



The Catholic Advocate



PAGE 9



Saint Florian Mass honors firefighters

Archbishop Myers thanked the archdiocese's bravest and reminded them that 'the Lord is your daily companion.'

PAGE 5 AND 27



Knitting groups create a warm, fuzzy feeling

Organizations weave time, talent and soft treasures to reach out and help those in need.

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MANY STEPS TO ANSWER GOD'S CALL



Advocate photo — Ward Miele

ASCENDING THE PATH TO PRIESTHOOD—Archbishop John J. Myers (right) recently welcomed the nine men he will ordain to the priesthood to his residence at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark. The nine ordinandi include (left to right, front row) Father Ireneusz Pierzchala, Father Manuel R. Romerde, Father Bruno S. Sammarco and Father Ivan Sant, (back row) Father Raphael Lee, Father Michael C. Barone, Father Andres Codoner-Contell, Father Pedro Bismarck Chau and Father Paolo Tanzini. Commenting on the new priests, Archbishop Myers said "this local Church of Newark and the Universal Church together are blessed through the faith and commitment that these men give us today. They join the order of the ordained priesthood of our Lord Christ from all walks of life and with many different experiences. As the Church continues to face many challenges, she welcomes them, knowing that their love of God and His people will strengthen her." The Class of 2008 ranges in age from 27 to 65 years. Members of the diverse class come from the United States, Nicaragua, Spain, South Korea, Poland, the Philippines, Malta and Italy. The Mass of Ordination for service to the Church of Newark will be celebrated on May 24 at 10 a.m. at the Cathedral Basilica. Biographies of the nine ordinandi including their thoughts on becoming priests can be found on pages 13-15.

Pope taps Archbishop Myers for pontifical council

Key position eyes application of canon law for the Church

BY JAMES GOODNESS
Director of Communications

Pope Benedict XVI has named Most Rev. John J. Myers, Archbishop of Newark, as a member of the Pontifical Council for Legislative Texts. The appointment was effective April 1 and is in addition to his continuing role as leader of the Newark Archdiocese. Archbishop Myers has served as a consultant to the council since 1996.

The Pontifical Council for Legislative Texts—part of the Roman Curia—is responsible for helping the pope, the supreme legislator of the Church, interpret the laws of the Church. It further assists the Holy Father in the correct application of current law and the interpretation of norms for particular countries and jurisdictions.

Pope John Paul II established the Pontifical Council for Legislative Texts in 1984 following completion of the revision of the 1917 version of the Code of Canon Law.

Unlike the legal code of na-

tions or states, however, canon law is not merely a collection of norms created by the will of ecclesiastical legislators. It indicates the duties and rights inherent to the faithful and to the structure of the Church as instituted by Christ.

Archbishop Myers holds a doctorate in canon law from Catholic University of America and brings extensive experience in canonical affairs to this new role on the council.

Installed as Archbishop of Newark on Oct. 9, 2001, he currently serves as chair of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Canonical Affairs and has been a member of this committee regularly since the late 1980s.

Throughout his priesthood and episcopacy, Archbishop Myers has participated in numerous canon law research and education

projects, workshops and symposia through the Canon Law Society of America. During the 1993 International Canon Law Symposium in Vatican City, he presented a paper on “The Law in the Life and Mission of the Church.”

In addition, he has written numerous articles and papers on canon law subjects, including “The Temporal Goods of the Church,” in the Code of Canon Law: A Text and Commentary; “Ecclesial Ministries within the

Council” for the 44th annual convention of the Canon Law Society of America; and a series of articles on the 1983 Code of Canon law that appeared in the Peoria, IL, diocesan newspaper, *The Catholic Post*, and other diocesan newspapers.

Three years ago, in a separate appointment, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith tapped Archbishop Myers as the ecclesiastical delegate for the pastoral provision for admitting married former Anglican clergy to the Catholic priesthood in the United States (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Oct. 19, 2005).

Others named by Pope Benedict to the pontifical council include Cardinals Giovanni Batista Re, prefect of the Congregation for Bishops; Ivan Dias, prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples; Luis Martinez Sistach, Archbishop of Barcelona, Spain; Oswald Gracias, archbishop of Bombay, India; William Joseph Levada, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Leonardo Sandri, prefect of the Congregation for the Oriental Churches; and the Most Reverend



Archbishop John J. Myers

Raymond Burke, archbishop of St. Louis.

The Pontifical Council for Legislative Texts is responsible for helping the pope interpret the laws of the Church.

Diocese: Development and Integration,” for the 47th annual convention of the Canon Law Society of America; “Church Finances: Responsibility and Consultative Structures in the Revised Code,” for New Catholic World; “The Diocesan Fiscal Officer and the Diocesan Finance

Hudson Catholic doors to stay open

JERSEY CITY—Seven words electrified the auditorium: “Hudson Catholic will be open in September.”

On the evening of May 7, as some 400 alumni, parents, community leaders and students anxiously gathered at Hudson Catholic Regional High School, Father Kevin Hanbury, Vicar for Education and Superintendent of Schools for the Archdiocese of Newark, applauded an unprecedented effort by many hundreds of individuals over a 14-day period to raise enough funds to keep the 44-year-old institution, located at 790 Bergen Ave., in operation for the 2008-2009 school year and on the road to long-term viability.

“You have achieved something we do not often see when a school faces this kind of challenge,” Fr. Hanbury said. “It is my hope that

Continued on page 21

Cemeteries to host masses on May 26



Advocate photo — M. Gabriele

A reflective still life of ciboria and cruets adorned the 2007 Memorial Day Mass held at Holy Cross Cemetery, North Arlington. “Death is not only an end to ‘earthly’ existence; it also is the passageway to eternal life,” Archbishop Myers wrote in a pastoral letter.

Archdiocese to celebrate Memorial Day

BY MICHAEL C. GABRIELE
Editor

NEWARK—The annual celebration of Memorial Day masses, organized and sponsored by the Catholic Cemeteries department of the Archdiocese of Newark, will be held at six cemeteries on Monday, May 26. All masses will begin at 11 a.m.

Archbishop John J. Myers, J.C.D., D.D., will be the main celebrant and homilist at Holy Cross Cemetery/Mausoleum, 340 Ridge Rd., North Arlington. Concelebrants slated to join Archbishop Myers include Deacon Joseph A. Dwyer, Jr., Vice Chancellor for Administration, who will offer the homily, and Father Michael A. Andreano, Vice Chancellor and Secretary to the Archbishop, who will serve as master of ceremonies.

Most Reverend Dominic A. Marconi, D.D., Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of Newark, will be the

main celebrant, with Very Reverend Benedict Worry, O.S.B., the pastor of St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish, Linden, serving as the homilist at Saint Gertrude Cemetery/Good Shepherd Mausoleum, 53 Inman Ave., Colonia.

Most Reverend Thomas A. Donato, D.D., Auxiliary Bishop of Newark, will be the celebrant and homilist at Holy Name Cemetery/Mausoleum, 823 West Side Ave., Jersey City.

Most Reverend Edgar M. da Cunha, S.D.V., D.D., Auxiliary Bishop of Newark, will be the celebrant and homilist at Gate of Heaven Cemetery/Mausoleum, 225 Ridgedale Ave., East Hanover.

Most Reverend John W. Flesey, S.T.D., D.D., Auxiliary Bishop of Newark, will be the celebrant and homilist at Maryrest Cemetery, 25 Seminary Rd., Mahwah.

Very Reverend Philip J. Waters, O.S.B., of the Newark Abbey, will be the celebrant and homilist at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, 125 Central Ave., East Orange.

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FREQUENCY FOR THE YEAR

The Catholic Advocate continues to be a bi-weekly publication. Publication dates for 2008 are June 4, 18; July 16; August 13, 27; September 10, 24; October 15, 29; November 12, 26; December 10, 24.

NJPA



ISSN# 1084-3213

Urban scholarship bill moves forward at May 8 NJ senate committee hearing

Lesniak declares funds for students not a 'voucher'

BY JAMES GOODNESS
Director of Communications

In an emotionally charged hearing of the State Senate Economic Growth Committee, which pitted a growing statewide coalition of parents and community advocates against New Jersey's public teachers' union and other public school interest groups, the Urban Enterprise Zone Jobs Scholarship Act (S-1607), moved closer to full consideration by the NJ legislature.

The bill would create a pilot program of corporate tax credit scholarships to benefit students living in eight underperforming school districts, providing them with the opportunity for a better education that will make them more productive employees in the future. Under the proposed legislation, the scholarships offered to students would help ensure they can gain the skills needed for their own future success in the 21st century workforce.

A similar version of the bill is expected to be introduced soon in the Assembly. If enacted by the full state legislature, the Urban Enterprise Zone Jobs Scholarship Act will move New Jersey closer to providing children in some of the most densely populated and failing public school districts in the state with true alternatives to failing schools, and help

ease the burden and lessen the cost of providing a thorough and efficient education in the state of New Jersey.

A scholarship program funded by tax credits has been operating successfully in all counties in Pennsylvania for several years and has received wide support—not only from business and civic communities, but also from that state's public school teacher's union as well.

Speaking in favor of the proposed legislation was Most Rev. Edgar M. da Cunha, S.D.V., Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Newark and the Regional Bishop of Essex County, where two of the pilot urban districts—Newark and Orange—are to be located.

At present, the average cost to educate a child in a public school in New Jersey is \$15,000; in some of the districts slated for inclusion in the bill, the average cost can approach \$20,000 or more. By comparison, the average cost to educate a child in a Catholic elementary school in New Jersey is about \$5,000.

The Enterprise Zone Jobs Scholarship Act will enable selected scholarship organizations to award annual scholarships of up to \$6,000 per student attending an elementary school (public or private) and up to \$9,000 for high school, of his or her parents' choice. Some 20,000 students are anticipated to become beneficiaries of the scholarship program over its five-year pilot phase. The reduction of the number of students in the affected public school districts during this period is sure to have beneficial effects not only on the students' chances at academic achievement, but



Bishop Edgar da Cunha

also on the financial picture of the school districts themselves, thus benefiting the taxpayers of the state.

In his introduction of the legislation at the May 8 hearing in Trenton, Sen. Raymond Lesniak, chair of the Economic Growth Committee, said he has been a strong supporter of public education in the state for years, but that the financial condition of the state at this time has led him and others to consider alternatives. He also stated throughout

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Nirva Vital counts many blessings that came from Catholic education

BY MELISSA MCNALLY
Staff Writer

NEWARK—A resident of the state's largest city for almost 23 years, Nirva Vital, 25, is a shining example of what urban scholarships can provide for hardworking, disciplined young students.

Vital's life offers one case history that demonstrates how students can flourish, with the help of much-needed financial support, in an urban Catholic school environment (see above related story). It also illustrates how such a long-term "investment" in education can yield dividends for the community, as Vital currently is pursuing a successful career in healthcare research.

While in elementary school at Our Lady Help of Christians, East Orange, Vital and her two siblings, Cathiana and Perkins, received assistance from the archdiocesan Scholarship Fund for Inner-City Children (SFIC).

"The principal of Our Lady Help of Christians School talked to my parents and said that we were good candidates for the scholarship," Vital recalled. "I am not sure if I would be where I am today without the SFIC."

Vital's parents immigrated from Haiti and her father, a cab driver, and mother, a nurses' assistant, worked tirelessly to give their children a better life and a solid education. "Our parents always wanted the best from us. Education was always number one."

After elementary school, Vital attended Marylawn of the Oranges Academy, South Orange, where she graduated in 2000 as valedictorian. She received a full scholarship at Montclair State University where she majored in biology. After receiving her Bachelor of Science degree in 2004, she received a master's degree in public health from State University of New York. Vital's sister recently completed her sophomore year at Syracuse University and her brother finished his first year at Montclair State.

