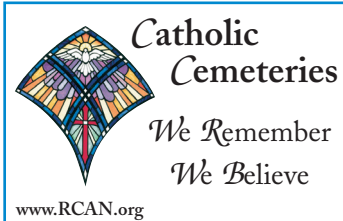




Pastoral initiative
discusses Natural
Family Planning
See page 2

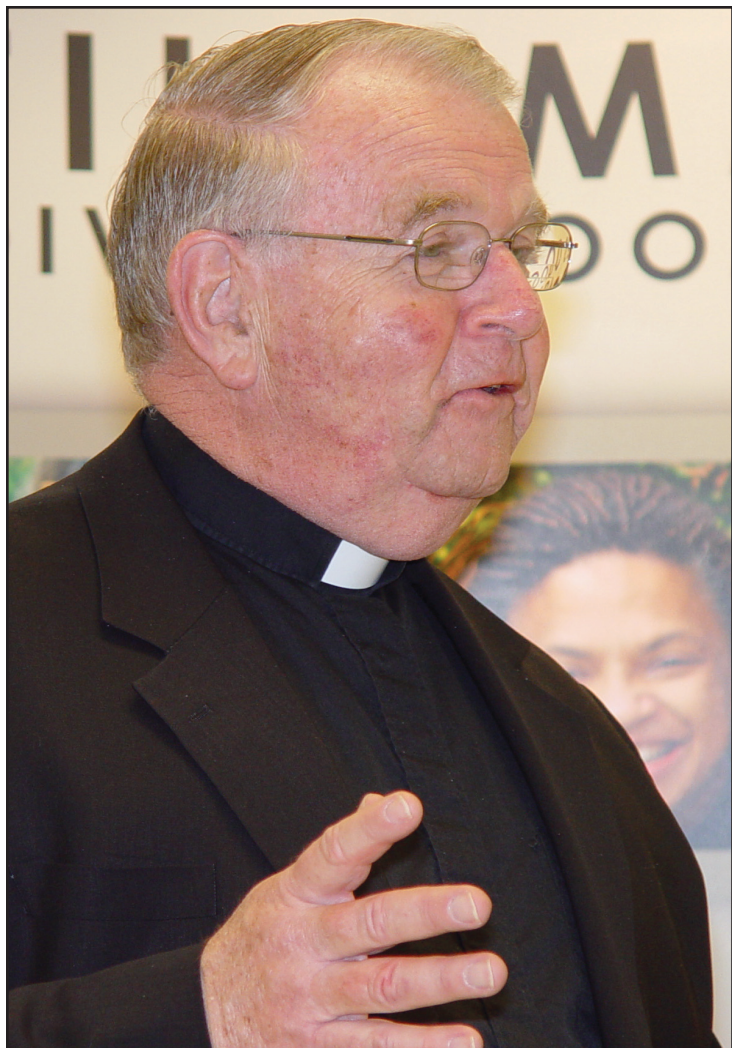
The Catholic Advocate



Vol. 56, No. 6

CATHOLIC PRESS ASSOCIATION GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

Wednesday, March 21, 2007



Advocate photo — Melissa McNally

Father Joseph Kukura, president of the Catholic HealthCare Partnership of New Jersey, delivers the message that 10 Catholic hospitals have signed contracts with Community Blood Services or the Coriell Institute for Medical Research to donate umbilical cord and placenta blood for adult stem-cell research.

Statewide stem-cell initiative marks a key milestone at Allendale facility

BY MELISSA MCNALLY
Staff Writer

ALLENDALE — The first stage of a strategic healthcare initiative to encourage the state's Catholic hospitals to donate umbilical cord and placenta blood to further adult stem-cell research has been accomplished.

During a March 9 press conference here at The Elie Katz Umbilical Cord Blood Program facility, Archbishop John J. Myers and Father Joseph Kukura, president of the Princeton-based Catholic HealthCare Partnership of New Jersey (CHCPNJ), reported on the progress of an alliance among 10 Garden State Catholic hospitals that provide obstetrical services.

The statewide stem-cell initiative, which is being steered by Father Kukura, was launched in May 2006 (see *The Catholic Advocate*, June 21 and 7, 2006). The facility here will serve as a station to collect biological material from hospitals, which is needed for ongoing adult stem-cell research.

"I am here to say that the first

stage of the initiative has been accomplished. Our nine-month initiative was to get 10 Catholic hospitals involved (with adult stem-cell research). The Catholic Church is in favor of stem-cell research, but only one kind (embryonic) is problematic to our moral tradition," Father Kukura explained.

Archbishop Myers deems the initiative "a model in the state

and throughout the country" for adult stem-cell research. Father Kukura was invited to Rome by the Holy Father to address the calling to "provide innovative ways to preserve human life. I applaud the efforts of the hospitals, staff and patients for understanding the importance of cord and placenta blood donation, and for the increasingly important

Continued on page 4

Bishops support full funding to aid cord-blood collection

BY AGOSTINO BONO
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Lack of federal funding could jeopardize therapeutic advances made in using umbilical cord blood for curing diseases, said Richard Doerflinger, deputy director of the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities.

Doerflinger told Catholic News Service (CNS) that the bishops supported the 2005 law which authorized funds for collecting and

storing cord blood and for the establishment of a National Cord Blood Inventory, which would enable doctors to match patients with compatible donors through a centralized computer data bank.

Although the 2005 law authorizes \$15 million per year from 2007 through 2010, Congress has to approve the funding each year. For fiscal year 2008, which begins in October, the Bush administration budget proposes only \$2 million in funding.

Continued on page 4

Heritage Tour to visit treasured churches on April 14

BY MICHAEL C. GABRIELE
Editor

AREA — The Archdiocese of Newark will host its semiannual Heritage Tour on Saturday, April 14, an all-day bus excursion that will visit four treasured churches in Hoboken, Jersey City and Bayonne.

The tour program includes stops at Saint Michael Parish, Jersey City; Our Lady of Grace Parish, Hoboken; and two parishes in Bayonne: Saint Vincent de Paul and Saint Henry. The final stop at St. Henry will include Mass (at approximately 3:45 p.m.) with Bishop Thomas A. Donato, D.D., the pastor of Saint Henry and an auxiliary bishop of Newark. There will be a stop for lunch during the tour.

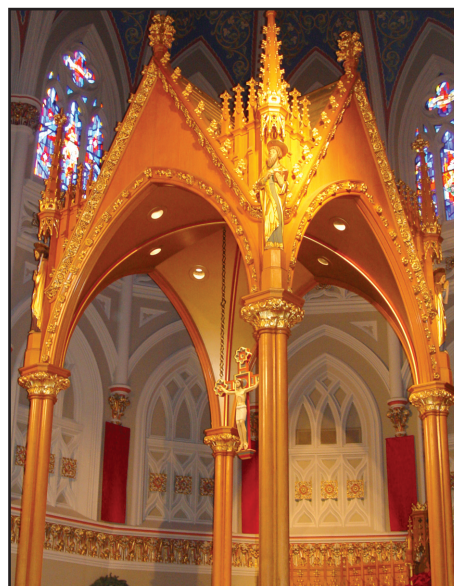
Tickets for the tour are \$45 per person. Contact Theresa Lynch at (973) 497-4042 to register. Information also is available online (www.rcan.org);

go to "quick links" in the upper left corner of the Archdiocese of Newark's home page, scroll down and click on "Heritage Tour."

The day begins with a continental breakfast and check-in, 7:30 a.m. to 8:45 a.m., at the Archdiocesan Center, 171 Clifton Ave., Newark, where secure parking will be provided. Tour buses—all climate controlled with a lavatory—will depart promptly from the Archdiocesan Center at 9 a.m. Buses will return to the Archdiocesan Center approximately 5 p.m.

Troy Simmons, architectural historian and patrimony manager for the Archdiocese of Newark, will lead the tour and provide expert commentary on the history and significant architectural features of each parish. Simmons currently is working towards a second graduate degree in Architectural Restoration and Preservation at Columbia University, New York (see *The Catholic Advocate*, March 7).

Continued on page 20



Catholic Advocate file photo

St. Henry's Parish in Bayonne will be the final stop on the Archdiocese of Newark's Heritage Tour, slated for Saturday, April 14. Picture here is St. Henry's baldicchio, an ornate four-post structure that traces its roots to the canopies used in the Holy of Holies of ancient Hebrew temples. Contact Theresa Lynch at (973) 497-4042 for tour information.

Bishops offer details on Natural Family Planning

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), in its “National Pastoral Initiative for Marriage” series of articles, calls attention to the meaning and value of married life for the Church and for society.

Bringing Catholic belief into dialogue with contemporary needs, the bishops urge the Catholic Church to become a community of hope and help for marriages and to join others in building a culture of marriage.

The initiative weaves together the Catholic faith tradition and its pastoral practice, the data of social science, and the experience of married couples to offer guidance and resources, including a pastoral letter, in order to promote, strengthen, sustain and restore marriages.

The following installment in this series, presented here, deals with the question: “Why is Natural Family Planning (NFP) good for your marriage?”

NFP is a general name for the methods of family planning that are based on a woman’s menstrual cycle. A woman experiences clear, observable signs indicating when she is fertile and when she is infertile. By learning to observe and understand these signs, couples are enabled to participate in responsible family planning, whether a couple’s situation calls for avoid-

ing or achieving pregnancy.

One study found that only 3.5 percent of women, age 15-44, had ever used NFP, down from 4.2 percent seven years ago. The results of another survey show that only 230,000 of sexually active women are currently using modern NFP methods in comparison to 750,000 who still use the outdated “Calendar Rhythm” method.

Couples seeking to responsibly plan their families prefer a method that is natural and non-invasive, provides knowledge about reproductive functioning, has a positive impact on personal communication, does not diminish pleasure, and is effective.

Social Science

The USCCB sponsored a study that revealed 70 percent of married couples were satisfied with their use of NFP. Another study confirmed this, finding that 74 percent of NFP users expressed positive views of their experience.

While many were challenged by the temporary abstinence required by the method, a majority benefited from improved relationship dynamics resulting in stronger bonds, better communication, and enhanced reproductive knowledge.

NFP method effectiveness is 97-98 percent when properly used; actual user effectiveness is 85-95 percent. Variations reflect the

intention of the spouses. In cases where it would be inadvisable for a couple to conceive, actual effectiveness is closer to the method rate. When couples are able to be more receptive of children, however, they often have less of a desire to follow all the NFP guidelines. For this reason, analysis of the accuracy of NFP must take into account the social research concerning couple’s desires.

While artificial methods of contraception place the burden of responsibility primarily on women, NFP encourages intimate communication between spouses as they cooperate in fertility awareness and responsible family planning.

Church teaching/Pastoral Response

Church teaching affirms the link between the unitive and procreative ends of marriage. To maintain this necessary connection couples must remain open to life in every act of sexual intercourse. Modern methods of natural family planning aide couples in following God’s will for the family, a community of life and love, by enabling couples to space births when it may be necessary.

There is an inherent connection between the Church’s moral teaching and people’s personal and marital happiness. Regarding the support NFP provides for couples

seeking to cooperate with the God-given structure and purpose of married love, Pope Paul VI described the fruit of NFP methods as peace and tranquility, thoughtfulness and loving consideration.

Throughout his pontificate Pope John Paul II desired to integrate the scientific study of personal relationships with the revelation of God’s plan for marriage. Recalling his reflections on the relationships of men and women, John Paul II spoke about how NFP methods enable a couple to remain open to God’s gift of life while accounting for the whole person by “accepting dialogue, reciprocal respect, shared responsibility and self-control.”

The USCCB’s Committee for Pastoral Research and Practices stated that contemporary NFP methods are effective and healthy, provide an holistic approach to sexuality, foster the intimate communication of spouses on vital subjects and encourage diverse and creative ways of expressing affection.

More recently, the U.S. Bishops affirmed that “the Church’s support for NFP is not based on its being ‘natural’ as opposed to artificial.

Rather, NFP respects the God-given power to love a new human life into being even when we are not actively seeking to exercise that power.” They go on to explain that NFP is something that all people can accept, not only from a moral perspective, but also through realizing the benefits NFP offers both physically, by not changing the body through drugs or devices, and emotionally, leading couples to show greater attentiveness to and respect for each other.

Conclusion

NFP is healthy, safe and effective. In addition, social science has found that natural methods of family planning enhance the interpersonal communication of married couples in a number of ways. The Church encourages all people to promote further research, awareness and education, and use of natural family planning as both moral and beneficial to married couples’ happiness and fulfillment.

(Editor’s note: an electronic version of this article, complete with footnotes, additional reference material and Web hot links, is available at: www.usccb.org/laity/marriage/makingacase.shtml.)

