

Our Lady of Valley Parish hosts Civil War Mass and re-enactment



Advocate photos — Ward Miele

CIVIL WAR MILITARY MASS—The 180,000 African-Americans who served in the U.S. Army during the Civil War were honored at a special military Mass on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 18, at Our Lady of the Valley Parish in Orange (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Jan. 24). Civil War re-enactors from the 7th New Jersey Volunteer Infantry and the 22nd United States Colored Troops, both members of the 2nd New Jersey Brigade, took part in the event that filled the church. After Mass, the re-enactors gathered outside, fired three volleys and played taps in honor of all those who died during the Civil War. Father David G. Moreno, S.D.B., parochial vicar of Our Lady of the Valley, has served as chaplain of the 7th New Jersey Volunteer Infantry for the last nine years. The Civil War began on April 12, 1861 at the battle of Fort Sumter, SC, and ended with the surrender of General Robert E. Lee at Appomattox Court House, VA, on April 9, 1865. Overall, there were 620,000 deaths from the conflict.

Women's Commission's annual forum to gather March 31 at Seton Hall

AREA—The Women's Commission of the Archdiocese of Newark will hold its annual Day of Reflection forum on Saturday, March 31, at Jubilee Hall, Seton Hall University in South Orange.

The event will begin with Mass at 10 a.m. with Archbishop John J. Myers as the celebrant and featuring cantor Valerie Sue Muller.

Mary Jo Anderson will be the keynote speaker for the forum. Anderson is a contributing editor for *Crisis Magazine*, a monthly journal of politics, religion and culture. She also serves on the editorial board for *VOICES*, the journal of Women for Faith and Family and is a regular guest on EWTN's "Abundant Life."

Registration for the event is \$35 per person; \$20 for students, seniors and religious. The group rate (for 10 or more participants registering together) is \$10 per person. To register, send name, address, telephone number, e-mail address and parish name, along with a check made out to "Women's Commission, Archdiocese of Newark" to Women's Commission, Archdiocese Of Newark, Archdiocesan Center, 171 Clifton Ave., Newark, NJ 07104-0500.

Call (973) 497-4010 or visit the Web site: www.rcan.org/womcom for more information or contact Pamela Swartzberg, group chairwoman, via e-mail at pamelams@optonline.net.

The Women's Commission strives to bring the teachings of the Catholic Church, especially regarding women, to people throughout the archdiocese. Commission members include Swartzberg (Most Blessed Sacrament, Franklin Lakes); Loretta Lovell (St. Philip the Apostle, Saddle Brook); Ann Burgmeyer (St. Teresa of Avila, Summit); Marta Cabrera (Our Lady of Grace, Hoboken); Mary Elaine Connell (St. Patrick and Assumption/All Saints, Jersey City); Christine Flaherty (Immaculate Conception, Montclair); Anna Groves (Blessed Sacrament/St. Charles Borromeo, Newark); Holly Lawmaster (St. Cecilia's, Kearny); Catherine L'Insalata (division director, Catholic Campaign for Human Development); Maureen Madigan (Queen of Peace, North Arlington); Sr. Margaret Thomas McGovern, O.P. (Sisters of Saint Dominic of Caldwell, New Jersey); and Liliana Soto and Nivedita Srinivasa (St. Antoninus, Newark).

Each year, during Lent, the Women's Commission sponsors a Day of Reflection. Last year the group's Day of Reflection featured a presentation of "Theology of the Body" at St. Philomena Parish, Livingston. Dr. Mary Shivanandan, an author, theology professor and member of the Pope John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family, Washington D.C., provided the keynote address (see *The Catholic Advocate*, April 12, 2006). The commission also participates in workshops and retreats.

Covenant House 'Star Night' to sparkle March 27 at NJPAC

NEWARK—Covenant House New Jersey will host its fourth-annual Night of Broadway Stars event on Tuesday, March 27, at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC).

This gala event will feature some of Broadway's leading stars performing their signature songs. In addition, there will be extra-special performances by some of Covenant House's own extraordinary youth members.

Contact Fara Falconi at (973) 286-3400 for information and ticket reservations. Proceeds from the event will benefit the homeless and runaway youth that Covenant House New Jersey serves.

The evening will kick off at 6 p.m. with a pre-show cocktail buffet and silent auction, and concludes with a "Meet the Performers" post-show dessert reception. The silent auction features items such as a VIP luxury suite at Yankee Stadium that seats up to 20 guests, a magnificent timeshare in Orlando, FL, and four premium golf packages at premier clubs.

Covenant House New Jersey (Web site: www.covenanthousenj.org/about.htm) is a privately funded, non-profit organization with centers here and in Atlantic City. Jill Rottmann, a resident of Roselle Park, serves as the executive director. Jennifer Tunnicliffe is the group's development director.

Founded in 1989, the organization is the largest provider in the state of services to homeless and at-risk adolescents between the ages of 16 to 21. Covenant House New Jersey provides these adolescents with safe, clean housing, food, medical treatment, crisis intervention, counseling, addiction treatment, educational and career services. Last year the group served the needs of over 2,000 young people.

Bludgus travels to Tanzania

Continued from page 1
school, while forms three to six correspond to junior college in preparation for college.

The Bayonne native spent the last school year (January through to December) teaching 113 students English, math, science and "values education." In all, Loyola High School has nearly 1,000 students. He also coordinates the school's new community service and retreat programs.

When Bludgus first arrived in Africa, he decided to do something about the lack of books and supplies. Family and friends sent the needed materials and within a few months, a high school library was established. As one of the community service projects under his tutelage, Loyola students give their time to help chil-

dren in local orphanages.

Another effort he launched was production of a music CD by the high school choir. It includes 14 eclectic selections, which blend Swahili, English and instrumental music. "Unfortunately I am not musically inclined, but the school choir CD (Shining Bright) was a great project. It epitomizes the theory of simply providing a 'jump-start' and then allowing people to use their own talents and skills to self-sustain. We were able to help the choir record the CD and mass-produce it to get them on their feet. With the money they have made off of it, they are able to not only give funds back to improve their school, but they will also be able to launch a second CD next year.

"Now in my second year, I am focusing on other areas and the

Blue Hope Project and no longer teaching any classes at Loyola. I will teach at the Sara Corbet Orphanage School and tutor at the first orphanage we have set up in another part of the city. 'House of Blue Hope' will be the second orphanage and will be near Loyola High School and Sara Corbet." With those two facilities, he said, "we will be able to tackle the issue of orphaned/abandoned children from both ends of the city."

Tragically, he lamented, the orphan situation is huge in many East African cities and continues to get worse in Dar es Salaam. The death of parents from HIV/AIDS and other diseases, lack of funds to support children and domestic child abuse all contribute to children being orphaned, abandoned or running away from home, he said.

Blue Hope currently is a priority for Bludgus. To make it a reality, he is soliciting donations from individuals, groups and organizations (the complete project proposal is available online at mysite.verizon.net/vzenwrjd/tanzania).

Father Lawrence Miller, pastor of St. Mary Star of the Sea Parish, who has been instrumental in supporting Bludgus' mission the past year, called him "an incredible young man." Explaining he has known him since the third grade, Father Miller stressed that Bludgus "helped out quite a lot" at the parish for many years.

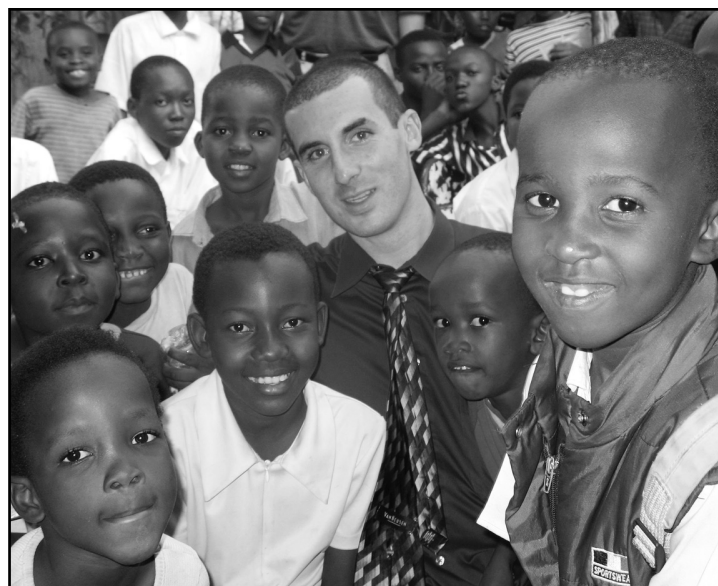


Photo courtesy of Billy Bludgus

At the Sara Corbett Orphanage in Tanzania where he now teaches, St. Mary Star of the Sea's own Billy Bludgus takes a break from classes with some of his students. Bludgus was interviewed for this story via long-distance e-mail correspondence.

Saying he was one of the parish's "most faithful altar servers," the pastor remembered fondly that when an altar server was needed at the last minute, young Bludgus could always be counted on to participate. Father Miller cited the young man as striking evidence of the Beatitudes.

To date, about one-third of the project's \$72,000 price tag has been raised. It will cost \$45,000 to construct the building. Furnishings and utilities are estimated at another \$10,000. Last month the land was purchased.

Those looking to make a dona-

tion can send checks, payable to "House of Blue Hope," to St. Mary Star of the Sea, 326 Avenue C, Bayonne, NJ 07002. Alternately, donations, payable to Jesuit International Mission, can be sent to the mission at 7303 West Seven Mile Rd., Detroit, MI 48221. In each instance write "Blue Hope" in the check memo space.

To order the music CD mentioned by Bludgus in this article send an e-mail to Tanzaniaproject@aol.com or call (201) 858-3942 and leave a message. Payments, payable to St. Mary, can be mailed to 334, Avenue A, Bayonne, N.J. 07002.

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Lourdes/Paris/Lisieux	October (dates to be determined)	\$1,945
Poland/Prague	October (dates to be determined)	\$1,975

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Maryknoll missionary returns to ministry in Africa

MARYKNOLL, NY—Maryknoll Father Michael Snyder, a missionary in Tanzania for 20 years who once called Rutherford home, has returned to the African nation after a decade at Maryknoll’s international headquarters in Ossining, N.Y.

Father Snyder served as a member of the Maryknoll General Council for six years, from November 1996 to November 2002. While still on the council he took over as vocation director in 1999. Father Snyder “thoroughly enjoyed” his work in vocations. He served in Tanzania from 1976 to 1996.



Father Michael Snyder

“Over the past seven years in vocations I have communicated with over 4,000 people interested in mission. They are attracted to Maryknoll missionary service overseas. I have been energized by their enthusiasm, dreams and aspirations.”

“I have been away for quite some time,” Father Snyder said, speaking of his return. “My language skills are excellent and I am so familiar with the environment. But Tanzania has changed and I am sure it will affect me in ways that I do not suspect.”

Sacred Heart reunion set for April 29

IRVINGTON—Sacred Heart School is planning a reunion for all classes on Sunday, April 29.

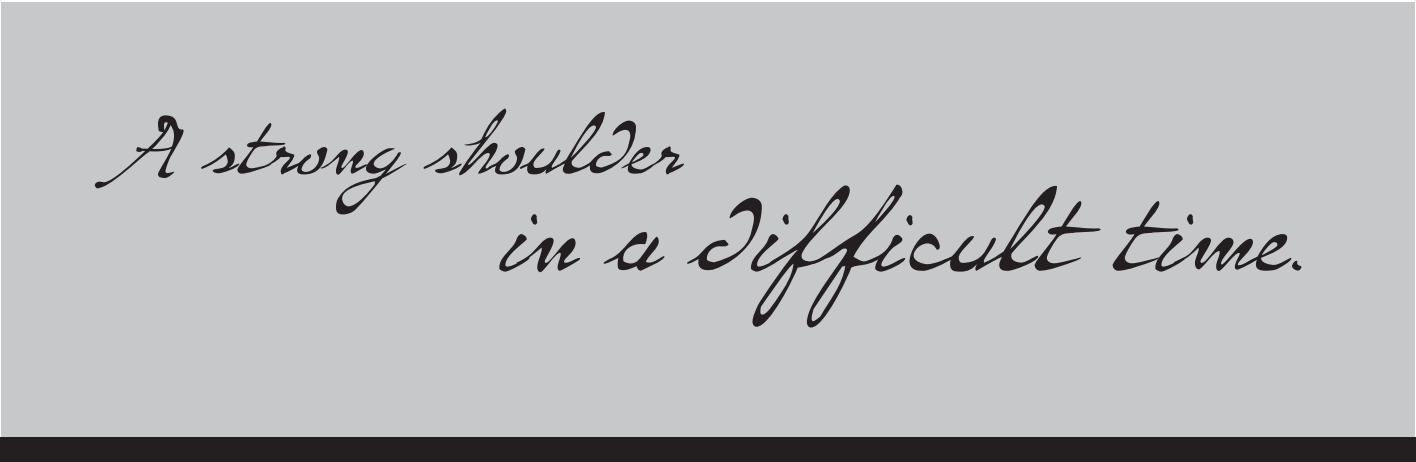
Anyone with information about any alumnus should send their name, address and telephone number to Sacred Heart School, 537 Grove St., Irvington, N.J. 07111, Attention: Valerie Kaminski. Once the information is received, a reservation will be forwarded.

The reunion will include Mass followed by a reception in the newly renovated Church Hall.

He will serve as the Catholic chaplain at the Muhimbili University College of Health Science (MUCHS), the national medical university of Tanzania, located in the capital Dar es Salaam. There are 2,600 students studying to become doctors, nurses, dentists, lab technicians and medical assistants. However, a lack of

resources and low salaries tempt medical personnel to seek employment outside of the country.

“They are also tempted towards corrupt practices to offset the low salary scales,” Father Snyder explained. “In a country where there is one physician for 46,000 people, it will be my hope to develop a rapport with these students.”



