Young Adult Month also will offer a Bible Fireside Chat—an informal Bible study for young adults each month at the Youth Retreat Center in Kearny. The Bible study will focus on a special topic pertaining to young adults. Service Outreach Day, a chance to minister to those less fortunate, is also in the planning stages.

Young Adult Month will culminate with the Sons and Daughters of the Light Retreat at the Archdiocesan Youth Retreat Center Jan. 25-27. The retreat, which features down-to-earth speakers and live music, not only provides a time of rest for those on retreat, but a chance for young adults to know they are not alone in the journey to be good Catholics. It is a chance to evaluate their lives, to experience the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist in a new way, as well as form lasting bonds of friendship.



Christy Guerra

A full listing of events and specific dates and times will be published in future editions of *The Catholic Advocate*. Visit www.newarkoym.org, or call Sister Loretta at (201) 998-0088, ext. 4145 for more information.

(Editor's note: Christy Guerra is a public relations specialist in the archdiocesan Office of Communications and a frequent contributor to *The Catholic Advocate*.)

Questions

Continued from page 17

When the report card came home, and there was a "C" in spelling (not one of my strong points to this day!) she would always say to me: "Did you try your best?" My response was always "Yes." "Then that is all I can ask of you," she would say to me. "Keep it up."

I marvel at the stress and anxieties placed on our young people today and ponder how they are

able to cope. They are strangled by the plethora of expectations placed upon them by parents, teachers, coaches, school systems and society itself. In some inner cities, teens are suffocated by the uncertainty of surviving to adulthood.

The constant pressure to be perfect (which is far different than being the "best that one can be") plagues our youth, bringing with it a continuous internal struggle to achieve success and please those demanding it, while giving little consideration to how it is achieved

or what has been learned. We also have seen an increase in teen and young-adult suicide, with notes left behind stating that pressures of parents, school and the future were too great to bear.

Advances in Technology

Years ago I would have never thought I could carry a phone smaller than my wallet. Not only do I have the ability to call anyone I want, but would also take pictures, send e-mail, allow me to text message, be a personal computer to access the Internet and when I

was bored, allow me to watch a movie or play a video game.

Today's teens have this electronic capability at their fingertips, making them the most technologically advanced generation to date. With these advances, the younger generation has learned how to multitask with alarming precision. It also has produced within them the capability to process information at a rapid pace.

However, these technological advances also are having a negative impact on teens and young adults. With the rise of a new text language ("LOL" instead of "laugh out loud" for example) this generation is having difficulty in the workplace with writing documents and presentations in Standard English.

We are seeing young people shying away from verbal communication, using text messaging as the primary form of conversation. I have on more than one occasion asked youth group members who were sitting in the same room to stop text messaging each other and talk to one another instead.

If it is true that a society (or our Church) can be judged by how it treats its youngest and oldest generations, then we need to ask ourselves, as a faith community: How are we, as Church, responding to these concerns? What are we doing to assist our young people with the struggles they face in a world that many times says to them: "There is no God"?

Here are three suggestions to evaluate your parish's response to each of the main concerns presented. First, establish an atmosphere of refuge in your parish. During the discussion group when the teens were asked what their biggest fear was, they were also asked what helps to over-



Glen McCall

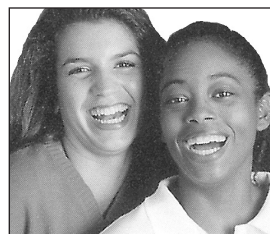
come that fear. The unanimous response was "my faith."

Our young people may not populate the pews in vast numbers on Sunday, but they are extremely faith-filled individuals. Are we providing an atmosphere where our young people feel comfortable in sharing that faith, not only with each other but with the rest of the Church community?

This same group of young people was asked: "Why do you come to youth group?" Without a moment's hesitation, the response from numerous voices scattered around the room resonated: "it's 'home.'" They also stated it was a place where they could get away from the outside world and not be judged.

Every young person who walks into a parish youth-group event should be welcomed, greeted and respected equally. By breaking down societal stereotypes, fostering an attitude

Continued on page 19



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Questions

Continued from page 18

of respect and creating an atmosphere of acceptance, we truly will have created a non-judgmental refuge where our young people can be themselves, share their concerns and grow in confidence in their faith thereby restoring hope and alleviating the fears of every day life.

Second, create a spirit of compassion, flexibility and creativity. The stress and anxiety level of our teens is high enough without their parish adding to it. We need to make sure our parish's religious education programs for teens, especially those for Confirmation preparation, are challenging without being oppressive. These programs also need to be well rounded, offering varied educational styles including meaningful experiential retreats.

"My faith was not meaningful to me until I went on a retreat," one teen offered during an interview. "It was the most spiritual experience of my life. At that point, I knew there just had to be a God. There was no question in my mind."

Service-related programming is also an area where we need to be creative, giving our young people a true understanding our Catholic social teaching while at the same time, realizing they are still teenagers.

The book, "The Kingdom Assignment" by Denny and Leesa Belesi provides a meaningful way of establishing a sense of service among young people. As described in this book, \$50 bills were handed out to 14 groups of young people along with these instructions: "Go out and build the Kingdom of God using this money." They were also informed that at the end of the program year they would have to report on how they accomplished this task.

At the end of the year, adults gathered to hear the presentations were amazed at the creative accomplishments of the young people. Service varied from a typical nursing home visit with refreshments and entertainment to working one-on-one with inner-city kids in a leadership-training program developed by the teens. The groups' adult leaders also participated in the service, showing the young people that service is a lifelong commitment of Catholic faith.

By the end of the evening, the original \$700 distributed a year earlier had turned into over \$9,500 of goods and services



Advocate photo—M. Gabriele

through their various projects. It was clear these young people learned the true meaning of service as well as accomplishing the goal of building God's Kingdom on earth.

When we provide age-appropriate, stimulating, faith-filled, educational experiences for our young people, it allows them to use that experience as a source of strength when dealing with the stresses and anxieties thrust upon them. Their increased sense of self-worth and value to their communities becomes that ray of hope during times of fear and despair.

Third, use technological advances to attract young people and advance the work of the parish. If our youngest generation is the most technologically advanced, are we tapping these gifts for the benefit of the entire

parish community? Are they members of your parish's communication committee?

We should use advances in technology in our ministry to young people. Electronic newsletters or providing a reference list of intriguing Web sites on social justice, Church history or other topics can prove very rewarding.

Our youngest generation is our most valuable resource. We must do everything in our power to make sure that, on our judgment day, we hear: "well done, good and faithful servant."

(Editor's note: Glen McCall has served as a youth minister for the past 25 years. He is the youth minister at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Ridgewood and works as an adjunct professor at Caldwell College, Caldwell, and the College of Saint Elizabeth, Morristown.)