Archdiocese celebrates young people



FOR CATHOLIC YOUTH—Continuing a 14-year tradition that has raised more than \$1.3 million for the Catholic Youth Organization’s Youth and Young Adult Ministries and CYO Athletics of the Archdiocese of Newark, Archbishop John J. Myers, second from left, gratefully accepted a very large \$155,000 check representing the proceeds from the annual Business and Labor Recognition Reception, which was held March 6 at Mayfair Farms in West Orange. Making the presentation were this year’s honorees, left to right, Thomas J. Manning, president of the New Jersey State Pipefitters and Apprentices Local No. 475 and August and Gary LoBue, co-principals of FAPS Inc. of Port Newark, one of the largest family owned and operated automotive port processing companies in North America.

Advocate photo — Ward Miele

Kearny Center to host YouthFest and Rejoice to inspire young adults

KEARNY—The Archdiocesan Youth Retreat Center, 499 Belgrove Dr., will host “YouthFest 2007” on March 24 and the ninth-annual “Rejoice” prayer festival on April 20-22.

YouthFest, which runs from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., will feature singer/song writer/story teller Steve Angrisano. The theme of the event will be “Go Make a Difference,” an affirmation that faith-filled young adults have the capacity to change the world.

Contact Rich Donovan at (201) 998-0088, ext. 4155 for more information. Registration is \$25 a person for all youth participants and \$15 for adults.

Since 1998 the “Rejoice” youth retreat and prayer festival has been a powerful means of evangelizing youth and has grown to be the single-largest retreat in the Archdiocese of Newark. Young adults, during the retreat and festival, experience the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. They gather together in prayer around the Blessed

Sacrament sharing their faith gaining strength and comfort through spiritual outpouring of their peers.

The John Flynn Band will provide music for the festival. The group performs internationally and has made appearances on various TV programs including EWTN’s “Life on the Rock.”

Rejoice is a co-ed retreat geared for young adults over the age of 15. The cost of registration for the event is \$45 per person for the entire weekend, which includes food and lodging.

For a registration form and more information go to the Web site www.newarkoym.org call Judy Furka, at (201) 998-0088, ext. 4148.

Other upcoming events at the center include the workshop “Sharing Faith with Young Adolescents” on Thursday, March 29, which is designed for youth ministers and coordinators of religious education programs who work with students in grades six to eight.

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The Catholic Advocate

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FREQUENCY FOR THE YEAR

The Catholic Advocate continues to be a bi-weekly publication. Publication dates for 2007 are: April 4, 18; May 9, 23; June 6, 20; July 18; August 8, 22; September 5, 19; October 10, 24; November 7, 21; December 5, 19.

Cathedral Mass honors Sgt. Popolizio



Advocate photo - M. Gabriele

FALLEN HERO—The frigid wind swirled and the mournful wail of bagpipes was heard as pallbearers carried the flag-draped casket of Sgt. Tommaso Popolizio from the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark. Sgt. Popolizio, 33 and the father of four, was killed in the line of duty March 3. Archbishop John J. Myers celebrated Mass at the Cathedral on March 8, which honored the memory of the fallen Newark police officer. Father Andrew M. Prachar, the pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Vailsburg, delivered an emotional homily, while Newark Mayor Cory Booker praised Sgt. Popolizio as an American hero and son of the city. Hundreds of police officers from throughout New Jersey and New York attended the Mass.

Hispanic Stewardship Day will gather on March 24 at Archdiocesan Center

NEWARK — The Archdiocese of Newark will host the third-annual Hispanic Stewardship Day on Saturday, March 24, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., at the Archdiocesan Center, 171 Clifton Ave. All presentations will be given in Spanish.

The event, sponsored by the archdiocesan Stewardship Office, is designed to provide information to help Hispanic parishes to grow, increase spiritually and boost the participation of parishioners in parish programs.

Carla Gonzalez, the archdiocesan executive director of development, will open the program and welcome attendees. "The number of Hispanics is increasing within our archdiocese," Gonzalez said. "We must be proactive in reaching out to them and making them feel welcome. We hope today's event will educate and motivate our pastors and volunteers to reach

out to them and we hope it will encourage our Hispanic parishioners to become active members at their parishes."

Topics to be presented at the event will include "How to be a true steward in the vineyard of the Lord," "Evangelization and stewardship in your parish" and "Using our Hispanic heritage to be authentic American stewards."

Featured speakers at the event will include Father John J. Galeano, the parochial vicar of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Jersey City; Father Juan Luis Calderon, O.A.R., from Centro Guadalupe, Union City; and Liliana Soto, the archdiocesan coordinator of evangelization.

Father Galeano will describe his steward experiences building his foundation in his native Colombia—the Juan Miguel Foundation. Father Calderon is the assis-

tant director of the Hispanic Pastoral Institute, which provides pastoral and religious training opportunities for Hispanics in the Archdiocese of Newark.

Soto will discuss the relation between stewardship and evangelization and encourage participants to use their time, talent and treasure for effective evangelization programs. She also will discuss how pastors can seek out good stewardship potential in their congregations.

Father Jose I. Gamba, the pastor of Saint Peter Claver Parish in Montclair, is the coordinator of the archdiocesan Hispanic Apostolate.

The event is free and open to the public. No pre-registration is required. In addition to the presentations, a free lunch will be provided to attendees. Call Gesenhia Lopez at (973) 497-4091 for more information.

NJPA



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Stem-cell site in Allendale

Continued from page 1

and productive role in the field of stem cell research," the archbishop said.

"Efforts like this partnership among the Catholic hospitals in New Jersey, Community Blood Services and the Coriell Institute for Medical Research will truly advance the goal of finding cures for diseases without sacrificing human life," Archbishop Myers said. Following the press conference, the archbishop was given a tour of The Elie Katz Umbilical Cord Blood Program facility.

Dr. Dennis M. Todd, president and chief executive officer of Community Blood Services, shared the progress that the organization has made since partnering with Catholic hospitals. "We have collected 750 units of cord blood through Catholic hospitals in New Jersey," Todd said. "One hundred and eighty of those units have qualified for transplant. We ship all over the world and overnight to treatment centers. These cells are used to treat people with lymphomas, immune deficiencies and other disorders. Out of the 41 units we have transferred, 30 have been from Catholic hospitals in this state." Out of those that received the stem-cell treatment, 68 percent are now in good health, including a 60-year-old woman who was diagnosed with leukemia, he said.

The Elie Katz Umbilical Cord Blood Program facility is one of the first centers in the nation to use procedures that have just been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for private and public stem-cell storage. Research aimed at better ways to store units and how to get the word

out to more donors, including the minority population, is an important component of the initiative, according to Todd.

Another essential component in advancing stem-cell research is the political will of the state legislature. Assemblyman Neil Cohen (D-Union) has been a supporter of adult stem-cell research since its inception and was a key figure in building the alliance between government officials and Catholic hospitals.

"Developments in stem cells are changing every hour. This is the pathway to cures and healing in the future. There has been national interest in advocacy since our press conference last year," Cohen declared.

Senator Loretta Weinberg (D-Bergen) is also a supporter of the adult stem-cell research alliance. "As a widow of a cancer victim, a mother and a grandmother, I look forward to a time for other families to find other cures," Weinberg said.

Assemblywoman Charlotte Vandervalk (R-Bergen) believes educating pregnant women is key in advancing adult stem-cell research. "With education, we can stop the wasting (of umbilical cord and placenta blood)," Vandervalk said. "I have files filled with success stories. It fills me with awe of the potential we have here. This (alliance with Catholic hospitals) is a giant leap forward and I play a small role in legislation to increase education. People need to know that it is free to donate. Every pregnant woman needs to receive education in the middle of her pregnancy to inform her decision."

The partnership of Catholic hospitals with blood collection

centers is inspiring other areas of the country. "I received a call from Nebraska the other day asking me how they can do something like this," Father Kukura said.

Although adult stem-cell research has proven results, a lack of federal funding could endanger the future of using and collecting umbilical and placenta blood. Under a 2005 law, \$15 million per year should be given towards funding this research from 2007-2010. However, President Bush proposes only \$2 million in funding for umbilical cord research and storage.

Assemblyman Cohen calls the reduction in government funding "sad" and "extremely foolish," adding "the government needs to step up to the plate if they want to be a part of a medical revolution."

Bishops seek more funding

Continued from page 1

"We were active in supporting the underlying legislation and we are in favor of full funding," Doerflinger said March 7 after attending a briefing organized by Rep. Chris Smith (R-NJ), the main sponsor of the 2005 law.

Smith called on his congressional colleagues to approve the \$15 million permitted by law.

Doctors and cord-blood bank officials at the briefing said that stem cells from cord blood that were transplanted into patients have been successful in curing people with brain, heart and blood diseases.

They also provide an alternative to the ethical problems involv-



Advocate photo - Melissa McNally

Archbishop John J. Myers puts on a protective lab coat before touring The Elie Katz Umbilical Cord Blood Program facility in Allendale. About 750 donations have been made to the program since announcing the alliance with state Catholic hospitals last May.

ing embryonic stem cells. Human embryos are destroyed to extract the stem cells.

Cord blood is collected from the umbilical cord and the placenta discharged by the mother during childbirth. Stem cells are basic cells that are capable of reproducing as stem cells or as other types of specialized cells, offering promise that they can help cure numerous diseases.

Noting that placentas are discarded after childbirth, Smith said that fully funding the cord-blood program "enables us to turn medical waste into medical miracles."

Smith said that that cord-blood stem cells have resulted in treatments for 70 diseases, including leukemia, sickle cell anemia and some forms of mental retardation.

Full federal funding would provide seed money to allow the cord-blood banks to collect, store and

catalog 150,000 units of blood, including units from different racial and ethnic groups.

Experts at the briefing said that collecting units from different ethnic and racial groups is important because compatible genetic material in the cord blood is more likely when donors and patients are from the same racial and ethnic group. Without a certain amount of genetic compatibility, the patient's body can reject the donor cells, they said.

Smith said that the 150,000 units is the minimum amount needed to serve the wide-ranging needs of patients and to permit the blood banks to become economically self-sufficient.

Experts said that current cost for collecting and storing a unit is \$2,000, putting the cost of collecting and storing 150,000 units at \$300 million.

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BERGEN COUNTY

DEANERY 1		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Ch. of Presentation	Up. Saddle Rr.	\$10,272.00
Guardian Angel	Allendale	5,769.00
Im. Conception	Mahwah	2,935.00
Im. Heart of Mary	Mahwah	2,552.00
Most Blessed Sac.	Franklin Lake	16,100.00
Nativity	Midland Park	3,403.00
O.L. of Mt. Carmel	Ridgewood	10,235.00
O.L. of Perpetual Help	Oakland	1,618.50
St. Catharine	Glen Rock	6,126.00
St. Elizabeth	Wyckoff	10,281.00
St. Gabriel	Saddle River	6,608.00
St. Luke	Hohokus	5,038.00
St. Paul	Ramsey	11,700.00
DEANERY #1 TOTAL		\$92,637.50

DEANERY 2		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Assumption	Emerson	\$3,928.00
Im. Conception	Norwood	5,401.00
O.L. Mother Church	Woodcliff Lake	2,750.00
O.L. of Good Counsel	Westwood	7,902.00
O.L. Mercy	Park Ridge	6,689.00
O.L. Victories	Harrington Pk.	3,008.00
Sacred Heart	Flaworth	2,001.00
St. Andrew	Westwood	3,375.96
St. Anthony	Northvale	1,584.00
St. John Baptist	Hillsdale	4,326.00
St. Joseph	Demarest	4,183.00
St. Mary	Closter	4,436.00
St. Pius X	Old Tappan	2,082.00
DEANERY #2 TOTAL		\$51,665.96

DEANERY 3		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Annunciation	Paramus	\$5,580.00
Ascension	New Milford	2,318.00
O.L. Mt. Carmel	Tenafly	7,951.00
O. L. Visitation	Paramus	4,166.00
St. John Evangelist	Bergenfield	4,705.00
St. Joseph	New Milford	7,726.00
St. Mary	Dumont	4,105.00
St. Peter	River Edge	8,281.00
St. Therese Lisieux	Cresskill	3,371.50
DEANERY #3 TOTAL		\$48,203.50

DEANERY 4		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Korean Martyrs	Saddle Brook	\$2,725.50
Most Holy Name	Garfield	3,430.00
O.L. Mt. Virgin	Garfield	2,703.00
O.L. Sorrows	Garfield	360.00
Sacred Heart	Rochelle Park	1,533.00
St. Anne	Fair Lawn	2,552.00
St. Frances De Sales	Lodi	1,222.02
St. Joseph	Lodi	1,852.00
St. Leo	Elmwood Park	5,045.00
St. Philip Apostle	Saddle Brook	2,673.00
St. Stanislaus Kostka	Garfield	3,314.00
DEANERY #4 TOTAL		\$27,409.52