While in elementary school, Vital was teased by the other children in the neighborhood for attending Catholic school. "Other kids would taunt me and my friends because we wore uniforms,"

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Nirva Vital

Bishops identify Zimbabwe 'thugs'

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (CNS)—The Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference has appealed for international pressure to end violence and torture in Zimbabwe. International election observers should be deployed immediately as the country prepares for a runoff presidential election, said South African Archbishop Buti Tlhalagale of Johannesburg, conference president, in a May 13 statement. "The current environment is not conducive to free and fair runoff elections," he said, speaking on behalf of the bishops' conference, which covers South Africa, Botswana and Swaziland. Reports of violence perpetrated by Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe's ZANU-PF party in the wake of the loss of its parliamentary majority in March 29 presidential and legislative elections have been widespread. The official presidential election results, published in early May after a delay of more than a month, put opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai, who garnered 47.9 percent of the vote, ahead of Mugabe, who took 43.2 percent. A minimum of 50 percent

plus one vote was needed to avoid a second round of voting for the presidency. On a visit to neighboring Zimbabwe after the March 29 elections, Archbishop Tlhalagale and South African Cardinal Wilfrid Napier of Durban heard accounts of "systematic intimidation, violence and torture" from victims, the archbishop said. "The victims identified the perpetrators as agents of the Zimbabwe armed forces, the police, the central intelligence organization, war veterans, youth militia and plain thugs," Archbishop Tlhalagale said.

Priests in China seek quake aid

CHENGDU, China (CNS)—Chinese priests had to work around disrupted telephone systems and damaged roads as they tried to assess the damage from the May 12 earthquake centered under Sichuan province. Responding to appeals for aid and prayers on Catholic Web sites, Catholics across China have begun donating money and clothes to help survivors, the priests told the Asian church news agency UCA News. The magnitude 7.9 earthquake, which hit just after midday May

12, had its epicenter beneath Wenchuan County in Sichuan province. Wenchuan is less than 60 miles northwest of Chengdu, the provincial capital. Government officials reported more than 12,000 people had been killed in the quake, but the death toll was expected to rise. Officials said in one city alone more than 19,000 people were buried in the rubble.

Abuse book stirs clergy concerns

SYDNEY, Australia (CNS)—The Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference has listed its concerns with a retired bishop's book that critiques sexual and authoritarian abuses in the Church. The 2007 book, "Confronting Power and Sex in the Catholic Church: Reclaiming the Spirit of Jesus," was written by Bishop Geoffrey Robinson, retired auxiliary bishop of Sydney and former head of the Church's abuse panel. The Australian bishops said Bishop Robinson's questioning of the authority of the Church "is connected to Bishop Robinson's uncertainty about the knowledge and authority of Christ himself." The bishops also rejected the reformist

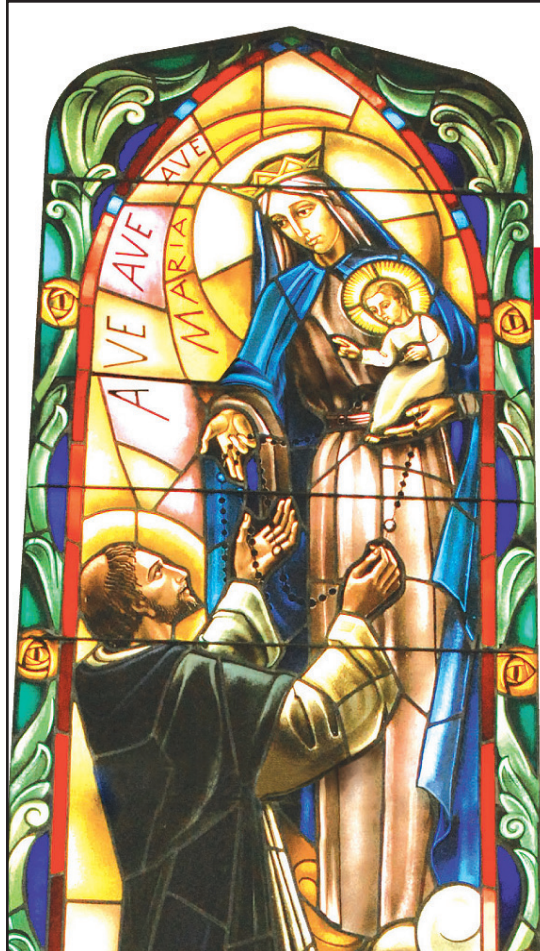


CNS photo

A demolished car rests May 12 near the wreckage of a feed store destroyed by a tornado near Seneca, MO. Tornadoes killed at least 22 people and injured hundreds as they ripped through the central and southeastern United States May 10 and 11.

proposals advocated by Bishop Robinson in his book. "The authority entrusted by Christ to His Church may at times be poorly exercised, especially in shaping policy and practice in complex areas of pastoral and human concern," they said. "This does not, in Catholic belief, invalidate the Church's authority to teach particular truths of faith and morals."

Bishop Robinson's book, recently published in the U.S. by Liturgical Press, criticizes the structural and doctrinal causes the bishop claims are at the heart of sexual and authoritarian abuse in the contemporary Catholic Church, including the culture of secrecy and cover-ups that allowed systemic clerical abuse to go unchecked within its ranks for decades.



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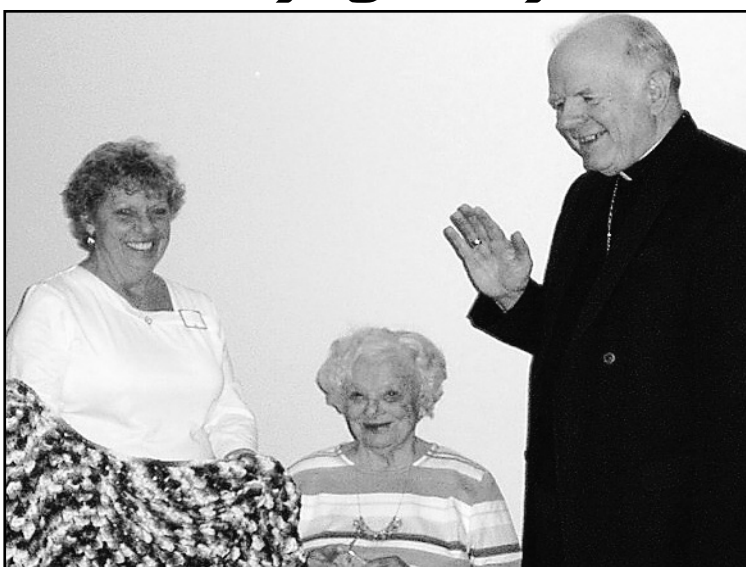
Close-knit ministry gently weaves wool and prayers

FRANKLIN LAKES—Angels' Needles, a recently formed ministry at Most Blessed Sacrament Parish, meets weekly to create spiritual shawls stitched with prayers for the sick, lonely, troubled, anxious and depressed. The shawls also are presented to anxious mothers-to-be experiencing problem pregnancies.

The group is composed of 20 members with a wide assortment of ages and backgrounds, including 90-year-old Emily Kocsis, who said she joined to do something constructive with her spare time. Rebecca Kirschbaum, a 13-year-old eighth grader, the youngest stitcher of Angels' Needles, enjoys the group because it enables her to do something for someone else.

"My mom taught me how to crochet and knit when I was seven and now I am picking it up again," Antoinette Cillo-Mandel said. Maria Cillo, matriarch of the family, said her mother taught her how to knit at an early age in her native Benevento, Italy, and has been at it for the past 60 years.

Launched and coordinated by Dr. Lauren Longo, Ph.D., the group meets Monday evenings



Submitted photo

Most Rev. John W. Flesey (right), Auxiliary Bishop of Newark and the pastor of Most Blessed Sacrament Parish, admires and blesses the handiwork of (left to right) Cathy Kincaid and Emily Kocsis, members of Angels' Needles.

in the parish center. "I thought it would be great to have a circle of people to knit or crochet with for a good cause," Longo explained. "Anyone can work on a project independently, but

there's something special; a sense of community in working together. We pray together before each session, and silently while working on our shawls." Longo, a musicologist, Celtic harpist and keyboard artist, often recites a "Glory Be," title of her new CD featuring music from Marian apparition sites.

Before the shawls are present-

ed to recipients, they're prayed over; in many instances by Bishop John W. Flesey, the pastor of Most Blessed Sacrament Parish. Though the group is composed of women, male knitters or crocheters of all ages are welcome. The ministry is also open to people of different faiths in and around the community. Contact Longo at (201) 891-4200 for details.

Procession planned May 25

LYNDHURST—The parishes of Sacred Heart and Saint Michael the Archangel will jointly celebrate a Corpus Christi Day of Prayer on Sunday, May 25.

The day will begin following the noon Mass at Sacred Heart Parish with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 3 p.m., to be followed by a procession to four outdoor altars—two at each church. The procession will continue down Ridge Road. Call (201) 939-1161 or (201) 438-1147 for more information.

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Solemn Mass: Sun., 12:00 noon
Procession: Sun., 1:00 pm

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May 23

St. Joseph Parish, Lodi, 40 hours of devotion, through May 25, begins at 8 p.m. Mass, (973) 779-0643.

St. Mary Parish, Jersey City, Dr. Marsha Long performance, 8 p.m., (201) 433-9606.

Assumption Parish, Wood-Ridge, weekend retreat for the separated or divorced, through May 25, call Father Tom Kelly, O.F.M., at (973) 985-9736.

May 25

The Missionary Franciscan Sisters, Tenafly, yard sale, also on May 26, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., call Sister Trinity at (201) 568-0478.

June 1

The Guild for the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace, Englewood Cliffs, tricky tray and luncheon, noon- 4 p.m., cost: \$42, call Sister Agnes Fox at (201) 692-1181.

Official Appointments

Archbishop John J. Myers has announced the following appointments:



ARCHDIOCESAN AGENCY

Reverend John D. Gabriel, pastor of Saint Thomas More Parish, Fairfield, has been appointed director of the Office of Vocations for the Archdiocese of Newark as well as director of Emmaus House, Newark, with residence at Emmaus House, effective July 1.

PASTOR

(all effective July 1)

Reverend James T. Brown, administrator of Saint Joseph Parish, Demarest, has been appointed pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Bloomfield.

Reverend Dennis J. Kaelin, chaplain at Saint Patrick High School, Newark, has been appointed pastor of Saint Mark and Saint Mary parishes, Rahway.

Reverend Richard P. Kwiatkowski, pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Bloomfield, has been appointed

pastor of Saint John the Evangelist Parish, Leonia.

Reverend John R. O'Connell, pastor of the Church of the Nativity, Midland Park, has been appointed pastor of Saint Andrew Parish, Westwood.

PAROCHIAL VICAR

Reverend Msgr. James F. Bouffard, pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Haworth, has been appointed parochial vicar of Saint Helen Parish, Westfield, effective Sept. 15.

Reverend Gerald Buonopane, parochial vicar of Saint Helen Parish, Westfield, has been appointed parochial vicar of Saint Philomena Parish, Livingston, effective June 18.

Reverend Donato Cabardo, parochial vicar of Sacred Heart Parish, Newark, has been appointed parochial vicar of Saint Joseph Korean Catholic Parish, Demarest, effective June 18.

Reverend Marco Hurtado, has been appointed parochial vicar of Saint Joseph the Carpenter Parish, Roselle, effective June 18.

Reverend Arokiasamy Irudayanathan, chaplain of Saint James Hospital,

Newark, has been appointed parochial vicar of Immaculate Conception Parish, Montclair, effective June 18.

Reverend Joseph Meagher, parochial vicar of Saint John the Apostle Parish, Linden, has been appointed parochial vicar of Saint John the Baptist Parish, Jersey City, effective June 18.



Reverend Ernest G. Rush, parochial vicar of Saint Philomena Parish, Livingston, has been appointed parochial vicar of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Bayonne, effective June 18.

Reverend Jerzy R. Zaslon, parochial vicar of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Bayonne, has been appointed parochial vicar of Corpus Christi Parish, Hasbrouck Heights, effective June 18.

CHAPLAIN

Reverend William T. Morris, pastor of the parishes of Saint Mark and Saint Mary, Rahway, has been ap-

pointed chaplain of Saint Michael Villa, Englewood Cliffs, effective July 1.