Our youngest generation is our most valuable resource. If it is true that a society and our Church can be judged by how it treats its youngest and oldest generations, then we need to ask ourselves, as a faith community: How are we, as Church, responding to these concerns?



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Sizzling, soulful concert prepares to rock, rap, kindle flames of faith

BY MELISSA MCNALLY
Staff Writer

NEWARK—As the largest annual Christian music and youth outreach event in the metropolitan area, the Autumn Blaze festival has come a long way from its humble roots as a simple bonfire and hayride.

This year, the Oct. 13 event at Continental Airlines Arena in the Meadowlands is expected to draw nearly 14,000 young people. Originally a small event in the Garden State, set up behind a home in Zarephath in the 1980's, Autumn Blaze became a large Christian concert held in a soccer field before moving to

the Continental Airlines Arena five years ago.

Sponsored by Pillar of Fire, a not-for-profit organization, and radio station Star 99.1 FM, this year's headliners include: Toby Mac, a Christian rap/hip hop artist with two Gold albums, six number-one singles and two Grammy nominations; an all-female rock group, BarlowGirl; and reggae-rap artist Father Stan Fortuna, CFR.

Raphael Guillio, executive director of Autumn Blaze, views the festival as more than a concert. "My goal is to have a day full of activities," Guillio said. "There are local, regional and national Christian artists but it is more than just bands. We are going to have

street games and other activities available. Chaplains from the New York Mets, Yankees and Jets will give the kids a brief message."

Guillio designed the festival to be on a par with other secular music festivals, such as Lollapalooza of the Vans Warped Tour. "Autumn Blaze is for young people who go to church, listen to Christian music, but do not want to go to a festival like Lollapalooza," he said.

Two of the acts performing at the upcoming festival were chosen via talent competition. On Aug. 4, the band Reilly won a battle of the bands contest held in Ocean Grove at the Beach Blaze event. As their prize, Reilly will perform at Autumn Blaze. An American Idol-like contest called "American Soloists" was launched in July as a Web-based Christian talent competition. Music samples of 15 semi-finalists are posted online at www.americansoloist.com. The top three vote getters will perform at the Tailgate Festival at Autumn Blaze and the winner will perform on the main stage at the big event.

One of the goals for the festival this year is to increase the number of Catholic young adults that attend. "Evangelical Protestants founded Autumn Blaze and we hope to expand the audience in the name of unity. We try to reach out to all kids and get the word out to as many people as possible. We are not trying to earmark any particular denomination," Guillio explained. "The festival is still predominately Protestant, including many Baptists and Lutherans, even though the Christian Church in this area is predominantly Catholic."

Working with Sister Loretta DeDomenicis, director of Parish and outreach training, Youth and Young Adult Ministries for the archdiocese (based at the Youth Retreat Center in Kearny), Guillio has been getting the word out about the event to local Catholic schools, parishes and organizations.

Although aimed at Christian youth, Guillio hopes to target youth that are more conflicted in their beliefs. Bringing in friends who are not particularly faithful or who do not listen to Christian music is one way the youth at Autumn Blaze help spread the Gospel, he said.

For more information on Autumn Blaze, visit the Web site (www.autumnblaze.org) or call Ticketmaster at (201) 507-8900 for tickets.

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Most Rev. Nicholas DiMarzio, Bishop of the Brooklyn Diocese, center, who was a student of Sister Dorothy Jose at Sacred Heart School in Newark, congratulated his former teacher on the anniversaries of her 50 years at St. Patrick High School and 70th jubilee year. Also offering their congratulations were, left to right, Father Anthony Kulig of Immaculate Conception Seminary; Msgr. Richard Arnholz, pastor of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Bergenfield; and Father Beaubrun Ardouin, pastor of St. Leo Parish in Irvington.

Sister Dorothy celebrates jubilee, teaching career

ELIZABETH—Sister Dorothy Jose was feted Sept. 9 at St. Patrick High School, celebrating a half-century with the school as well as marking her 70th jubilee as a Sister of Charity.

Most Rev. Nicholas DiMarzio, Bishop of the Diocese of Brooklyn, NY, celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving for Sister Dorothy. Bishop DiMarzio was a student of Sister Dorothy when she taught at Sacred Heart School in Newark.

After entering the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth, Convent Station, on Sept. 8, 1937, Sister Dorothy taught at Sacred Heart School. She was assigned to St. Patrick High School in September 1958 as a math teacher and a decade later she was named principal.

Throughout her career Sister Dorothy worked hard to encourage her students to be their best. In 1992, after serving 25 years as principal, Sister Dorothy turned over the reigns to Joseph F. Picaro and became his administrative assistant. She organizes the school's fund-raising activities, manages the Annual Alumni Giving Campaign, and publishes the alumni newsletter, *The Patrician*.

Sister Dorothy asked for no personal gifts at the Sept. 9 celebration, preferring donations in her name to St. Patrick High School to enhance a project for the security and safety of the campus. The project is estimated to cost \$100,000.

Founded in 1863, the school began by training students in the commercial arts. In 1882 the Sisters of Charity changed the school from a two-year to a four-year, full-time high school, offering both commercial arts and college preparatory courses.

St. Patrick High School—the oldest Catholic high school in New Jersey—prides itself on serving the children of immigrant families. Nearly 90 percent of the student body comes from families whose income is below the national poverty level. Contact Picaro at (908) 353-5220 or Kathy Skrupskis, Class of 1970 and chair of the school's board of trustees, at (908) 965-1727 for more information on the school.

SHU schedules open house Oct. 27 at athletic center

SOUTH ORANGE—Seton Hall University (SHU) will hold an open house on Saturday, Oct. 27, 9:30 a.m., at the Richie Regan Recreation and Athletic Center.

The open house will provide the opportunity for high school students to visit the campus, speak to admissions representatives and meet potential classmates as well as SHU graduates.

For additional information or to register for the open house, visit the Web site: admissions.shu.edu or call the SHU Office of Undergraduate Admissions at (800) 843-4255.

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Submitted photo

RAISING THE FLAG—Oratory Preparatory School in Summit celebrated its 100th anniversary with the raising of a centennial flag. The senior contingent of the student council unfurled the flag following a special Mass on Sept. 14. Pictured, left to right, are Headmaster Timothy M. Lynch, Student Council Moderator Kevin Kostibos, Peter Arre of Basking Ridge, Student Council President Kevin Kuchera of Morristown, Vice President Mark Ryan, Dan Lesko of South Orange, Paul Cubelli of Boonton Township and Peter Olsinski of West Orange. Oratory Prep (Web site: www.oratoryprep.org) is a Catholic educational ministry of the Archdiocese of Newark, which serves young men in grades 7 to 12. The school originally was founded as Carlton Academy in 1907.

Little Schoolhouse earns recognition

ELIZABETH—The Little Schoolhouse, an early-childhood education program operated here by Mount Carmel Guild Schools, is among the first programs of its type to receive accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the nation's leading organization for early-childhood education professionals.