DEANERY 5		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Holy Trinity	Hackensack	\$5,772.00
Im. Conception	Hackensack	1,560.00
O.L. Queen Peace	Maywood	3,175.00
St. Anastasia	Teaneck	5,848.00
St. Francis Assisi	Hackensack	531.00
St. Francis Assisi	Ridgefield Park	1,246.00
St. Joseph	Bogota	3,489.00
St. Joseph	Hackensack	524.00
St. Margaret	Little Ferry	3,597.00
DEANERY #5 TOTAL		\$25,742.00

DEANERY 6		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Epiphany	Cliffside Park	\$2,378.00
Holy Rosary	Edgewater	834.00
Holy Trinity	Fort Lee	3,182.00
Madonna	Fort Lee	1,394.00
O.L. of Grace	Fairview	1,846.00
St. Cecilia	Englewood	2,576.41
St. John Baptist	Fairview	1,072.00
St. John Evangelist	Leonia	3,533.00
St. Matthew	Ridgefield	1,928.00
St. Michael	Palisades Park	1,750.00
St. Nicholas	Palisades Park	694.00
DEANERY #6 TOTAL		\$21,187.41

DEANERY 7		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Assumption	Woodridge	\$2,634.00
Corpus Christi	Hasbrouck Hts.	4,048.00

O.L. Mt. Carmel	Lyndhurst	1,820.00
Queen of Peace	No. Arlington	5,800.00
Sacred Heart	Lyndhurst	3,271.00
Sacred Heart	Wallington	2,895.00
St. Joseph	E. Rutherford	2,984.50
Im. Conception	Secaucus	2,228.00
St. Mary	Rutherford	6,278.00
St. Michael	Lyndhurst	1,900.00
DEANERY #7 TOTAL		\$33,858.50
BERGEN COUNTY TOTAL		\$300,704.39

HUDSON COUNTY

DEANERY 8		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Holy Family	Union City	\$ 764.11
Holy Redeemer	W. New York	997.00
O.L. Fatima	No. Bergen	1,201.00
O.L. Libera	W. New York	346.37
Sacred Heart	No. Bergen	1,312.00
St. Anthony Padua	Union City	1,230.00
St. Augustine	Union City	2,148.00
St. Joseph Palisades	W. New York	3,000.00
Sts. Joseph & Michael	Union City	1,374.00
St. Rocco/St. Brigid	Union City	1,500.00
DEANERY #8 TOTAL		\$13,872.48

DEANERY 9		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
O.L. of Grace	Hoboken	\$1,248.00
St. Ann	Hoboken	768.00
St. Francis	Hoboken	3,220.00
St. Joseph	Hoboken	401.85
St. Lawrence	Weehawken	1,789.00
Sts. Peter and Paul	Hoboken	3,982.22
DEANERY #9 TOTAL		\$11,409.07

DEANERY 10		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
O.L. Mt. Carmel	Jersey City	\$1,239.00
St. Aedan	Jersey City	1,248.00
St. Ann	Jersey City	535.00
St. Anne	Jersey City	1,815.33
St. John the Baptist	Jersey City	2,032.18
St. Joseph	Jersey City	1,395.00
St. Nicholas	Jersey City	1,080.00
St. Paul of Cross	Jersey City	870.00
DEANERY #10 TOTAL		\$10,214.51

DEANERY 11		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Holy Rosary	Jersey City	\$ 600.00
O.L. Czestochowa	Jersey City	1,788.00
St. Anthony	Jersey City	572.00
Resurrection:	Jersey City	2,885.00
St. Bridget	Jersey City	
St. Boniface	Jersey City	
St. Mary	Jersey City	
St. Michael/St. Jude	Jersey City	
St. Peter	Jersey City	
DEANERY #11 TOTAL		\$5,845.00

DEANERY 12		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Christ the King	Jersey City	\$ 320.00
O.L. Mercy	Jersey City	2,049.00
O.L. Victories	Jersey City	904.00
O.L. of Sorrows	Jersey City	350.00
St. Aloysius	Jersey City	5,216.00
St. Pat/Assump/All Sts.	Jersey City	718.00
St. Paul (Greenville)	Jersey City	1,485.00
DEANERY #12 TOTAL		\$11,042.00

DEANERY 13		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
O.L. Mt. Carmel	Bayonne	\$2,406.00
O.L. Assumption	Bayonne	1,228.00
St. Mary Star of Sea	Bayonne	2,400.00
St. Andrew	Bayonne	3,000.00
St. Henry	Bayonne	2,818.50
St. Joseph	Bayonne	1,308.00
St. Michael	Bayonne	520.00
St. Vincent De Paul	Bayonne	2,223.00
DEANERY #13 TOTAL		\$15,903.50

DEANERY 14		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Holy Cross	Harrison	\$1,148.50
O.L. Czestochowa	Harrison	820.00

O.L. Sorrows	Kearny	1,049.00
St. Cecilia	Kearny	2,007.00
St. Stephen	Kearny	4,246.00
DEANERY #14 TOTAL		\$9,270.50
HUDSON COUNTY TOTAL		\$77,557.06

ESSEX COUNTY

DEANERY 15		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Blessed Sacrament	Roseland	\$5,999.50
Notre Dame	No. Caldwell	8,522.50
O.L. of the Lake	Verona	5,547.00
O.L. of Lourdes	W. Orange	2,897.72
St. Aloysius	Caldwell	7,972.00
St. Catherine Siena	Cedar Grove	9,216.00
St. Joseph	W. Orange	3,466.00
St. Philomena	Livingston	6,620.00
St. Raphael	Livingston	2,388.00
St. Thomas More	Fairfield	3,872.00
DEANERY #15 TOTAL		\$56,500.72

DEANERY 16		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Holy Family	Nutley	\$7,038.00
Im. Conception	Montclair	3,642.00
O.L. Mt. Carmel	Montclair	1,386.00
O.L. Mt. Carmel	Nutley	3,340.00
Sacred Heart	Bloomfield	2,058.00
St. Anthony Padua	Belleville	1,513.00
St. Cassian	Up. Montclair	2,825.00
St. Mary	Nutley	2,978.00
St. Peter	Belleville	1,779.05
St. Peter Claver	Montclair	900.00
St. Thomas the Apostle	Bloomfield	7,503.25
St. Valentine	Bloomfield	2,455.00
DEANERY #16 TOTAL		\$37,417.30

DEANERY 17		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Holy Name	E. Orange	\$1,112.00
Holy Spirit/Help Christ.	E. Orange	1,231.29
O.L. Mt. Carmel	Orange	865.00
O.L. Valley	Orange	888.00
St. John	Orange	1,553.00
St. Joseph	E. Orange	620.00
DEANERY #17 TOTAL		\$6,269.29

DEANERY 18		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Good Shepherd	Irvington	\$ 652.00
O.L. Sorrows	S. Orange	5,871.50
Sacred Heart of Jesus	Irvington	698.00
St. Joseph	Maplewood	2,156.00
St. Leo	Irvington	873.00
St. Andrew Kim	Maplewood	2,061.00
DEANERY #18 TOTAL		\$12,311.50

DEANERY 19		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Im. Conception	Newark	\$ 574.00
O.L. Good Counsel	Newark	1,057.00
Sacred Heart Cathedral	Newark	2,315.00
St. Francis Xavier	Newark	1,742.00
St. John	Newark	250.00
St. Lucy	Newark	1,967.00
St. Michael	Newark	1,268.00
DEANERY #19 TOTAL		\$9,173.00

DEANERY 20		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Bl. Sac./St. Charles	Newark	\$ 466.00
Queen of Angels	Newark	550.00
Sacred Heart	Newark	881.08
St. Antoninus	Newark	1,569.41
St. Columba	Newark	137.00
St. Mary	Newark	1,182.00
St. Patrick Pro Cath.	Newark	192.00
Par. of Transfiguration	Newark	405.00
St. Rose of Lima	Newark	500.00
St. Stanislaus	Newark	501.00
DEANERY #20 TOTAL		\$6,383.49

DEANERY 21		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Holy Trinity/Epiphany	Newark	\$ 604.00
Im. Heart of Mary	Newark	1,230.00
O.L. Fatima	Newark	242.00
O.L. Mt. Carmel	Newark	718.50
St. Aloysius	Newark	542.00
St. Benedict	Newark	1,454.00
St. Casimir	Newark	357.00

St. James	Newark	688.65
DEANERY #21 TOTAL		\$5,836.15
ESSEX COUNTY TOTAL		\$133,891.45

UNION COUNTY

DEANERY 22		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Little Flower	Berkley Hts.	\$ 3,483.16
O.L. of Lourdes	Mountainside	3,756.00
O.L. of Peace	New Providence	13,762.00
St. James	Springfield	3,638.00
St. Rose of Lima	Short Hills	33,494.00
St. Teresa	Summit	10,710.84
DEANERY #22 TOTAL		\$68,844.00

DEANERY 23		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Assumption	Roselle Pk.	\$1,627.00
Christ the King	Hillside	1,871.21
Holy Spirit	Union	5,871.00
St. Anne	Garwood	2,513.76
St. Catherine	Hillside	1,252.05
St. Joseph	Roselle	1,741.00
St. Michael	Union	3,699.86
St. Michael	Cranford	5,310.00
St. Theresa	Kenilworth	2,100.00
DEANERY #23 TOTAL		\$25,985.88

DEANERY 24		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Holy Family	Linden	\$ 408.00
St. Agnes	Clark	9,295.00
St. Eliz. of Hungary	Linden	2,344.00
St. John Apostle	Linden	7,815.50
St. Mark	Rahway	1,186.00
St. Mary	Rahway	1,289.00
St. Theresa of Child Jes.	Linden	1,689.00
DEANERY #24 TOTAL		\$24,026.50

DEANERY 25		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Holy Ros. & St. Mich.	Elizabeth	\$ 1,541.00
Im. Conception	Elizabeth	1,950.00
O.L. Fatima	Elizabeth	718.00
St. Adalbert	Elizabeth	1,220.00
St. Anthony Padua	Elizabeth	1,337.00
St. Genevieve	Elizabeth	4,409.00
St. Hedwig	Elizabeth	990.00
St. Mary	Elizabeth	1,533.00
Sts. Peter & Paul	Elizabeth	1,230.00
St. Thomas Aquinas	Newark	261.00
DEANERY #25 TOTAL		\$15,189.00

DEANERY 26		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Holy Trinity	Westfield	\$10,978.48
Im. Hrt. of Mary	Sc. Plains	7,800.00
St. Bartholomew	Sc. Plains	4,723.00
St. Bern. & St. Stan.	Plainfield	1,145.00
St. Helen	Westfield	6,738.00
St. Mary	Plainfield	1,621.00
DEANERY #26 TOTAL		\$33,005.48
UNION COUNTY TOTAL		\$167,050.86

Misc. Contributions:	\$ 600.00
Community of God's Love, Rutherford	147.00
St. Theresa's Chapel, Paramus	653.00
St. Joseph Korean, Demarest	1,697.00
Total	\$3,097.00
Total From Parishes	\$679,203.76

ARCHDIOCESAN
TOTAL
\$682,300.76

March 22

Seton Hall University, South Orange, "Thomas Aquinas on the Ultimate Why Question," 4 p.m., (973) 275-2525.

March 23

Xavier Center, Convent Station, "Retrouvaille" (Rediscovery) for married couples, through March 25, weekly follow-up sessions for six weeks, (973) 497-4327.

March 24

M. Katzenbach School for the Deaf, Trenton, religious A.S.L. workshop, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., cost: \$30 for interpreters, \$20 for others, call Deacon Tom Smith at (973) 497-4312.

Holy Name Society, South Orange and Maplewood, men's day of reflection, Christian Charity Motherhouse, Mendham, cost: \$30, call Len Mrozak at (973) 763-3045.

St. Joseph the Carpenter

School, Roselle, "Spring Dream" fundraiser, 8-10 p.m., cost: \$20, (908) 245-6560.

St. Mark/ St. Mary Parish, Rahway, Lenten Renewal Program for Women, 9:30-11:30 a.m., (732) 499-9230.

Felician College, Lodi, "Magic Moments" auction, 6:30 p.m., RSVP ASAP, call Lori Walker at (201) 355-1308.

Our Lady of Good Council Parish, Newark, springtime auction, 7 p.m., cost: \$5, (973) 483-0597.

March 25

Epiphany Parish, Cliffside Park, Legion of Mary Acies, 3 p.m., (201) 288-5210.

St. John Neumann Pastoral Conference Center, Piscataway, Lenten Retreat for Chinese Catholics, 1-5 p.m., cost: \$15, (732) 562-1900.

St. Cassian Parish, Upper Montclair, concert with or-

ganist David E. Fedor, 4 p.m., cost: \$15, (973) 744-2850.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Ridgewood, employment workshop, noon, call Carol Shea at (201) 447-4215.