DEACON

Deacon Joseph L. Mantineo, permanent deacon of Sacred Heart Parish, Rochelle Park, was appointed May 4 permanent deacon of Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Maywood.

HOSPITAL CHAPLAIN

Reverend Charles I. Anemelu, chaplain at Englewood Hospital, has also been appointed to residence at Saint Matthew Rectory, Ridgefield, effective June 1.

RETIREMENT

Reverend Donald E. McLaughlin, parochial vicar of Saint Helen Parish, Westfield, has been granted retirement, effective July 1.

Reverend Patrick R. Wilhelm, parochial vicar of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Kearny, has been granted retirement, effective July 1.

When Jesus turned around and noticed them following Him,

He asked them,
“What are you looking for?”

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

“Come and see,”
He answered.

John 1:38-39

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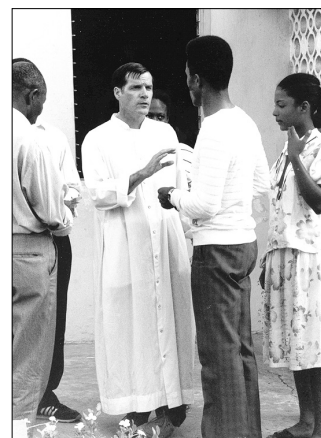
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Individuals who wish to report an allegation of sexual misconduct may do so by calling the Archdiocesan Office of Child and Youth Protection at (201) 407-3256.

Chancery golf outing
reset for May 27

Due to inclement weather, the fourth annual Chancery Golf Outing, sponsored by the Archdiocese of Newark, is rescheduled for Tuesday, May 27 at the Knoll Country Club, 990 Greenbank Rd., Parsippany. The fundraising event begins 10:30 a.m. with registration and a brunch buffet, followed by a “shotgun” tee off. There will be a cocktail hour, dinner and an awards ceremony. Call (973) 497-4136 for details.

Catholic Cemeteries
Masses

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

June 3

Gate of Heaven Chapel,
East Hanover

June 4

Holy Cross Chapel,
North Arlington

June 6

Good Shepherd Chapel,
Colonia

Correction

In the May 7, 2008 edition of *The Catholic Advocate*, the award given to Father Eugene Squeo was misidentified. It is the Dorothy Day Peacemaker Award.

Jesuit professor responds to columnist's 'scorn'

Editor,

I was surprised to read the column you published by George Weigel in which, on the basis mainly of innuendo and sleazy rhetorical questions, he demeans the Society of Jesus (see *The Catholic Advocate*, March 5; "Father Adolfo Nicolas ponders difficult questions").

I've been a Jesuit for 50 years, taught or been a dean at five Jesuit colleges and universities, published eight books, including four about the Society of Jesus, taught thousands of students, visited 27 of our 28 colleges, edited two Jesuit magazines, and visited Jesuit houses in Europe, Latin America, and Asia. I don't recog-

nize the Society of Jesus at which Mr. Weigel throws his mud.

He names only two Jesuits, both of whose writings are voluminous on a wide range of moral and social issues, and is astounded that they are widely respected, in spite of their controversial positions on the legal application of the Church's position on gay unions or abortion, which Mr. Weigel presents out of context. The rest of his accusations are sweeping and anonymous, rhetorical questions, which smear people about whom he knows nothing. Will Jesuits keep their vows of chastity?

The issues Mr. Weigel refers to on the role of Christ in the history

of salvation and how Christ is perceived in different cultures are challenging theologians all over the world who are struggling to find formulae adequate ways to explain Christ to different cultures in the 21st century. Mr. Weigel scorns this.

Father Raymond A. Schroth, S.J.
Saint Peter's College
Jersey City

(Editor's note: Father Schroth is the Jesuit Community professor of humanities at Saint Peter's. For additional perspective, the following report (below) from Catholic News Service, filed on March 7, provides information on the recent Jesuit General Congregation.)

ROME (CNS)—The Jesuit General Congregation concluded two months of work in March by approving five decrees, including one on obedience and a separate document reaffirming the Jesuits' allegiance to the pope and fidelity to Church teaching.

The 225 Jesuits elected to represent their almost 20,000 members around the world marked the end of their meeting with a March 6 Mass of thanksgiving in Rome's Church of the Gesu—site of the tomb of Saint Ignatius of Loyola, the Jesuit founder.

Father Adolfo Nicolas, who was elected superior general of the Jesuits on Jan. 19, called the meeting an experience of "the union of hearts, the union of the society" and of its "union with its head, who is the Holy Father."

The congregation approved formal decrees fo-

cused on the Jesuit mission in the modern world; Jesuit identity; collaboration with those outside the Jesuits; internal governance; and obedience, to one's superior as well as to the pope.

The congregation also approved a formal declaration titled "With New Fervor and Dynamism, the Society of Jesus Responds to the Call of Benedict XVI." In a January letter, Pope Benedict asked the Society of Jesus to affirm its fidelity to the magisterium and the Holy See. "This tradition of obedience...has never stopped us—not in theological research, not in apostolic creativity, not in proposing new ways to live the Christian faith." Questioning and challenging "is creative for us and for the Church," Father Nicolas said.



CNS photo

Delegates cheer as Spanish-born Father Adolfo Nicolas completes his oath of office as superior general of the Society of Jesus in Rome Jan. 19. Father Nicolas previously served as moderator of the Jesuit Conference of East Asia and Oceania. Promising fidelity to and union with the pope is not and never was seen as a limitation for the Jesuits, he said. Led by Father Nicholas, delegates met with the pope Feb. 21.

Lost gold ring reveals the 'Beloved of God'

Editor,

The following remembrance is a tribute to my mother, Ruth W. Reilly, who was a columnist for *The Catholic Advocate* during the 1950's. She died July 10, 2003.

As I prayed the rosary one day at church with my fellow parishioners, I recalled the after-dinner family rosary I prayed as a child. My thoughts focused on my mother whose faith permeated the lives of her children and all those around her.

When I contemplate my mother's humble way of life, I realize it was an example to be imitated as we travel our own journey to sainthood. This was the message that was reflected in her life.

Last summer I had an experience that will always remain with me. As I was cleaning my basement, I moved an overnight bag that belonged to my mother and a ring fell to the bottom of the bag. Examining it, I realized it was a gold ring; I quickly read the inscription. It said "Beloved."

My heart filled with joy and spiritual energy. I cried out "Oh my God! Oh Mom!" The engrav-

ing told me it was a ring my mother had lost many years earlier. I never fully understood the inscription, but in the homily at the Mass I had attended that very day, the priest spoke of the lover trying to coax his intended to emerge from behind the rock so he could see her in all her beauty. It was then that I realized that each one of us is the "Beloved of God" and He coaxes us to use all our gifts and emerge from behind the rock. My mother understood she was the Beloved of God, as we all are.

My mother wore this ring when she made her final vows as an Ursuline Sister. She lost the ring 20 years before I found it. When she, Ruth Reilly, a widow, became an Ursuline Sister May 20, 1989, my brothers and sisters and I each contributed some gold, where it was from an old charm or ring or trinket to be part of the ring. Consequently, we were all represented in our mother's consecration of herself to God.

After my mother was in the convent for approximately 10 years, she lost her ring. She was distraught, but accepted the loss

and purchased a new ring, but never forgot the old. Mom continued to be an Ursuline Sister, but in her old age decided to return to her first family. She was always the Beloved of God keeping her vows of chastity, poverty and obedience.

My mother was a daily communicant and gave to each of her children a foundation in faith—the rock on which each of our lives is built. After receiving the host, I glanced at my mother's ring, which I now wear. My mother always said: "There are no coincidences," so I believe I am meant to wear the ring and let others know that each is truly the Beloved of God.

Many symbols enter my mind as I now glance at this special ring: the circle of the Host, the circle of the wedding ring, the circle of the family at dinner and the ever widening circle of our friends and co-workers who are all a beloved part of the everlasting circle of the mystical body of Christ.

Ellen R. Reilly
Waldwick



Submitted photo

Ruth Reilly, pictured with her husband Walter Reilly, worked with Msgr. John J. Kiley, the founder of *The Catholic Advocate*, during the early 1950s. Ruth became a columnist for the newspaper, while Walter worked as a lawyer in Newark. The Reilly family resided in Glen Ridge and for many years Ruth made entries into a "day book," which became a record of family events as well as faith reflections. She also maintained a decorative sign on the kitchen wall of the Glen Ridge house that read: "Use your gentlest voice at home."

Community lives faith, opens its arms to pilgrims

Part of Jesus' priestly prayer at the Last Supper when He instituted the Holy Eucharist was that "all may be one" (John 17:21). One of the hallmarks of the early Christian community was their love for one another.

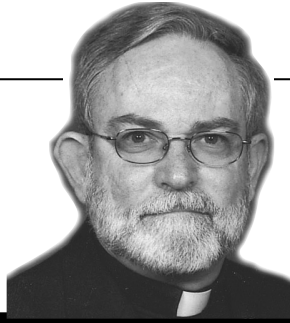
While no parish perfectly lives these ideals, many strive to make them become a reality more often than not. Two occasions that recently revealed themselves in my parish (Saint John the Evangelist in Bergenfield) are worthy of comment.

The first revolved around Pope Benedict's visit to our country in April. Many from our parish's Neo-Catechumenal communities not only made plans to make a pilgrimage to Washington, D.C. and New York City to perhaps catch a fleeting glimpse of the Holy Father, but also asked me if our parish would be willing to host 127 others similarly interested from communities in Arizona and California. I agreed that they could use our parish hall for overnight accommodations.

Given the good relationship among all groups in our parish, we asked the assistance of our parishioners at the Sunday masses to help us feed this large contingent of people. Not only did contributions more than adequately cover expenses, but our Boy Scout Troop 139 and our Spanish Youth Group (the Jóvenes de Jesús) each took a night to prepare sandwiches for the pilgrims for their next day's journey. Ultimately, everyone had three meals a day provided by the generosity of our Christian commu-

SEEING & BELIEVING

By Rev. Msgr.
Richard J. Arnhols



nity in action. It reminded me somehow of the miraculous multiplication of the loaves and fishes by Jesus—a pre-eucharistic symbol, even with leftovers!

More recently, our parish was privileged to host the "Our Lady of Fatima First Saturday Family—Ministry to the Disabled" for their May Mass and luncheon. The group is composed of people with physical challenges throughout the archdiocese. They find strength in the Eucharist and in the camaraderie they share with one another. It works best to have the entire experience in our parish hall.

Meanwhile, our eighth graders from Transfiguration Academy, the outstanding Catholic School we co-sponsor with Saint Mary's Parish, Dumont, and Ascension Parish, New Milford, were scheduled to conduct a car wash fund-raisers for their graduation expenses outside

the same Conlon Hall.

On the surface, these two events seemed potentially in conflict, especially in providing safe access to our guests, but the school parents thoughtfully moved the washing site about 50 feet down the block from the hall entrance, and as the visitors came, the eighth graders took turns greeting them and assisting them inside. It was a marvelous interaction of young and old, able and disabled, all of us one in Christ.

As we once again prepare to celebrate Corpus Christi—The Body and Blood of the Lord—let us rejoice in the opportunities that present themselves regularly to celebrate our oneness in the Lord.

"Now you are Christ's Body, and individually parts of it," Saint Paul said (1 Cor. 13: 27). May the spiritual nourishment we receive in the Eucharist enlighten our minds and strengthen our wills to do our part to foster unity within the Body of Christ, His Church."

(Rev. Msgr. Richard J. Arnhols is pastor of Saint John the Evangelist Parish in Bergenfield and Archdiocesan Vicar for Pastoral Life.)

*It was a marvelous interaction
of young and old, able and
disabled, all of us one in Christ.*

Finding unity in God through body, blood of Christ

Readings: Deut. 8:2-3, 14-16; Psalm 147; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17; John 6:51-58.

As the Hebrews left Egypt they were instructed to celebrate their liberation from slavery through a meal featuring unleavened bread and a lamb, which in later times would be offered in union with the sacrifice for the forgiveness of sins (Exodus 12:1-13). In the course of time the meal included four cups of wine, which symbolized the future joy of freedom from fear and service of God in the Kingdom.