The Little Schoolhouse underwent an extensive self-study process, measuring the program and its services against the NAEYC's early-childhood program standards and more than 400 related accreditation criteria.

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark (Web site: www.ccsnewark.org) oversees Mount Carmel Guild schools and Joseph Marino serves as the superintendent.

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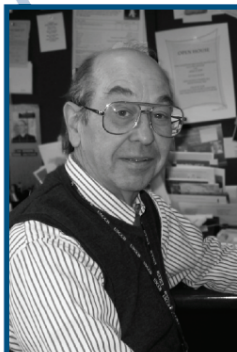
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Caldwell graduate recalls her insight at 'Midnight'

CALDWELL — Meghan Moran, an award-winning Caldwell College graduate, has drawn insight and inspiration from campus ministry projects as well as volunteer work that focused on helping the less-fortunate members of society.

A member of St. Mary Parish in Rutherford, Moran received a bachelor of arts degree in Social Studies from Caldwell College last May. She was active in campus ministry programs, including tutoring at Our Lady Help Christian School in East Orange and volunteering with "Midnight Run," an organization where students distribute food and clothing to the homeless poor on the streets of New York City. She took part in almost every Midnight Run that Caldwell College held—an experience that she said strengthened her faith.

"The people you feed have nothing," Moran said, describing the work of the Midnight Run program. "They (the homeless) go day by day with what is on their



Meghan Moran

back. You really get to interact with the people on the streets and they let you know how much they appreciate what you are doing."

She is pursuing a career in secondary education and special education. During her years at Caldwell College, Moran was the recipient of several honors, including the "C-Pin," which is awarded to an individual in each class who represents the qualities of an exemplary student.



Submitted photo

PERFECT SCORE—Rahway resident Michelle Kus, a senior at Union Catholic Regional High School, Scotch Plains, scored a perfect 800 score on the writing section of the college entrance SAT exam. She attributed her success to the countless hours she spent at her local public library. Kus and her classmates kicked off the fall college application season with Senior/Parent College Information night on Sept. 18, which was hosted by Dr. Cas Jakubik and Mrs. Joanne Jakubik, Union Catholic senior class guidance counselors. The two guidance counselors helped the school's now-graduated Class of 2007 gain entry into the nation's top universities and collectively earn over \$10 million in scholarships.

Marylawn to host 'Park' fund-raiser

SOUTH ORANGE—Marylawn of the Oranges Academy will host "Sunday Afternoon at the Park," a fund-raising event featuring dining, dancing and live entertainment, on Sunday, Oct. 14, 3 to 7 p.m. at The Park Avenue Club, 184 Park Ave., Florham Park.

All proceeds from the fund-raiser will benefit students of Marylawn of the Oranges. Call Deborah Harsh, the academy's director of development, at (973) 762-9222, ext. 23, to purchase tickets (\$100 per person) or to make a donation.

Marylawn (Web site: www.marylawn.net) is a private, Catholic college-preparatory school for young women. Sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth, the academy was founded in 1935.

Al Elefante, Yvonne Greene, & Friends will provide live music for the Oct. 14 event. Other performers include The Young Musicians of St. Benedict's Prep and The Young Women of Marylawn of the Oranges Academy.

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Schools conference to feature Sister Carol Cimino

AREA—The New Jersey Catholic Schools Marketing Council will focus on the theme “Admissions is Everyone’s Mission” at its annual statewide conference, to be held Nov. 27 and

28 at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center in Piscataway.

Workshops at the conference will include breakout sessions that feature presentations by education officials from the Archdiocese of

Newark. Betsy Thorton, admissions director at Union Catholic Regional High School, Scotch Plains, will present: “Open Houses—More Than Opening The Door.” Laura Cristiano, director of

marketing and public relations for the Schools Office, will discuss: “Look High Tech Without a High-Tech Price.” James Goodness, archdiocesan director of communications, will address the topic: “You Are What You Write.”

Sister Carol Cimino, S.S.J., a Sister of St. Joseph of Rochester, NY, and a national education consultant for textbook publisher William H. Sadlier Inc., NY, will serve as the keynote speaker for the event.

A nationally acclaimed figure in Catholic education, Sister Carol (Web site: www.scarol.com) has worked for many years as teacher

and an administrator and co-directs the Institute in Catholic Identity at Manhattan College in New York.

The workshops are geared for principals, pastors, school marketing teams, education development professionals, school board members and interested parents. The confab will run 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. each day. Contact Cristiano by phone at (973) 497-4258 or via e-mail (cristila@rcan.org) to register for the conference. Registrations received by Nov. 9 will receive the “early-bird” discount price of \$25 a person. Registrations received after Nov. 9 will be \$35 a person.

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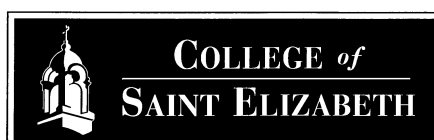
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RED, BLUE, YELLOW AND MORE—Patricia Schreiber’s kindergarten class at Holy Family Interparochial School in Norwood celebrated “Rainbow Day” on Sept. 19. Students, as part of their lesson unit, wore colorful clothes, listened to a story about dazzling fish and ate rainbow fruit salad. Pictured in the colorful classroom are (standing, left to right), Schreiber, Mathew Web, Eden Plescia, Jeanie Granahan (seated) Michael Svrovetz, Mariel Akdemir, and Sarah Folk.



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Submitted photo

SACRED GARMENTS—The Walsh Library gallery at Seton Hall University (SHU), South Orange, during the month of October, will exhibit sacred vestments and garments relating to worship in the Hindu, Jewish, Christian and Muslim traditions. The exhibit, "The Beauty of Sacred Garments," runs through Oct. 26 and features a series of lectures on the four religions on Oct. 10. The display, which opened on Sept. 10, focuses on the relationship between sacred garments and the religious observance of the human life cycle, as well as the use of the garments in community worship. The exhibit will present the way in which such exotic, decorative garments enhance the sacred practice of worship. The program was made possible with assistance from the Msgr. J. M. Oesterreicher Endowment and the Foundation for Judaeo-Christian Studies. Contact Rev. Lawrence Frizzell, the director of the SHU Institute of Judaeo-Christian Studies (and a regular columnist for *The Catholic Advocate*), at (973) 761-9751 for further information.



Advocate photo — M. Gabriele

PAPAL ORGANIST PERFORMS IN NEWARK—James E. Goettsche, titular organist of the Basilica of St. Peter in Vatican City, performed Sept. 12 at Newark's Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, part of the ongoing Cathedral Concert Series (now in its 39th season). Goettsche was selected as the organist at St. Peter's Basilica in 1989 and performed at the funeral of Pope John Paul II and the installation of Pope Benedict XVI. Two years ago, during another visit to the Archdiocese of Newark, he performed at Queen of Peace Parish, North Arlington. The cathedral's world-class organ, built by the Schantz Organ Co., Orville, Ohio, has 9,513 pipes and is the second-largest pipe organ of any Catholic house of worship in the Western Hemisphere, according to John J. Miller, director of music ministries at the cathedral.