St. Joseph Regional High School, Montvale, spring craft show and sale, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., cost: \$2, (201) 391-2099.

March 26

Holy Family Parish, Nutley, Rosary Society meeting, 7:45 p.m., (973) 667-0026.

March 27

Our Lady of the Lake School, Verona, Green Cleaners Vendor Fair on non-toxic cleaning materials. 3-6 p.m. for institutional supplies. 7-9 p.m. for household supplies. (973) 239-1160.

March 29

Marylawn of the Oranges Academy, West Orange, Spirit of Achievement Dinner, Mayfair

Farms, 6:30 p.m., (973) 762-9222 ext. 23.

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Bloomfield, "The Secret" video and discussion, 7:30-9:30 p.m., call Anna at (973) 338-9538.

March 30

Queen of Peace Knights of Columbus Ladies' Auxiliary, North Arlington, meatless pasta dinner, 6-9:30 p.m., cost: \$15, \$10 for seniors and children, call Maureen at (201) 446-2280.

March 31

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Parish, Ridgewood, Catholic Daughters of the Americas' communion breakfast, 9:30 a.m., (201) 447-5197.

Corpus Christi Parish, Hasbrouck Heights, garage sale, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., call Flora Hand at (201) 288-5133 ext. 141.

Bergen Catholic High School, Oradell, The Bobby Byrne Show, 7:45 p.m., cost: \$20, call Sandy at (201) 384-6676.

April 4

Holy Spirit Parish, Union, Holy Hour for Life, 7:30-8:30 p.m., (908) 964-7653.

Catholic Cemeteries Masses

All Masses are at 9:30 a.m. For more information call (866) 773-7526

April 3

Gate of Heaven Chapel, East Hanover

April 4

Holy Cross Chapel, North Arlington

April 13

Good Shepherd Chapel, Colonia

Official Appointments

Archbishop John J. Myers has announced the following appointments:

PASTOR

Reverend John F. Kennedy, Pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Scotch Plains, has been granted an extension on his pastorate for one year ending June 30, 2008.

Reverend Jan Sasin, Pastor of St. Francis Xavier Parish, Newark, has been appointed to a second six-year term, ending June 17, 2012.

PAROCHIAL VICAR

Reverend Athnas Kerketta, M.S.F.S., has been appointed parochial vicar of Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Maywood. This appointment is effective through May 31.

Reverend Claude M. Perera, O.M.I. has been extended as parochial vicar of Holy Trinity Parish, Fort Lee, effective May 10 to June 12.

CHAPLAIN

Reverend Paul A. Cannariato, Pastor of St. Mary Parish, Closter, has also been appointed chaplain of the Knights of Columbus Queen of Peace Council No. 3679, Closter. The appointment was effective March 8.

Reverend Ernest G. Rush, Parochial Vicar of St. Philomena Parish, Livingston, has also been appointed Faithful Friar of the Knights of Columbus St. Isaac Jogues 4th Degree Assembly 0649, Montclair. The appointment was effective March 8.

RETIREMENT

Reverend Monsignor Peter J. Zaccardo, Pastor of Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Maywood, has been granted retirement, effective July 1.

CAN YOU HELP SAVE A PREBORN CHILD?

"Baby Faith" was saved from abortion and born on 11-18-06. We struggle to keep our prolife shelters open to provide a choice for over 200 pregnant women who call our hotline monthly. Your contributions can help save many of God's innocent preborn children."

Kathy DiFiore-Founder

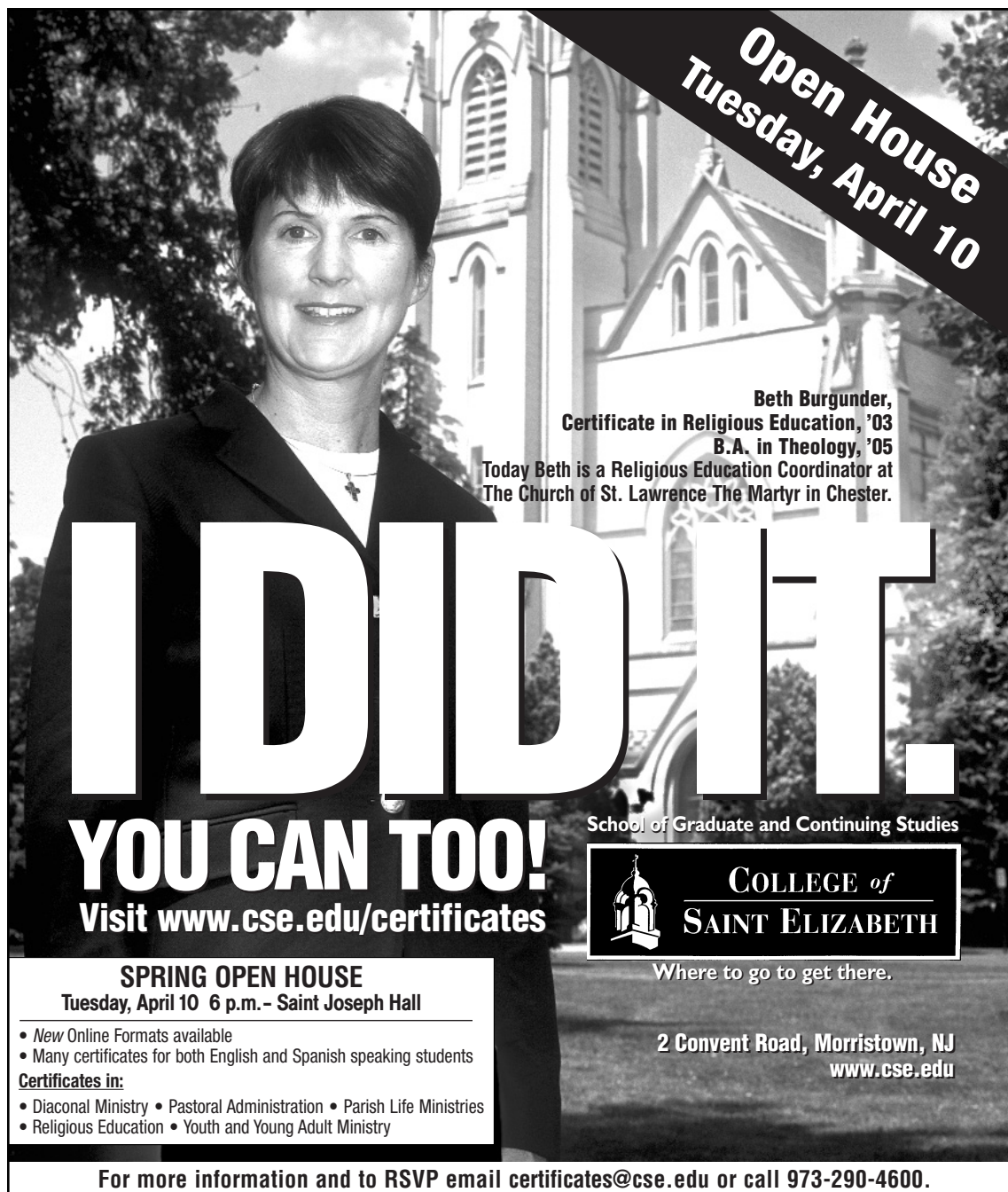
For further information contact:

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Visit our websites:
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www.thechoicegame.org
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Open House
Tuesday, April 10

Beth Burgunder,
Certificate in Religious Education, '03
B.A. in Theology, '05

Today Beth is a Religious Education Coordinator at The Church of St. Lawrence The Martyr in Chester.

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A poet from Bergenfield reveals emotions on her faithful journey

Editor,

I am a 16-year-old girl who went on an amazing retreat to search for a true relationship with God. I am proud to say that I have never had such an amazing experience and I would love to share it with my fellow Catholics.

“The Search Retreat”

There was something called a search retreat
I didn't know what it was so I found out and got to my feet
I couldn't wait to go and have some fun
To make new friends and to jump and run
However, the real reason I was there to stay
Was because God picked me out one day
It was held at the Archdiocesan Youth Retreat Center
In Kearny, N.J., where I had an amazing adventure
When I went on this retreat I had found
Many people from different parishes all around
We shared our faith and hopes and we dreamed
However, we all shared our love for God it seemed
Some did not want to come
Some did not want to leave when it was done
But when it was over I had found out
What this whole Catholic search retreat was really about
We prayed together and learned about trust
But to deepen our relationship with Christ was a must
I really understood that Christ's love was real
I also learned to trust God and let Jesus take the wheel
We also noticed our main desire
Just to sit back and let God's love lift us higher
Now the ones that thought that this experience would be lame
They actually were pretty happy that they came
I can gladly say that this experience was life changing
Even after dancing and losing my voice by singing
This was something any Christian ages 15-18 can benefit from
So get ready to love God some more and come!

Andarra Romeo
Bergenfield

(Editor's note: the poet is a member of St. Anastasia Parish, Teaneck.)

Recent events shine spotlight on our most valuable resource

Young people are essential to the future—and present—of the Church. No one knows that better than the Archdiocese of Newark.

Whether it is the sometimes confusing pre-teen years, the often-awkward time as a teenager or the challenges of young adulthood, the Church in Newark has programs and services designed to nurture faith and strengthen spirituality.

The hub of activity for young people is the Archdiocesan Youth Retreat Center in Kearny. We invite you to check it out (phone: (201) 998-0088). The center's busy slate of activities includes the annual “YouthFest,” which will take place on March 24, followed by the “Rejoice” prayer festival on April 20-22. See page two in today's edition for additional information.

At both events, the enthusiasm for and love of the Lord among His young people is palpable and uplifting. Participants from years past no doubt are counting down the days. For first timers the experience will be awesome.

Scouting programs throughout the Church in Newark also serve as fertile ground for young people and their faith. About this time each year services are held in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart to recognize the work of local scouts and their leaders. It is an impressive display of what is being accomplished when the values of Scouting are combined with the tenants of the Catholic Faith. The tandem of young people and their adult leaders is vibrant and vital.

Youth groups are popping up at various parishes throughout the four counties of the archdiocese. For example, Saint Elizabeth Parish in Wyckoff held an open house for teens (and “tweens”) on March 18. These groups offer spirited activities, music, field trips, community outreach programs and faith-based social interaction for young people.

And finally, the annual Business and Labor Dinner, which benefits the Catholic Youth Organization's Youth and Young Adult Ministries and CYO Athletics. This year's dinner raised \$155,000 for the youth of the archdiocese. Bravo!

To help support these many efforts, this newspaper will continue to make the coverage of events, activities and issues that involve teens and young adults a priority in its overall editorial mission.

Young people are lucky to call the Archdiocese of Newark home—and we are lucky to have them. Spread the word.

Catholic educators told school choice is becoming less partisan

WASHINGTON (CNS) — “School choice is becoming less and less a partisan issue,” Morgan Brown, an assistant deputy secretary of the U.S. Department of Education, told a group of Catholic education leaders gathered in Washington for congressional advocacy days.

The Bush administration “is the most pro-school-choice administration we've ever had at the federal level,” said Brown, who heads the Education Department's Office of Innovation and Improvement.

About 70 educators from more than 20 states came to Washington March 11-13 to discuss current federal legislative issues that may affect Catholic education and to lobby members of Congress on behalf of measures that would provide more equal participation of private school students and teachers in federal programs.

“Much of the real action on school choice is in the states,” Brown acknowledged. But he said the federal government can

“create incentives” for states to improve school choice possibilities by providing “seed money” in the way of programs that include participation by those in private schools.

The federal government can also serve as a “bully pulpit” to make the case to the American public that parents should have a choice in what schools their children attend, he said.

Brown said advances on issues such as tax credits for parents of children in private schools or the equitable inclusion of private schools in public programs to improve all children's education “are usually incremental ... a little here, a little there.” But he cited Utah's new law, the first universal school-choice legislation in the United States, as a major breakthrough.

The Parent Choice in Education Act, adopted by the Utah Legislature in early February and signed into law Feb. 12, provides scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$3,000, based on family in-

come, that parents can use to send their children to any private school of their choice.

Among issues the education leaders lobbied for were:

- Tax credits or deductions for families with children to help pay educational expenses, including tuition.

- Tax credits for personal and corporate donations to organizations providing scholarships for children.

- Keeping language in the No Child Left Behind Act that protects full, equitable participation of eligible children and teachers in nonpublic schools wherever they are currently covered.

- Expanding that coverage to other areas where children in nonpublic schools currently are not eligible to participate, such as the “Striving Readers” program.

- Strengthening requirements that state and local educational administrations consult with appropriate representatives of religious and other private schools before making any pro-

gram or funding decisions that could affect their students, teachers or institutions.

- Enforcement measures, such as withholding of funds, for those public administrations that fail to carry out such consultation where required by the No Child Left Behind law.