The Exodus from Egypt should have led quickly to possession of the land promised to the patriarchs. There Israel would be dedicated to the worship of God by keeping the commandments. However, for 40 years God tested His people so that they would grasp the reality of their total dependence on divine mercy.

Therefore, God let you be afflicted with hunger and then fed you with manna... in order to show you that not by bread alone does the human being live, but by every word which comes forth from the mouth of the Lord (Deut. 8:3).

The Gospel reinforced this ancient insight that life is more

than our physical existence, more than an individual experience. The life proclaimed by Jesus is an intimate sharing in the mystery of the triune God. This life is experienced in a community of those dedicated to God; together they celebrate a sacrificial meal wherein each person is nourished by the gifts of bread and wine that are transformed to become Christ's body and blood. "The Eucharist both perfectly signifies and wonderfully effects that sharing in God's life and unity of God's people by which the Church exists" (Instruction on Worship of the Eucharistic Mystery, May 25, 1967, No. 6).

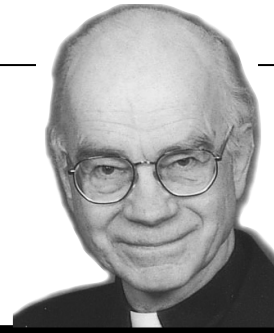
*The life
proclaimed by Jesus
is an intimate
sharing in the
mystery of the
triune God.*

The early Christians rejoiced in a God-centered unity that transcended all political, social and gender divisions (see

SUNDAY READINGS

Corpus Christi
(May 25, 2008)

By Rev. Lawrence Frizzell



Galatians 3:28; Colossians 3:11). The very process of gathering grain and grapes to make flour and wine symbolized the wonderful work of Jesus, who in His death gathered into one all the scattered children of God (see John 11:51-52). By the end of the first century, the insights of Saint Paul and Saint John into the way the Eucharist fosters the Church's life and unity find a beautiful expression in the Didache (the teaching of the 12 Apostles).

Just as this bread previously was scattered on the mountains and when it was gathered together it became a unity, so may your Church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your Kingdom (Teaching of the 12 Apostles 9:4).

Facing the factions that threatened to divide the Church of Corinth, Saint Paul reminded

his readers of the power of the eucharistic gift of Christ's sacrificial offering for healing and growth. The one loaf of bread was shared among those assembled in worship in order to remind them of the common source of their sustenance.

Throughout the centuries the rifts among those believing in Christ have caused much damage; finally, in our own time, many are so shocked by the scandal of divisions that an earnest search for Christian unity began. We appeal to the guidance of Christ's Spirit to restore this unity. Let us again visit the room in which the Last Supper was celebrated and learn anew meaning of Christ's words: "Do this in memory of me."

Before offering Himself up as a spotless victim upon the altar of the cross, Jesus prayed to His Father for those who believe:

"that all may be one as you, Father, are in me and I in you..." (John 17:21). In His Church He instituted the wonderful sacrament of the Eucharist by which the unity of the Church is both signified and brought about (Vatican Council II, Decree on Ecumenism No. 2).

The ancient Hebrews understood the memorial to be the sacrifice wherein a historical event (such as the Exodus) is re-presented for the assembled faithful. Through symbols and gestures, each generation can experience the reality of God's wisdom, power, goodness and forgiving love in their lives. They say to their children: "This is what the Lord did for me when I came out of Egypt" (Ex. 13:8).

Building on this insight into the Jewish liturgy, Jesus offered the Christian community and its members the way to enter into the reality of the Paschal Mystery of His death and resurrection. For each person this gift of the Bread of Life brings healing and strength and thus is the entire Church constantly renewed and conformed more perfectly to the image of Christ.

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

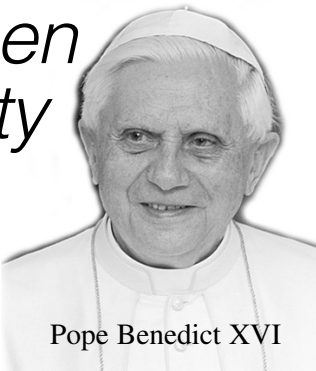


Advocate photos – Ward Miele

FIRE SERVICE HONORED—Telling them their vocation is to save lives, Archbishop John J. Myers celebrated the annual Saint Florian Mass honoring firefighters on Sunday afternoon, May 4 at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark. A huge American flag, draped between two ladder trucks, greeted the faithful as they entered the Cathedral Basilica. A color guard snapped to attention on the altar at the start of Mass as the National Anthem was played. In his homily Archbishop Myers thanked the firefighters for their work and said he prays for those who gave their lives in the line of duty and their families. Saying danger is “always present” in their profession, the archbishop reminded them “the Lord is your daily companion.”

THE POPE SPEAKS

*Pope tells patriarch
God can open
doors to unity*



Pope Benedict XVI

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—God can work miracles, including the miracle of Christian unity, Pope Benedict XVI told the Armenian Orthodox patriarch and 18 bishops.

“If our hearts and minds are open to the Spirit of communion, God can work miracles again in the Church, restoring the bonds of unity,” the pope said May 9 during a prayer service with Catholicos Karekin II, patriarch of the Armenian Apostolic Church.

Catholicos Karekin was visiting the Vatican along with Armenian Orthodox bishops from Armenia, Russia, Georgia, Iraq, Israel, Turkey, Egypt, Syria, the United States, Canada, Brazil, France, Italy and Germany. Some 100 Armenian pilgrims from around the world joined Pope Benedict and the Armenian bishops for the midday prayer service in the Clementine Hall of the Apostolic Palace.

The pope said that while the path to restoring Christian unity appears long and difficult and there are “deep and painful divisions” still needing to be healed, the Holy Spirit can unite people.” The Holy Spirit “can open doors that are locked, inspire words that have been forgotten, heal relations that are broken,” he said.

Pope Benedict prayed that the work of the international Catholic-Oriental Orthodox theological dialogue “will bring us closer to full and visible communion and that the day will come when our unity in faith makes possible a common celebration of the Eucharist.” The Armenian Apostolic Church is an Oriental Orthodox church.

The pope also praised the Armenian Orthodox for the “remarkable pastoral results that have been achieved” since the breakup of the Soviet Union in 1991.



Advocate photo – Ward Miele

A HALF CENTURY IN GOD’S SERVICE—Returning to Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in West Orange, where his parents were lifetime parishioners, Father Evan J. Greco, O.F.M., (second from left), was joined by his two brothers and the pastor, Father Joseph Petrillo (right), as Fr. Evan celebrated Mass on May 3 to mark the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. His two brothers (left and third from left) are Father Raymond Greco, O.S.B., from Phoenix, ordained 45 years ago, and Father Robert Greco, O. Carm, who also celebrated his 50th anniversary three years ago at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish and is a member of the Franciscan Fathers of Holy Name Providence. Fr. Evan is the fourth of 12 children all of whom attended the parish school. He went on to Seton Hall Prep and Seton Hall University, South Orange, and was ordained in Washington D.C. Fr. Evan was a Navy chaplain for 22 years and is now chaplain at the Little Sisters of the Poor Home for the Elderly, Totowa.

Community counts 100 reasons to keep sharing and caring

BY MELISSA MCNALLY
Staff Writer

On May 10, 1908 Archbishop John J. O'Connor authorized Father Roger McGinley, then rector of Saint Brigid Parish in North Bergen, to establish a Catherine Mission in Secaucus. The only available space was a dance hall adjoining a saloon, where the first Mass was celebrated in the town.

Deeming that location unsuitable, permission was granted by the local board of education to use one of the classrooms in Public School No. 3, located on the Corner of Centre Avenue and Fifth Street.

Two lots were purchased on

the south side of Paterson Plank Road and the construction of a new church building began. The cornerstone was laid Dec. 20, 1908 and one year later Archbishop O'Connor dedicated Immaculate Conception Parish.

In March of 1910, Father Charles F. Marshall was appointed the first resident pastor of Immaculate Conception. The former assistant at Saint Peter Parish in Newark served as pastor in Secaucus until his death in 1917.

During his pastorate, Fr. Marshall boarded with parishioners on Paterson Plank Road after his stay in Saint Francis Hospital. In 1914, permission was sought and obtained to build a rectory adjoining the church. The rectory was completed in six months and on June 15, 1914, the new rectory was blessed and occupied.

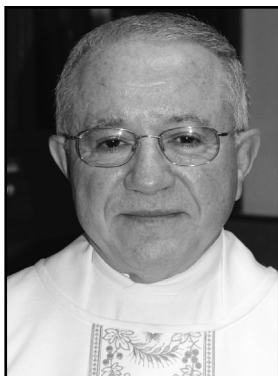
Father John J. Gromely became pastor in November 1925 and during his nine years at the parish an addition to the church was built that doubled its seating capacity. In 1934, Father Walter A. Hennessey was appointed pastor. During his term, seven lots were purchased in back of the rectory, facing Centre Avenue.

Succeeding Fr. Hennessey was Father Patrick A. Reilly, who was assigned to the parish on Dec. 1, 1943. Recognizing the need for a school and a new church building, since the original wooden structure was beyond repair, Fr. Reilly ran a fund drive to secure enough capital to begin the task of building a new, modern church structure. The drive began in February of 1946 and plans approved for the new church and school two years later.

The cornerstone laying and dedication of the new church and school took place on Aug. 27, 1949, with Archbishop Thomas J. Walsh presiding. The formal opening was later in the fall, with a gala and dance. Three classes were established, kindergarten through second grade, that were supervised and taught by the School Sisters of Notre Dame.

A new school building was erected and opened in September 1961. Father Jeremiah Long died in October 1996, ending a 20-year pastorate in which he initiated and witnessed many changes.

Meet the Pastor



Father Joseph P.
Pietropinto

Birthday: Jan. 23, 1945
Hometown: Newark
High School: Essex Catholic
Seminary: Immaculate Conception, Mahwah
Undergraduate: Seton Hall University
Graduate School: Postgraduate Center for Mental Health, New York
Ordination: May 30, 1970
Hero: Pope John Paul XXIII
Favorite Saint: Saint Joseph
Favorite Pastime: Classical music buff
Favorite Food: Oriental
Favorite Subject in School: Religion
Favorite Movie: "Jesus of Nazareth"
Last Book Read: *The Idea That Is America* by Anne-Marie Slaughter
Occupation if I Weren't a Priest: Teacher



Advocate photo - M. Gabriele

Celebrating its centennial year, Immaculate Conception Parish consists of 2,200 families of diverse cultural backgrounds. Father Joseph Pietropinto has been pastor for the last five years. The parish has become a hub of Filipino community outreach and cultural events. Father James Tucker, a member of the Archdiocese of Newark's ordination Class of 2006, serves as parish's parochial vicar and has been active in area interfaith dialogue programs. Earle S. Connelly, Jr., serves as deacon, Janue Vargas is the music minister and Faith Elizabeth Rose heads the parish's youth ministry.

Msgr. Donald E. Guenther succeeded Fr. Long and launched a major renovation of the church in 1998 and, the following year, modernized the rectory.

"I see growth, the development of ministries and a healthy Cornerstone program (with the women leading the way)," Father Joseph P. Pietropinto said. Fr. Pietropinto has served pastor of Immaculate Conception since 2003. "Our young people are offered an active youth program and more of our members are

important to the life of the parish, the older, long-time parishioners remain the backbone of the community. "It is a busy parish, with many senior residents who were born here and remain our greatest cheerleaders," Fr. Pietropinto explained. "They love their town and their parish. We have a healthy relationship with the other Christian communities and share activities like Kings Kitchen, which prepares and serves meals to those in need."

Parish trustee Leona Steffens,

sell statues, books, medallions and over 215 different prayer cards. People visiting from out of town love it," she said.

Parish traditions, such as the triduum and Filipino feast day celebrations, highlight the diversity in the congregation that keeps the community vibrant. Beth Flynn, who has been a parishioner for 10 years, participates in lector ministry and the Women's Cornerstone retreat team. "Immaculate Conception Parish feels like a family," she said.