Australian navy boat ferries cross, serves as open-air chapel

BY DAN MCALOON

Catholic News Service

CAIRNS, Australia (CNS)—The navy patrol boat HMAS Broome took a break from security operations along Australia's northern border to transport the World Youth Day cross, icons and aboriginal message stick to the aqua blue waters of the famous Great Barrier Reef.

The trip fulfilled another milestone in the epic journey that is taking the symbols around the Australian continent for a year before World Youth Day, July 15-20, 2008, (Web site: www.wyd2008.org/index.php/en) in Sydney.

Anchored off Fitzroy Island in the Coral Sea, the HMAS Broome became a rocking open-air chapel for a prayer service held Sept. 22. Deacon Matt Ransom, officiating for the Cairns Diocese, began the service quoting the Book of Genesis about God creating the waters teeming with swarms of living creatures.

Deacon Ransom told the gathered pilgrims that since the World Youth Day cross had been brought to Cairns, he had witnessed "the depths of God's forgiving love" and its effects on the local people. "I have seen people touching the cross and afterward they are glowing, their pain is gone. As humans, if we do not turn to the cross to take our pain, then we take it out on our environment," he said.

Representing Australia's in-

digenuous people at the service was 16-year-old Kim Reys, a member of the Yidinji clan, whose members traditionally have lived in the area from the southern plateaus outside Cairns to the reefs of the Coral Sea.

Reys held in her hands the message stick made by Sydney's Aboriginal Catholic Ministry. A message stick is a traditional form of greeting used by one indigenous people when entering another people's country. She said the World Youth Day stick, decorated in totems of the whale, eagle and footprints, extends an invitation for all indigenous Catholics to come to World Youth Day.



Army Lt. Ivan Yau (left), representing the military diocese of Australia, recites a prayer next to the World Youth Day cross during a service aboard the HMAS Broome at the Great Barrier Reef off the coast of Cairns, Australia, Sept. 22. The HMAS Broome, an Australian naval vessel, and its crew escorted a group of local Catholic youths to a spot where they dipped the cross into the sea following a prayer service.

CNS photo/Nancy Wiehenc

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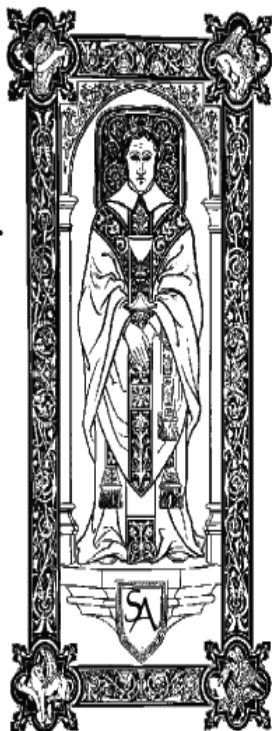
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Urban scholarship bill

Continued from page 1

of the bill, which remains deadlocked in Trenton.

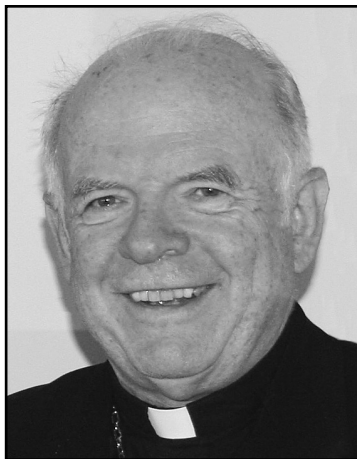
The Sept. 24 meeting, which was held at the Archdiocesan Center in Newark and organized by the newly formed New Jersey Interfaith Clergy for School Choice, sought to encourage pastors in the cities named in the bill (see sidebar) to inform their parishioners and general communities about the benefits of the bill, and to let local legislators know that the bill enjoys wide public support. Similar meetings are slated for the Camden and Trenton diocesan centers in the coming weeks.

Chairing the Newark meeting was Rev. Reginald T. Jackson, executive director of the Orange-based Black Ministers Council of New Jersey (Web site:

www.blackministerscouncil.org). Rev. Jackson declared the Scholarship Act, which is sponsored by members from both parties in the state Assembly and Senate, enjoys strong support in both houses.

However, since its introduction in 2005, he pointed out that the chairs of the education committees in both the state Assembly and Senate have not placed the bill on agenda for discussion. As such, without discussion and movement from the committees, legislators are unable to pass the bill and take concrete steps toward providing inner-city children with educational opportunities, he said.

Meeting participants included Most Rev. John W. Flesey, S.T.D., D.D., Regional Bishop of Bergen County; Rabbi Shragi Greenbaum, director of education affairs for Agudath Israel Schools



Bishop John W. Flesey

of New Jersey; and representatives of Excellent Education for Everyone (E3) (Web site: www.nje3.org)—an advocacy group, with offices in Newark and Camden, seeking to obtain expanded school choice in New Jersey for parents and children. Also in attendance at the confab were representatives of the Newark and Paterson chapters of the NJ Network of Catholic School Families (Web site: www.njcatholicsschools.org).

In the coming weeks, parishioners in Elizabeth, Newark and Orange will be learning more about the bill and how they can help reach out to legislators and the general community to gain support for passage of the Urban Schools Scholarship Act.

“Through these efforts,” Rev.

Tax credits would aid low-income students

Under the proposed Urban School Scholarship Act's five-year pilot program, eligible low-income children in Camden, Newark, Orange and Trenton would receive scholarships to attend participating public and non-public schools. An amendment to the current bill (S-2228) would broaden the number of cities eligible for the program to include Elizabeth, Paterson and Lakewood.

The program would use corporate tax credits to fund the scholarships—up to \$6,000 per student in elementary schools, and up to \$9,000 per student in high schools. The program is modeled after a successful system operating in Pennsylvania.

In addition to giving parents educational choice and the opportunity to move their children out of poor-performing schools, the Urban Schools Scholarship Act will have the added benefits of reducing public school class size and the need to build new public schools in the affected districts without adding to the state budget.

—James Goodness

Foundation to host charity ball Oct. 13

The St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center Foundation will hold its 31st annual black-tie gala charity ball on Oct. 13 at Cipriani Wall Street, 55 Wall St., New York, with the medical center's 140th anniversary as the theme for the event.

Proceeds from the charity ball will benefit the medical center and St. Joseph's Children's Hospital. Contact the medical center's Benefit Office at (212) 763-8593 for information and reservations.

Congressman William J. Pascrell, Jr., and ABC News co-anchor Elizabeth Vargas will be the honorees at the charity ball and will receive the William F. Johnson Award for community and corporate leadership.