Dear Supreme Knight:

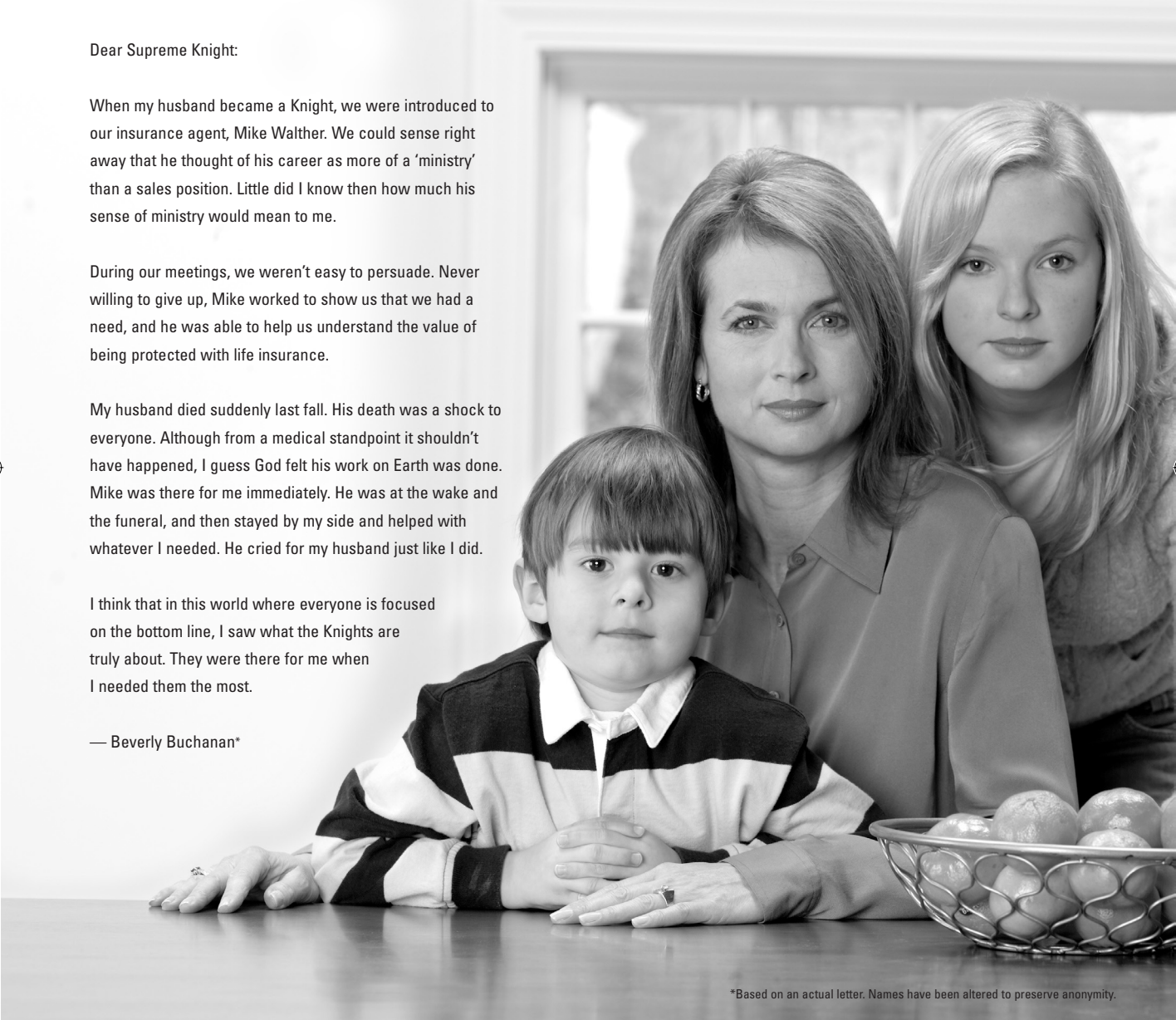
When my husband became a Knight, we were introduced to our insurance agent, Mike Walther. We could sense right away that he thought of his career as more of a ‘ministry’ than a sales position. Little did I know then how much his sense of ministry would mean to me.

During our meetings, we weren’t easy to persuade. Never willing to give up, Mike worked to show us that we had a need, and he was able to help us understand the value of being protected with life insurance.

My husband died suddenly last fall. His death was a shock to everyone. Although from a medical standpoint it shouldn’t have happened, I guess God felt his work on Earth was done. Mike was there for me immediately. He was at the wake and the funeral, and then stayed by my side and helped with whatever I needed. He cried for my husband just like I did.

I think that in this world where everyone is focused on the bottom line, I saw what the Knights are truly about. They were there for me when I needed them the most.

— Beverly Buchanan*



*Based on an actual letter. Names have been altered to preserve anonymity.

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March 7

St. Mary Parish, Rutherford, bereavement support group meeting, through April. 18, 7:30- 9 p.m., (201) 438-2200.

March 8

Caldwell College, UpTown Flutes performance, 8 p.m., (973) 618-3209.

March 9

St. John the Baptist Parish, Hillsdale, The Franciscan Mystery Players, "Jesus the Healer," 8 p.m., (201) 666-2707.

Christian Brothers Academy, Lincroft, "Guys and Dolls," 8 p.m., also on March 10, cost: \$14 for adults, \$10 for seniors, \$7 for children and students, (732) 758-1118.

March 10

St. Phil's Singles, Livingston, volleyball game, 7:30 p.m., (973) 340-4001.

Assumption Parish, Wood-Ridge, overnight Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 6:30 p.m.- 7:30 a.m., (201) 438-5555.

Archdiocesan Retreat Center, Kearny, Just Faith: Putting Faith into Action, RSVP ASAP, 9:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m., cost: \$35, (973) 497-4341

Carmel Retreat, Mahwah, Global Implications of Lent, 9:30 a.m.- 4 p.m., cost: \$50 per person, (201) 327-7090.

March 11

Walburga Monastery, Elizabeth, "Becoming a Whole Person: A Spirituality for Finding

Balance in Work and Life," 3:15 p.m., (908) 353-3028.

Caldwell College, Schola Cantorum's "Sacred Bridge," 4 p.m., cost: \$20, \$15 for seniors and students, (201) 918-3011.

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, West Orange, Novena to St. Joseph, through March 19, 7:30 p.m., (973) 325-0110.

March 12

St. John the Apostle Parish, Bergenfield, Lenten Poverty Soup Supper, 6-9 p.m., cost: \$10, \$5 for children, call Diane Ryan at (201) 384-3961.

March 14

St. Leo Parish, Elmwood Park, Annulment Information Evening, 7:30 p.m., (973) 497-4327.

Dominican Motherhouse Chapel, Caldwell, prayer for peace, 7-8 p.m., (973) 403-3331 ext. 25.

March 15

St. Vincent Nursing Home Auxiliary, Cedar Grove, St. Patrick's Day Celebration at Victor's Chateau, 11:30 a.m., cost: \$25, Jeannie Battista at (973) 239-7928.

March 16

Holy Family Parish, Nutley, fish and chips dinner, call Debbie at (973) 667-1947 or Ann at (973) 661-1229.

March 17

St. Phil's Singles, Livingston, dinner at Benvenuti Ristorante, East Hanover, 6:30 p.m., RSVP by March 12, (973) 560-9728.

Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Jersey City, "All in the Family: A Tale of Two World Views," 10 a.m.-noon, cost: \$15, (973) 403-3331 ext. 25.

March 18

St. Joseph Parish, Bogota, Parish Mission Sunday, 7:30 p.m., through March 21, (201) 342-6300.

Paramus Catholic High School, spring craft show, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., cost: \$3, (201) 666-1340.

St. Aedan Parish, Jersey City, Mass and Healing Service, 2 p.m., call Faith Dimatteo at (201) 333-7557 or Kathy Smith at (201) 434-6122.

March 21

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

Catholic Cemeteries' Mass listing

All masses start at 9:30 a.m. Call (866) 773-7526 for more information.

Friday, March 9
Good Shepherd Chapel
Colonia

Tuesday, March 13
Gate of Heaven Chapel
East Hanover

Wednesday, March 14
Holy Cross Chapel
North Arlington

Passion Play to be staged in Union City

UNION CITY—An ensemble of professional and community actors will present "The Passion Play"—now in its 92nd season—Saturdays and Sundays, March 17 to 31, at the Park Performing Arts Center.

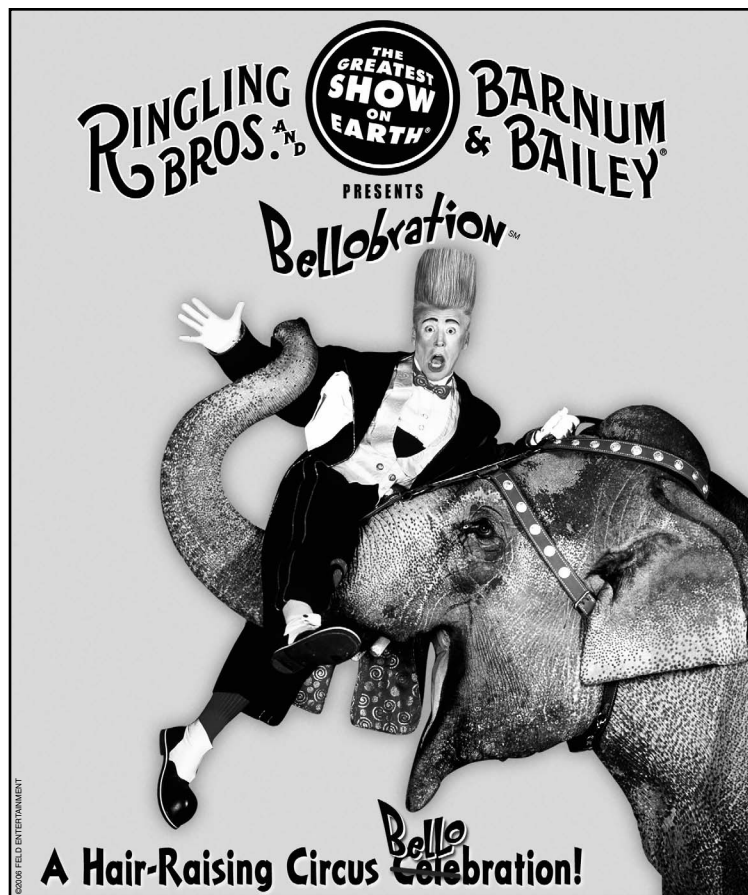
"We have a production that has appealed to generations of families for many years. It allows the audience to feel the presence of live actors on stage, and to relive the story of Christ's last days on earth as they watch an ensemble of vibrant children and adults. There is no distance between the performers and the audience. This is the very real, human story unfolding before our eyes," an arts center spokesman said.

The production has been a favorite of tour groups and area families since it was first presented in 1915. It was originated by a group of German and Swiss immigrants who decided to present the play as an offering to world peace, modeled on "The Passion Play" performed in Oberammergau, Germany, since 1634.

Performances will run from March 17 to 31 every Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. There will be a special performance for school audiences on March 29 at 10 a.m.

Tickets are priced at \$24 per person and group rates are available. To reserve tickets online visit www.parkpac.org. Call the Park Performing Arts Center at (201) 865-6980 ext. 10, for more information.

The play "has evolved into a musical celebration that is well known for its innovative and sensitive approach to religious and social issues," the spokesman said.



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Every picture tells a story

Editor,

I always enjoyed drawing; cartoon illustration to be exact. While I didn't quite understand in my younger years how God could use my desire to draw funny pictures for His good. I did keep the faith in Him and now with life experience I do have eyes to see how God uses little me.

My neighbors had renovation work done to their house and I happened to glance up at their new canvas awning. Under that awning was a square label showing the name of the business that installed the awning. The logo image under my neighbor's awning was a little cartoon guy sitting under a cartoon tree, sewing a canvas. It was my cartoon that I did for a

co-worker when I worked at my first job out of art school. Twenty-five years later they are using it under the awnings to identify their business.

While we are in process of living life we, as mere mortal persons, cannot possibly fully comprehend the final outcome to our daily efforts. I didn't realize 25 years ago that one little cartoon drawing would become an effective image for others to remember a man's business.

However, in this discovery, God's bigger message came to me: In every little and good action done for another without thought to self, little me becomes an effective image of Him to a world who needs to see Him. Truly amazing what God can do with one who just wanted to draw funny pictures.

B. Ambielli
Union

Hey, hop in Father Charlie

Editor,

I'd like to add one more Father Charlie McTague story to those told in Msgr. Gilchrist's charming account of this priestly character (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Feb. 7).

A good number of years ago Father McTague was carrying on an animated conversation with several friends on the front steps of Presidents' Hall on the Seton Hall University campus when he suddenly remembered that, at that very time, he was due in Garfield.

"Is anyone here going to Garfield?,"

he excitedly asked. No affirmative answer.

Just then a car pulled up in front of the building and Father McTague called out: "Hey, are you headed to Garfield?"

The stunning answer was returned: "Yes, Father—hop in!"

Albert B. Hakim
Department of Philosophy
Seton Hall University
South Orange

(Editor's note: Father Charles H. McTague died on Jan. 13 at the age of 87 and—by most accounts—has secured his place in archdiocesan history as one of our most fascinating, impetuous and beloved priests. Do any other readers have a Father Charlie story to share?)

A 'souper-duper' effort



ORATORY PREP VOLUNTEERS—Campus Ministry Coordinator Cathy Marshall (far left) oversees senior boys from Oratory Preparatory School in Summit during their recent "Souper Bowl Drive" to collect canned soup, which will be distributed to area shelters and food pantries. Volunteers managing the soup inventory are, left to right, Sean McCarthy, James Robinson, Robert Guanci and Patrick Robinson. The drive's original goal of 2,000 cans was doubled.

Faithful inclusion inspires families with special needs

Misunderstood and mysterious to most people, autism is a disease that presents unique challenges to children, their families and even the Church.

Fortunately in the Archdiocese of Newark, the Pastoral Ministry with Persons with Disabilities is in the forefront of meeting those challenges. Under the guidance of Anne Masters, M.A., and Msgr. Richard J. Arnholds, the archdiocesan vicar for Pastoral Life, those with autism and other developmental disabilities are moving out of the often-unintended isolation that has kept them from full participation in the life of the Church.

Reflecting upon this "spirit of inclusion," Masters—writing in the Feb. 21 issue of *The Catholic Advocate*—said this means sacramental celebrations being open to "the full, active and conscious participation to the disabled."

This discussion comes at a time when the Garden State—according to a major study released last month by the Centers for Disease Control—leads the nation in the number of diagnosed cases of autism. It is interesting to note that this survey focused on children living in Essex, Union and Hudson counties—three of the four counties that make up the archdiocese.

In addition to the page-one "Living Church" installment in the Feb. 21 edition, this newspaper, during the last 18 months, has dedicated a significant amount of local coverage to the faith-based awareness of autism and support for families with special needs. It is an editorial thrust we intend to continue.

The public, to be sure, also has rights in this conversation. As much as possible, especially in church, every effort should be made to keep masses and services as free from disruption as possible. Inclusion has its practical limits and there are legitimate questions to consider regarding respectful accommodations for all parishioners.

Admittedly it is a delicate balance, but a balance nonetheless—one that needs to be guided by compassion and wisdom.

Faith-based, high-tech tools

In the Archdiocese of Newark, the technology driven information age is being utilized through cutting-edge efforts designed to get the word out to religious and faithful alike.

As part of important restructuring, the Permanent Diaconate program has launched its own Web site. Go to www.rcan.org and click on "ministries offices."

At the same time a deacons' handbook, while available in print, can also be accessed via the computer. Important links include past editions of the Deacons' Newsletter and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in the nation's capitol.

Another element of the faith-based cyberspace age can be found at Saint Joseph Parish in Maplewood. Its homilies are now available as podcasts; sort of a "homilies-to-go" service. Visit www.stjosephmaplewood.org to get connected.

As always though, Web sites and podcasts are only a means to an end. No computer will ever be a substitute for the irreplaceable people God has called to serve His Church.

Divine Mercy Sunday

Pastors and parishioners throughout the Archdiocese of Newark will be more aware of the message and meaning of Divine Mercy Sunday this year and it is no accident.

As the result of a grassroots effort of Diane Flynn from St. Paul Parish in Ramsey and the generosity of the Marians of the Immaculate Conception in Massachusetts—prime proponents of Divine Mercy Sunday—(see *The Catholic Advocate*, Feb. 21), the 130-page "Celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday in Your Parish: A Practical Guide for Parishes" has hit the mail. Read it.

Divine Mercy Sunday, celebrated the Sunday after Easter, has as its essence God's love and mercy. The Church offers a plenary indulgence that day.

Proclaimed only seven years ago by Pope John Paul II, Divine Mercy Sunday exists to provide the sustaining moment of complete forgiveness. Pope Benedict XVI put it in perspective, saying Divine Mercy Sunday is by no means a "secondary devotion."

This year the faithful of the Church in Newark will have the opportunity to become closer to God's love while enriching their soul.

Reflections on the 'last full measure of devotion'

I recently decided to visit the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial (Web site: www.njvvmf.org) in Holmdel, which sits on a gently sloping hillside off Exit 116 of the Garden State Parkway. I've passed the sign for it so many times while driving to or from destinations with no time to spare.