"Being pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish continues to challenge me to personal growth, through the administration of the spiritual and the temporal needs of our community," Fr. Pietropinto said. "Being pastor as the parish celebrates its 100 anniversary is a real privilege."

Immaculate Conception Parish is located at 1219 Paterson Plank Rd., 07094. Masses are: Saturday 5:30 p.m.; Sunday 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., noon and 5 p.m. Call (201) 863-4840 for information on parish programs.

Immaculate Conception, Secaucus

stepping forward to assist in liturgical ministries, especially for hospital visitation."

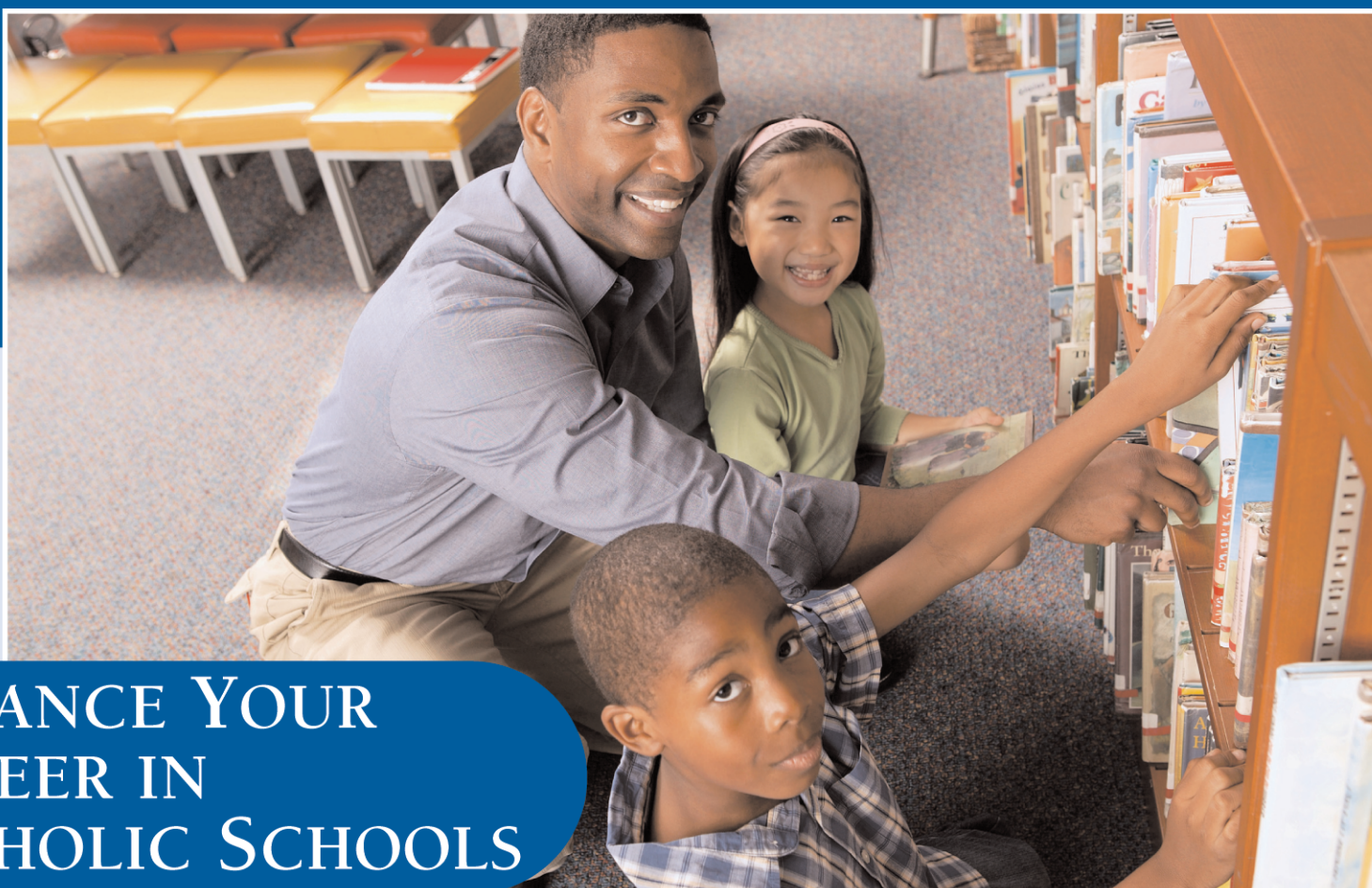
"The parish receives new registrants each month at a special Sunday gathering. We are beginning to see younger couples register here, as new areas in town are being developed. This is a healthy sign. We have welcomed couples from Cuba, Venezuela, Puerto Rico, Colombia, Dominican Republic and Poland," he said.

Although young people are

a lifelong parishioner at Immaculate Conception, takes pride in the strong familial bonds to her home church. "I was born into this parish and I was baptized here," Steffens said. "My husband has been at this parish for 85 years and my father was an altar server here. This is my parish."

As former president of the parish's Holy Rosary Altar Society, Steffens continues to be involved with the group and runs the parish gift shop. "We

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*The Parish Family of Sacred Heart Church, Lynnhurst,
sends their warmest congratulations to
Fr. André Codoñer-Contell
on your priestly ordination.*



*We thank God and rejoice with you and your family on
this blessed occasion! Our prayer is that the Lord will
strengthen and richly bless you as you give your life in
His service.*

Reverend Pedro Bismarck Chau



May God give you every grace and
blessing on the occasion of your
ordination.

*Congratulations and prayerful good wishes,
The Community of Saint Francis de Sales Parish
Lodi, New Jersey*

*God Bless
Our Priests*

Reverend Pedro Chau

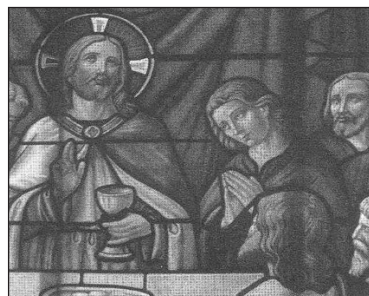
May His grace
guide you in your
work.

From the Parish Family of
St. Elizabeth of Hungary
Linden



Our Lady of Lourdes Parish
West Orange

Father Michael,
God Bless You
with Peace & Good



OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA PARISH

115 SOUTH THIRD STREET
HARRISON, NJ 07029



The Parish Family of
Our Lady of Czestochowa,
proudly salute
Rev. Ireneusz Pierzchala
on his ordination to
the priesthood.

SZCZĘŚĆ BOŻE!

VERY REV. CANON RUDOLF ZUBIK, PASTOR

REV. JOSEPH BUZZERIO

REV. PIOTR KOZIOLKIEWICZ

STAFF & PARISHIONERS

*May they be
faithful stewards
of God's mysteries.*



Fr. Sant



Fr. Lee

*Fr. Ivan Sant
&
Fr. Raphael Lee*

Congratulations and best wishes
from the
Rector, Staff and Parishioners of
The Cathedral Basilica, Newark



**Fr. Irenuesz
Pierzchala**

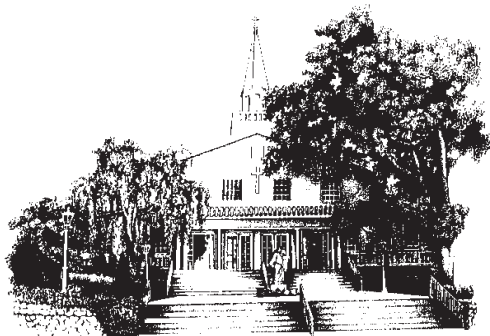
May God Bless You
Today and Always

Ad Multos Annos

The Parish Family of
St. Theresa Church
Kenilworth

**Our prayers are offered for our newly-ordained priests
of Newark and for their families.**

May their love of the priesthood grow for a lifetime.



St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish

Saddle River

Msgr. Robert J. Fuhrman, Pastor

FATHER PAOLO TANZINI

Dio ti benedica
sempre
Padre Paolo!



Parishioners and staff
of
Holy Family Church
Nutley

*Rev. Msgr. Paul L. Bochicchio,
Pastor*

Nine faces, nine voices, nine journeys, one faith

Archbishop Myers to ordain nonet of priests on May 24 at Cathedral Basilica Mass

BY WARD MIELE
Managing Editor

Archbishop John J. Myers will ordain nine men to the priesthood for service to the Church of Newark on Saturday, May 24 at 10 a.m. in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart. As was the case last year, the Archdiocese of Newark is among the national leaders with the number of men to be ordained. Newark led the nation the last two years with 13 and 17 newly ordained respectively.

The ordinandi, ranging in age from 27 to 65, recalled the challenges and joy of seminary training and shared their life

experiences and spiritual insights. Many identified youth ministry work as having nurtured the Lord's call to service as well as a desire to provide humble ministry while working among God's people. For one man, the journey to the priesthood began 10 years ago following the death of his beloved wife.

"I am exceptionally confident that the Class of 2008 will bring a wealth of priestly service to the Archdiocese of Newark, Msgr. Thomas Nydegger, vice rector and director of formation at Immaculate Conception Seminary on the campus of Seton Hall University (SHU), South Orange, said, commenting on the new priests. "They have invested themselves so totally in the program of priestly formation that the pastoral care they will bring in their priesthood will

serve the people of God with great dedication and love."

"They are good men—mature and tested by a long itinerary of deepening their faith in the Neocatechumenal Way." Father Tobias Rodriguez Lasa, assistant to the rector at Redemptoris Mater Archdiocesan Missionary Seminary, Kearny, said, offering his view of the Class of 2008.

"As they have already shown in their diverse diocesan and missionary ministries and assignments, they are full of zeal to evangelize and bring to other people the joy and the consolation of the Gospel," he continued. "I am grateful to the Lord for the richness of their different backgrounds and abilities, which is doubtless a gift for the Archdiocese of Newark."

Biographies of the nine new archdiocesan priests follow:

FATHER MICHAEL C. BARONE



"The priesthood is truly a gift," Buffalo, NY, native Father Michael C. Barone, declared. "As long as I can remember, I have always wanted to be a priest. My discernment began in high school and continued through my undergraduate education, which prepared a firm foundation of prayer and study for me to enter the seminary for the Archdiocese of Newark."

Father Barone, 28, attended St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute and Canisius College, both in his hometown; the University of Scranton in Pennsylvania; Immaculate Conception Seminary and School of Theology at SHU, and Mount Saint Mary's Seminary, Emmitsburg, MD. He holds a bachelor's degree in classics and philosophy from the University of Scranton and a Masters of Divinity Degree from Mount Saint Mary's Seminary.

Seminary life, Fr. Barone explains, is "an essential time of education and discernment as a man prepares to serve the Church. One aspect of human formation encouraged (at the seminary) is the fostering of strong bonds of unity and charity crucial to the fraternity of the priesthood. This reality was made very apparent to me as I experienced such a tremendous outpouring of support from my brother seminarians and priests surrounding the death and funeral of my mother last year. I was strengthened by the prayers and presence of so many making the reality of priestly unity truly apparent to me and my family."

The priest, Fr. Barone fervently believes, "stands at the altar before the people of God to offer sacrifice on our behalf. In the confessional he restores us to grace through the healing power of absolution. The priest is with us from baptism to death at every moment in life. It is my sincere hope and earnest prayer that I remain ever steadfast to the truths of the faith and obediently hand on what I have received."

Fr. Barone received his field education and summer assignments at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in the Ironbound section of Newark and Saint Michael's Hospital, also in Newark, and Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, West Orange. He was a deacon at Saint Ann Parish, Hagerstown, MD. He will celebrate his first Mass of Thanksgiving May 25, 11:30 a.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, West Orange, where he served as deacon. Father Brian Woodrow will be the homilist.

FATHER PEDRO BISMARCK CHAU



Looking back fondly, Fr. Pedro Bismarck Chau cites working with young people and "being able to help them meet Christ and to know God's love for them motivated me in my response to God's call to the priesthood."