Two Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth who are also physicians at St. Joseph's—Sister Eileen Clifford, M.D., medical director of Care Management, St. Joseph's Healthcare System, and Sister M. Christine Reyelt, M.D., vice president of mission, St. Joseph's Healthcare System—will be honored as the recipients of the prestigious Kendrick P. Lance Distinguished Physician Awards.

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Gracious God, You generously blessed Your servant, Padre Pio, with gifts of the Spirit. You marked His body with five wounds of Christ Crucified, as a powerful witness to the saving Passion and Death of your Dying Son, and as a stirring inspiration to the many people of Your infinite mercy, forgiveness and love.

In the confessional, Padre Pio labored endlessly for the salvation of souls. Through his prayerful intercession, many who suffered were healed of sickness and disease. Endowed with the gift of discernment, he could read people's hearts. From the blood of his wounds came a perfumed fragrance, a special sign of Your Holy Presence. With dignity and intense devotion, he celebrated daily Mass, inviting countless men and women to a greater union with Jesus Christ, in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist.

Through the intercession of St. Pio, I confidently beseech You to grant me the grace of (here state your petition.) Help me to imitate his example of prayerful holiness and compassion, so that I too, may faithfully follow the Risen Lord, and one day rejoice in the Kingdom, where You live and reign forever and ever. AMEN. Novena Published in Gratitude. Thank you St. Pio.

M.E.A.

ST. THERESA

Oh Glorious Saint Theresa, whom almighty God has raised up to aid and counsel mankind. I invite your miraculous intercession. So powerful are you obtaining every need of body and soul, our Holy Mother Church proclaims you a "Prodigy of Miracles." Now fervently I beseech you to answer my petition (mention here) and carry out your promise of doing good upon earth of letting fall from heaven a shower of roses. Henceforth, Dear little flower, I will fulfill your plea to be made known everywhere and I will never cease to lead others to Jesus through you. Amen.

(Say prayer every day for 9 days. By 4th day, ask for a sign. If prayers are to be answer. Between 4th and 9th day, you will see arose in magazine, TV picture or receive roses. You can also get a strong scent of roses in home even if no roses present. Must promise publication. Thank you.)

J.B.

THANK YOU ST. JUDE

A special prayer of thanksgiving to St. Jude for answering my prayer. All glory to God for His mercy and grace in the lives of His faithful. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. Triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, continue to pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, always pray for us. May we be forever grateful for the intercession of St. Jude in our times of need. Amen. Published in a true spirit of gratitude to Almighty God. Thank you, St. Jude.

S.J.

Novenas

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.

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M.C.

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.

A.B.

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.

M.E.A.

World Mission Sunday cites vital global ministry

BY MELISSA MCNALLY
Staff Writer

AREA — World Mission Sunday, a worldwide observance organized locally by the archdiocesan Propagation of the Faith, will be celebrated on Oct. 20-21. Msgr. Robert J. Fuhrman, archdiocesan director of Pontifical Mission Societies, explained that the day includes special prayer and sacrifice for missionaries to recognize the work these faithful do in countries throughout the world.

"This day asks us to sacrifice for those who have even less in missionary countries. There is special preaching and a second collection is taken in every church throughout the world. Missionaries are in two-thirds of the world's countries," Msgr. Fuhrman explained.

Typically celebrated on the third weekend in October, the special collection gathered on World Mission Sunday goes to the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples in Rome where it is distributed to the neediest countries.

"The congregation subsidizes 1,150 mission dioceses throughout the world. Without the donations, these areas can't function. The missions get an automatic check every year for church buildings, seminaries and other necessities," Msgr. Fuhrman said.

Missionaries continue to do the work of the Church in distant lands and Msgr. Fuhrman emphasized that they should be appreciated not only on one weekend but throughout the whole year.

"In the archdiocese, missionaries visit each parish to educate and inspire. On World Mission Sunday, priests should preach a mission-centered homily and pastors should be more conscious of the missionary nature of the Church," Msgr. Fuhrman recalled that Christ said "go out and teach all nations," highlighting the significance of evangelization in the Catholic faith.

Msgr. Fuhrman, who also serves as the pastor of Saint Gabriel the Archangel Parish in Saddle River, will celebrate a Mass for World Mission Sunday on Oct. 21 at St. Francis

Cathedral in the nearby Diocese of Metuchen.

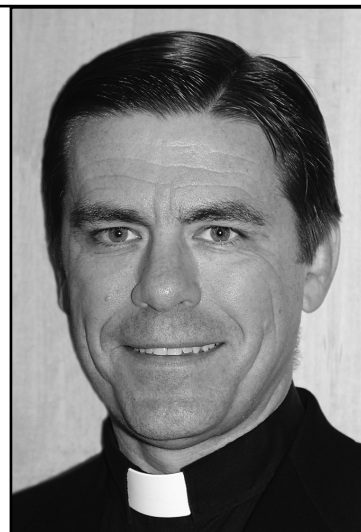
"I want to talk about the different kinds of poverty," he said, sharing his thoughts on the homily he would deliver at St. Francis Cathedral. "There is the destitute poor and then there is voluntary poverty of someone like St. Francis, who gave everything away in order to have no attachments and to live freely for the Lord," he said.

Over the years Msgr. Fuhrman has visited many missionary countries and although the number of priests and religious working as missions has gone down, the number of foreign priests in the United States has increased.

"There is a growth in foreign, native churches with their own leaders and that is one of the goals of missions," he said. "People from other countries are now coming over to America to serve us. Foreign missions help us see that the world is enormous and the Church is one body with many dimensions and parts. They teach us a lesson that the Church is very large and the world is very com-

Foreign missions help us see that the world is enormous and the Church is one body with many dimensions and parts.'

—Msgr. Robert J. Fuhrman



plex. We are all related in spite of cultural differences."

Donating gifts on World Mission Sunday is essential to keep the work of missions going, Msgr. Fuhrman emphasized. "We are not doing anyone any 'favors' by sacrificing. We do it for God and we do it because we need to; because it is the right thing to do. No one is too poor to give and no one is too wealthy to receive."

Earlier this year Msgr. Fuhrman attended a conference

of the Pontifical Mission Societies (Web site: www.worldmissions-catholicchurch.org) in San Francisco to reaffirm the notion that parish-level action is strategically linked with the global calling of the Church to help those in need (see *The Catholic Advocate*, June 27). As reported, the Archdiocese of Newark is among the most productive diocese in the United States in generating income for the general fund of the Propagation of the Faith.



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Sister Arline Zurich treks to Norway

NEWARK — Sister Arline Zurich, O.S.B., mission moderator of the Holy Childhood Association for the Archdiocese of Newark, has visited the Trappistine Nuns in Dubuque, IA, for the past 27 years.

She visited them again last past summer, but this time the annual journey took Sister Arline to Norway where six of the Sisters had gone to start a new monastery.