It was a cold winter's day—Lincoln's Birthday to be precise—and the memorial's educational center was already closed. On the way to the principal area is a separate memorial to War Dogs. It never occurred to me that, much as with many police departments, the military also uses man's best friend for certain search and rescue, bomb sniffing, and other sensitive missions.

*Noble virtues do little to take
away the sorrow of those
left behind to mourn.*

The memorial itself features larger-than-life-size statues of a fallen serviceman being comforted by a nurse/service-woman and guarded by another soldier. Surrounding the statues, at a higher stadium-like level, is a circle of 366 polished black granite slabs, one for each day of the year, listing by day and year of death, along with birth date, each of the more than 1,500 New Jersey men and women killed in the line of duty or still listed as missing in action during the agonizing years of the Vietnam War.

It was sobering to realize how many 18 to 21 year olds were listed along with a few more seasoned personnel. War is never kind to the young and inexperienced. Only about a week's worth of days scattered throughout the year were free of names. Surely residents of other states could readily fill in those blanks with their own dead.

When I accompanied a friend I've known since 1965 to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., shortly after it was completed some years ago, I was touched that he wept as he recognized names of people he knew. He had been in the Navy Reserve, so did not see service abroad. He realized that, had circumstances been different, his name might have also been engraved on that wall.

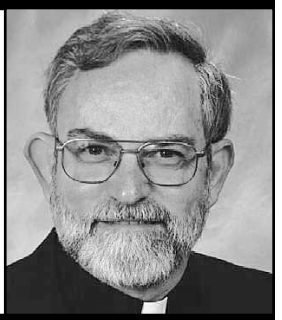
As I walked the New Jersey Memorial's circle, no names were familiar to me, yet I acknowledged that, but



Statues that depict a wounded serviceman being comforted by a nurse and guarded by another soldier are on display at the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial in Holmdel. More than 1,500 Garden State men and women were killed in the line of duty or are still listed as missing in action during the Vietnam War.

Seeing & Believing

By Rev. Msgr.
Richard J. Arnhols



for my studies at divinity school and seminary, I could just as easily have been listed there. I do know people who served and returned, who help me to appreciate the sacrifice that everyone made in those Southeast Asian jungles.

Recalling some of Lincoln's words in his Gettysburg Address, commemorating the sacrifice of those who "gave their last full measure of devotion" in that Civil War battle of years long past, I momentarily felt linked with the war dead and their families of all past conflicts. At the same time, it also made me think ahead of some future memorial somewhere, recalling those who have died in the current conflict in Afghanistan and Iraq.

One can argue the merits of any war, but no one can dispute that, especially for the families who lose a loved one, it never quite makes sense. Patriotism, loyalty and devotion to duty may bring some comfort that "these dead shall not have died in vain," but such noble virtues do little to take away the sorrow of those left behind to mourn.

Pray for all in our armed forces, and for all those who wait for what they hope will be their safe return.

(Rev. Msgr. Richard J. Arnhols is pastor of St. John the Evangelist parish in Bergenfield, and the archdiocesan vicar for Pastoral Life.)

Hearing God's call and pondering its challenges

Readings: Ex 3:1-8, 13-15; Ps 103:1-11; 1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12; Lk 13:1-9.

Like the English poet Francis Thompson, who knew the sufferings of an alienated humanity, the Church in her worship celebrates the "world" that is the mystery of God. Utterly beyond our human capacity to attain should we rely on our own efforts, we experience the divine because God seeks us and teaches us.

Thompson offers a corollary in the statement: "All things betray thee, who betrayest Me," a refrain in his most popular poem: "The Hound of Heaven."

The condescension of God imagined as "the Hound of Heaven" in pursuing weak human beings is portrayed marvelously in the call of Moses. What better way could there be to experience God's simplicity?

Moses is drawn by a strange phenomenon, the burning bush, and then hears the divine Word addressing him by name. More attuned to the divine order than the other senses, our hearing grants us an awareness of the suspense of being time-bound.

Perhaps we "perceive" reality instantaneously by sight, but how often we are deceived! On the other hand, listening requires a span of attention for understanding.

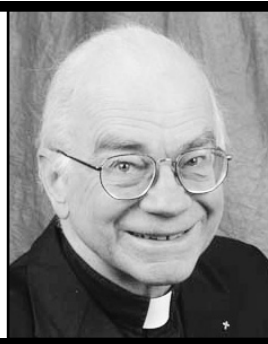
Moses learned first to revere the sacred nature of his encounter. God sanctifies whatever is touched by His presence, so the very ground is holy.

The privilege of knowing God is never limited to the individual, but provides the basis for a mission to a community. "I will send you to Pharaoh to lead my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt" (Ex 3:10). No one feels adequately equipped for collaborating with God. In fact, the acknowledgement of human weaknesses becomes the open-

Sunday Readings

3rd Sunday
of Lent
(March 11, 2007)

By Father Lawrence Frizzell



ing through which the divine glory shines. The key to success is not human prowess or wisdom but the assurance that "God is with you" (Ex 3:12).

The name manifests the person, so Hebrew culture attached great importance to knowledge of God's Name. "The God of your ancestors" (3:13) harks back to the initial identification that Moses has been called by the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (3:6).

The new Name revealed to Moses is derived from the verb "to be," emphasizing that God is present to sustain his people. The statement "I am who am" became the basis for the sacred name "Yahweh." In the Jewish tradition and in the New Testament circumlocutions such as "Lord" substituted for this Name. Awe for this and other divine names

should permeate the Christian tradition as well. Casual use of divine titles shows insensitivity to the divine presence in our midst.

The tendency to speculate that those who suffer premature death must be sinners is criticized by Jesus (Lk 13:1-5). We are all in need of repentance for our sins and are called to turn to God. The two examples cited by Jesus involve human violence or negligence. How many times people blame God when the free will of others should bear responsibility! In many situations it seems better not to place blame on a family member or neighbor, so we lash out at God.

The Lord knows that people perhaps could not face a brutally honest evaluation of a given situation. So we formulate our anguish in a "prayer of protest." A calmer, more objective view of the problem should lead to repentance and forgiveness. The marvelous patience of God with His creatures is described by a parable. Just as a gardener does not give up easily, so Jesus wants us to realize God's mercy towards those who do not yet produce fruit.

However, this should not lead to nonchalance. We look to past history, especially in the Scriptures, for patterns that help us to make sense out of life. "These things happened to them as an example, and they have been written down

as a warning to us..." (1 Cor 10:11).

(Father Lawrence Frizzell is the director of the Institute of Judaean-Christian Studies at Seton Hall University, South Orange.)

*"O world invisible, we view thee,
O world intangible, we touch thee,
O world unknowable, we know thee,
Inapprehensible, we clutch thee!"*

—Francis Thompson

Retired archdiocesan priests offer treasure trove of wisdom

BY CHRISTY GUERRA

Special to *The Catholic Advocate*

Parishioners across the Archdiocese of Newark began the charity work of their Lenten season by contributing to a very worthy cause: retired priests.

Recently approved by Archbishop John J. Myers, a special monetary collection was taken at all Ash Wednesday masses (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Feb. 7) in an effort to aid the Archdiocesan Retirement Fund for Priests, providing for them the same love and generosity they provided the faithful in their care for so many years.

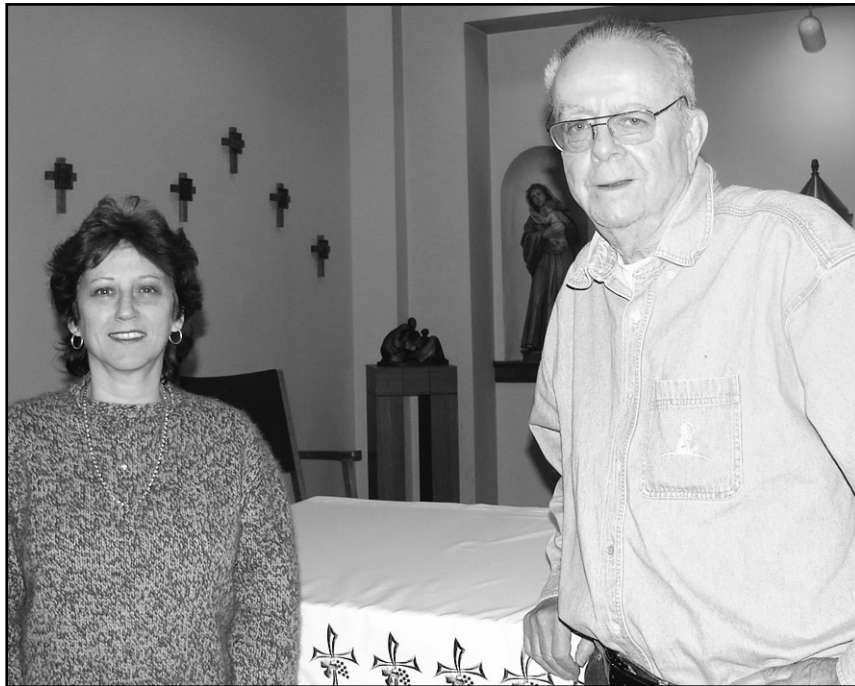
"Some people think the Collection for Retired Religious or the Archbishop's Annual Appeal takes care of all of the needs of retired priests," said Msgr. Edward Bradley, director of the Ministry to Retired Priests, "but the growing number of retired priests and the increasing costs of medical care and other benefits are major reasons to understand why this collection is important."

In the Archdiocese of Newark, a priest is entitled to retire at age 70 and many considerations are taken when deciding how to prepare for retirement, mainly in terms of planning where the priest will live.

Currently, there are 208 retired priests from the Archdiocese of Newark; of that total, 185 live in New Jersey. Although many retired priests live alone, there are some who still live in rectories, archdiocesan retirement residences, care facilities and educational institutions.

The true definition of what it means to be a retired priest extends beyond merely reaching a certain age. When a priest enters retirement, it is only in the administrative sense; he still retains the faculties of the archdiocese and may continue his priestly ministry. Recognizing the importance of the lifetime commitment of their vocations, upwards of 80 percent of retired priests return to their parishes to assist with pastoral duties when they are needed.

Father Charlie Scanlon, a retired priest of the archdiocese, currently resides at the Allendale Home for Community living in Bergen County, and attends daily Mass at Guardian Angel Church in Allendale. Ordained in 1954, he praises the pivotal role being a Catholic School student had on his future vocation. "I first start-



Father George Mader offers counseling services in his role as the director of the Monsignor Kelley Home for Retired Priests in Caldwell. "We're all grateful that the archdiocese takes such good care of us," he said. Pictured with Father Mader is Joan Stevens, who serves as the administrator and "heart and soul" of the residence.

ed thinking about the priesthood when I was around sixth grade," he said proudly. "Seeing the priests and the nuns at school was very instrumental for me."

After his ordination to the priesthood, Father Scanlon served for 40 years at St. Francis Xavier parish in Newark, where he was encouraged by the faith of the parishioners. "The best part of Mass," he said, "is being with the people." Even in retirement, Father Scanlon concelebrates at Mass while at Guardian Angel Church and visits the homebound in the community, bringing them Holy Communion as well as a bit of company. Serving in that capacity is different from what he was used to in parish life, but still has the same importance, and is certainly appreciated.

That sense of parish community is also what many retired priests miss the most when they think about retiring, with some moving far away from their home parishes. "Retired priests miss the people they worked with. There is a lot of nostalgia there, but as you get older, one of the things you realize is learning how to let go," explained

Father George Mader, director of the Monsignor Kelley Home for Retired Priests in Caldwell. "If we were able," he continued, "we would be out there again."

To that end, many retired priests have the opportunity to lean on each other for support in that transitional time. "There is a very good camaraderie that exists," he said. "There is a lot to share; different life experiences, teaching experiences. Most retired priests are happy to retire, and we're all grateful that the archdiocese takes such good care of us."

Like many other retired priests, Father Mader also continues to contribute pastorally to all those who need his assistance, particularly through counseling, mediation and service in his role at the Monsignor Kelley Home.

In some rare cases, like that of Bishop Charles McDonnell, for example, retirement is only met halfway. Retired as a Bishop in 2004, he continues to serve as pastor of Holy Trinity Church in Hackensack. Like Father Scanlon, he too was ordained in 1954, following a vocation that was fostered in love both at home and in school.

"Ordination for me was a sacred moment," Bishop McDonnell recalled. After his ordination, he served at Saint Catherine of Sienna Parish in Cedar Grove, as well as years as an Army chaplain, where he spent time in Vietnam, Korea and Germany. "I loved it," he said of the chaplaincy as well as the priesthood. "I love being with people—where they are, what they do. I like the people I work with. They are involved and I admire them for their dedication. I would stay here forever, if I could. I love the school, as well," he said, referring to Holy Trinity's elementary school. "Education is the future of the Church, and I feel very blessed to be able to work with children. Confirmations are also always a boost. As soon as I see the youth, it's a great source of joy."

It is important for parishioners to also remember priests as a great source of joy in their own communities. Last October, many parishes held special events on Priesthood Sunday, in which their parish priests were honored (*The Catholic Advocate*, Oct. 29 and Sept. 20, 2006), and participating in a collection such as this one sends a strong message, that retired priests are still very close to the hearts and minds of parishioners.

The money collected for the retired priests on Ash

The increasing costs of medical care and other benefits are major reasons to understand why this collection is important.

—Msgr. Edward Bradley

Wednesday will serve as a small "thank you" to the many services provided by them to their parishes. "The money will help," Father Mader said, regarding the special collection. "Of course, there are practical financial things that can be kept up with because of it, but it helps to know that we have the prayers of the parish communities. That is what we appreciate the most."

(Christy Guerra is a public relations assistant in the Archdiocese of Newark's Office of Communications. Call (973) 497-4186 for more information on ways to support retired priests.)

Parishes announce plans for programs during Lent

AREA—Parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Newark have announced plans for Lenten programs and services.

St. Thomas More Parish, Fairfield, is holding its annual Lenten Lunch Retreat every Wednesday beginning at 12:10 p.m. through March 28.

There will be daytime prayer and reflection in the church followed by lunch and fellowship in O'Connor Hall. Participants should bring a bag lunch. Drinks and dessert will be provided.

This year's theme for weekly reflection will be The Beatitudes. Scheduled are: March 7, "Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for holiness," Deacon Aidan King; March 14, "Blessed are the peacemakers," Sister Agnes Bernard; March 21, "Blessed are

those who show mercy," Rev. Mr. Charles Kelly and March 28, also by Rev. Mr. Kelly, "Blessed are the single-hearted."

A Holy Hour, celebrated by Father Eugene Gniewyk, parochial vicar, will take place Monday, April 2, 7 p.m. with the theme "Blessed are those persecuted for holiness' sake."

Belleville's St. Peter Parish will hold two Evenings of Recollection by members of the Congregation of Franciscans of the Renewal. "Renewal in Christ" is the March 7 topic followed the next day by "Keeping Our Eyes Fixed on Christ." Father Marius Koch will lead both presentations, which begin at 7:30 p.m.

Tuesdays during Lent at **St. Raphael Parish, Livingston**, a Lenten seminar, "Life in the Spirit" will

take place from 7:30 to 9 p.m. To register call Anna at (973) 338-9538.

St. Mary Parish, Nutley, on March 14 will present "Let's Talk About Saints," an interview of Sarah Gallick, author of the soon-to-be-published "The Big Book of Women Saints." The program will be held in Msgr. Walsh Hall at 7:30 p.m. Questions are being sought for the interview. Call the parish center at (973) 235-1100 or email to anitaiacono@stmarysnutley.org.