Born in Managua, Nicaragua, Fr. Chau, 40, attended Immaculate Conception Seminary and has a bachelor's degree in psychology and Master of Divinity Degree in moral theology.

Before entering the seminary, Fr. Chau worked for 13 years as a general accounting clerk for a New York life insurance company and lived in Brooklyn. During that time he became "very much involved" in the Charismatic Renewal at the parish and diocesan levels.

"I worked closely with the youth director of the Charismatic Youth Diocesan Committee with the Hispanic community," he recalled. "At that point in my life I had felt the call of God to pursue the priesthood and began my process of discernment with the Conventual Franciscan Friars." However, due to immigration issues, he decided not to enter the seminary at that time.

Several years later he moved to Linden and joined Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Parish and again became involved with the youth ministry. He eventually left his New York job and became a full-time youth director of his new parish. As Fr. Chau explains it, "it was then that my thoughts of the priesthood came back to me and, after much prayer and discernment, I applied to the Archdiocese of Newark."

He described the seminary as his "home away from home." Fr. Chau still vividly remembers what Msgr. Nydegger told the new arrivals: "This is your home." Although the seminary was "tough" in the beginning, Fr. Chau said that "with time it helped me remember Jesus' words in the Gospel of Matthew: 'And everyone who has given up houses or brothers and sisters or father or mother or children or lands for the sake of my name will receive a hundred times more and will inherit eternal life'" (Mt. 19:29-30).

Those Gospel words, Fr. Chau acknowledged, were "fulfilled in my life throughout my four years of formation."

He stressed he gained a home not only at the seminary but a "bigger family" at the various parishes to which he was assigned. He was a deacon at Saint Francis de Sales Parish in Lodi and received field education and summer ministry at Saint Joseph Parish in Maplewood and Saint Aloysius Parish in Jersey City.

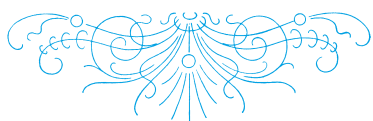
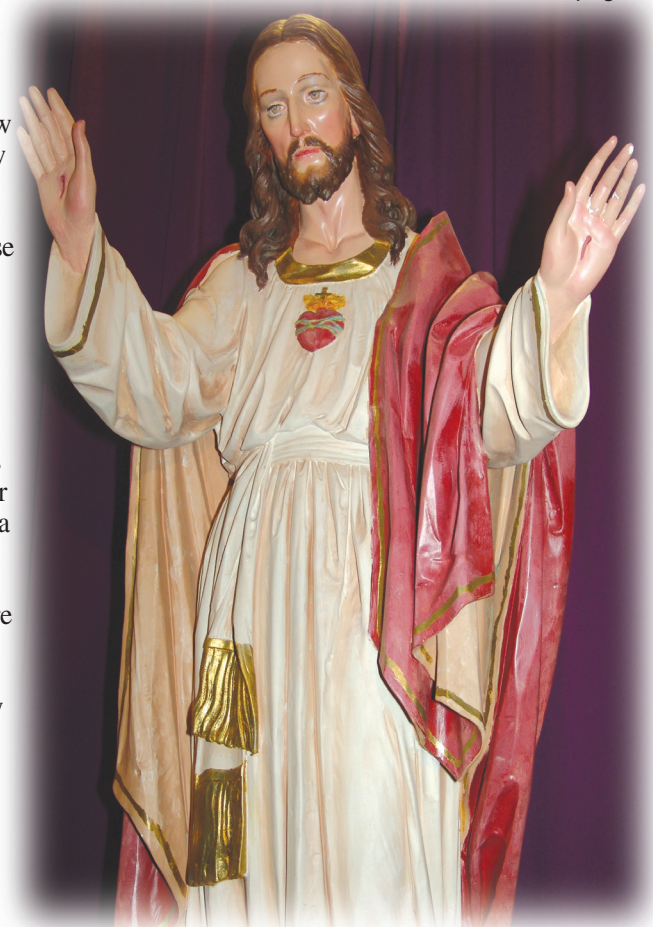
He said his hopes for the priesthood can be found in the Rite of Ordination of Priests to "carry out the ministry of Christ the Priest with constant joy and genuine love, attending not only to your own concern but to those of Jesus Christ... Keep always before your eyes the example of the Good Shepherd who came not to be served but to serve and who came to seek out and save what was lost."

"I desire nothing else but to serve the Lord in His people (and) to love God's people as I would Christ Himself," Fr. Chau said. "I desire to be holy as Christ is holy and to put to death everything that may injure my relationship with God, my ministry or my relationship with the people."

While serving as a priest, Fr. Chau will strive "to be present to my parishioners in their times of sorrow and joy and to bring them into a deeper relationship with God and others through the sacraments." He also hopes to "teach and admonish with love, compassion and in truth, always with the truth before me. My dream is that every person I meet may know the Lord and come to love Him as He desires to be loved by all His children."

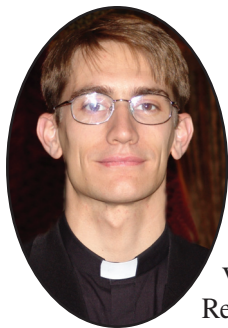
Fr. Chau will celebrate his first Mass of Thanksgiving at noon, May 25 at Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Parish. The Mass will be interpreted in American Sign Language for the deaf community. Msgr. Nydegger will be the homilist.

Continued on page 14



Class of 2008

Continued from page 13

FATHER ANDRÉS
CODOÑER-CONTELL

Father Andrés Codoñer-Contell, who initially entered the seminary when he was 18, wants to “grow in love for God and for His Church (and) to grow in humility and in the spirit of service to the people of God.”

The 27-year-old native of Valencia, Spain was a student at Redemptoris Mater, the archdiocesan missionary seminary in Kearny. He earned a bachelor's degree in education and a master's degree in systematic theology from SHU.

Since entering the seminary, Fr. Codoñer-Contell has been inspired by the Solemn Evening Prayer on Sundays. This always is a special time for him “after a whole week of working and studying and running, with some tensions and worries, the humble presence of the Lord in the Eucharist host calmed me and helped me to rest. The Eucharist is a great gift, which I hope to know and love more and more.” His seminary years were “a good time for me to study the word of God,” he said. “It was not always easy, but God consoled me many times and encouraged me through His Word.”

Fr. Codoñer-Contell received his field education and summer assignments at Saint Anthony of Padua Parish, Union City; Our Lady of the Assumption, East Boston, MA and Sacred Heart Parish, Lyndhurst. He was a deacon at Saint Aloysius Parish in the Ironbound section of Newark.

Until he entered the seminary, Fr. Codoñer-Contell lived with his family. “Although I did not have a clear idea of what I wanted to do with my life, my community in the Neocatechumenal Way helped me to discover the love of God in my life and my own vocation to the priesthood.” He remembers he was “deeply moved to see that the Lord loves me and was loving me even when I was sinning or I wanted to depart from Him.”

He also has special memories of his late grandfather, “who always prayed that I could become a priest, a holy priest. I know he is still praying for me.” He is convinced his family, catechists and my community of the

Neocatechumenal Way “have helped me to see the beauty of God's call...that I may entrust my life in the hands of God and His Church.”

Fr. Codoñer-Contell will be the homilist at his first Mass of Thanksgiving May 25, 11:30 a.m., at Saint Aloysius Parish. “I pray that I may live what I preach and that my life reveals God's love,” he said. “I desire to always have a missionary heart willing to obey the archbishop and to be ready to go wherever I am sent.”

FATHER RAPHAEL LEE



Father Raphael Lee, 33, who hails from Seoul, South Korea, said that volunteering at his parish was a key activity that helped to foster his vocation to the priesthood. As a result, he attended Immaculate Conception Seminary after having first obtained a bachelor's degree in psychology from Rutgers University, New Brunswick. Fr. Lee holds a

Master of Divinity and a Master of Arts in Biblical Studies degrees from SHU.

“I only hope that I can be a humble priest,” said Fr. Lee, who was a deacon at Saint Henry Parish in Bayonne and received his field education and summer assignments at Fairleigh Dickinson University, Teaneck and the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark.

He worked at a shipping company for a number of years before entering the seminary. The pivotal parish experience was working as a youth group counselor. “Being able to talk about God to our youth was incredible,” he said. “The fact that they thirst for God, whether they realized it at the time, was fascinating to me. God filled me with such joy as I witnessed Him working in them and that was what probably led me to the seminary. I want to take part in His plan.”

He recalled an illuminating moment at the seminary one day while he was leading the evening prayer. “I looking at my brothers praying and suddenly I thought that these are good men, courageous men who are dedicating their lives to the Lord.” It was then that it struck him the seminary was “an incredible place to be.”

Citing the “diversity in culture” found in the Archdiocese of Newark, Fr. Lee explained that while “we may not always agree on everything, there is a common factor that unites us all together. It is the desire to serve the Lord. We all have our strengths and weaknesses, but

that is what makes it more amazing. Not everyone has the full range of gifts needed in the Church today. There are people in the world with whom I may never be able to connect very well, but there are others in the seminary who connect with those individuals and lead them to Jesus. Everyone makes up for what each individual lacks.”

His goal is to become a humble priest. “To me, being humble means to recognize what I can do and admit what I cannot do,” he said. “It means to use the gifts that I have received from the Lord for His work while at the same time asking Him for help with my weaknesses. Humility does not come easily for me. I only pray that I will continue to listen to His voice throughout my priesthood so that I can share what the Lord gives with His people.”

Fr. Lee will celebrate his first Mass of Thanksgiving at Saint Joseph Korean Church, Demarest, May 25 at 5:15 p.m. Father Jungsoo Diego Kim will be the homilist.

FATHER IRENEUSZ PIERZCHALA



Looking forward to his priesthood, Father Ireneusz Pierzchala, 28, says “I hope that I will be a faithful servant of God (and of) all the people I meet in the future.” Fr. Pierzchala, born in Kozenice, Poland, will celebrate his first Mass of Thanksgiving May 25, noon, at Saint Theresa Parish, Kenilworth, where he served as a deacon. The homilist will be the pastor, Father Joseph S. Bejgrowicz, V.F.

Fr. Pierzchala received his higher education at the Diocesan Seminary in Radam at Cardinal Wyrzynski University in Warsaw and SS Cyril and Methodius Seminary, Orchard Lake, MI. He received his formal training at Mount Saint Mary's Seminary, in Maryland. His field education and summer assignments included Most Sacred Heart Parish, Wallington, as well as Saint Paul the Apostle and Saint Aloysius parishes in Jersey City.

FATHER MANUEL R. ROMERDE



Volunteering as a youth minister at his diocese in the Philippines was a significant factor in Father Manuel R. Romerde's journey to the priesthood. The 37-year-old native of Totolan, Daus, Bohol in the Philippines, Fr. Romerde attended high school and college at Holy Name University in the Philippines.

He obtained degrees from Saint Anthony Claret College of Philosophy and the Maryhill School of Theology also in the Philippines. His seminary training took place at the Claret Formation Center.

Recalling seminary life, Fr. Romerde said one of his most vivid memories was the “nurturing of my prayer life. At first it was so difficult for me to adjust to the different personalities of the other seminarians and the demands of academic life. It was in these two aspects (of seminary life) through which I learned to entrust everything into God's care. I did everything to deal and mingle with other seminarians and study hard and with diligence to pass the different examinations. I learned to trust in God's providence as I performed my duties and responsibilities.”

Before entering the seminary, Fr. Romerde was an education major in the Philippines. It was during those days he began volunteering at his diocese's youth ministry.

“As a youth minister, though we were many in our evangelization program, we were asked to give recollections and retreats for our fellow youths.” He recalls the training that was required before he could become a youth minister. The program's motto “Sanctification of Oneself



Before Sanctifying Others” made an impression on him. It “enhanced my spiritual life and nourished my vocation to the priesthood.” Also influencing his decision to become a priest were his years as an altar server.