With Queen Sonja in atten-

dance, a church at Tautra Monastery was dedicated. Bishop Georg Mueller of Trondheim officiated. Norway (Web site: www.norway.org) is a predominately Lutheran country.

"It was an experience I will never forget. These Cistercian nuns follow the rule of Saint Benedict, where he encourages nuns who live according to his rule to earn their living by the labor of their

own hands," Sister Arline said.

In Iowa, Sister Arline explained, the nuns support themselves by making Trappistine cream caramels. In Norway, however, they concentrate on herbal soaps and skin creams. "Their products have been well received by not only all on the Island of Tautra, but can be found in gift shops throughout the area," she explained.



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Submitted photo

Sister Arline Zurich admires the new church at Tautra Monastery in Norway. She traveled to Scandinavia last summer to be on hand for the dedication. Visit the Web site: www.monasterycandy.com to learn more about monastery candy.

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Expert clarifies myths on stem-cell research

BY FATHER TADEUSZ PACHOLCZYK
Special to The Catholic Advocate

Myth # 1: Stem cells can only come from embryos.

In fact stem cells can be taken from umbilical cords, the placenta, amniotic fluid, adult tissues and organs such as bone marrow, fat from liposuction, regions of the nose, and even from cadavers up to 20 hours after death.

Myth # 2: The Catholic Church is against stem-cell research.

There are four categories of stem cells: embryonic stem cells, embryonic germ cells, umbilical cord stem cells, and adult stem cells. Given that germ cells can come from miscarriages that involve no deliberate interruption of pregnancy, the Church opposes the use of only one of these four categories—embryonic stem cells. In other words, the Catholic Church actually approves three of the four possible types of stem-cell research.

Myth # 3: Embryonic stem-cell research has the greatest promise to cure disease.

Up to now, no human being has ever been cured of a disease using embryonic stem cells. Adult stem cells, on the other hand, already have cured thousands of people. There is the example of the use of bone marrow cells from the hipbone to repair scar tissue on the heart after heart attacks.

Research using adult cells is 20 to 30 years ahead of embryonic stem cells and holds greater promise. This is in part because stem cells are part of the natural repair mechanisms of an adult body, while embryonic stem cells do not belong in an adult body (where they are likely to form tumors, and to be rejected as foreign tissue by the recipient). Rather, embryonic stem cells really belong only within in the specialized microenvironment of a rapidly growing embryo, which is a radically different setting from an adult body.

(Editor's note: Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk received his Ph.D. in neuroscience at Yale University and post-doctoral research at Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School, prior to doing advanced studies in Rome in Theology and in Bioethics. Father "Tad" currently serves as the Director of Education for the National Catholic Bioethics Center (Web site: www.ncbcenter.org), based in Philadelphia. Earlier this year he was the featured speaker at a symposium at Seton Hall University: "A Question of Clarity: The Science and Ethics of Stem Cell and Cloning," (see The Catholic Advocate, March 7). He is a priest of the Diocese of Fall River, MA).

Stem cells

Continued from page 1

devoting our efforts to educating Catholics to the idea that, if this referendum passes, the state has both a fiscal and a moral responsibility to direct this funding into areas that are ethical and moral, and sure to bear results without harming innocent human beings," he said.

Proponents of the November referendum, which is supported by Gov. Jon Corzine, contend their goal is finding cures for those suffering from devastating diseases. However, a growing number of patient advocates, scientists and religious leaders from all faiths are joining in an effort to expose the myths and misinformation in the stem-cell debate.

Embryonic stem-cell research—experiments utilizing live human embryos, which are always destroyed in the clinical process—have not yielded a single cure or treatment. By contrast, there are more than 60 proven medical treatments that have been gained by over 20 years of adult stem-cell research, according to Dr. Richard Watson, chief of Ambulatory Urology at Hackensack University Medical Center.

Watson, a past president of the Philadelphia-based Catholic Medical Association (Web site: www.cathmed.org), addressed the topic last year during the

Legislative Dialogue forum, which was sponsored by the Archdiocese of Newark and held at Mother Seton Regional High School in Clark (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Oct. 25, 2006).

An important tool in the effort to fully inform Catholics and voters of other faiths about the Church's position on stem-cell research is a video documentary co-sponsored and distributed by state Catholic leaders entitled: "The Science of Stem Cells: Finding Cures and Protecting Life." The 14-minute documentary reviews the various issues connected to the stem cell debate—issues rarely examined in full by the secular mass media.

Pastors and high school principals in the four counties of the Archdiocese of Newark have received a packet containing this video along with brochures that can be ordered and distributed to parishioners and students. The video was funded in part by the New Jersey Knights of Columbus (Web site: www.njkoec.org) as part of the organization's efforts to expose the misinformation and misunderstanding that surrounds the stem-cell debate. The video also can be seen online via the Web site: www.rcan.org/life.

The video features an interview with Dr. David Hess, professor and chairman of the Department of Neurology at the Medical College of Georgia (Web site: www.mcga.edu). Hess is physician

and neurologist recognized as one of the leading stem-cell researchers in the United States.

Stem cells are tiny building blocks of the body with an ability to repair or even replace damaged cells or tissues and lead to cures and treatments for a wide range of illnesses and conditions. Adult stem cells typically are harvested from umbilical cord and placenta blood.

Earlier this year, the Elie Katz Umbilical Cord Blood Program facility, located in Allendale, was opened to encourage Garden State Catholic hospitals to donate biological material to support adult stem-cell research (see *The Catholic Advocate*, March 21).

Hess objects to attacks by critics who charge that those opposing cloning and embryonic stem-cell research put a "moral" argument—the destruction of a human embryo—ahead of current human suffering from dreaded ailments such as cancer and Alzheimer disease.

"Nothing could be further from the truth," Hess declared. "As a physician, I deal with these very tragic situations all the time and I am very sensitive to what's going on. I desperately want to help. But the fact is, a lot of us (researchers) believe that the biggest bang for the buck is with adult stem-cell research. It's going to get us to a real cure or treatment for more patients much faster."

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D.B.

NOVENAS

ST. THERESA

Oh Glorious Saint Theresa, whom almighty God has raised up to aid and counsel mankind. I invite your miraculous intercession. So powerful are you obtaining every need of body and soul, our Holy Mother Church proclaims you a "Prodigy of Miracles." Now fervently I beseech you to answer my petition (mention here) and carry out your promise of doing good upon earth of letting fall from heaven a shower of roses. Henceforth, Dear little flower, I will fulfill your plea to be made known everywhere and I will never cease to lead others to Jesus through you. Amen.

(Say prayer everyday for 9 days. By 4th day, ask for a sign. If prayers are to be answer. Between 4th and 9th day, you will see arose in magazine, TV picture or receive roses. You can also get a strong scent of roses in home even if no roses present. Must promise publication. Thank you.)

M.E.A.

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.