In addition, St. Mary Parish will hold a Lenten Mission, "Christians in the Eyes of Jesus," March 26-29 at 7:30 p.m. in the church. Father Richard J. Kehoe, C.M., a member of the Vincentian Parish Apostolate in Princeton, will present the mission, which will combine prayers, lectures and music.

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O'Sullivan, Doyle to lead March 18 Newark parade

NEWARK—The 72nd annual Newark St. Patrick's Day Parade will step off at 1 p.m. on Sunday, March 18.

Marchers will assemble at Washington Street and Central Avenue. The parade route will run east on Central Avenue then south on Broad Street past Newark City Hall and end on Court Street. Reviewing stands will be located at the corner of Board Street and New Street and in front of City Hall.

Following the parade there will be a reception at the Kilkenny Ale House, 27 Central Ave., Newark. The reception will include food, refreshments and Irish American entertainment. Admission will be \$15 per adult. Contact Kevin P. Frey, parade general chairman, at (201) 859-5605 for more information.

Kevin P. O'Sullivan will serve as grand marshal for the parade, while Carol Jean Doyle has been designated deputy grand marshal.

O'Sullivan, a first-generation Irish-American, is a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernian's St. Patrick Division 1 in Somerset County and the Knights of Columbus. He has served as the vice chairman of Archbishop John J. Myer's annual Business and Labor Dinner in support of area

youth and was the 2006 recipient of the Irish-American Fenian Society's Michael Flannery Award.

Since 2002 O'Sullivan has been the legislative representative and executive director of the New Jersey State Building & Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO, working under the direction of William T. Mullen, the president of the New Jersey State Building & Construction Trades Council (NJBCTC). The organization represents over 150,000 rank-and-file union members who work in the construction industry in New Jersey. O'Sullivan's position puts him in the forefront of the elections of pro-labor candidates and the passage of pro-labor legislation in New Jersey.

Doyle has been involved in Kearny civic and community life for over 35 years. She is serving her fourth term as a councilwoman in Kearny and has participated as a trustee for the Newark St. Patrick's Day Parade committee, chief of staff and aide to several deputy grand marshals.

As a committee member for the Friends of Erin for over 20 years, Doyle has raised funds for scholarships for students of Irish decent. Several years ago, Doyle

and her husband sponsored two Irish students from Malihaide, Ireland, for five years thus allowing them to attend Caldwell

College. She is also as active member of the Belleville Irish American Association.

She is a past president of the

American Legion Auxiliary Unit No. 99, American Cancer Society of Hudson County and the Women's Club of North Arlington.



St. Patrick
Patron saint of Ireland, pray for us...

"Hear ye all who love Christ about the holy merits of that blessed man, Bishop Patrick."
—from "The Hymn to St. Patrick"

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Star of the Sea
Church
Bayonne*

*St. Vincent De Paul
Church
Bayonne*

*Holy Spirit & Our Lady
Help of Christians
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East Orange*

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Church
Fort Lee*

*Our Lady of
Czestochowa Church
Harrison*

*Our Lady of Sorrows
Church
Kearny*

*St. Lucy Church
Newark*

*Holy Family
Church
Nutley*



*Our Lady of Lourdes
Church
West Orange*

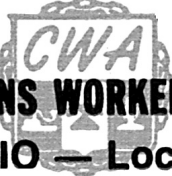





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St. Patrick's Day dinner-dance March 10 at Bergen Catholic

ORADELL-The Parents' Club of Bergen Catholic High School will hold its annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance on Saturday, March 10 in the school gymnasium at 7 p.m.

A cocktail hour will be followed by a corned beef with cabbage dinner, complimentary beer, wine and Irish coffee, and assorted desserts.

The Police Pipes & Drums of Bergen County, a DJ, and The Broesler School of Irish Dancing will provide entertainment for the evening.

Tickets at \$60 per person, may be obtained by calling Judith Fiorica at (201) 666-5351, or by e-mailing her at www.JudMaF@aol.com for further information.

In addition, the Parents' Club will conduct 50/50 cash raffle.

Three raffle winners will receive 35 percent, 10 percent, and 5 percent, respectively, of the amount received for all tickets sold. Contact Susan Carney at (201) 845-9038 (or e-mail her at www.scarney7@msn.com) or Kelly Leitch at (201) 265-1544.

The high school is located at 1040 Oradell Ave. Call (201) 261-1844.



HISTORY REDISCOVERED—

The Ancient Order of Hibernians in America (AOH), the nation's oldest and largest Irish-Catholic organization, is busy researching an important part of its past—donations of stained glass windows. To date it has been documented that between 1870 and 1910, AOH donated 292 stained glass windows in parishes where the Irish found work. One of those parishes is St. Mary in Plainfield. Anyone with information about such donations should go to the group's Web site (www.aoh.com) or contact the National Archivist, 12 Marion Ave., Albany, NY 12203-1814.



Knights plan Irish bash at council hall

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP—Knights of Columbus Mother Seton Council 5427 will hold a St. Patrick's Day dinner-dance on Saturday, March 17, 7 p.m., in the group's council hall located here at 79 Pascack Rd.

A traditional meal of corned beef and cabbage will be available along with dessert, coffee and an open bar. Irish music will be provided by a disc

jockey, featuring dance tunes and a sing-a-long of favorite songs.

Because seating is limited, reservations must be paid in advance. The cost is \$30 per person. Tickets must be purchased by March 10. Tables of eight, 10 or 12 people are encouraged. Call Jim Dugan for reservations at (201) 666-3425 or visit the council hall weekdays from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

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Immediately after the Parade

For further information, contact: Kevin P. Frey,
General Chairman (973) 560-9620

‘Anything Goes’ show will go this month at Don Bosco Prep

RAMSEY—The popular Cole Porter musical “Anything Goes” is coming this month to the Don Bosco Prep stage. Performances will be held at DeSales Hall Auditorium on March 16, 17, 18, 23 and 24. Curtain time for performances is 8 p.m., except for the 3 p.m. Sunday matinee on March 18. Cast members will feature students from Don Bosco Prep and nearby Immaculate Heart Academy. Performances will include familiar tunes such as “I Get a Kick Out Of You” and “Anything Goes.” Kathryn Yannalfo, a veteran theater producer and the mother of a Don Bosco Prep senior, serves as the producer of the show. Don Bosco Prep productions are perennially nominat-

ed at Papermill Playhouse’s “Rising Star Award” program. Don Bosco Prep is located at 492 N. Franklin Turnpike. Tickets are \$12. Call (201) 327-8003 ext. 126 to reserve tickets or go online (boscoplays@aol.com) to obtain ticket information. A ticket order form is also available online at www.donboscoprep.com. Click on “Events” on the left side of the main Web page and then click on “Spring Musical” to download the ticket order form. Tickets can also be purchased at the door on the night of the performances on a first-come/first-serve basis. The original production of “Anything Goes” opened on Nov. 21, 1934 at the Alvin

Theater in New York, starring Broadway legend Ethel Merman. The two-act musical comedy became the fourth-

longest running musical of the 1930’s. Later film productions starred Merman, Bing Crosby, Donald O’Connor and Mitzi Gaynor. A 1987 Broadway revival starred Patty Lupone. There also was a revival of the show in London in 2002.


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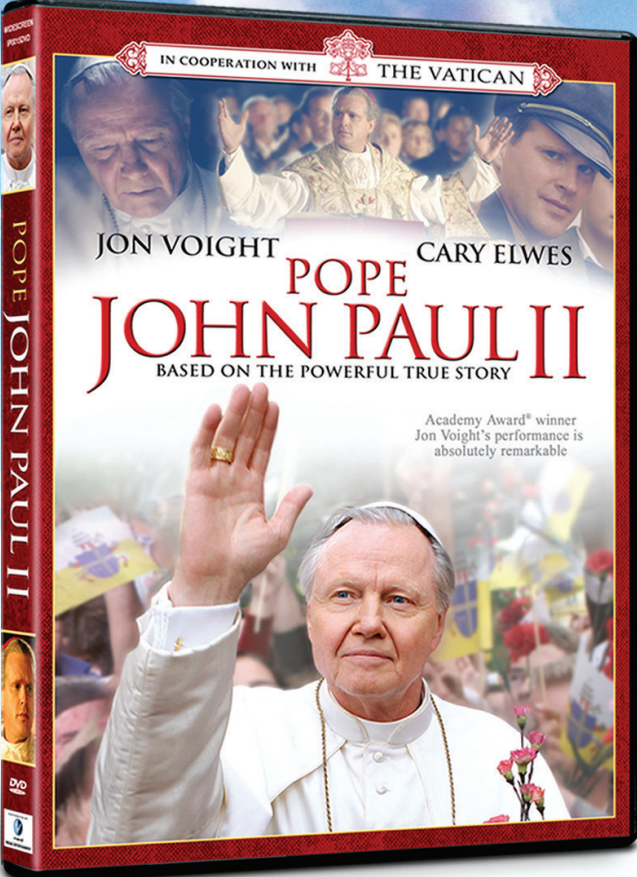
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Pray for them...

Mary T. Komar, mother of Rev. John E. Komar, retired, died Dec. 28.

Andrew Zmarlicki, father of Rev. Andrew Zmarlicki, pastor of St. Hedwig Parish, Elizabeth, died Jan. 8.

Patricia Adamcik, mother of Father Bryan Adamcik, pastor of Our Lady of Victories Parish in Harrington Park, died Jan. 24.

Santiago Ponce, father of Father Francisco Ponce, parochial vicar at St. Joseph Parish in Jersey City, died Feb. 10.

Marcello Grasselli, father of Rev. Msgr. Renato Grasselli, rector of Redemptoris Mater House of Formation in Kearny, died Feb. 15.

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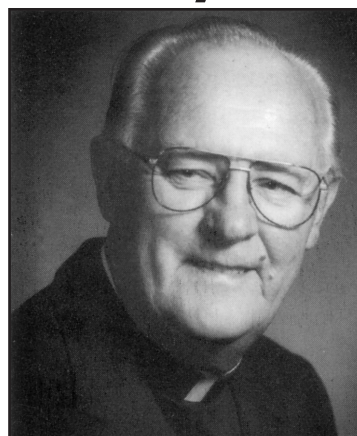
(Directly Across from Gate of Heaven Cemetery)

Rev. William O'Leary; served in Asia

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Feb. 7 at Queen of Apostles Chapel, Maryknoll Society Center in Ossining, N.Y., for Rev. William O'Leary, M.M., who died on Jan. 2 at the age of 72.

Born in Orange on May 6, 1934, Father O'Leary attended Our Lady of Lourdes Grammar School and graduated from Seton Hall Preparatory School in South Orange. He entered Maryknoll in 1953 after a year of study at Seton Hall University and received a master's degree in religious education from Maryknoll Seminary in 1961.

Father O'Leary spent nearly 30 years of his mission career in Asia, most recently serving as pastor of an East Timor parish of 7,000 people. He served as parish priest in



Rev. William O'Leary

Pusan, South Korea (1961-1967) and as director of labor ministry for the Pusan Diocese (1967-1972). Father O'Leary served a member of Maryknoll's General council (1972-1978) and founded

a parish in the Ju An section of Inchon City (1980-1983).

He set up and directed the National Catholic Commission on Migration in Thailand in 1986 as an outreach to migrant workers and displaced people seeking refugee status. He also served as director of a skills-training project for land mine amputees in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, and set up the same program in Vietnam.

"Forty-five years of priestly service in the Far East qualifies Father O'Leary as one of the unsung heroes of the Church today. The Church's heart is a missionary heart. He was what we hope to see in a missionary priest," Msgr. Robert Fuhrman, archdiocesan director of Pontifical Mission Societies, said.

Rev. Appicci

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Feb. 5 at St. Thomas Villanova Church, PA, for Rev. Richard D. Appicci, O.S.A., who died on Feb. 1 at the age of 78.

He was baptized at St. Rocco Parish, Fairview, attended schools in North Bergen and Union City and was raised in St. Anthony Parish, Union City. He served as religious education professor at Villanova University and vice president of student affairs from 1961 to 1966. In 1967, he was invited to serve in the Prelature of Chulucanas, Peru. He served as vicar general in Peru for 12 years.

Father Appicci came to St. Thomas Monastery, Villanova, in 1990 and served as director of the Province's Mission Office.

Sr. Virginia

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Feb. 10 at Villa Walsh, Morristown, for Sister Virginia Liberatore, M.P.F., 90, who died on Feb. 7.

Her archdiocesan assignments included: Holy Rosary School, Jersey City; Our Lady of Sorrows School, Jersey City; and St. Francis School, Hackensack. She served as a librarian at St. Anthony School, Union City.

Sister Virginia was an instructor in religious education at Assumption Parish, Roselle Park, and Our Lady of Mount Virgin Parish, Garfield. She was a member of the staff at Villa Walsh in Morristown for 25 years until she retired in 2001.

Rev. Heinen

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Feb. 24 at St. Anastasia Parish, Tenafly, for Rev. Gerald Heinen, O. Carm., 81, who died on Feb. 19.

Father Heinen served three Carmelite parishes in New Jersey for a total of 32 years. He served as a pastor for nine years at Immaculate Conception Parish, Norwood. In 1981, he moved to St. Joseph Parish, Bogota, working as an assistant pastor for 13 years. After four years he also served as prior for the community.

He returned to Immaculate Conception Parish in 1995 as administrator and then served at St. Anastasia Parish and Priory in Teaneck for eight years.

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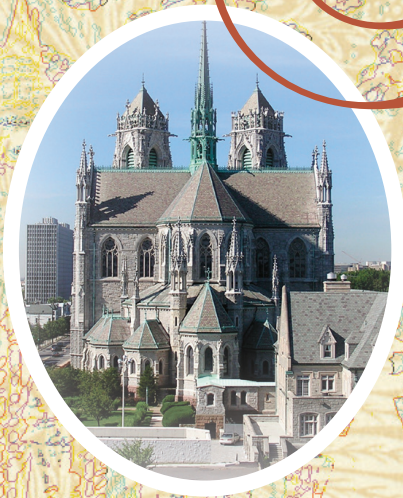
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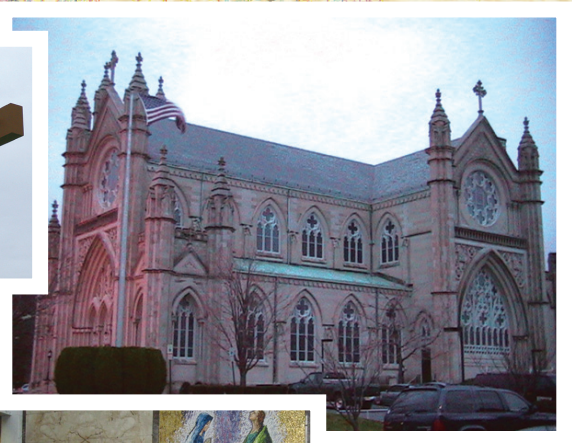
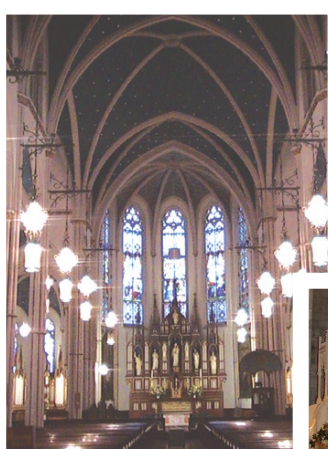
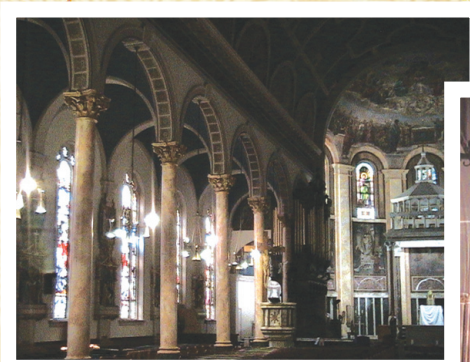
Archdiocese
of Newark



Building a *History of* Heritage



The Catholic
Advocate
March 7, 2007



Ecclesiastical Patrimony: heritage of living faith

Celebrating history and treasures of the Church

BY MSGR. ROBERT WISTER
Special to the Catholic Advocate

Many of us have had the opportunity to visit Europe and Latin America. Invariably, upon return, we recount our experiences to our friends, whether they want to listen or not. Almost without exception, we describe the magnificent churches and cathedrals of places such as France, Mexico, England, Colombia or Italy.