Fr. Romerde was a deacon at Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Parish in Wyckoff, where he will celebrate his first Mass of Thanksgiving on the day of his ordination at 5 p.m. Most Rev. Antonieto Cabajog, Bishop of Surigao City in the Philippines, and Father Fernando Po, parochial vicar at Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, will be the homilists.

Fr. Romerde received his field education and summer assignments at Assumption of Our Lady Parish in his hometown and Saint Hilary of Pointiers Parish in Louisiana.

He aspires to be a servant of God who leads His people to prayer and worship and renders service to God’s people, regardless of the circumstances. A priest, he said, “is a model of obedience who carries out the will of God through his superiors and his bishop. He must also be faithful to his vow of chastity so as to be able to render service with reservation to the people entrusted to his care.”

FATHER IVAN SANT



Deacon at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark, Father Ivan Sant wants his priesthood to be a time to “continue to trust in the love of God, to be an instrument of His love to those the Lord gives me and, with the help of the Virgin Mary, model my life on the cross of Christ.”

Born in Pieta, Malta, Fr. Sant, 29, was studying to be an electronics technician before entering Redemptoris Mater Seminary in Kearny. In Malta, Fr. Sant played the clarinet with a hometown band. During his teenage years, Fr. Sant said he remained close to the Church through his involvement with the Neocatechumenal Way.

“As a teenager, the Lord protected me from many sins,” he said. “I started to discover my vocation at the World Youth Day pilgrimages with Pope John Paul II. It was through the grace and help of the Virgin Mary in a pilgrimage to Loreto, Italy in 1995 that I first felt and later could confirm the call of the Lord. That call filled my life with such joy and happiness that nothing else made me so happy in my life.”

The recipient of a master’s degree in Systematic Theology from SHU, Fr. Sant received his field education and summer assignments at Saint Mary Parish, Plainfield, and Saint Anthony of Padua Parish, Union City. He terms his time as deacon at the Cathedral Basilica as the opportunity to be “close to the people in the liturgies,” which he feels is “a gift that the Lord has given me.”

The seminary was the place Fr. Sant received graces from the Lord “each time I needed them.” During his seminary days he “witnessed the love and care the Lord has in my life. It was an experience I would not change for anything. Living with my fellow seminarians, from many different countries, was always an important help to learn and to love and share the prayers, the studies and regular seminary life together.”

The Cathedral Basilica will be the site of Fr. Sant’s first Mass of Thanksgiving on May 25 at noon. He will be the homilist.

FATHER BRUNO S. SAMMARCO

Married 22 years before losing his wife to breast cancer on Good Friday a decade ago, Father Bruno Sammarco, 65, entered Redemptoris Mater Seminary at the age of 59. Despite this calling to the priesthood relatively late in his life, Fr. Sammarco is convinced “the owner of the vineyard has called me like a worker of the last hour.”



Before entering the seminary, Fr. Sammarco, born in Civitanova del Sannio, Italy, had been a managing director in the International Division of Telecom Italia SpA, which, at the time, was the largest corporation in Italy.

“My business was communication,” he pointed out. “I would like to think that I have not changed my ‘business.’” In his role as a deacon and now as a priest, Fr. Sammarco said his goal would be to establish communication between people and God.

While in Rome 35 years ago, Fr. Sammarco and his late wife started a journey of faith in the Neocatechumenal Way. “This experience became very important for us, especially when my wife got breast cancer,” he confessed. “With the support of this community of faith, she prepared herself for the great passage from this earthly life to the eternal one. I was at her side for six years before her death.”

After his wife’s death, Fr. Sammarco traveled extensively worldwide “until the Lord called me to this new life. At that point my life changed dramatically.”

He attended Classic Lyceum at Santa Marie College in Rome and holds advanced degrees of a licentiate in mathematics along with a Master of Divinity. He was a deacon at Saint Columba Parish in Newark and received his field education and summer assignments at Holy Redeemer Parish in West New York and Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish in Newark.

Reflecting on seminary life, Fr. Sammarco observed that “for the first time in my life I started to live in a community with people very much younger than me. The intense and frequent daily time of prayer helped me overcome the very first difficult moments of this different style of life and to enlarge these new and narrow borders of my new existence. Moreover, the prospect of this new life in total service to God aided me in overcoming every small and big difficulty.”

His last year as deacon helped Fr. Sammarco in his preparation for the priesthood. “I am still experiencing how people, overwhelmed by difficult human events, find in the Church the true answer (which is) the love of God the Father, the nourishment of Jesus Christ and the wisdom of the Holy Spirit,” he said. “In none of my previous jobs did I find ‘customers’ so in need of the ‘services’ the Church is offering them. This new ‘job’ and this new life the Lord is giving me is worthwhile despite the difficulties.”

Fr. Sammarco will celebrate his first Mass of Thanksgiving May 24, 8 p.m. at Saint Columba. He will be the homilist.

FATHER PAOLO TANZINI



Born in Poggibonsi, Italy, Father Paolo Tanzini, 42, attended Redemptoris Mater and was a deacon at Holy Redeemer Parish in West New York. He attended Universita degli Studi di Firenze in Italy and Immaculate Conception Seminary’s School of Theology at SHU.

Fr. Tanzini has a bachelor’s degree in mathematics, a Master of Divinity Degree in Pastoral Ministry and a master’s degree in systematic theology. His field education and summer assignments were at Holy Redeemer Parish and Holy Family Parish, Nutley.

He remembers that at the age of 16 he was “experiencing a time of dryness and indifference towards God and the Christian faith.” He was drawn back to the Church “thanks to the Neocatechumenal Way, an itinerary of faith that was giving new life to my parish. The Neocatechumenal Way helped me to mature as a man, rediscover my baptism and eventually hear the call to the priesthood.”

Work at the parish level and attending World Youth Day events on several occasions steered him to the priesthood. “I became involved in the catechetical activity at my parish,” he said, noting his interest to evangelize. “By attending several World Youth Day events, I felt the vocation to become a missionary priest.” As a result he left his job as a teacher and “and made myself available to go anywhere in the world to announce the Good News and bring the Lord’s sacramental presence.”

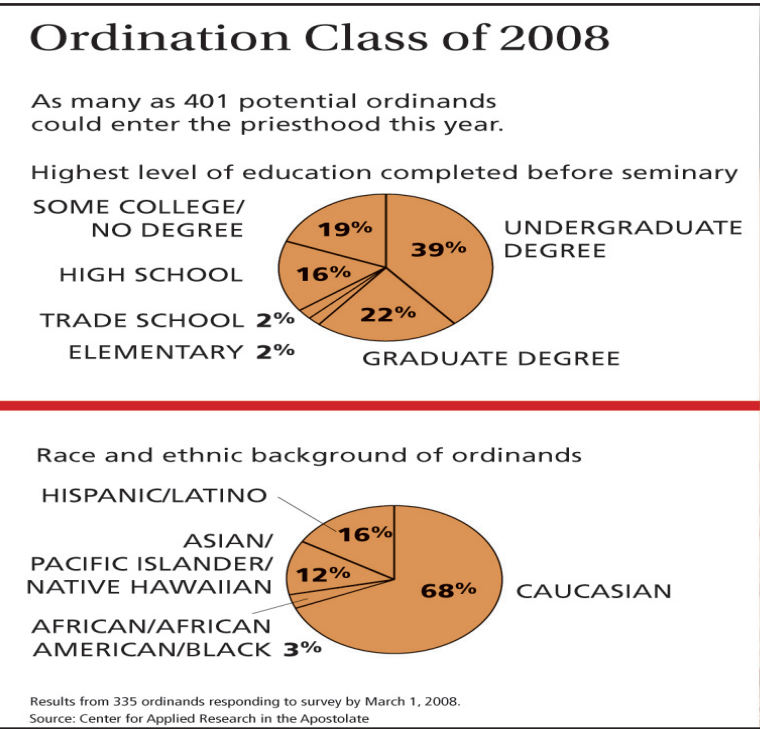
Commenting on his seminary experience, Fr. Tanzini made special mention of his missionary field work at parishes in the Midwest, which helped him to “become aware of the need of so many people to hear the Word of God, receive hope in times of trials and to be forgiven from their sins.”

He begins his priestly service to the Archdiocese of Newark “trusting that I may become a humble instrument in the hands of God so that many will be able to encounter His love and His mercy. I implore the protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Star of the New Evangelization and Mother of the Church,” he said.

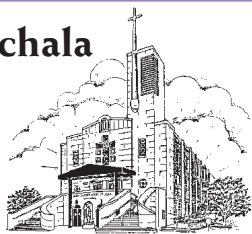
Fr. Tanzini will celebrate his first Mass of Thanksgiving May 25, 11:15 a.m., at Holy Redeemer Parish. He will be the homilist.



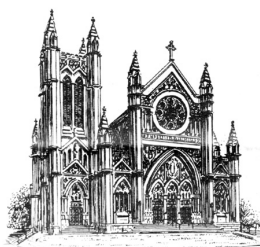
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WallingtonCongratulations!
"Ad Multos Annos"
Axios!

Congratulations to
Father Raphael Lee
on his priestly ordination,
Saturday, May 24, 2008



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Congratulate The Newly Ordained***

Reverend Michael Charles Barone
Reverend Pedro Bismarck Chau
Reverend Andrés Codoñer

Reverend Raphael Joonyoung Lee
Reverend Ireneusz Pierzchala
Reverend Manoel R. Romerde

Reverend Bruno Salvatore Sammarco
Reverend Ivan Sant
Reverend Paolo Tanzini

May God continue to bless all of you and your priestly ministry.

Conference to 'listen' closely for everyday spiritual guidance

SCOTCH PLAINS—The annual New Jersey Catholic Charismatic Conference will be held June 13-15 at Union Catholic

Regional High School, 1600 Martine Ave.

Speakers and workshop presenters include Father Bill Halbing, the pastor of Saint Antoninus Parish in Newark; Father Phil Latronico, the chaplain of the covenant Community of God's Love in Rutherford, executive secretary of the Archdiocese of Newark's Commissions of Christian Unity and Interreligious Affairs, and youth minister at Saint John the Apostle Parish, Linden/Clark; Father John Campoli, director of His Love Ministries, an international intercessory prayer group; Father Claudio Antecini, United States pastor of the Koinonia John the Baptist Catholic Community in Thousand Oaks, CA; Father Bill McCarthy, the director of My Father's House, a retreat center in Moodus, CT; Deacon David Thorpe, assistant director of the Spiritual Life Center of the Marian Community,

a Catholic lay community in Medway, MS; and Deacon Robert J. Valiante, associate liaison for the Charismatic Renewal in the Diocese of Scranton, PA.

Participants can choose three of the following six workshops to be offered on Saturday: "Do you hear me in your prayer?"; "Do you hear me in Scripture?"; "Do you hear me in Church teaching?"; "Do you hear me in community?"; "Do you hear me in service?"; and "Do you hear me in your

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The conference begins at 7 p.m. Friday, June 13 and closes with liturgy at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, June 15. On Saturday, June 14, in addition to Mass, various workshops, and an evening healing service will be offered.

Weekend registration cost for the conference prior to June 1 is \$45 per person; one-day registration is \$25. After June 1, the fees

are \$60 and \$35, respectively. For information and registration forms go online to <http://home.com-cast.net/~njccr/site> or call Deacon Fritz Kautz at (201) 934-5583. Registration fees also may be sent with workshop choices along with name, address, e-mail address and phone number to New Jersey Catholic Charismatic Conference, PO Box 552, Mahwah, NJ 07430-0552.

Bergen curia slates forum for June 7

HARRINGTON PARK—Our Lady of the Eucharistic Curia of Bergen County will hold a congress June 7 at Our Lady of Victory Parish. Call Eleonore Gaines at (201) 585-1270 for details.

The congress theme is "Saint Louis DeMontfort's True Devotion to Mary," a program to be presented by Father Frederick Miller, assistant professor of theology at Mount Saint Mary Seminary in Emmitsburg, MD.