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ST. THERESA

Oh Glorious Saint Theresa, whom almighty God has raised up to aid and counsel mankind. I invite your miraculous intercession. So powerful are you obtaining every need of body and soul, our Holy Mother Church proclaims you a "Prodigy of Miracles." Now fervently I beseech you to answer my petition (mention here) and carry out your promise of doing good upon earth of letting fall from heaven a shower of roses. Henceforth, Dear little flower, I will fulfill your plea to be made known everywhere and I will never cease to lead others to Jesus through you. Amen.

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M.P.

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.

J.M.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.

M.I.

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.

E.K.

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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SHU program marks canonization of Opus Dei founder

SOUTH ORANGE—Seton Hall University's (SHU) Center for Vocation and Servant Leadership will sponsor a confer-

ence on Saturday, Oct. 13 to mark the fifth anniversary of the canonization of Saint Josemaria Escriva, the founder of Opus Dei.

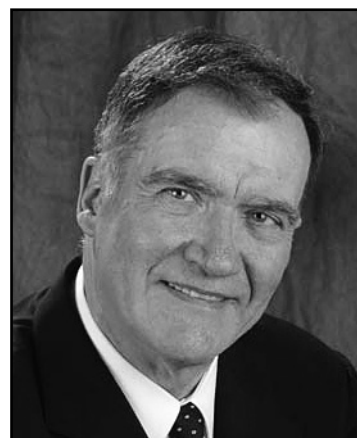
The forum will begin at 8:30 a.m. at McNulty Amphitheater on the campus of SHU. Professor William Toth, Ph.D., will present a talk on "Saint Josemaria and John Paul II on Work and Holiness." Professor John Coverdale, who worked for seven years with St. Josemaria, will address the forum and describe his experience "Living and Working with a Saint."

Following the conference presentations and discussion, Archbishop John J. Myers will celebrate Mass at 11:30 a.m. in honor of Saint Josemaria at SHU's Immaculate Conception Chapel. The conference is free and open to the public. Contact Coverdale at (973) 763-8397 for more information on the event.

Saint Josemaria, who died in 1975, founded Opus Dei in 1928 to help people come closer to God in their work and everyday lives. Pope John Paul II canonized Saint Josemaria on Oct. 6, 2002.

In his lecture, Toth will underscore the marked similarities in the spiritualities of work advanced by St. Josemaria and John Paul II. Their respective legacies illustrate a primary way in which the living tradition of the Church advances—namely, through the genius of its great doctrinal popes affirming the pastoral charisms (gifts) of its saints.

A deacon of the Archdiocese of Newark, Toth is the founder and current co-director of the Work



Deacon William Toth

Institute at Seton Hall University. He earned a master's degree in Moral Theology from Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology and a Ph.D. in Christian Ethics from Union Theological Seminary.

Coverdale, a professor at Seton Hall Law School, will draw from his personal experience of having worked in collaboration with St. Josemaria in Rome during the early 1960s.

"It is hard to summarize that experience (in Rome) for many reasons," Coverdale said. "For one, St. Josemaria was a man with a very rich personality. He was a dreamer with great plans for transforming the world, but at the same time he paid meticulous attention to details."

"Pope John Paul II aptly called him, 'the Saint of Ordinary Life,'" Coverdale continued. "He did live through great adventures, especial-



John Coverdale

ly during the Spanish Civil War when he was frequently in real danger of death. It is also true that God intervened in his life on a number of occasions in extraordinary ways, yet his message is all about sanctifying ordinary life.

"If I were forced to try to sum him up in a single phrase, I would say that he was a man who knew how to love," Coverdale said. "Not only did he love Jesus and the Blessed Mother with passionate affection, he also loved each of the people he lived and worked with, and showed his affection in concrete details."

Opus Dei (www.opusdei.org) is based in New York. Msgr. Thomas G. Bohlin, the vicar of Opus Dei in the United States, celebrated Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Ridgewood on June 23 to commemorate the feast day of Saint Josemaria (see *The Catholic Advocate*, July 18).

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When Jesus turned around and noticed them following him,

He asked them,
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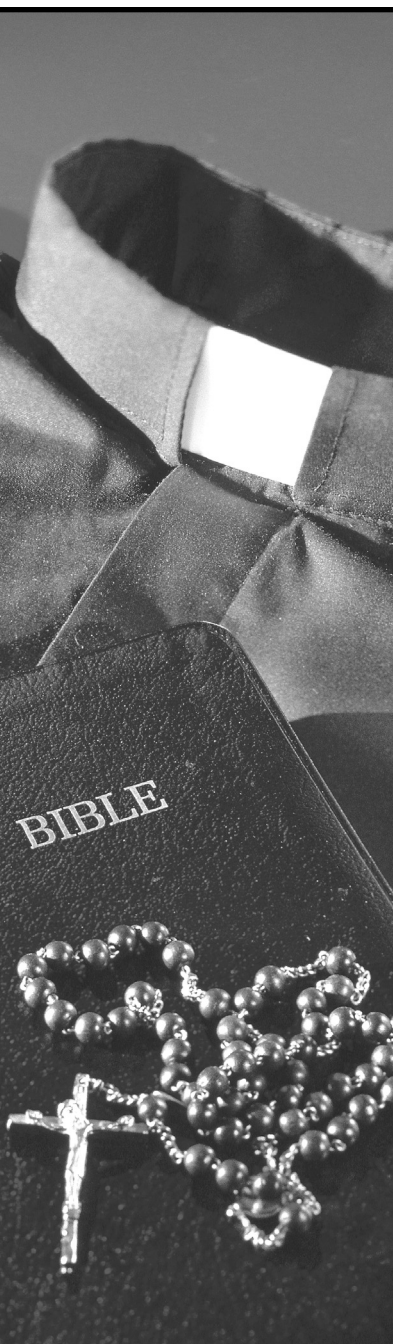
"Come and see,"
He answered.

John 1:38-39

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Serra steers priesthood celebration

Catholic parishes throughout the United States will show support for their priests with prayer and dialogue on Priesthood Sunday, Oct. 28. The one-day celebration of the priesthood is organized by parish lay leaders and coordinated by the USA Council of Serra International, based in Chicago.

Serra International (Web site: www.serraus.org) is a worldwide Catholic organization of lay men and women dedicated to promoting vocations to the priesthood and religious life. More than 12,000 members in over 300 clubs are active in the United States. Here in the Archdiocese of Newark, Joseph F. Pagano serves as the president Serra Bergen South and Serra district governor, while Rose Marie Deehan is the president of Serra Club of the Oranges.

"The purpose of Priesthood Sunday is to engage every level of the Church in the United States in a national conversation about the priesthood," said Rev. Richard Vega, president of the National Federation of Priests' Councils (Web site: www.nfpc.org). The organization, which also is headquartered in Chicago, represents more than 26,000 U.S. priests.