These trips brought us into contact with the glorious patrimony of the Catholic Church throughout the world, a patrimony that extends back two millennia.

Unsurprisingly, we are impressed with the architecture, the stained glass, the statuary and the sacred vessels of these venerable churches.

Everyday, here in New Jersey, driving to and from work or out on various errands and family outings, we pass the many Catholic churches of our community and neighboring towns and cities. More often than not, we do not even give them a second glance. We take them for granted.

Why should we even bother to notice them? They are not nearly as old as those of Europe and Latin America. They cannot possibly be of any architectural or esthetic interest.

However, the truth is that we miss so much when we ignore our own ecclesiastical patrimony and Catholic heritage.

The churches of the Archdiocese of Newark, in fact, are a treasure trove of art, architecture and spiritual heritage. They provide us with a living history and range from the humble church of St. John—the oldest church in the archdiocese, completed in 1828—to the church at St. James in Springfield, which opened in June 2002.

Each structure is distinctive; some are unique and many are architecturally significant. Each one tells the story of the faithful Catholics who sacrificed to build their parish church and those who sustain it today. If we do not

Continued on page 17



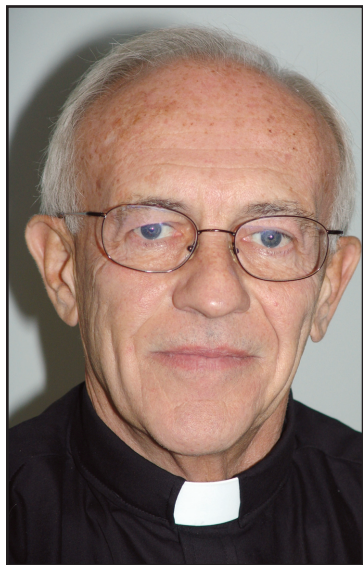
St. Columba's Parish, 25 Thomas St., Newark, was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1972. Dedicated in 1899, the church exterior is a near-copy of the Chapelle Royale of Versailles, France. The interior features Tiffany-style stained glass windows and a dramatic curved ceiling.

Living faith foundations

Continued from page 16

pause and look, we lose a great opportunity to immerse ourselves in our rich heritage.

For example, St. Columba's in Newark is an almost exact copy of the Royal Chapel at Versailles. St. Aedan's in Jersey City is modeled on the Romanesque cathedrals of Italy and influenced by the Eastern Catholic churches of Constantinople. Sacred Heart in the Vailsburg section of Newark is one of the largest parish churches in the United States and recognized as possessing some of our country's finest Art Deco mosaics. St. John's in Orange is decorated with magnificent Belgian woodcarvings that rival anything you can see in Europe. Only five churches in the United States have more mosaics than St. John's in Jersey City.



Msgr. Robert Wister

The churches of the archdiocese also reflect the ever-changing ethnic heritage of our area. If you walk into St. Aloysius in Jersey City, you will see stained glass windows depicting St. Patrick and St. Bridget, and you immediately draw the conclusion that it was built by Irish immigrants. In Mount Carmel in Montclair, you find St. Francis of Assisi and St. Sebastian; the first the patron of Italy, the second the patron of the Sicilian village from which many original parishioners emigrated. Whenever you find the icon of Our Lady of Czestochowa, you know it is a church originally built by immigrants from Poland.

These are living churches. Next to these original statues today you may find Our Lady of Providence, patroness of Puerto Rico, or Our Lady of Quinche, pa-

troness of Ecuador. You also might find a statue of the Santo Nino of the Philippines or of St. Andrew Kim of Korea. These are only a few of many possible discoveries. In our newer churches, you do not find such an ethnic flavor, but you may find a very American flavor, such as in Queen of Peace in North Arlington, where the stained glass windows depict scenes from American history.

The most fragile part of our patrimony is paper—documents and records that preserve the story of our ancestors in the faith.

Our church buildings are our patrimony, our heritage. But they do not constitute the entirety of our patrimony. The most fragile part of our patrimony is paper—documents and records that preserve the story of our ancestors in the faith. In every parish, there are records and documents that the parish conserves. Some records are of the sacraments administered, such as baptisms, confirmations and marriages. Some are contracts with the artisans who designed, constructed and decorated the church. Others are records of the charitable works of the parish.

As time passes, the human memory fails. Without these records, we would lose our story and our identity. We would not know that Franz Meyer of Munich made the stained glass windows in more than three dozen of our churches. Meyer is regarded as the finest stained glass artisan of the late 19th and early 20th century. Meyer was chosen by the Vatican to create the window of the Holy Spirit in the apse of St. Peter's Basilica.

We would not know that several of our churches, including St. John's in Orange and Sacred Heart in Bloomfield were designed by Jeremiah O'Rourke, New Jersey's greatest architect, and for many years, by presidential appointment, the supervising architect of the United States. We would not know that Our Lady of Sorrows in South Orange and Sacred Heart in Jersey City were designed by Ralph Adams Cram, who also designed buildings for Princeton and Cornell Universities and the United States Military Academy.

We would lose the story of the day-to-day life of a parish in the collections of weekly bulletins that recount the events of the week and the activities of the parish organizations. We would

not be able to look into the life of a parish over many decades without the programs and brochures of parish organizations.

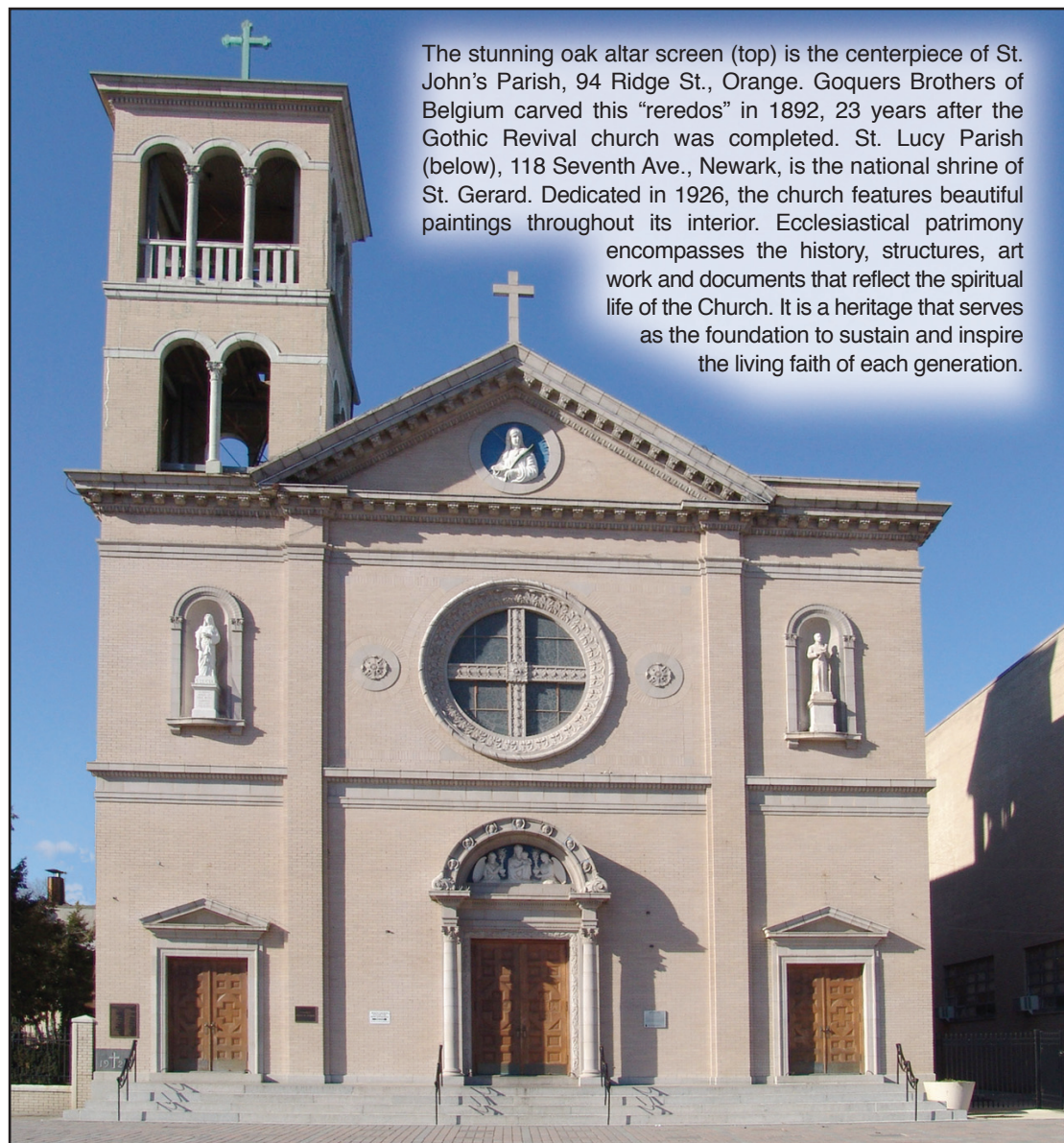
These examples are only a small part of the ecclesiastical patrimony of the Church of Newark. Archbishop John J. Myers has established the Commission for the Ecclesiastical Patrimony to assist pastors and parishioners in the conservation of the rich spiritual, artistic, historical and esthetic heritage of their parishes, their buildings and their records.

The commission seeks to encourage the appreciation, care and enhancement of the patrimony of the Church in its sacredness and beauty and to see this as a revelation of God's love, as an expression of faith and worship and as a resource for the vitality and continuation of the Church's mission.

(Msgr. Robert Wister is a professor of Church History at Immaculate Conception Seminary on the campus of Seton Hall University, South Orange. He serves as the co-chairman of the archdiocesan Commission for the Ecclesiastical Patrimony and is a member of The Catholic Advocate's editorial advisory board.)



Advocate photo — M. Gabriele



The stunning oak altar screen (top) is the centerpiece of St. John's Parish, 94 Ridge St., Orange. Goquers Brothers of Belgium carved this "reredos" in 1892, 23 years after the Gothic Revival church was completed. St. Lucy Parish (below), 118 Seventh Ave., Newark, is the national shrine of St. Gerard. Dedicated in 1926, the church features beautiful paintings throughout its interior. Ecclesiastical patrimony encompasses the history, structures, art work and documents that reflect the spiritual life of the Church. It is a heritage that serves as the foundation to sustain and inspire the living faith of each generation.

Advocate photo — Ward Miele

Commission honors the past with an eye to future

BY TROY JOSEPH SIMMONS
Special to The Catholic Advocate

Recognizing an immediate need to secure the future of the priceless works of art, architecture and significant documents that represent the heritage and treasure of the Archdiocese of Newark, Archbishop John J. Myers established the Commission for Ecclesiastical Patrimony on July 12, 2006.

Patrimony encompasses both history and legacy. Providing a society with a window into its past, patrimony establishes a strong foundation upon which to build a solid future. While it documents and preserves artifacts, patrimony also represents a "living" history to educate and in-

spire current and future generations. Almost sacramental in nature, the concept of patrimony both precedes and proceeds one's life in such a way that it can also define and give meaning to it.

The commission's first task was to put into place procedures that could be part of the ongoing process known as "New Energies Transition Project," which involves the merger and closing of archdiocesan facilities such as parishes and schools. The mission of New Energies, which was rolled out in 2004, is to address the reality of changing Catholic demographics within the archdiocese as well as assess the status of aging facilities that require significant capital investment.

As instructed by Archbishop

Myers, the commission's mandate was to support parishes as they review this consolidation process in order to catalogue and protect from perdition the parish's patrimony.

In addition to working with pastors and priest deaneries, this mission also involves extending the patrimony process to other important groups within the archdiocese. With this in mind, the Office of Ecclesiastical Patrimony has begun to work in partnership with the office of Catholic Cemeteries. When and where it is both possible and appropriate, objects of patrimony such as stained glass, mosaics and carving of stone or wood are to be incorporated into new mausoleum designs with the archdiocese.

The first of such incorporations is scheduled to take place at St. Gertrude's Mausoleum Chapel in Colonia, with the installation of stained glass windows from St. Boniface Church in Jersey City. St. Boniface merged into the Parish of the Resurrection in June 1997. Completed in the 1880s, the windows of St. Boniface came from the Innsbruck School of Austria and the parish is steeped in historical significance as the mother church of the German Catholic population of the archdiocese. Holy Name Chapel Mausoleum in Jersey City also may use St. Boniface artifacts.

Like many children growing up in the Washington D.C. area, within the shadow of the Smithsonian Institute and the

National Archives, I did not graduate high school without having made the required class pilgrimage to the National Museums of American History, Natural Science, American Art or that perennial favorite, the Museum of Air and Space. All part of a larger organization known as the Smithsonian Institute, these museums house our Nation's collections (be they great, small, priceless or mediocre), articles that tell the story of our country.

The collections, by their three-dimensionality, interject themselves into the visitor's living space, telling their particular story in a way that words and photographs cannot. Such objects, however obscure, provide a tangible history of a civilization and represent a living trust for posterity. This is the reason that Archie and Edith Bunker's living room chairs—familiar artifacts from the 1970s TV sitcom "All in The Family"—are given the same attention, respect and care as the Wright Brothers' plane, Rookwood Pottery and the recorded narratives of ex-slaves from Georgia.

The need to preserve and document cultural artifacts becomes even more urgent and compelling when they carry religious and spiritual significance. Like the build-

Continued on page 21

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Members of the Commission for Ecclesiastical Patrimony include Alan Delozier, university archivist for Seton Hall University (SHU), South Orange; Father Thomas A. Dente, the director of the archdiocesan Office for Divine Worship; Kathleen Dodds, assistant university archivist for SHU; Msgr. John E. Doran, recently appointed as the archdiocesan vicar general and moderator of the curia and the former pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, South Orange; Dr. Phillip Frese, executive vice president for operations for Catholic Health and Human Services; Father Joseph Ferraro, the pastor of St. Anthony's Parish, Belleville; Deacon Kevin Kelly; Msgr. Robert Wister, associate professor of Church History, Immaculate Conception Seminary (on the campus of SHU); Msgr. Timothy Shugrue, pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, Montclair; Msgr. Francis R. Seymour, archdiocesan archivist; Troy J. Simmons, architectural historian and patrimony project manager (and the author of this article); and Steve Belloise, executive director of the archdiocesan office of Property Management Administration.

Anyone seeking more information on the commission can call (973) 497-4116.

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Tour schedule:

Continental breakfast and check-in, 7:30 a.m. to 8:45 a.m., at the Archdiocesan Center, 171 Clifton Ave., Newark



Buses depart at 9 a.m. (buses are climate controlled and have a lavatory)

Buses will return to the Archdiocesan Center approximately 5 p.m.



Tour stops:

1. Saint Michael Parish

Jersey City

2. Our Lady of Grace Parish

Hoboken



3. Lunch

4. Saint Vincent de Paul Parish

Bayonne

5. Saint Henry Parish

Bayonne

(The final stop at St. Henry includes Mass at approximately 3:45 p.m. with Bishop Thomas A. Donato, D.D.)