- Continuing to include religious and other private schools in the Universal Service Fund provisions of the Telecommunications Act when it is reauthorized. The fund is a fee that consumers pay on their phone bills and the money provides a subsidy for technology programs for schools.

Brown, who worked on private education issues in Minnesota before coming to Washington, said one example he likes to cite to illustrate the value of Catholic schools is Ascension, an elementary school in Minneapolis that “serves almost 100 percent African-American students, the vast majority from low-income families.”

He said that besides a solid core

curriculum in reading, math and science, the school has a music program that requires every student to learn to play an instrument.

In Minnesota's eighth-grade basic skills tests for reading and math in 2005, he said, “91 percent of the students in Ascension School passed the math test and 95 percent passed the reading test. Ascension scored 43 percentage points higher on the math pass rate and 31 points higher in reading than the Minneapolis public schools' average. Not only that, but they did better than almost all of the Twin Cities suburban school districts.”

“Here's a school that really has closed the achievement gap,” he stressed.

He also cited the important role Catholic schools played in rebuilding the community life of New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina in 2005, when the New Orleans Archdiocese quickly reopened many Catholic schools and also welcomed students from closed public schools.

Some smile and wave, others face cruel treatment

I've been thinking about women.

It began when I was over at school one day. The smaller girls are always happy to see me. And they always do the same thing. They call out: "Hello, Monsignor" and they all wave in the same way. They put out their arm and move their hand from left to right, back and forth.

It is a small gesture that I have seen for 50 years. It seems peculiar to girls.

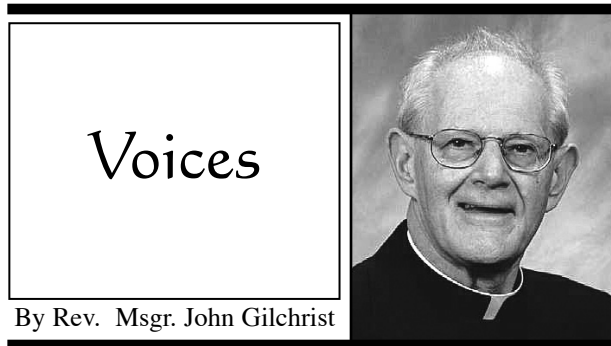
Later, I saw a news broadcast from South Africa. Little girls from that country were using exactly the same gesture as they waved at the camera. A few days later, on a program from Iraq, I saw little girls from that country waving at some of our soldiers. The hand movement was the same.

God has created us male and female. And while much that shapes us is cultural, there are characteristics within us that seem to come from nature itself.

Little girls the world over still have special friends with whom they share their little secrets. They all love a pretty dress and later they all want to fix their hair and to be complimented. Girls the world over are gentler creatures than boys. They prefer dolls to baseballs and like to take part in more quiet games.

But as I read about the terrible things that are occurring in this world, I realize how many young women are mistreated.

In Africa they are mutilated—a secretive, awful procedure performed, strangely enough, by older women. In India and China many girl babies are destroyed before birth. The parents want only



By Rev. Msgr. John Gilchrist

boys. Now there is a huge numerical difference that is becoming evident between the sexes in these countries.

In some places throughout the world, the normal, instinctive desire to be attractive is denied by veils and other extensive coverings of the body. Women may be forced into marriage, often to older men, when they are still children. Polygamy is legal.

In many of these same places, a huge discontent among college-age females is growing that is likely to result in an explosion against such chauvinism that will transform this hidden world.

In this country, slavery has been condemned and outlawed. Yet, I am told that there is a huge trade in the trafficking of females from across the world into the sex trade of wealthy countries—even our own America. Many of these women have barely reached maturity, yet they are in bondage to people who, for all practical purposes, "own" them.

So, I go over to school. And the little girls wave at me. And I thank our God and Jesus Christ Who has given them the freedom of children of God. And I walk into the church and I gaze up at the statue of Our Lady and I realize how much our civilization owes her.

Jesus Christ gave us Mary as Mother and Virgin. She is the icon for all Christians; the very model of feminine beauty and goodness. One day the Lady in Blue will conquer all of the foes of the feminine ideal.

One day, all young ladies everywhere will grow into full maturity—free and filled with the joy of those who wave at me today.

It will take time. But surely there is a better day coming for that half of the human race from which all of us has drawn birth and life and love.

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

I walk into the church and I gaze up at the statue of Our Lady and I realize how much our civilization owes her.

Journey to Jamna, Lent and the modern martyrs

Last September, on a lovely afternoon during what Poles call "Golden September," a friend took my wife and me to Jamna, in the forests of southern Poland between the Beskid Mountains and Cracow.

You won't find Jamna on many maps; it's that small. Despite its obscurity, though, Jamna is indelibly imprinted on the spiritual map of the 20th century.

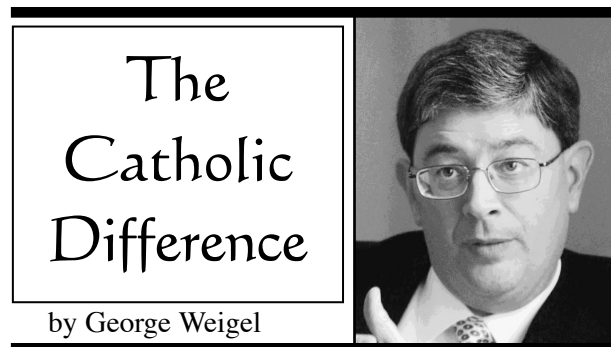
The men of Jamna were active in the Polish anti-Nazi resistance during World War II. On Sept. 25, 1944, the Germans wreaked a terrible revenge. While the men of the village were hiding in the woods so as not to endanger their wives and children, German troops rounded up the women, children and old people of Jamna and murdered some 40 of them in cold blood, in and near their church.

One mother held up an icon of Our Lady to shield the three children clutching her breast and her skirt; all were killed. The villagers' wooden huts were then burnt. Jamna, the Germans thought, was no more.

Father Jan Gora, a Polish Dominican, was determined that Jamna's sacrifice and the faith that sustained the villagers in their trial by fire not be forgotten. With great persistence, he rebuilt the church in Jamna and surrounded it with a retreat-and-conference center; on a hill above the center is a two-story wooden hermitage for those who wish to make a silent retreat.

Near the original church, Father Gora erected starkly modern, locally carved wooden statues, one for each of the victims of Nazi barbarism: small statues for the children, bent statues for the elderly, the mother and her three children together in memoriam, all where they fell.

Father Gora also commissioned a set of four panoramic paintings for the old church's interior: in



by George Weigel

the first, a local priest says Mass for the resistance fighters in the forest; in the second, bullets strike the icon-shield being held in front of the children; in a third, Pope John Paul II (who supported Father Gora's passion for Jamna), blesses a re-creation of the icon once shattered by bullets; in the fourth, Our Lady looks over the now-peaceful clearing in the forest where embodied evil once thought itself triumphant.

I remembered my afternoon at Jamna recently while watching two films: "The Ninth Day" and "Sophie Scholl: The Final Days."

"The Ninth Day" tells the true story of a priest from Luxembourg who is temporarily released from the horrors of the Dachau concentration camp and sent home on "leave," so that the SS can tempt him to become a turncoat, who will pronounce Nazism and Catholicism compatible.

Cunningly enough, the moral and spiritual ful-

crum of the film doesn't have so much to do with the priest's wily SS tempter (a former seminarian with a gift for argument), but with the priest's sense of his own imperfections and faults, which have been magnified under the brutal conditions of Dachau.

"Sophie Scholl" (which is distributed by Ignatius Press) is set in Munich in 1943, where the young students of the White Rose resistance movement are trying to alert their university colleagues to the catastrophe that the Nazis are bringing upon Germany.

The scenes of the interrogation of 21-year-old Sophie Scholl offer some brilliant acting, based on the actual interrogation transcripts. Even though one knows that this is going to end grimly, with Sophie and her friends beheaded after a mock trial, the moral drama of a young soul trying to wrestle with the demands of conscience in a world gone mad is nonetheless riveting.

The film is not without flaws: it underplays the Christian dimension of the White Rose resistance;

Sophie's last cellmate is morphed from the evangelical Christian she was into a kindly German communist who avers that "you have to believe in something." But by the end, it is clear what Sophie Scholl believed in: the

truth of God in Christ, which reveals the truth about human dignity; truths that made resistance to neo-pagan tyranny imperative.

Jamna, "The Ninth Day," "Sophie Scholl:" three reminders of the modern martyrs who walk the way of the cross with us, this Lent and every Lent.

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

On Sept. 25, 1944, some 40 women, children and old people of Jamna were murdered in cold blood.

Pro-life spokeswoman charges egg harvesting endangers women

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The damage caused by embryonic stem-cell research goes far beyond the embryos destroyed by treating “a great many women as egg factories, at great risk to their health and safety,” according to the U.S. bishops’ pro-life spokeswoman.

Deirdre A. McQuade, director of planning and information for the bishops’ secretariat for Pro-Life Activities, was commenting on a congressional briefing at which scientists, ethicists and a grieving mother presented evidence about the dangers to women posed by egg harvesting.

McQuade applauded Reps. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA), and Marcy Kaptur (D-OH), for co-sponsoring the briefing on “Trading on the Female Body” March 8 at the International Women’s Day event.

“The embryonic stem-cell agenda is a threat not only to embryonic humans but to young women as well,” McQuade said in a statement. “The drugs used in in vitro fertilization clinics to stimulate women’s ovaries for attempted reproduction have done great harm to some women,” she said. “But the problem pales in comparison with the threat posed by attempts to clone humans for embryonic stem-cell research.”

In South Korea, for example, where a scientist falsely claimed to have perfected the method for cloning a human, more than 2,200 eggs were used in the experiments—some of them obtained through coercion from women working in the research laboratory.

At least two women—one in London and one in Dublin, Ireland—are believed to have died from the effects of the drugs used to hyper-stimulate egg production for in vitro fertilization (IVF).

Angela Hickey, the mother of Jacqueline Rushton of Dublin, who died in 2003 at age 32 while undergoing treatment for infertility, addressed the March 8 briefing on Capitol Hill.

“So that her death is not in vain, I would advise all women who are going for IVF to try to have a baby, which Jacqui longed for, or women who wish to donate their eggs, to be very careful and to watch the course of their treatment,” Hickey said.

“They should be informed of the risks and vigilant of their medical care. They need to know how stimulated their ovaries will be and the projected number of eggs retrieved. I don’t want any other families to go through what we’re going through,” Hickey said.

Others addressing the briefing included sociologist Diane Beeson of the East Bay campus of California State University; Josephine Quintavalle, director of Comment on Reproductive Ethics in the United Kingdom; and Stuart Newman, professor of cell biology and anatomy at New York Medical College.

McQuade said the briefing was “timely in light of renewed efforts in Congress to fund destructive embryonic stem-cell research” in the name of pursuing cures.

“If a treatment for a major disease ever were to arise from this approach, it would require moving beyond the so-called ‘spare’ embryos frozen in IVF clinics to creating huge numbers of embryos solely for medical research,” she added. “If that were to happen, minority and impoverished women would be particularly vulnerable to exploitation,” McQuade said.

‘The embryonic stem-cell agenda is a threat not only to embryonic humans, but to young women as well.’

—Deirdre McQuade

Guide details Divine Mercy gifts

BY DAN VALENTI

Special to The Catholic Advocate

With Divine Mercy Sunday less than a month away (April 15), many questions will inevitably pop up regarding this special day, when Our Merciful Savior makes unimaginable graces available to the whole world.

What exactly is Divine Mercy Sunday? Why do we need it? What’s the significance of this event being celebrated worldwide? What special graces are available on that day? How do I receive them? Is confession part of it?

These and many other queries are answered in Celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday in Your Parish: A Practical Guide for Parishes. Bishop Edgar M. da Cunha, S.D.V., D.D., vicar of evangelization for the Archdiocese of Newark, has recommended that this guide be sent to all parishes in the archdiocese (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Feb. 21).

Diane Flynn, a parishioner of St. Paul’s Church in Ramsey, was instrumental in producing the guide. She worked closely with the Marians of the Immaculate Conception to produce the definitive 130-page guide. The Marians promote the message and devotion of Divine Mercy in its authentic form worldwide from their apostolic center in Stockbridge, MA.

The guide will be of equal use to clergy and laity alike. It offers direction to pastoral ministers and those who wish to coordinate Divine Mercy Sunday celebrations in their parishes. It informs readers on how to properly introduce

the Divine Mercy devotions into Eucharistic devotions, including Holy Hours, Expositions, and Benedictions.

With Pope Benedict XVI’s approval, plans are under way to hold the first-ever World Apostolic Congress on Mercy in Rome from April 1-7, 2008. The week will include keynote speakers on biblical, theological and pastoral themes; testimonies; apostolic workshops; evening festivals in churches; and liturgical celebrations. The congress will have a strong ecumenical leaning and will conclude with an interreligious meeting on God’s mercy.