Priesthood Sunday was established in 2003 to provide a way for Catholic communities to express

appreciation for the devoted priests who serve them so faithfully. Such a celebration is increasingly relevant in light of the declining number of priests in the United States. Only about 4,000 of the 19,000 parishes in this country currently have more than one priest.

Special liturgies and programs that open dialogue between priests and parishioners all are encour-

aged as ways to mark Priesthood Sunday. Parish lay leaders are invited to visit the Web site www.priestsunday.org for suggested liturgies, social celebrations, reflections, and downloadable graphics, guides and posters or call USA Council of Serra International at (888) 777-6681. Ed Verbeke is the executive director of the group.

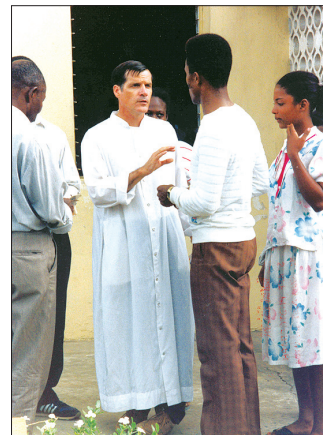


Submitted photo

SERRA CONVENTION—Most Rev. Thomas A. Donato, D.D., Auxiliary Bishop of Newark (left), celebrated the closing Mass for the Serra Mid-Atlantic Convention, which was held Sept. 14-16 at the Meadowlands Sheraton Hotel in East Rutherford. Pictured with Bishop Donato is Joseph F. Pagano, president, Serra Bergen South and the Serra district governor, who served as a co-chairman for the convention.

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Archdiocese of Newark,

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Submitted photo

PARISH BABY SHOWER—The Human Concerns Committee of Sacred Heart Parish, Lyndhurst, recently held a baby shower to benefit Catholic Charities' facilities in several surrounding counties. Much of the clothing was handmade. Donated items included diapers, bibs and strollers. Pictured at the event are (left to right, seated) Roseann Bozzone and Nancy Stevens, (standing) Linda Clement, Micki Prokop, Paylis Scezsza, Mike Foglio, Margaret Daochile, Kathy Valerius, Barbara Holliday and Sal Russo.

Carmel Retreat offers list of movies and reflections

MAHWAH—Carmel Retreat Center, 1071 Ramapo Valley Rd., has released its schedule of 2007-08 events.

The retreat center will run its Sunday Night at the Movies program from October through April 2008. Films slated to be shown are: Oct. 14, "A River Runs Through It"; Nov. 18, "Baghdad Café"; Dec. 9, "Whale Rider"; Jan. 13, "Pride and Prejudice"; Feb. 10, "The Cardinal"; March 9, "The Mission"; and April 13, "Spring Forward." The cost of admission per evening (\$25) includes supper. The cost for the entire series is \$150 and payable by Oct. 12. Call (201) 327-7090 for details.

"Sabbath Morning for Women," reflections on the lives of women in Scripture, will take place November through April.

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TOPICS

Sunday, Oct. 28 at 7:30 PM

Don't Worry Be Happy: Christian Joy

Tuesday, Oct. 30 at 7:30 PM

Brought Near: A Sense of belonging in the Church

Monday, Oct. 29 at 9:00 AM

What Are You Afraid Of?: Dealing With Life's Fears

Wednesday, Oct. 31 at 9:00 AM

Lighten Up: A Christian Sense of Humor

Monday, Oct. 29 at 7:30 PM

See It Big—Keep It Simple: Poor in Spirit With Peace of Mind

Wednesday, Oct. 31 at 7:30 PM

Blessed Among Women: Mary Tender and Tough And Mass

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Cool Off: Coping with Anger

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Sister Helen Foley marks milestone

MENDHAM—Sister Helen Foley of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, South Orange, was among the jubilarians honored recently at the 158th Founding Day celebration of the Sisters of Christian Charity. Sister Helen this year is marking the 65th year of her ministry.

Father Francis Heinen, brother of jubilarian Sister Julitta Heinen, celebrated the Liturgy at the Chapel of Mary Immaculate,

Mallnckrodt Convent. The Sisters renewed their vows during the offertory of the Mass.

In the Archdiocese of Newark, Sisters of Christian Charity serve at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, South Orange; St. Nicholas School, Jersey City; Hudson County Community, Jersey City; Catholic Charities, Newark, and Clara Maas Continuing Care Center, Kearny.

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VITAL EQUIPMENT—The Ramsey Knights of Columbus, Rev. Patrick F. Pindar Council 3962, recently donated a \$2,500 defibrillator to the Ramsey Office of Emergency Management (OEM). On hand for the presentation at Ramsey Town Hall were, left to right, Ralph Venturini, team leader of the Community Emergency Response Team; Michael Adams, OEM coordinator; Council President Art Nalbandian, Ramsey Mayor Christopher Botta, Grand Knight Joseph Reap and Deputy Grand Knight Stephen Adams.

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Immaculate Conception ready to celebrate 150 years

MONTCLAIR—Immaculate Conception Parish will mark its 150th anniversary with a gala reception on Saturday, Nov. 10, 7:30 p.m., at the Montclair Art Museum.

“The gala, which will end a yearlong parish celebration, is an opportunity for parishioners, former parishioners and friends of the parish to celebrate its rich history,” Mark Demo, reception chairman, said.

Founded in 1856 as a mission of St. Peter Parish in Belleville to help serve the religious needs of

a growing number of Catholics in northern Essex County, Immaculate Conception, located at 30 North Fullerton Ave., serves over 1,000 families. It became a separate parish in 1864 and became the mother church for the faithful of Montclair, Bloomfield, Verona and Caldwell.

The first church was a wood-frame structure located on Elm Street. Construction on the present church building began in 1892. The church was completed a century ago and underwent extensive

renovations in 1995 with the help of a grant from the New Jersey Historic Trust.


Msgr. Timothy J. Shugrue has served as pastor of Immaculate Conception since 1991. Parochial vicars are Father Frank J. Burla and Father John J. Korbelak, while Father Louis M. Pambello is in residence. Sister Cora Marie McGuire, M.S.B.T., has been the pastoral associate in charge of catechesis since 1995.

Parish officials said advanced reservations (adults only) are required for the event. Contact Elizabeth Keeley by phone at (973) 865-9315 or via e-mail at betsykeeley@hotmail.com for details. The Montclair Art Museum is located at 3 South Mountain Ave. (corner of Bloomfield Avenue). Parking is available in the museum parking lot.



Submitted photo

Msgr. Timothy J. Shugrue (far right), the pastor of Immaculate Conception, is pictured with members of the parish’s 150th anniversary planning committee (front row, left to right) Nancy Clutterbuck, Elizabeth Keeley, Mark Demo and Deana Campion, (back row) Howard Clutterbuck, Jon Bonesteel and Michael Mulroe. The gala celebration to mark the anniversary will be held Nov. 10 at the Montclair Art Museum.



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