Depart 9 a.m.

Return 5 p.m.



1.

Saint Michael Jersey City

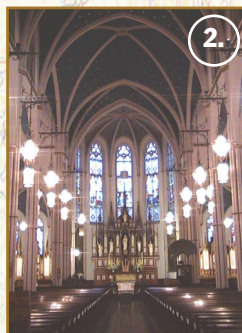
The pastor of St. Mary's Parish, in 1866, determined that the expanding Catholic population necessitated a mission church, which eventually became St. Michael's Parish. The

panic of 1873 and the ensuing depression delayed completion of the building until Oct. 8, 1876. The final cost was \$150,000.

Seven lots were purchased at 9th and Erie streets in May 1871. The church, designed by Patrick Charles Keely in the Romanesque and Italian Renaissance style, is 180 feet long by 80 feet wide.

The façade is Nova Scotia free stone enhanced by granite and English tessellated and encaustic tile giving the church great beauty and dignity. The original church, located at 10th and Erie streets, became the home of St. Michael's High School.

Profiles of the Tour's Four Treasured Churches



2.

Our Lady of Grace Hoboken

A church in Hoboken known as Our Lady of Grace was dedicated June 24, 1855. Plans for the French Gothic structure we see today began in 1873. Designed by German architect and Hoboken resident Francis G.

Himpler, the building was completed by Father Patrick Corrigan and dedicated Nov. 10, 1878.

Msgr. Charles J. Kelly decorated the church. He installed the 11-foot Stations of the Cross, sculpted in plaster from the Mayer Studios of Munich. He also allowed Audsley, architect and illuminator from Liverpool, to decorate the plain walls and ceilings, and to design the pipe organ, largest in the country at the time.

The church is 200 feet long and 130 feet wide at the transept. The nave is 96 feet wide. The center altar is gothic with circassian walnut in blue, red and gold, 37 feet high, 21 feet wide. The Sacred Heart adorns its top, over depictions of both Our Lady and the Christ Child. The five Sanctuary windows include the Promise of a Redeemer to be born of Woman, the Prophecy that a Virgin would bring forth a Son, the Annunciation, the Visitation and the Nativity.



3.



Lunch



4.

Saint Vincent de Paul Bayonne

St. Vincent de Paul, Bayonne, began as a mission from St. Henry. The first mass

was said at Salterville Hall, Centre St. on July 7, 1895.

Father Joseph McCormick was appointed pastor on July 1, 1904, and was commissioned to build a new Romanesque church constructed of Plymouth granite. The cornerstone was laid in May 1927.

The church's interior is decorated with marbles from around the world and symbolic windows from Ireland. Bishop Walsh dedicated the church in the spring of 1930.

David Henry Building Company did the masonry, carpentry, painting and glazing in the church, which is 88 feet long, 36 feet wide and 44 feet high with semicircular apse and Venetian campanile 140 feet high.

The high altar is Algerian golden onyx while the wall behind it is carara marble in red, blue and orchid with eight columns in green Italian marble. The floor is Italian and French marble in grey and black while the 12 columns representing the 12 Apostles are in green Tennessee marble. The stained glass windows, installed between 1939 and 1944, in the upper story are from the studio of Harry Clarke of Dublin and represent the Passion.



5.

Saint Henry Bayonne

St. Henry's, constructed between June 17 1911 and May 30 1915, is in the style known as modified early English Gothic in the cruciform shape formed of nave and transepts with an apse.

The offices were intended to be contained in the square tower on the Gospel side along with a stairway to the organ gallery and belfry. Bedford Indiana limestone graces the exterior. Triple entrance doors of quartered oak and wrought bronze hinges admit parishioners under a high arch with columns and ornamented orders. The tympanum above the doorways has a large statue of the Sacred Heart.

The body of the church consists of nave and transepts. The church is 68.6 feet wide, 94 feet at the transepts, 153.8 feet long and 62.6 feet high in the nave. The front gable rises to 75 feet while the tower without its pinnacles is 83 feet.

Twelve three-light mullioned and traceried windows light the clerestory of the nave. The transept clerestories have four corresponding windows, and the apse has seven two-light mullioned and traceried windows. Similar windows in each transept match a large rose window above the main front entrance.

During the last restoration in 1997, St. Henry received new and patched stone, repaired windows and frames, restored oak doors and three restored limestone crosses on the façade.

Patrimony Commission

Continued from page 18

ings comprising the Smithsonian Institute, each of our churches, rectories, convents and parish schools serve as the repository for their particular parish's history. In this way they function not only as sanctuaries of God and places of residence and of parochial education, but also as archives and museums. The collected histories they safeguard exist in the form of priceless works of art, ecclesiastical and domestic antiques and sacramental records.

In some instances even the physical structures themselves have been recognized as important examples of ecclesiastical and institutional architecture that as such, have been given places of

distinction within the greater diaspora of American vernacular architecture.

All of this comprises a faith-based legacy; a patrimonial bequest, belonging to the people of the Archdiocese of Newark that is no less deserving of serious study and preservation than those things housed within the great museums of our country. Each pastor and his parishioners in fact are the curators into whose care and safe keeping these "parish museums" have been placed. Therefore, we all share in a collective responsibility to preserve and to pass on for the enjoyment of future generations this patrimonial legacy.

To this end, the archdiocesan Office of Ecclesiastical Patrimony has embarked upon several programs that are designed to further the office's dual goals of education and preservation. For example, last month, Steve Belloise, the

executive director of Property Management Administration, and I attended meetings of the various archdiocesan priest deanery's. Our goal is to make the priests aware of the office of Ecclesiastical Patrimony and its mission; to encourage them in their roles as curators of their particular parish's patrimony; and to personally let them know of the office's commitment towards assisting them in that role.

Last fall, the archdiocesan offices of Property Management Administration and Ecclesiastical Patrimony took under wing the Archdiocesan Heritage Tour. Originally a fundraising event, the primary focus of these tours is to expose residents to the architectural and artistic treasures of the archdiocese. With tours in the spring and fall of each year, attendance has been in the hundreds with a waiting list that continues to grow.



Patrimony represents a "living" history to educate and inspire current and future generations. Stained glass, mosaics, statues, metalwork, stone or woodcarvings all are part of the faith-based heritage of the archdiocese. Pictured here is the scene of Jesus condemned to death, Stations of the Cross, at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, South Orange.

Digital tools help SHU to preserve past

SOUTH ORANGE—Seton Hall University's (SHU) work on the preservation and digitization of Catholic relics and manuscripts is at the forefront of efforts to use today's technological advances to make historical, Catholic documents easily available for research worldwide.

SHU libraries, in partnership with the university's Teaching Learning and Technology Center (TLTC), have done extensive experimentation on the digitization of liturgical artifacts, such as chalices and vestments.

The research work by SHU recently was featured at the fourth bi-annual conference on Globalization, Digitization, Access, and Preservation of Cultural Heritage, which was in Sofia, Bulgaria, last November. SHU served as a co-sponsor of the conference.

The SHU artifact database will become part of the Catholic Research Portal Web site, a project by a consortium of universities that aims to provide a central portal for identifying Catholic archival, book, art and manuscript collections in all Catholic institutions in North America.

"The Seton Hall artifact database is, at the moment, the only one of its kind in the consortium and, I hope, will be used as a model by the other institutions," Howard McGinn, dean of university libraries, said.

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Advocate photo - Ward Miele

Troy Simmons, architectural historian and patrimony manager for the Archdiocese of Newark, studies the artful intricacies of a pulpit. Simmons will lead the archdiocesan Heritage Tour on April 14.

Simmons' eye for detail traces spiritual connections, heritage

BY WARD MIELE
Managing Editor

NEWARK—Considering his eye for architecture and intricate detail, some would say Troy Simmons has designs on a perfect career.

"I love research" declared Simmons, who serves as architectural historian and patrimony manager for the Archdiocese of Newark.

Architecturally, Simmons explained, the Church in Newark contains the work of some of the nation's finest architects. He defines Church patrimony as "our legacy, items that warrant our stewardship." A significant part of

his job is preparing church buildings for local, state and national historical status.

Simmons is sharpening his skills pursuing a second graduate degree in Architectural Restoration and Preservation at Columbia University, New York, which has, he notes, a reputation as one of the "top three" graduate schools of architecture in the country and "the top" school for historical preservation study. Columbia's Avery Library, where Simmons has spent many a late night, is "the best" research facility around he said.

The appeal of research is "the unknown" and he described his research as "seeing how many

events can turn the tide." To that end, Simmons is working for the Samuel H. Kress Foundation in New York on a paper "The Art Deco Experience of Ecclesiastical History." Art Deco, he explains, is "a misnomer" a term attributed to what was really "Art Modern." As it relates to Church architecture, Simmons said it is a period that has been "overlooked." All forms of "Art Modern during that time, he said, "met at the arts and crafts train station" roughly between the years 1910-1940. Art-Deco went out into the world aboard French ocean liners of those years.

In research, Simmons said he finds "everything is connected."

Continued on page 23

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Troy Simmons

Continued from page 22

The Art Deco pieces from the period he is exploring for his paper can be found at Benedictine monasteries of Germany and right here in archdiocese at St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Newark and St. Aedan Parish in Jersey City. Other examples are the Stations of the Cross at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish in South Orange, St. Aedan Parish in Jersey City and the windows at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in

Bayonne. All, he stresses, have a style with “inherent mysticism.”

Art, Simmons stressed, is “spiritual. It says what words can’t.” To that end last fall he was curator of an exhibit at Seton Hall University in South Orange, “Form, Function and Faith, The American Arts and Crafts in Ecclesiastical Design” (*The Catholic Advocate*, Sept. 6, 2006). He organized the exhibit that focused on the arts and crafts movement as it relates to

Church design, circa 1900-1940.

An important and essential element of patrimony is its educational aspect. “People are interested” in the culture and history of the Church, he declared, citing the archdiocesan Heritage Tour program, which will be held April 14. How much interest is there? At the last Heritage Tour in September, he stressed, the buses were full and “we were turning people away.”

His research has shown that, architecturally during the period he is studying, efforts were made to “get out of a box.” An example of his definition of research is his

discovery that during the period 1870-1880, a theatre troupe performed on the top floor of St. John School in Orange. He said his research, in many ways, involves “tracking down things that have disappeared.”

The Archdiocese of Newark, according to Simmons, is one of the few if not the only diocese in the country to have a full-time Patrimony Office, which has as its primary responsibility both preservation and education. The education element, through Simmons’ association with Columbia University, has

developed “a vital link between the archdiocese and the world of art and architecture.” In fact, he adds, the archdiocesan guidelines for closure of parishes, a work of the Patrimony Commission, is being utilized by the Archdiocese of New York.

He underlined the fact that it is the strict policy of his office that liturgical items are always offered first “in-house.” Only after it is determined there are no takers within the archdiocese, is the offer extended beyond the boundaries of the Church in Newark to other dioceses.

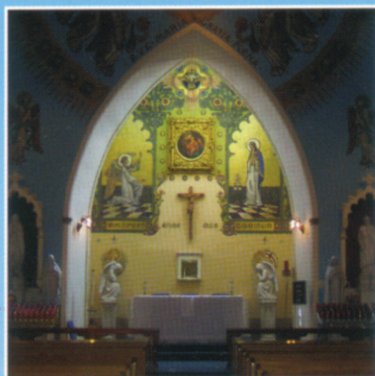
Heart, soul, symbol of the Archdiocese of Newark



FAITHFUL ANCHOR—The cornerstone of the Archdiocese of Newark can be found at 89 Ridge St. The Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart was dedicated on Oct. 19, 1954. French Gothic in its architectural style, it was built over a 55-year period. Pope John Paul II visited the Cathedral on Oct. 4, 1995 and presided at evening prayer. It was during this visit that the pope designated the Cathedral as a minor basilica. The Cathedral’s signature exterior highlights are its 232-foot twin towers and its copper spire, which reaches a height of 260 feet. The grand structure features hand-crafted decorations of wood, stone, metal and marble created by skilled artisans from around the world; a visionary, international project well before the days of a “global economy.” For example, the Cathedral’s stained glass windows were produced in Munich, Germany. The 14 bells in the west tower were cast in Padua, Italy, while the sanctuary’s pews are made of Appalachian oak. The altar is carved from Italian Pietra Santa marble. The “Lady Chapel,” located behind the altar and dedicated to Our Lady of Grace, features Cararra marble and hand-cut crystal chandeliers. Bishop James R. Bayley first envisioned a cathedral for Newark in 1859. He purchased the land on Jan. 2, 1871 for \$60,000. However, it was not until the arrival of Newark’s third bishop, Winand Michael Wigger, who was selected in 1881, that the massive project truly began to unfold. Bishop Wigger selected the Cathedral’s patronal designation “Sacred Heart” and established a select committee to steer construction and fund-raising efforts. The committee, after weighing four plans, awarded the architectural contract to Jeremiah O’Rourke and Sons of Newark on Nov. 11, 1897. Construction was launched in January 1898 and the cornerstone was set on June 11, 1899. Bishop Thomas A. Boland carried the project to its completion. The final price tag of the edifice was estimated at \$18 million.

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Wyckoff youth group to ‘jump start’ March 18 at Saint Elizabeth Parish

BY MICHAEL C. GABRIELE
Editor

NEWARK—Saint Elizabeth Parish, 700 Wyckoff Ave., Wyckoff, will host an open house for teenagers on Sunday, March 18, 6:30 to 9 p.m., to launch a new youth group program. The meeting, which will be held in the parish’s youth room, is free and open to the public.

The open house, titled “Jump Start,” will kickoff the parish’s new youth group, which will be known as “Branches.” The name for the youth group is based on the John 15:5 Gospel passage: “I am the Vine, you are the branches.”

Gina Marie, director of youth ministries for Saint Elizabeth, will lead the open house, which will feature food, music and a Power Point presentation. Marie said the group will develop weekly meetings, social activities, workshops, field trips, retreats and service projects for parish young people ages 13 to 18.

Catholic Café to show films during Lent

JERSEY CITY — The Catholic Café, located in Marian Hall of St. Mary Parish, 219 3rd St., will hold Faith and Film series Friday evenings during Lent. Films will be show on March 9, 16 and 23, beginning at 8 p.m.

Father Corapi, seen on EWTN, will address the Easter Triduum parts one through three. Jesus of Nazareth will be shown on March 30. For additional information call (212) 920-5585.

Founded by artist/musician Theresa Rivezzo, the café opened last December and is designed to be a haven for Catholics to gather, perform and engage in the arts — all to nurture the soul and mind. In addition to the film series, the cafe offers music, lectures and workshops.

QPHS slates health fair

NORTH ARLINGTON — Queen of Peace High School (QPHS) will hold its first public health fair on Saturday, March 24 from 9 a.m. to noon in the school gym at 191 Rutherford Pl.

Call the school at (201) 998-8227 for more information.

The March 18 open house will serve as an introduction for future youth group projects and events. Going forward, a core team of parish teens will assist Marie in the planning and coordination of activities.

Msgr. Donald E. Guenther is

the pastor of Saint Elizabeth. Contact Marie by phone at (201) 891-1122, ext. 222 or via e-mail (ginamariem@gmail.com) for more information. In the future, details on the youth group activities will be posted on the parish’s Web site (www.saintelizabeths.org).