The Marians of the Immaculate Conception have been asked to help organize and promote the congress. The Marians plan to formally announce the congress on the world global Catholic television network EWTN during the network’s live telecast of Divine Mercy Sunday from the National Shrine of Divine Mercy in Stockbridge.

These two events—the publication of Celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday in Your Parish: A Practical Guide for Parishes and the announcement of the World Apostolic Congress on Mercy—are helping to fulfill the Lord’s request to St. Faustina, when he told her: “My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy” (Diary of St. Faustina, 699).

Visit the Marians’ Web site (www.thedivinemercy.org) or call (800) 462-7426 for more information on Divine Mercy or to order a copy of the parish guide.

(Editor’s note: Dan Valenti is senior editor/writer for *Marian Helper* magazine as well as other publications of the Marians of the Immaculate Conception.)

The Pope Speaks

Pope Benedict XVI



The ‘doctor of unity’

Dear brothers and sisters,

The subject of today’s catechesis is St. Ignatius of Antioch. He was the third bishop of Antioch in Syria, from the years 70-107.

While traveling to Rome to face martyrdom, he urged the Christian communities, through preaching and letters, to be on their guard against emerging heresies, to remain faithful to the apostolic tradition and to maintain ecclesial harmony and cooperation.

Among the Fathers of the Church, Ignatius is renowned for his intense desire for union with Christ, even pleading that his martyrdom come quickly in order to be with Jesus. Ignatius taught that unity is a prerogative of God, and so for Christians is an imitation of the divine.

In his letters, he insists on communion among believers and with their bishops. Such harmony precludes any sense of opposition between ecclesial roles and instead echoes Christ’s prayer: “that they may be one” (cf. Jn 17).

Little wonder that Ignatius is called the “doctor of unity.” His realism still prompts believers today to seek configuration to Christ and dedication to his church through communion with our bishops and generous service to our communities and the world. Let us beseech the Lord for the grace of unity, and strive to live the fullness of communion and mission!

Weigel urges a renewal of the Catholic identity

BY ROXANNE KING

Catholic News Service

DENVER (CNS)—Catholic scholar, author and national columnist George Weigel served as a keynote speaker at the Denver Archdiocese’s annual “Living the Catholic Faith Conference,” which was held March 9-10 at the Colorado Convention Center.

Addressing more than 2,000 educators, catechists and other Catholics, Weigel discussed “reclaiming the Catholic identity” in his presentation.

The Second Vatican Council was unique, he noted, in that it was not called to settle a crisis or controversy. Rather, Blessed Pope John XXIII envisioned it as a new Pentecost. “It would be a great Spirit-led experience that would reconstitute the Catholic Church as a dynamic, evangelical movement in history,” Weigel said. “It would be an open-ended conversation among the world’s bishops on renewing Catholicism as a vital and compelling way of life.”

Since the council, the Church in Africa, Asia and parts of Latin America and North America is experiencing new life as a vibrant evangelical enterprise via renewal movements and new forms of Christian community, witness and service, he said.

However, he added, some previously vital Catholic communities around the world have disintegrated.

The Church should not be seen as an institution, he said, but as “a communion of believers with the living God, with each other, and with the saints who have gone before us.”

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Parish, K of C to mark day of the unborn

NORTH ARLINGTON—Queen of Peace Parish and its Knights of Columbus Council 3428 will mark the International Day of the Unborn on Sunday, March 25. Mass will be celebrated at noon by Most Rev. Charles McDonnell, auxiliary bishop emeritus of Newark and the state chaplain for the Knights of Columbus. Father Scott Attanasio, parochial vicar, will serve as master of ceremonies. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will follow Mass. There will be a four-block procession north along Ridge Road to nearby Holy Cross Cemetery. A Fourth-Degree honor guard of the local Knights followed by the Litany will lead the procession. Next will be 48 expectant mothers, mothers and grandmothers carrying blue, white and pink candles representing the 48 million babies that have been aborted since the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion. The rosary will be recited during the procession and the Blessed Sacrament carried into the cemetery. The procession will go to the new mausoleum chapel where there will be benediction. The procession will then go to Rachel's Monument to the unborn where candles will be placed. The monument will also be rededicated. Participants will be invited to go to the Knight's council hall, where expectant mothers will be recognized and checks presented to various Respect Life organizations.



Photo courtesy of St. Mary of the Assumption

SNOW DAYS—Students at St. Mary of the Assumption School in Elizabeth, since December, have been making cutout paper snowflakes for each book they read. Pictured (far right) is Principal Mary Ann Mancini, reading bedtime tales to students on Pajama Day while they enjoy cookies and milk. Students at St. Mary of the Assumption are participating in the "Journey of 100 Books," a year-long initiative emphasizing reading at all grade levels.

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Balletta knows his geography

FRANKLIN LAKES—John Balletta, a seventh-grade student at Academy of the Most Blessed Sacrament School, is a semifinalist in the New Jersey Geographic Bee. Bees were held in schools throughout the state to determine each school's Geographic Bee winner. School-level winners then took a qualifying test that was submitted to the National Geographic Society. The New Jersey Geographic Bee will be held at St. Francis de Sales Parish Life Center in Vernon on March 30. The state winner will represent New Jersey in the national finals at the National Geographic Society headquarters in Washington, D.C. The national winner will receive a \$25,000 college scholarship.

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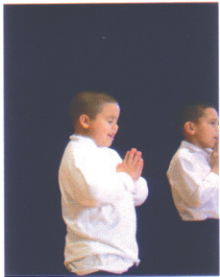
Bazaar supports 'tomorrow's' children

NORTH ARLINGTON—Queen of Peace High School's fifth annual International Bazaar raised \$600 for the Tomorrow's Children's Fund, a privately funded, non-profit organization that helps children with cancer and serious blood disorders (Web site: www.atcfkid.com).

Senior Tiffany Chang and guidance counselor Vincent McMahon coordinated this year's bazaar, which was held at the grammar school.

Students with cultural backgrounds from Ireland, Italy, Portugal, Greece and the Philippines were among the participants at the International Bazaar.

Saint Michael's Parish & School Wish



Bishop Edgar M. da Cunha, S.D.V.



Good Luck to our former pastor and devoted friend
on his 25th anniversary
to the Priesthood



Our Church and School Community



Photo courtesy of St. James the Apostle School

THE IMMIGRANT EXPERIENCE—Eighth-grade students from the language arts and social studies classes at St. James the Apostle School, Springfield, recently visited the Ellis Island Educational Center on Staten Island. The students had been working on the oral history of a woman who came to this country in 1921 through Ellis Island and discussed her experiences with a National Park Ranger at the center. The eighth graders plan to return to the educational center to stage scripts they are writing about these immigrants. The ranger, impressed with the students, asked that their return visit be video-taped so that it can be shown to other groups that come to the center.

To our former Pastor
Bishop Edgar.

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our Archdiocese.
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Seton Hall events celebrate jazz, Women's History Month

SOUTH ORANGE—Seton Hall University (SHU) will focus on the achievements of women with a conference slated for March 28, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., part of the university's annual celebration of Women's History Month.

The conference will be held on campus at the Bishop Dougherty University Center and Walsh Library. This year's theme ("A Celebration of Women 2007: Taking Steps to Change the World") recognizes issues relevant to the lives of women, including mental health, body image, politics, spirituality, relationships, financial strength and public service.

Dianne Traflet, J.D., S.T.D., associate dean and assistant professor of Pastoral Theology at the Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology, will deliver the conference keynote address. Traflet will discuss the role of Christian spirituality in bettering the world, including lessons from Edith Stein, Dorothy Day and Elizabeth Ann Seton.

Msgr. Robert Sheeran, SHU president, will deliver the opening prayer, followed by a performance of the University Gospel Choir. Seton Hall University faculty, administrators, students and members of the local community will present workshops. The cost of admission is \$35. Contact Pamela Dungee at (973) 378-9844 for more information.

In a separate venue at SHU, renowned jazz guitarist Bucky Pizzarelli will be featured at the fourth annual "Notes of Distinction" benefit concert on Tuesday, March 27, 7 p.m., at Jubilee Hall. Proceeds from the concert will go to support the college seminarians at Saint Andrew's Hall.

Father Tony Kulig will be honored at the event with the Saint Andrew's Achievement Award. In addition, Judy Laferra, Mary Ellen Farrell, and Mary Paternoster from SHU will receive the Saint Andrew's Humanitarian Award.

Call or e-mail Linda Valvano in the College Seminary Office (973) 761-9420; valvanli@shu.edu for ticket information.



Advocate photo - M. Gabriele

REAFFIRMING LIFE—The Linden-based Respect Life Office of the Archdiocese of Newark sponsored its Pro-Life Enrichment Day on March 7 at the Archdiocesan Center. The event featured a host of speakers providing information on the mission and outreach of the Respect Life Office; the key points of the "Theology of the Body" lecture series (held at St. John's Parish in Orange during the month of March); post-abortion healing witness; and methods to introduce a pro-life school curriculum to students. Archbishop John J. Myers provided the opening prayer and remarks for the workshop. Pictured at the event (left to right) are Sister Diane Driscoll of Holy Family Academy, Bayonne; Cheryl Riley, a member of the archdiocesan Pro-Life Commission; Damon Clarke Owens, the coordinator of the archdiocesan office of Natural Family Planning; Michelle Krystofik, the associate director of the Respect Life Office; and Father Joseph Meagher, the director of the Respect Life office. All five served as featured speakers during Enrichment Day.



Our Lady of the Divine Vocations,
*"As graces come through the Blessed Mother,
 and Jesus as the first vocation to the Church,
 so all vocations come through Mary."*
 (Fr. Justin Russolillo, S.D.V., Founder)

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Most Rev. Edgar da Cunha, S.D.V.

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GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY— Archbishop John J. Myers awards medals to Girl Scouts during the annual “Order of the Blessing of those Receiving Awards,” which was held March 11 at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark. The Girl Scout Committee of the Archdiocese of Newark, as noted in the Cathedral’s event program, expressed its appreciation to all in attendance, honoring the Girl Scouts who received their various awards. Father Donald K. Hummel serves as the archdiocesan Girl Scout chaplain, while Gabriel D. Feltz is the archdiocesan director of Catholic Scouting.



Advocate photo – Ward Miele

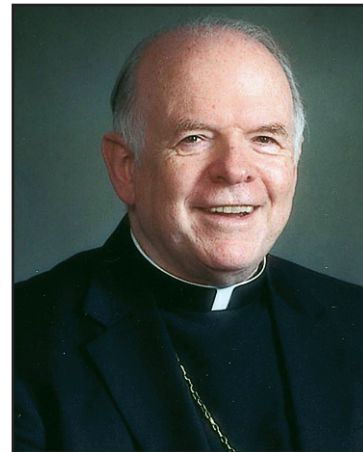
Bishop John Flesey to address interfaith brunch on March 25

TEANECK — Most Rev. John W. Flesey, regional bishop of the Archdiocese of Newark for Bergen County, will be a guest speaker on Sunday, March 25, at the International Brotherhood/Sisterhood Brunch of Bergen County.

The 21st annual event, which will gather at the Marriott Glenpoint, 100 Frank W. Burr Blvd., begins at 12:30 p.m. Sponsoring faith communities for the brunch include Roman Catholic, Baha’I, Hindu, Jain, Jewish, Muslim, Protestant and Sikh.

Contact Father Donald Sheehan, the pastor of St. Matthew Parish, Ridgefield, at (201) 945-3500 for more information on the interfaith brunch.

Ordained on May 31, 1969,



Bishop John W. Flesey

Bishop Flesey became an auxiliary bishop of Newark three years ago. He also serves as the pastor of Most Blessed Sacrament, Franklin Lakes.

Global Lenten prayer: offer greater access to healthcare

SOUTH ORANGE — Paul Farmer, M.D., Ph.D., famed medical anthropologist, human rights activist and physician, spoke last month at Seton Hall University (SHU) about providing greater aid for the world’s sick and impoverished.

During his first lecture, “Solidarity with the World’s Poor: A Lenten Reflection,” Farmer spoke of his work fighting drug-resistant tuberculosis, HIV and AIDS, and the limited medical access of the world’s poor. He

explained that the problem is not that proper medicine does not exist, but rather that the poor of the world do not have access to medicines that could potentially cure them.

Before leaving for Seton Hall University School of Law to deliver his second lecture, which focused on access to healthcare as a human right, Farmer spoke at an Honors Colloquium hosted by SHU’s School of Diplomacy. A highlight of the event occurred when he addressed a variety of questions from students.