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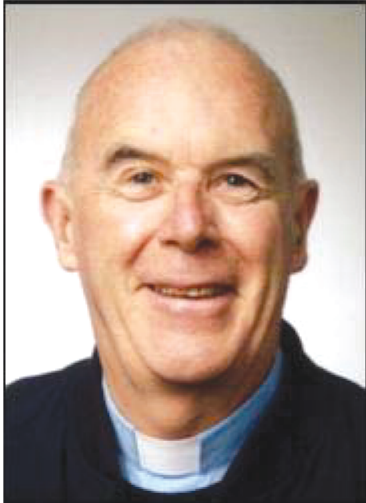
4 HEALING SERVICES


Mon	March 12	7:30pm at Our Lady of Peace, New Providence
Tue	March 13	7:30pm at St. Bernard’s, Bridgewater
Wed	March 14	7:30pm at Our Lady of the Mount, Warren
Thurs	March 15	7:30pm at St. John the Apostle, Linden

FESTIVAL OF THANKSGIVING

Fri	March 16	7:30pm at Koinonia Academy, Plainfield
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Advocate photo—M. Gabriele

FLORHAM PARK SHRINE—Our Lady of Divine Vocations Shrine & Retreat Center, a 39-acre property of the Vocationist Fathers & Sisters, opened last May with a Mass celebrated by Bishop Edgar da Cunha, S.D.V., auxiliary bishop of Newark. The shrine—part of the Diocese of Paterson—provides a spiritual environment where people can walk and pray while sharing the presence of the Blessed Trinity and Our Lady. The shrine and retreat center operates as a non-denominational venue for retreats, pilgrimages, spiritual refuge and discernment of the priesthood and religious life and is open to the public. The grounds feature various artistic sanctuaries, such as bronze statues and a 70-foot oval outline of the rosary garland, handcrafted from natural stone and stained glass, featuring prayer benches and a four-tier fountain of peace. Contact Father Frank Hreno, S.D.V., the shrine director, at (973) 495-0858 for more information.

Official Appointments

Archbishop John J. Myers has announced the following appointments:

PASTOR

Reverend Thomas B. Iwanowski, Pastor of Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish, Jersey City, has had his pastorate extended for one year, ending July 1, 2008.

ADMINISTRATOR

Reverend Andrzej Ostaszewski, Parochial Vicar of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Irvington, has been appointed administrator of St. Casimir Parish, Newark, effective March 4.

Reverend James P. Whelan, Parochial Vicar of Corpus Christi Parish, Hasbrouck Heights, has been appointed administrator of St. Lawrence Parish, Weehawken, effective March 1.

PAROCHIAL VICAR

Reverend Anthony R. Forte has been appointed parochial vicar of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Newark, effective Feb. 16.

Reverend Oliver Yalung has been appointed parochial vicar of St. Aedan Parish, Jersey City, effective Feb. 13 through May 2007.

CHAPLAIN

Reverend Esterminio Chica, Parochial Vicar St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Elizabeth, has been appointed Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus Santa Maria de la Asuncion Elizabeth Spanish Council No. 11213, Elizabeth, effective Jan. 23.



DEACON

Deacon Francis P. McQuade, Permanent Deacon of the Diocese of Paterson, was incardinated into the Archdiocese of Newark on Dec. 6, 2006.

Deacon Joseph L. Mantineo, Permanent Deacon of Sacred Heart Parish, Rochelle Park, has also been appointed associate director of deacon personnel for a three-year term ending Feb. 14, 2010.

Deacon James Tobin, Permanent Deacon of Assumption Parish, Emerson, has also been appointed associate director of deacon personnel for a three-year term February 14, 2010.

Deacon Joseph A. Dwyer, Jr., Permanent Deacon of St. Cassian Parish, Upper Montclair, has been appointed Permanent Deacon of Holy Family Parish, Nutley, effective Feb. 21.

RETIREMENT

Reverend Thomas J. Norton, Chaplain at Pascack Valley Hospital, Westwood has been granted retirement, effective July 1.

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March 23-25

Women Afire Retreat w/Kathleen McCarthy, Anna Iatesta and Fr. Christopher Rogers. Theme: "Nothing is Impossible with God" (women only) Family Life Center

April 13-15

Divine Mercy National Retreat with Fr. Pablo Straub, CSsR (men, women, teens, religious and clergy) Main Retreat House

May 4-6

Mother Nadine Brown, The Power of Prayer National Retreat with Fr. Christopher Rogers (men and women) Main Retreat House

May 10

Blending Families with Carol Jensen, MA and Fr. Gregory Hickey. An Evening of Reflection for parents of step, foster and adopted families. Dinner and talk. 6:30-9:30PM Family Life Center

May 25-27

Ave Maria Singles Retreat with the Founder, Anthony Buono, Dr. Richard Fitzgibbons and Fr. Edward B. Connelly (single men and women) Prayer, teachings, socialization. Family Life Center

June 1-3

Matthew Kelly and Fr. Bill McCarthy, MSA A Business and Spirituality Retreat, Authenticity, not Authority; Integrating Spirituality in the Workplace While Still Making a Profit! (men and women) Main

July 20-22

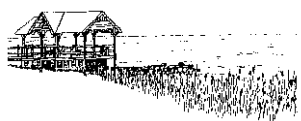
Johnnette Benkovic and Fr. Edmund Sylvia, CSC Women of Grace National Retreat (women only) Main Retreat House. Theme: The Spirit and the Bride Say 'Come.' Benedicta Women's Leadership Institute-July 19th

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FACILITATED BY PAULETTE CICERO AND GAIL MERTZ

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MARCH 24, 9:30 AM-4:30 PM

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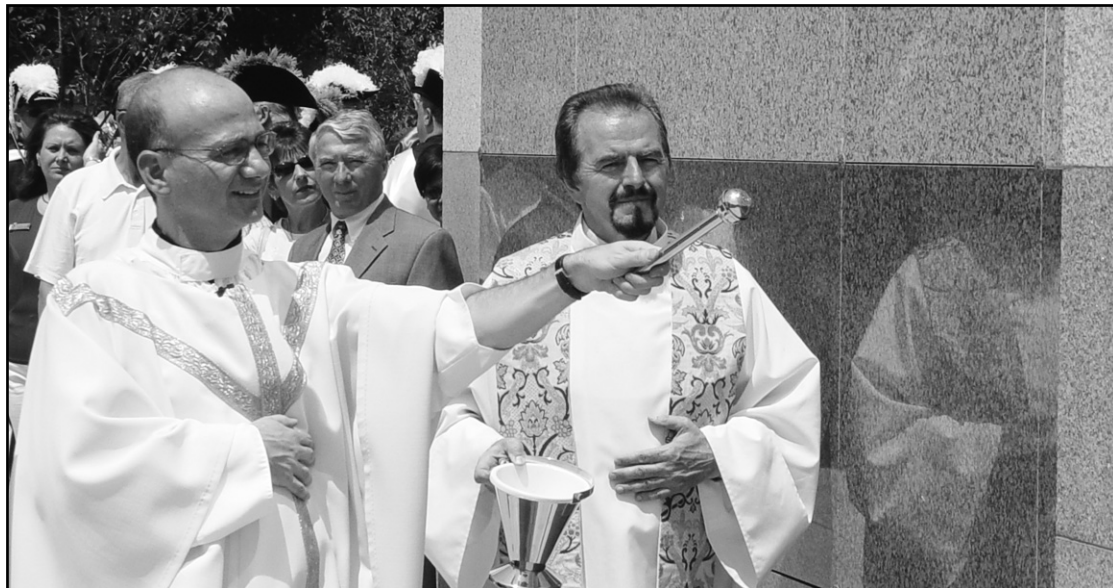


Photo courtesy of Jorge Repollet



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April 29-Reiki 2**April 30-Reiki 3****May 11-13 The Sacrament of Nature**

Presenter: Sr. Susan Mangam STR

May 11-13 Personal Spirituality and the Healthcare Professional

Presenters: Kathleen M. Duffy, RN

Katherine Marshall, MD

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For Summer Retreats see our website: linwoodspiritualctr.org

SACRED REFLECTIONS

— Garden mausoleums at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in East Hanover and Saint Gertrude Cemetery in Colonia were blessed last year during the annual Memorial Day masses. Cemeteries are among the most sacred spaces in the archdiocese. Msgr. Robert Emery (left)—recently installed as the pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, South Orange—is pictured blessing the garden mausoleum at Saint Gertrude. The mausoleum contains 800 crypts and 400 niches. It includes two granite buildings with a tree-lined walk leading to a 24-foot meditation committal gazebo. The 1,600 crypt and 400 niche garden mausoleum at Gate of Heaven Cemetery consists of two buildings connected by an open-air chapel. The chapel has four granite columns and a corner niche bank supporting a beam and deck roof.

The Gathering Place

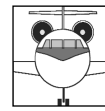
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Stem-cell research

Continued from page 1

(Web site: www.ncbcenter.org). Father Pacholczyk, who earned a Ph.D. in neuroscience from Yale University, aimed to “cut through the spin” of the media and government policies regarding stem cells and cloning.

The public by and large, according to Father Pacholczyk, does not understand basic terminology of the research and has misconceptions about embryonic versus adult stem-cell research. As such, there is much confusion over the Church’s position on the topic.

Stem cells typically are described as medically “immortal” and can be used in research for years, while other cells “run out of steam” and can be used to research cures for illnesses for only a short period of time.

He explained that stem cells can be molded and can change into different cells found in the body (i.e. muscle, skin and organ tissue).

In embryonic stem-cell research (ESCR), stem cells are taken from a five-day-old embryo called a blastocyst. The desired cell lines are ripped from the developing fetus, destroying it.

Hollywood personalities, such as the late Christopher Reeves and Michael J. Fox as well as several politicians, influence the public about stem-cell research by listing a number of

diseases that can be treated by regenerative medicine.

“However, what is the moral component?” Father Pacholczyk asked. “That is called the ‘benefit argument.’ The argument claims that there are 100 million patients that can be treated by the medical opportunities of embryonic stem cells. That number is pulled from thin air and there is a lot of overselling and overhyping.”

Father Pacholczyk pointed out that non-embryonic resources of stem cells—collectively referred to as “adult” stem cells—include umbilical cords, amniotic fluid, bone marrow, fat from liposuctions, nasal epithelium and cadavers under 20 hours after death.

‘To ‘disaggregate’ or destroy a young member of the human species for research is morally unjust and the Church will always be against that type of research.’

—Father Dr. Tadeusz Pacholczyk

A common public misconception is that the Catholic Church is against all forms stem-cell research, when it only opposes the use of embryonic stem cells, he pointed out. In fact, the Church has been a staunch supporter of adult stem-cell research, which, according to various sources, has a solid 20-year track record of more than 60 proven medical treatments.

“To ‘disaggregate’ or destroy a young member of the human species for research is morally unjust and the Church will always be against that type of research. There are no fundamental objec-

tions to adult stem-cell research. There is a collaboration of evil that can happen when an ethical discussion is not approached,” Father Pacholczyk said.

Moral issues aside, while there are a host of significant technical problems associated with the use of embryonic stem cells, many people already have been successfully treated with adult stem cells.

For example, he cited the case of Patrizia Durante, a Canadian resident who was pregnant and had been diagnosed with leukemia during her pregnancy six years ago. Doctors used a cesarean section to remove the child and then attempted chemotherapy on the mother to no avail. The doctors then took stem cells from her new child’s umbilical cord and she subsequently was cured of the cancer.

“These (adult stem cells) are providing results while embryonic research is merely speculative,” he said. “We are moving forward at a very fast rate and it is exciting.”

Today, there is no federal law against destroying human embryos for research purposes. There is discussion in “blue” states, such as New Jersey and California, proposing using taxpayer money to forward ESCR. It is difficult to reach a morally sound decision in America because, according to Father Pacholczyk, there is such a strong emotional reaction on both sides of the argument.

Some proponents of ESCR argue that the blastocyst is just the size of a pin and only five days old—therefore no moral dilemma exists. However, Father

Pacholczyk believes in safeguarding human life through all stages of existence.

“It is amazing the mental summersaults that go through our minds to justify that what can never be justified. Human life is entrusted into our hands. We can become a voice of those who have no voice of their own. A true measure of a great society is how it treats its weakest members.”

President George W. Bush, in his Aug. 9, 2001 decision, passed a law declaring that existing stem-cell lines can continue to be used for research. No federal money, however, will be used to create new stem-cell lines using embryos. Although this ruling influenced other decisions regarding ESCR, Father Pacholczyk wonders if the president’s decision was an “internally, morally coherent decision.”

“Scientists say Bush ‘dried up’ all of the money for stem cell research and that taxpayers should pay up. There has to be a dispassionate discussion about ESCR because if science becomes unethical, it becomes a threat.”

So-called “therapeutic cloning” for research purposes and reproductive cloning by using DNA to create an identical human being are not fundamentally different from each other, although most lawmakers would have the public believe they are. Both processes fuses a man and woman’s cells in Petri dishes. However, a therapeutic cloned embryo is cryogenically frozen and used for biomedical research and reproductive cloning implants the fetus into a uterus to form a child.

“There is no such thing as ‘good cloning,’” Father Pacholczyk declared. “Human



Advocate photo—Melissa McNally

Rev. Dr. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, director of education at the National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia, discussed the ethics of stem cell research and cloning at Seton Hall University.

therapeutic cloning has high moral costs. You are essentially making an identical twin for the purpose of stripping them for stem cells. Our lawmakers say to safeguard the most offensive form of cloning (for biomedical research)."

Solemnity of St. Joseph, Husband of the Virgin Mary March 19



“Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid.”

—Matthew 1:19

St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church
Bayonne

St. Vincent De Paul Church
Bayonne

Holy Spirit & Our Lady Help of Christians Church
East Orange

Holy Trinity Church
Fort Lee

Our Lady of Czestochowa Church
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E.D.

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C.B.

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

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M.H.F.

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A generous community whose middle name is 'give'

BY MELISSA MCNALLY
Staff Writer

The St. Helen Parish community is active, multifaceted, and known for its numerous outreach efforts, its vibrant liturgical celebrations and programs for children and adults.

The church building, completed in 1972, provides a supportive worship environment for the parish's 3,500 families. The parish center, constructed in 1984, was expanded in 1988 and named after the founding pastor, Rev. Msgr. Thomas Meaney. It provides office space for clergy and lay staff, meeting space and includes a gymnasium.

Over the years, the programming for education and social outreach has diversified and includes elementary, middle school/Confirmation and youth ministry programs. The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd will bring together three- and four-year-olds. Small faith-sharing groups for divorced and separated Catholics, opportunities for individual and spiritual direction, as well as other faith development and retreat opportunities enrich the faith life of St. Helen's faithful.

The parish, along with Holy Trinity (Westfield) and Our Lady of Lourdes (Mountainside), supports and sponsors a growing Catholic elementary school using facilities at Holy Trinity and Our Lady of Lourdes.

The parish community has benefited from its many staff members—clergy and lay who have given their energy and talents to support the growth of the faith community under Msgr. Meaney until 1990, Rev. Msgr. James A. Burke until 2000 and Rev. Msgr. William Harms, the current pastor.

Central to the parish spirit has been the continuing commitment of parishioners to give real meaning to its mission:

"We are committed to bringing the Good News to others in our community and beyond. United in prayer, we understand that it is our calling to use our time, treasure and talent for the benefit of all."