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SHU shares faithful memories of beloved professor

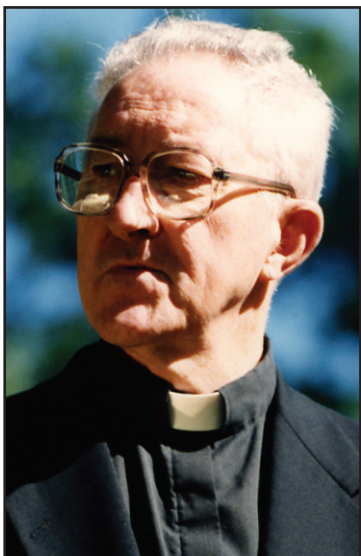
BY MADDALENA ALLEGRETTA
Special to The Catholic Advocate

SOUTH ORANGE—On the fateful morning of his death late last year, Father Walter A. Debold had been concelebrating 10 a.m. Mass at the Chapel of Immaculate Conception on the campus of Seton Hall University (SHU).

"That he should die on a Sunday, on the Lord's Day (during the season of Advent) was altogether fitting, for Father Debold—a priest for more than 64 years—was most certainly a man of our Lord," SHU President Msgr. Robert Sheeran stated in a broadcast e-mail.

Father Debold, a beloved priest and educator and a longtime member of the SHU community, died at age 90 on Dec. 10, 2006, after a lifetime of service to a university that he dearly cherished (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Jan. 10). He had served as an assistant professor of Religious Studies at SHU, but his wisdom and love extended far beyond the reach of any classroom.

First ordained as a priest in 1942, Father Debold was a renowned educator and faithfully served the Catholic Church for 64 years. His life was marked with incredible stories and experiences



Father Walter A. Debold

throughout which he carried his intense faith and devotion to God.

"Father Walter was a priest's priest," Father Gabriel Costa said. "He had been a chaplain in WWII, he was respected by his peers and was a popular professor. Father Walter's ever-ready smile made one always comfortable to be with him at the dinner table. He could speak about theology one minute and baseball the next.

"He was clear and strong about his opinions, but never forced his convictions on others. He was a guide and mentor to many people,

including priests and although his body aged, and walking became increasingly difficult, I never knew him to complain. Lastly, he had a beautiful mind."

Father Costa, a son of Hoboken, a mathematics professor and avid NY Yankees baseball fan, is on "ongoing academic leave from SHU" to serve as a professor at the United States Military Academy at West Point, NY (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Sept. 6, 2006).

Living on the sixth floor of SHU's Xavier Hall, Father Debold was a constant figure in the lives of students. "He loved living in Xavier because, as he often said: 'The kids keep me young,'" Msgr. Robert Wister, a professor of Church History at Immaculate Conception Seminary, recalled.

Father Debold welcomed visitors and loved interacting with his floor mates. "Father Debold had a heart for all of the students on his floor, and always wanted to know what everyone was up to," said junior sixth-floor resident assistant Brian Ricker. "He constantly asked that I keep him updated on all that was going on and loved to be involved in the floor."

Even as his health deteriorated, Father Debold never lost his love for life and learning. "Father

Debold was somewhat deaf in his latter years, but it was only a physical deafness," Msgr. Francis R. Seymour, archdiocesan archivist, said. "He always heard very clearly the pleas of those looking for help and he responded with his ever loving heart at all times."

"He was a lifelong learner and this made him an engaging professor," Father Lawrence Frizzell, the director of the Institute of Judaic-Christian Studies at SHU and a columnist for *The Catholic Advocate*, said.

"Two years ago the major seminary in Monrovia, Liberia (a nation in west Africa on the Atlantic Coast), was returned to the Church after the defeat of Charles Taylor's regime," Father Frizzell continued. "The library was in ruins, so Father Debold offered a

large number of theology and philosophy books to the education of clergy in an impoverished archdiocese. His spirit and learning will continue to be shared as his gift to Seton Hall and the Church."

"Father Debold was a gentle soul, cheerful in the face of infirmity, uncomplaining as old age gathered upon him, a loyal son of Seton Hall, above all a dedicated priest who embraced the fullness of his calling over a long and well-lived life," said Dermot Quinn, SHU professor of history. "I can think of no more beautiful death than his; to have stood in the place of Christ and then to have been called quietly home to Him."

(Editor's note: this article originally appeared in the Dec. 14, 2006 edition of *The Setonian*, the student newspaper of SHU.)

Expressions of our Gratitude

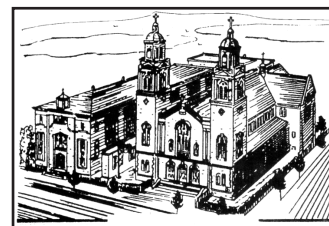
The Parish of St. Casimir in Newark wishes to express its gratitude to His Excellency, Archbishop John J. Myers, for the understanding and consideration he has shown and for the hope he has given our parish in appointing Fr. Andrew Ostaszewski, Ph.D., as the new Administrator.

We are delighted to have a new spiritual leader, who in conjunction with Fr. Henryk Wiecek, Parochial Vicar, will work in renewing the faith and finances of this parish.

We would also like to thank Bishop Edgar M. da Cunha for his support and encouragement in reviving our hope in being able to continue spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the Ironbound Section of Newark.

Thank you and God Bless.

*Parishioners and Friends of
St. Casimir's R.C. Church
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A Celebration of the Bicentennial of the Archdiocese of New York

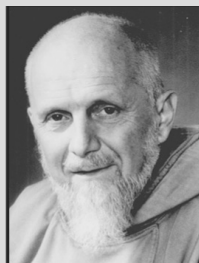
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Terence Cardinal Cooke and Fr. Solanus Casey, O.F.M. Cap., which will
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Archdiocese rolls out revised science curriculum

BY LAURA CRISTANO

Special to The Catholic Advocate

NEWARK—After more than two years of intensive preparation under the guidance of curriculum coordinator Sister Louise Cababe, O.P., the new elementary science curriculum for the Archdiocese of Newark has been unveiled.

In addition to the upgraded science curriculum, a revised elementary school report card is on the horizon for the 2007-2008 school year, also under the direction of Sister Louise. Father Kevin Hanbury, as the archdiocesan vicar for education and superintendent of schools, has been overseeing both efforts.

Earlier this year science teachers from around the archdiocese attended workshops to learn how

to best implement the new curriculum, which exceeds New Jersey core curriculum standards. Janette Di Stefano, formerly of St. Francis Xavier School in Newark and Joanne Cavera of St. Joseph Regional High School in Montvale—two educators with a combined four decades of teaching experience—lead the workshops.

Regarding the effort to upgrade the science curriculum, Di Stefano stated that, “it was a collaborative process that was intellectually stimulating.” Cavera stressed the importance of our students having a top-notch curriculum and stated that everyone who participated in the creative process “felt truly vested in the outcome.”

One of the highlights of the revised curriculum is that it incorporates Catholic social teachings



Photo courtesy of Laura Cristiano

An upgraded science curriculum and report card are two improvements in the works for elementary school students in the Archdiocese of Newark. Archdiocesan schools officials working on the report card project include (seated, left to right) Rose Tomanelli, Joan Ferraer, Frances Alberta, Joann Matthews, Sister Marie Gagliano M.P.F.; (second row, standing) Sister Patricia Butler, S.C., Sister Louise Cababe, Margaret Smiriga, Gloria Castucci, Marilyn Skillender, Sister Mary Agnes Sullivan, O.P, Sister Joan Ferruggiaro, S.S.J., (third row) Dr. Thomas Hart, Brother Ralph Darmento, F.S.C., Father Kevin Hanbury, Ed.D., and Leslie Lewis.

into the overall program. Students don't just study genetics, for example, but learn about the ramifications of issues such as stem-cell research, Sister Louise explained.

“Our students are given the tools they need to recognize that with every new scientific discovery comes a series of questions,”

she said. “How does this discovery potentially affect me, and the world around me? What responsibility do we have to see that knowledge is used to benefit and not harm mankind?”

Meanwhile, on a parallel track, a revised elementary school report card is on the horizon for the

2007-2008 school year. A committee comprised of principals, faculty and superintendents is working on the new report cards. The group spent two years researching various models.

(Laura Cristiano is director of marketing and public relations for the archdiocesan Schools Office.)

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Photo courtesy of Oratory Prep

STRIKING ACHIEVEMENT—Father Paul Prevosto (left), coach of the bowling team at Oratory Prep in Summit, congratulates junior Ian Cummings for bowling a near-perfect 299 game in a recent match against Roselle Park High School.

Caldwell's presidential gala to honor bank, Bock family

CALDWELL—Caldwell College will honor Wachovia Bank and Joseph and Barbara Bock with its annual President's Award at the 32nd annual Presidential Scholarship Gala on Friday April 27, 6 p.m., at Mayfair Farms in West Orange.

Sister Patrice Werner, Caldwell College president, said Wachovia Bank "has been dedicated to Caldwell College for many years. We are grateful for Wachovia's philanthropic initiatives, which have benefited the students of Caldwell College, and for Wachovia executives' volunteer leadership."

The Bocks of Philipsburg are being honored for "consistently supporting Caldwell College and introducing others to the richness and tradition of the Catholic college founded by the Sisters of St. Dominic of Caldwell, Sister Patrice noted. She added that "Joseph and Barbara, our benefactors for decades, have attended countless ceremonies and fund raising events in support of the mission of Caldwell College. They have led by example with their gifts of time and talent and have set a standard for other members of the College community."

Joseph Bock is counsel with Florio Perrucci Steinhardt & Fader and the most senior member of the firm's Labor and Employment Group.

Tickets are \$300 per person. Tables and sponsorship opportunities are also available. The reservation deadline is April 20. Contact Kristen Koehler by phone at (973) 618-3211 or via e-mail at kkoehler@caldwell.edu for more information.

Last year, the event raised over \$225,000 for the Caldwell College Scholarship Fund.

The black-tie event will begin with a cocktail hour, followed by dinner and dancing.

Day of Reflection forum set for 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.

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

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Allendale supports National Nutrition Month goals

ALLENDALE—Health professionals at The Allendale Community for Mature Living, celebrating the goals of National Nutrition Month in March, reminded senior citizens and all residents of the Archdiocese of Newark that smart food choices begin with avoiding fad diets and making informed decisions on food and exercise.

"March is an ideal time to make small, positive nutritional and lifestyle changes that will result in enhanced lifelong eating habits," said Susan Swatek, R.D., staff dietitian at The Allendale Community.

Balancing food choices with regular physical activity are important to an individual's overall health and well being, according to the American Dietetic Association (ADA). This year's nutrition month theme, "100-percent fad-free," focuses on long-term, science-based nutrition practices as the most effective way to achieve a healthy lifestyle.

"In general, developing a personal formula utilizing The Food Guide Pyramid as an outline of what to eat each day is a great starting point," Swatek explained.

Swatek suggested developing a food shopping and pantry list that reflects the gourmet menu items offered at The Allendale Community's three dining rooms: whole grains; fruits and vegetables, both canned and fresh; lean meats such as poultry and fish; low-fat oils like canola; and low-fat or fat-free dairy products.

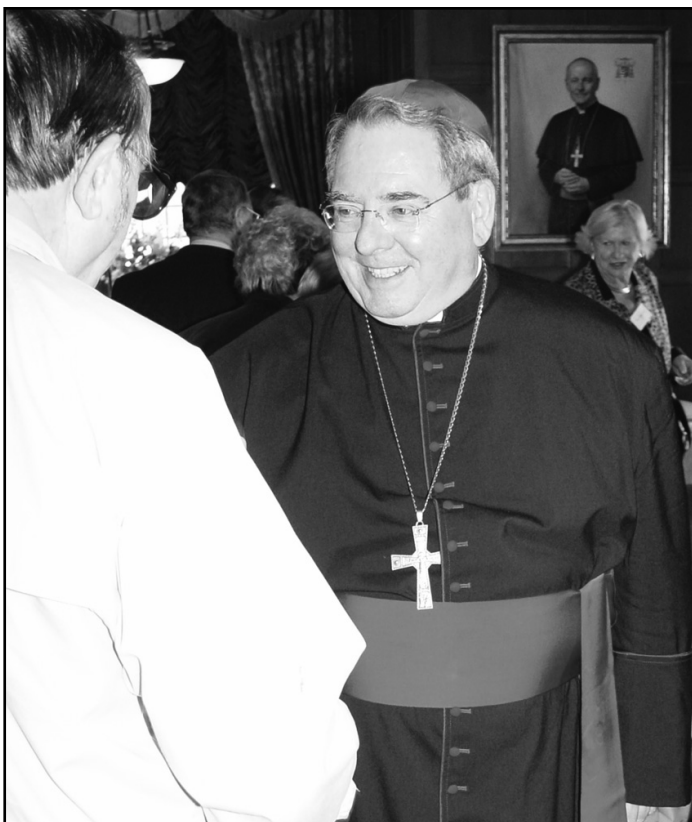
For those over the age of 70, the U.S. Department of Agriculture recently released a modified Food Guide Pyramid and has created a

Web site (www.mypyramid.gov) to help seniors design their own personal pyramid based on age and daily activity levels.

The following are general tips for developing a lifelong nutrition plan: balance calories with the amount of energy burned through daily activity; eat at least four and a half cups of fruits and vegetables a day on a 2,000-calorie diet; daily food choices should include fiber-

rich fruits and vegetables and whole grains; keep added sugar or caloric sweeteners to a minimum; limit salt intake to one teaspoon a day; and drink six to eight glasses of water daily.

"The duration of exercise, especially for seniors, should be modified based on each individual and implemented only after consulting with a healthcare professional or physician," Swatek said.



Advocate photo - M. Gabriele

LEGACY TEA—The archdiocesan Legacy Circle's Annual Prayer Service and Afternoon Tea was held in Newark at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart on March 7 in the residence of Archbishop John J. Myers. The Legacy Circle honors those who support the Church through a planned gift, such as a provision in their will, purchasing a charitable gift annuity, or by establishing a trust fund. Contact William T. Evans, the executive director of Major Gifts, at (973) 497-4584 for more information about the Legacy Circle.

The Allendale Community for Mature Living offers three levels of residency and a continuum of care on campus: The Atrium, where independent seniors enjoy residential living; Carlton Court, which offers assisted living; and The Allendale Nursing Home & Rehabilitation Center, a skilled nursing facility focusing on reha-

bilitation. In addition, there is a senior social club, an adult day-care program that provides a variety of dynamic activities.

Contact The Allendale Community for Mature Living by phone at (201) 825-0660 or visit the Web site at (www.allendalecommunity.com) for more information.

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Restore the Soul

Heritage Tour

Continued from page 1

(Note: the following is a capsule history of the four parishes on the tour.)

St. Michael's Parish Jersey City

The pastor of St. Mary's Parish in Jersey City, 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. St. Michael's church, designed by Patrick Charles Keely in the Romanesque and Italian Renaissance style, is 180 feet long by 80 feet wide.

Our Lady of Grace Parish 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.

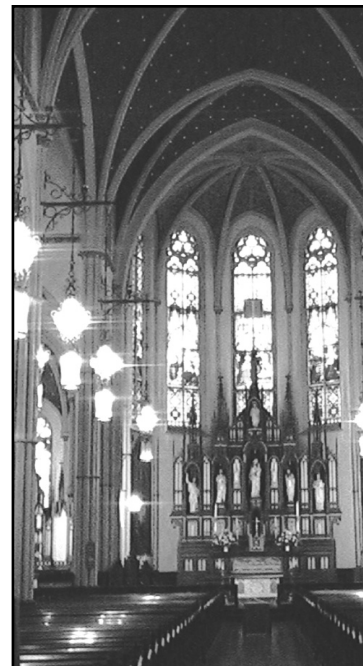
The church is 200 feet long and 130 feet wide at the transept. The nave is 96 feet wide. The center altar is gothic with circassian walnut in blue, red and gold, 37 feet high, 21 feet wide. The Sacred Heart adorns its top, over depictions of both Our Lady and the Christ Child.

St. 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



Our Lady of Grace in Hoboken will be the second stop on the April 14 Heritage Tour. The landmark church was dedicated on Nov. 10, 1878.

the church in the spring of 1930.

David Henry Building Co. 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.

St. 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 where 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ST. THERESA
Oh Glorious Saint Theresa, whom almighty God has raised up to aid and counsel mankind. I invite your miraculous intercession. So powerful are you obtaining every need of body and soul, our Holy Mother Church proclaims you a "Prodigy of Miracles." Now fervent beseech you to answer my petition (mention here) and carry out your promise of doing good upon earth of letting fall from heaven a shower of roses. Henceforth, Dear little flower, I will fulfill your plea to be made known everywhere and I will never cease to lead others to Jesus through you. Amen.
(Say prayer everyday for 9 days. By 4th day, ask for a sign. If prayers are to be answer. Between 4th and 9th day, you will see arose in magazine, TV picture or receive roses. You can also get a strong scent of roses in home even if no roses present. Must promise publication. Thank you.)

Cathedral Mass to celebrate Benedictine service

NEWARK—Monks from St. Mary's Abbey, Delbarton, and Newark Abbey, along with Sisters from St. Walburga Monastery in Elizabeth, will be joined by brothers and sisters from other Benedictine communities in a liturgy at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart on Saturday, March 24, 10 a.m., to mark the 150th anniversary of Benedictine service

to the people of New Jersey.

Archbishop John J. Myers will be the principal celebrant at the Mass, which will draw area religious leaders and civic officials as well as alumni and friends of the various Benedictine schools and communities in New Jersey.

Three bishops in the Newark/New York area have Benedictine roots: Bishop John M. Smith of

Trenton, Bishop Paul Bootkoski of Metuchen, and Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio of Brooklyn. All three are graduates of St. Benedict's Prep.

The first Benedictines came to Newark in 1857 from St. Vincent Archabbey, Latrobe, PA, to serve the German Catholic parish at St. Mary's Parish. Their numbers grew through the

Benedictine sisters who staffed the parish school of St. Mary's, and the monks who established St. Benedict's College (now St. Benedict's Prep) in 1868.

The Newark monastic community became the independent abbey, St. Mary's Abbey, in 1881. From the Benedictine community in Newark, several other prominent, enduring foundations were

established. These include St. Anselm's Abbey and College in Manchester, NH, St. Mary's Abbey and Delbarton School in Morristown, and St. Walburga's Monastery (convent) and Benedictine Academy in Elizabeth. Benedictine Sisters from Newark founded and still operate an educational mission for developmentally challenged children and young adults in Ridgely, MD.

The title of St. Mary's Abbey was transferred to the community in Morristown in 1956, while the original monastery in Newark became an independent abbey known as Newark Abbey in 1968.

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SDA alumnae basketball will aid 'sister' scholarship

JERSEY CITY—St. Dominic Academy (SDA) (Web site: www.stdominicacad.com) will host its fifth annual alumnae basketball game to support its Sister-to-Sister Scholarship Fund on Saturday, March 24, at Public School 11, 886 Bergen Ave.

An alumnae volleyball game will precede the basketball game. Doors open at 4 p.m. The volleyball game will start a half hour later. Admission is free and the game is open to the general public.

A total of 300 raffle tickets, at \$100 each, will be sold. Raffle tickets can be purchased by March 23 or while supplies last.

Call Kate Lillis-Magnus, the director of advancement and alumnae relations, at (201) 434-5938, ext. 42, for additional information or to purchase raffle tickets. In case of inclement weather, the event will be held on March 31.

Good Friday march planned in Englewood

ENGLEWOOD—The Bergen County Legion of Mary and the Friars of the Renewal have issued a public invitation to participate on Good Friday, April 6, for the Stations of the Cross, rosary and Divine Mercy chaplet in reparation for abortion.

Scheduled to start at 9:30 a.m. here at the town train station (corner of Demarest and Dean streets), the annual event will proceed to an abortion clinic on nearby Engle Street. Organizers stress that it will be a peaceful and prayerful event and that no signs or posters will be allowed.

The Good Friday event begins a Divine Mercy Novena that will run through Divine Mercy Sunday on April 15.

The novena and respective intentions include: April 7, Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, Washington Township, 2:30 p.m., "Souls of Priests and Religious;" April 9, St. Joseph Parish, Oradell, 7:30 p.m., "Souls Who Do Not Believe in God and Do Not Know Me Yet;" April 10, Corpus Christi Parish, Hasbrouck Heights, 7:30 p.m., "Souls Who are Separated from the Church;" April 11, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Ridgewood, 7:30 p.m., "Meek and Humble Souls and Little Children;" April 12, St. Elizabeth Parish, Wyckoff, 7:30 p.m., "Souls Who Especially Venerate and Glorify My Mercy;" April 13, Church of the Assumption, Emerson, 7 p.m., "Souls Who are Detained in Purgatory;" and April 14, following the 12:05 p.m. Mass at the Bergen Mall Chapel in Paramus, "Souls Who have Become Lukewarm."

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Msgr. Venantius Fernando mourns loss of his cousin, bishop of Kottar, India

HILLSIDE—For Rev. Msgr. Venantius M. Fernando, pastor of Christ the King Parish, the recent death of his cousin, Most Rev. Leon A. Tharmaraj, 66, Bishop of the Diocese of Kottar in India, was a loss “unparalleled because of the deep level of our relationship.”

Msgr. Fernando traveled to India in January and concelebrated the Mass of Christian Burial for Bishop Tharmaraj. He was also the homilist at a Memorial Mass at Christ the King Parish celebrated by Most Rev. Dominic Marconi on Feb. 10.

Bishop Tharmaraj was ordained in March 1965. As a priest in Kottar—the southern-most diocese in India—he was a parochial vicar and pastor before being appointed rector of the Minor Seminary. After his service as rector, Pope John Paul II appointed him a bishop in 1988. His Holiness invited him to Rome

to be ordained bishop on Epiphany day 1989, along with a dozen other priests from different continents.

During his 18 years as bishop, Msgr. Fernando explained that his cousin “worked hard for the spiritual and temporal welfare of his people.” Bishop Tharmaraj had been chairman of labor and then immigration divisions of the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of India. For his efforts to help the victims of a Tsunami that struck his diocese, Bishop Tharmaraj was visited by the Indian Prime Minister who thanked him for what he had done.

According to local press reports, Msgr. Fernando noted, more than 100,000 faithful followed the funeral procession. At the Mass itself, the concelebrants included 26 bishops. Bishop Tharmaraj was accorded the high honor of being buried in a tomb in front of the main altar of the city’s cathedral.



Photo courtesy of Msgr. Venantius Fernando

Bishop Tharmaraj (left), who died recently, is pictured with Archbishop John J. Myers in a visit to the Archdiocesan Center in Newark. Bishop Tharmaraj was the cousin of Msgr. Venantius Fernando, pastor of Christ the King Parish in Hillside.

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DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

Friday, April 6 – Saturday, April 14, 2007

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER, APRIL 15, IS DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

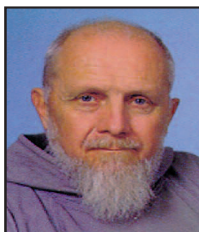
“There is nothing the world needs more than Divine Mercy.” – Pope John Paul II

**OUR LADY OF
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Ridgewood, NJ
Wed., April 11
7:30 p.m.



Fr. Mark Baron, MIC
Novice Master
Marians of The
Immaculate Conception
6th Day
Divine Mercy Novena

ST. ELIZABETH
Wyckoff, NJ
Thurs., April 12
7:30 p.m.



**Fr. Benedict
Groeschel, CFR**
Noted teacher, lecturer
7th Day
Divine Mercy Novena

**CHURCH OF THE
ASSUMPTION**
Emerson, NJ
Fri., April 13
7:30 p.m.



Fr. Bill Habling
Pastor, charismatic
8th Day
Divine Mercy Novena



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2nd Day — Sat., April 7

Our Lady of Good Counsel, Washington Township, 2:30 p.m.
Intention – “SOULS OF PRIESTS AND RELIGIOUS”

4th Day — Mon., April 9

St. Joseph, Oradell, 7:30 p.m.
Intention – “SOULS WHO DO NOT BELIEVE IN GOD AND DO NOT YET KNOW ME”

5th Day — Tue., April 10

Corpus Christi, Hasbrouck Heights, 7:30 p.m.
Intention – “SOULS WHO SEPARATED FROM THE CHURCH”

6th Day — Wed., April 11

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Ridgewood, 7:30 p.m.
Intention – “MEEK AND HUMBLE SOULS AND LITTLE CHILDREN”
SPEAKER: FR. MARK BARON, MIC

7th Day — Thurs., April 12

St. Elizabeth, Wyckoff, 7:30 p.m.
Intention – “SOULS WHO ESPECIALLY VENERATE & GLORIFY MY MERCY”
SPEAKER: FR. BENEDICT GROESCHEL, CFR

8th Day — Fri., April 13

Church of the Assumption, Emerson, 7:00 p.m.
Intention – “SOULS WHO ARE DETAINED IN PURGATORY”
SPEAKER: FR. BILL HABLING

9th Day — Sat., April 14

Bergen Mall Chapel, Paramus, Following 12:05 p.m. Mass
Intention – “SOULS WHO HAVE BECOME LUKEWARM”

For more information please call Ed Miller:
201-818-0663

Good Friday — Stations of the Cross, Divine Mercy Chaplet & Novena — Englewood Abortion Clinic, 9:30 a.m.
Divine Mercy Sunday Prayer Service April 15 — St. Paul’s Catholic Church, 200 Wyckoff Ave., Ramsey, NJ, 3 p.m.

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