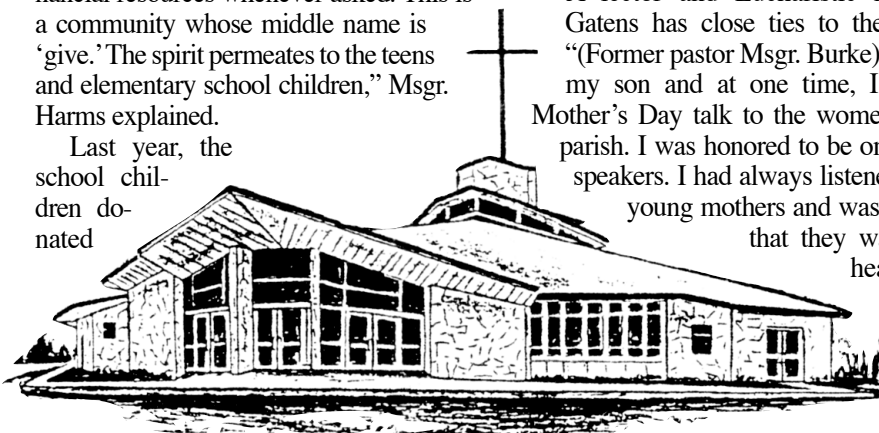
"Over the past 38 years, the parish has grown to 3,500 families. The parishioners are a caring and loving community who have adopted the 'Stewardship Way of Life.' As a community, they share their financial resources whenever asked. This is a community whose middle name is 'give.' The spirit permeates to the teens and elementary school children," Msgr. Harms explained.

Last year, the school children donated

a parishioner for many years. "I adore this parish and it is a magnificent place to worship," she said. "St. Helen's is warm and expressive, in terms of its mission."

A former Catholic school teacher, Gatens moved away from the area, but still made an effort to attend St. Helen's because it was "worth the trip. The sermons are beautiful and never disappoint. I feel that I am at home here."

A lector and Eucharistic minister, Gatens has close ties to the parish. "(Former pastor Msgr. Burke) married my son and at one time, I gave a Mother's Day talk to the women in the parish. I was honored to be one of the speakers. I had always listened to the young mothers and was amazed that they wanted to hear from me."



Founded in 1968, St. Helen Parish has a bustling parish community with young and older members participating in ministries such as Cornerstone retreat and faith renewal (evangelization) committee. This illustration is used on note cards printed by the parish.

\$3,000 to purchase new school desks for a school outside Hurricane Katrina-ravaged New Orleans. The parish is home to the "Church ladies"—the women of the Centering Prayer group who visit inmates at East Jersey State Prison (see *The Catholic Advocate*, March 22, 2006).

With ministries including a spiritual life committee, faith renewal committee and Hurricane Katrina coordinating committee, the parish is a hub of activity and encourages new members and longtime parishioners to participate.

Adele Gatens, a senior citizen, has been

Msgr. Harms, according to Gatens, is "a hoot" and was a welcomed addition to the St. Helen Parish family. "I remember the Mass were he was initiated and we were all wondering who would continue after Msgr. Burke. I just heard this loud and booming voice and it seemed to be speaking to me. He is a brilliant man. He is erudite. I feel fortunate to have such lovely speakers at our parish. They are all different and exceptional."

Busy writing her life story for her children, Gatens intends to focus a few chapters on her parish life. "St. Helen's is so much

Saint Helen, Westfield



A group of youth volunteers help create Thanksgiving baskets for the less fortunate. There are over 100 young people directly involved in the parish youth group. The group participates in Habitat for Humanity, peer ministry and retreats.

Photos courtesy of St. Helen Parish

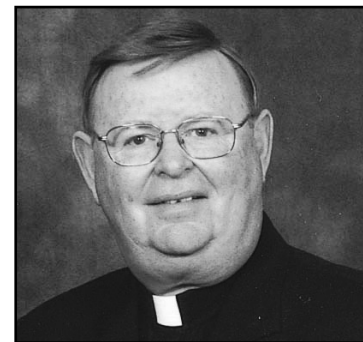
a part of my life. My husband asked if we should move to the South; I told him there is no way I can make it to St. Helen Parish every Sunday so I am not going," she said with a laugh.

Younger parishioners, such as Jack Sheehan, are also active in the parish community. A parish member since 1988, Sheehan was a CCD teacher for four years and is on the committee that prepares and develops the men's and women's Cornerstone retreat.

"It takes most of the year—nine months—to prepare the weekend," Sheehan said. He has been involved in the retreat planning for 11 years. "It is extremely rewarding to be involved in Cornerstone. It is a great parish experience. Every year there is a different experience and it is like a spiritual renewal every year I participate."

Although the retreat structure is defined by a guidebook, the retreats are another way the parish community lives its faith through ministry. "It is a vibrant and involved parish," Sheehan said. "About 25

Meet the Pastor



Rev. Msgr. William Harms

Birthday: November 15, 1939

Hometown: North Arlington

High School: Queen of Peace High School

Seminary: Immaculate Conception, Mahwah

Undergraduate: Seton Hall University

Graduate School: Seton Hall University, masters in divinity, Rutgers University, M.C.R.P., Drew University, doctorate in ministry

Ordination: May 29, 1965

Hero: my parents and Pope John XXIII

Favorite Saint: St. Paul

Favorite Sport: golf, swimming, skiing

Favorite Food: German food

Favorite Subject in School: Math

Favorite Movie: Singin' in the Rain

Last Book Read: "Good to Great" by Jim Collins

Occupation if I Weren't a Priest: Management consultant

percent of the congregation is very active. For many young families, life is not easy and it is more difficult to engage in parish activities. However, there are many social outreach ministries and this place is a beehive. It's always busy. There is always something going on and it's a non-stop operation. St. Helen's has become the center of my family's social life."

Sheehan believes Msgr. Harms is the reason that St. Helen Parish functions so well in the community. "I have great respect for Msgr. Harms. Because he came in after Msgr. Burke, it was like he had the job of following a beloved president. Our current pastor is very rich intellectually and, for a somewhat reserved individual, he is very personable. It is enjoyable to relate to him on a personal level and he is very dedicated to the parish. The community embraced him through the years."

As a member of the archdiocesan New Energies committee, Sheehan is taking part in the evolution of St. Helen's Parish. "New Energies is the next activity level for the whole archdiocese. The Catholic community has not been allowed to rest or become stale. There are people with different thought processes trying to improve the community. It is difficult and challenging but good things are happening."

(St. Helen's Parish is located at 1600 Rahway Ave., Westfield.)



Advocate photo — M. Gabriele

TO JESUS THROUGH MARY—Dr. Dianne Traflet (standing, second from left) was the featured speaker at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish’s Women’s Day of Reflection, which was held Feb. 24. Traflet, the co-director for Seton Hall University’s Institute for Christian Spirituality and an associate dean at Immaculate Conception Seminary, addressed the topic of “To Jesus Through Mary.” Pictured with Traflet are (seated, left to right) Bernadette Lipoma and Cathy Sussling, (standing, left to right) Lucille Sutton, Patricia Nardiello and Adrian Drew.

Dinner slated for March 17

GARFIELD—The Parish Life Committee of Our Lady of Mount Virgin Parish will hold its annual St. Joseph’s Dinner on Saturday, March 17, 7 p.m., in Father Casserly Hall. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for children. Call (973) 772-2295 to make reservations.



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SHU retreat to explore the power of prayer

SOUTH ORANGE—The Institute for Christian Spirituality at Seton Hall University’s (SHU) Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology will present a one-day retreat, “Understanding Your Prayer Life: Obstacles, Changes, Perseverance, Love,” on March 24. The retreat, to be held in Lewis Hall on the SHU campus, will run from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., with Mass celebrated at 9 a.m. Father John Russell, O.Carm., will be the featured speaker at the retreat. He is a professor of Christian Spirituality at Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology. He is also the spiritual director for the Institute for Christian Spirituality. Registration for the retreat is \$15 per person, which includes lunch and is payable at the door. However, pre-registration is strongly encouraged due to limited space and strong demand. Contact Deborah Kurus, Institute for Christian Spirituality, by phone at (973) 313-6329 or via e-mail at kurusdeb@shu.edu for more information.

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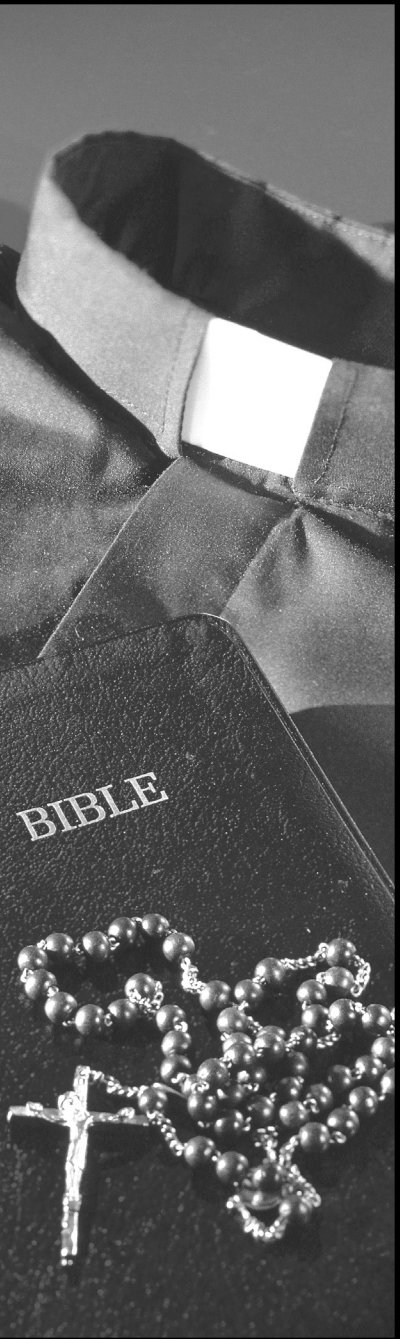
They said to him, “Rabbi, where do you stay?”

“Come and see,” He answered.
John 1:38-39

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Advocate photos — Ward Miele

St. Andrew’s Parish to host Centering Prayer forum

WESTWOOD — Most Reverend Dominic Marconi, auxiliary bishop emeritus of the Archdiocese of Newark, will lead a seminar on Centering Prayer Monday, March 12, 7:30 p.m., at St. Andrew’s Parish, 140 Washington Ave.

“There are many ways that a Christian can be in touch with God,” Father Ward P. Moore, the pastor of St. Andrew, explained. “Besides vocal prayer and meditation, Centering or contemplative prayer can allow one to seek God in a more open, quiet and loving manner,” he continued.

Bishop Marconi will offer participants an opportunity to experience this type of prayer during the seminar. “As a result of this presentation, participants will discover that Centering Prayer is a gift of the Lord for all who ask,” Father Moore added.

Call the parish at (201) 666-1100 for more information.

SCOUTING SALUTED—Most Reverend Charles J. McDonnell, auxiliary bishop emeritus of Newark, presided at an afternoon prayer service last month for Catholic Scout Awards Sunday. Bishop McDonnell said in his homily that Scouting has a “great reputation.” By living the Scouting oath, young people become “great scouts and tremendous Christians.” Good scouts are “willing to do what is right,” he said. Bishop McDonnell presented awards to both the scouts and adult leaders. Gregory Nitkowski received the annual Archbishop’s Scouter Award at the service, which was held at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark.

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CSE to hold spirituality convocation

MORRISTOWN — The College of Saint Elizabeth (CSE) will hold its 15th annual spirituality convocation titled "Reconciled to Joy" on Saturday, March 24.

The event is sponsored by the college's Center for Theological and Spiritual Development. The day will begin with registration at 8 a.m. and concludes with the celebration of the Eucharist at 4 p.m.

The cost is \$35 per person. Bag lunches may be purchased. For more information or to register, call (973) 290-4300 or visit the Web site: www.cse.edu/center.

Dr. Mary Jo Leddy and Rev. James Martin, S.J., will serve as the keynote speakers for the convocation. Leddy is adjunct professor at Regis College, the Jesuit theological school at the University of Toronto. She is a writer, speaker, theologian, social activist and widely recognized for her work with refugees at Toronto's Romero House where she serves as the director.

Father Martin is a Jesuit priest and an associate editor of *America* magazine. During his Jesuit training, he worked with the sick and dying in Kingston, Jamaica; with street-gang members in Chicago; as a prison chaplain in Boston. He is a frequent commentator in the media on religion and spirituality and is the author of several books.

Students are bound for DC

SHORT HILLS — A dozen sixth graders from St. Rose of Lima School have been selected to represent New Jersey at this year's Junior National Leaders Conference (JrNYLC) in Washington D.C.

The list of St. Rose of Lima students selected includes Matthew Aiello, Christopher Boyle, Catherine Coleman, Mark Farroqi, Jacqueline Genova, Marie Guarino, Declan Kelly, Daniel Luzarraga, Harry McCarthy, Katherine O'Leary, Emily Porfiris and Jessica Small. Dr. Karen P. Fasanella is the principal.

The event will run March 3 to 8. Themed "The Legacy of American Leadership," the JrNYLC forum (Web site: www.cylc.org/jrnylc) introduces students to the tradition of leadership throughout American history, while helping them develop leadership skills.



Photo courtesy of St. John's Council 1345

CAN YOU HELP SAVE A PREBORN CHILD?



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Kathy DiFiore-Founder

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MISSION NEWS

"She is living proof that we develop only surrounded with love — Jesus' love."

Sister Philomena is speaking of the transformation of one little girl at St. Anthony's Children's Village

in Ndola, Zambia. There, the Sisters offer our Lord's love and provide basic necessities to some of the more than two million children orphaned in Zambia. After time with these Sisters, that one little child — unable to walk or talk at five years old — was able to sing songs and dance. † "It is only with God's help that we dare to hope for a brighter tomorrow," Sister Philomena says. † God's grace and help — and your prayers and Lenten sacrifice to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. May the Lord bless you for your generous missionary heart!



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MARCH FOR LIFE — Parishioners from St. John the Evangelist Parish in Bergenfield and members of the Knights of Columbus, St. John's Council 1345 from Bergenfield and Dumont joined an estimated 100,000-plus Pro-Life supporters from across the country in the 34th annual March for Life in Washington, D.C. Many residents from the Archdiocese of Newark participated in the march, which was held Jan. 22 (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Feb. 7 and Jan. 10). Council members attending the event included John Scalice, Matt Hayes and Bob Dondero (both past grand knights), Council Chaplain Father John Murray, S.M.A., and Bill Connington.



Benedictine Monks of Newark Abbey

Weekday Services in St. Mary's Church

5:00 a.m. Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

6:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

11:40 a.m. Midday Prayer

5:00 p.m. Community Mass

7:00 p.m. Sung Vespers

520 Dr. M.L. King Boulevard, Newark, NJ
(973) 792-5786 or visit www.newarkabbey.org

The Archdiocese of Newark Presents

HISPANIC STEWARDSHIP DAY

Featured Speakers



Father John Galeano



Liliana Soto



Father Juan Luis Calderón

Saturday,
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10 am to 2:30 pm
Archdiocesan Center
171 Clifton Avenue, Newark

FREE Admission
No Registration Required
Lunch Included

All Talks Will Be in Spanish

Learn How to Increase Your Spirituality While Helping Your Parish Grow

- How to be a True Steward in the Vineyard of the Lord

- Evangelization and Stewardship in Your Parish

- Using Our Hispanic Heritage to be Authentic American Stewards

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El Día de la Mayordomía en Español
Sábado, 24 de marzo de 2007

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Centro Arquidiocesano
171 Clifton Avenue, Newark

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No necesita inscribirse
Almuerzo incluido

Todas las charlas serán en español
Aprende a ser más espiritual a la vez que ayudas a tu parroquia a crecer

- Como ser un verdadero mayordomo en la viña del Señor.
- La Evangelización y la Mayordomía.

- Nuestra herencia hispana al servicio de la Iglesia en Estados Unidos. Para más información, llamar a Gesenhia Lopez al (973)497-4091.



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