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Saturday, May 31, 2008

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\$15 per person or \$20 per couple

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Center
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Main Speaker: Dr. Philip Mango

Dr. Mango is the President and Co-Founder of Saint Michael's Institute for the Psychological Sciences in New York City and is a professor at the John Paul II Institute in Washington D.C. Dr. Mango has thirty years' experience as a psychotherapist working with individuals, married couples, and families. Dr. Mango worked closely with Mother Teresa over a 12-year period on mental health projects for the poor.

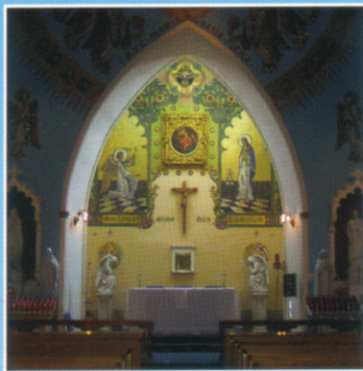
Co-sponsored by Immaculate Conception Seminary's
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Partially funded by a generous grant from the
Ed and Lois Ryan Foundation.

For more information and to register by May 27th, contact
Bob Miller at (973) 338-9190 ext. 29.

MADONNA CHAPEL MAUSOLEUM

On the grounds of Madonna Chapel Mausoleum stands a graceful 150 year-old Catholic church. The 11:00 Mass on the last Sunday of each month offers a special remembrance for all who are lying within our mausoleum awaiting the resurrection. You are invited to attend this Mass whenever you like, and to add your prayers to those of the community.



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BY THOMAS GAROFALO

Special to The Catholic Advocate

Most Americans think of Gaza as a place of suffering and militancy, but the reality is that Gaza is home to some of the most inspiring and creative people in the Middle East.

For the past two years, as the area's representative for Catholic Relief Services (CRS), I've traveled there as much as I can. I see what the front-page newspaper photos in the United States don't show you: this tiny sliver of land on the Mediterranean is a place of energy and dynamism; humor, warmth and unbelievable hospitality; delicious fish and crabs; and the fragrance of apple tobacco.

But these days, heartbreaking-ly, it is also a place of fear and pain. In mid-January, Gazans took matters into their own hands and tore down the wall separating them from Egypt. After a few days of freedom, the borders were closed and they returned to life on a strip of land usually cut off from supplies and short on opportunity; 40-50 percent of Gazans are unemployed and 80 percent of the population relies on humanitarian aid.

On the wall in my residence in Jerusalem, I've hung a beautiful still life painting of a Gazan cafe table, replete with brilliant reds and pinks and yellows, painted by a Gazan artist named Raed Issa. I imagine Raed sitting in his studio in Gaza, wishing he could buy paints, which may not be available due to the border closures that started in June 2007. Or maybe

he's in Egypt, looking for that special yellow hue that made my painting so vivid and so real and so full of Gaza's beauty. I hope he finds it and makes it home safely.

I think always of the stories of the great Palestinian filmmaker Rashid Masharawi, who I met last year. We had dinner at a friend's house and he entertained all of us with nonstop stories about growing up in the Beach refugee camp in Gaza. I laughed so hard I cried as he told stories of family life—the love of family for each other that makes me recall my own childhood in New Jersey with such fondness. Like the time when, shortly after the 16-year-old Rashid had taken to smoking the occasional clandestine cigarette, he and his father were stopped on their way home from the market by a group of Israeli soldiers. Hands against the wall, Rashid's greatest fear was that the soldiers would pat him down and discover the single cigarette in the Marlboro box stuffed down his sock—and they did.

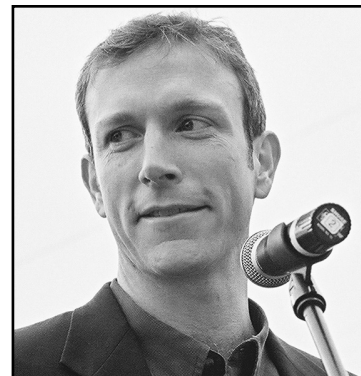
Looking out of the corner of his eye, his father's only comment was: "Smoking! And an expensive foreign brand! Wait till I get you home." That's the humor and the humanity of the Gaza I know.

College-age Gazans described their options in life as being increasingly limited. Mostly, they're limited to volunteer work with organizations like CRS, or military activity. Often, in fact, the latter isn't paid either—though it does provide steady work, if little future. These young people have known death too intimately; it seeps through their words and thoughts.

Recently I was struck by the words of a young woman named Amani from Beit Hanoun (where the homemade rockets are launched and the Israeli missiles strike in response). Amani said that the most pressing need in Gaza was openness—the opportunity to have a broad discussion about their society, to challenge

ideas and question everything. I am proud CRS is helping them get a bit closer to that dream.

(Editor's note: Thomas Garofalo is country representative for Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza. Two decades ago he was a member of Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Park Ridge where he participated in youth activities.)



Thomas Garofalo

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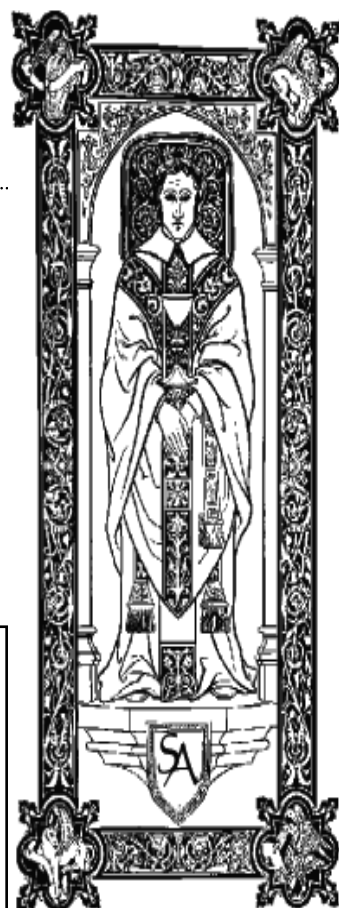
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Annual Vocations Fund Dinner slated June 3 at Mayfair Farms

WEST ORANGE—The 54th annual Archbishop's Vocations Fund Dinner will be held June 3, 6-8:30 p.m. at Mayfair Farms, 481 Eagle Rock Ave.

Hosted by the Serra Clubs of the Archdiocese of Newark, this year's honorees include Father John D. Gabriel, Father Lawrence J. Miller, Alex Paszkiewicz and Edward Civinkas. Most Rev. Thomas Donato, D.D., Auxiliary Bishop of Newark, will serve as the featured speaker for the event.

"We feel this is a very important event and it gives us the opportunity to honor Archbishop John Myers, priests and the laypeople who work to help vocations," Rosemarie Deehan, president of

Serra Club of the Oranges, said.

A donation of \$75 per person is requested. Checks should be made payable to Neil Pagano, 34 Cole Rd., Fairfield, NJ, 07004. Contact Joe Pagano at (201) 424-6773 or Deehan at (973) 672-6180 for more information.

Serra International (Web site: www.serraus.org) is a non-profit Catholic organization made up of laymen and laywomen from around the world who pray and work to foster and promote vocations to the ministerial priesthood and consecrated religious life. There have been Serra clubs chartered in over 44 different countries since the organization began in 1935.

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Submitted photo

HEALING HANDS—Father Fernando Suarez, C.C., left, prayed with 2,000 people April 12 at Saint Antoninus Parish, Newark. Fr. Suarez, who maintains a Web site (www.fatherfernando.com) is a member of Companions of the Cross Healing Ministry (Web site: www.companionscross.org), based in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. He prayed over many people for healing, like the unidentified woman (second from left). Father Jeff Shannon, C.C. (second from right) and Father William J. Halbing, the pastor of Saint Antoninus Parish, also participated in the healing Mass. Fr. Suarez was born in the Philippines in 1967. In 1997 he joined the Companions of the Cross religious community and was ordained to the priesthood in 2002.

ALASKAN CRUISE ALONG THE INSIDE PASSAGE

PARISH TRIP ON JULY 23-30, 2008 plus optional pre-cruise in Vancouver and Victoria British Columbia from July 21-23rd. Escort will be Father George Reilly aboard the Ryndam (Holland America Cruise Line). Category M (Large Inside Cabin) \$2,775.00 two in a cabin, \$3,575.00 single, Category D (Large Oceanview Cabin) \$3,400.00 two in a cabin, \$4,550.00 single, Category S (Oceanview cabin with balcony) \$4,650.00 two in a cabin and \$8,130.00 single. Cost inc. round-trip trans., St. Joseph to Newark International Airport, professional assistance w/checking in, round trip airfare Newark/Vancouver, all departure taxes, fuel surcharges (fuel surcharges are subject to increase until airline tickets are issued), airport/ship transportation, 7 night luxury cruise in cabin of your choice, all on board meals, entertainment, port taxes. **OPTIONAL PRE-CRUISE:** Vancouver and Victoria British Columbia July 21-23. Costs: \$419.00 two in a room and \$600.00 for single occupancy. **For complete information call St. Joseph Parish at 201-261-0148. Reservations are limited.**



Father Moran to celebrate a golden day

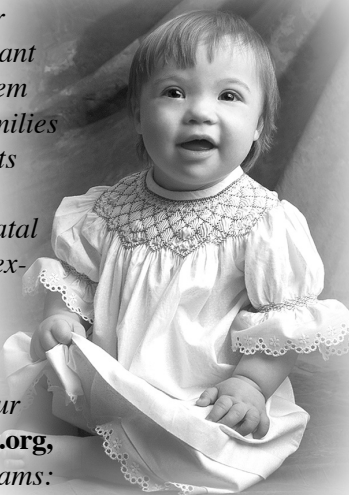
HILLSDALE—Father Michael J. Moran will celebrate Mass at 5 p.m. on Saturday, May 31 at Saint John the Baptist Parish to mark the 50th anniversary of his ordination.

Fr. Moran grew up in Bayonne and attended Seton Hall University, South Orange. He was assigned to Saint John the Baptist in 1992 and served as chaplain to the local fire and police departments.

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plus LAS VEGAS.....	July 17-26	Father Robert Laferrera
ITALY.....	October 16-26	Father Dan Grigassy, O.F.M.
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Urban scholarship bill

Continued from page 3

the three hours of the hearings that S1607 is not a “voucher” bill—as some claim—but rather an alternative-funding mechanism that will not divert any current funds from the state’s education budget for the term of the pilot phase of this legislation.

“This is important because quality education for all children, delivered in a manner that is equitable for the taxpayers of New Jersey, is a goal that we all share,” Bishop da Cunha said in his testimony. “We meet people in all walks of life—government, business, academics, clergy—successful people who are productive in their endeavors and went through our Catholic education programs.”

Bishop da Cunha also spoke strongly of the 150-year role that Catholic schools have played in the general education plan of the state. “We educate students of all faiths because we believe in the parable of the Good Samaritan,” he said. “As is the case with Catholic Charities, our schools educate all, whether or not they are

Catholics.”

He went on to point out that, in inner-city parochial schools throughout the state, some 80 percent of students are non-Catholic. He also mentioned that there are no metal detectors in Catholic schools and that many of the Catholic schools in cities such as Newark do not have locks on their lockers. The bishop also spoke of his years as a pastor of Saint Michael’s Parish in Newark, which sponsors the largest Catholic elementary school in the archdiocese.

“We live today in a very different reality from decades ago when Catholic schools were staffed by Religious brothers and sisters,” he said, noting that while parents have complained to him over the years that the schools in cities like Newark do not meet their needs, they often feel they have no other choice, because even modest tuition is beyond their means.

“We must all work hard to find a way to help all those children whose families are trying desperately to send their youngsters to pri-

vate and parochial schools, especially when public schools are unable to meet their needs,” he said.

Bishop da Cunha noted that the 143,000 children who attend Catholic schools throughout New Jersey already provide significant savings to the state’s taxpayers—something not to be overlooked in such difficult economic times.

“These are the same families that are struggling under the ever-growing burden of New Jersey property taxes and daily living expenses,” he said. “If all of these children presently in New Jersey Catholic schools were enrolled in a public school, it would cost the taxpayers of the state over one billion dollars in additional costs in education.”

Mary Rone, a long-time advocate for public housing tenants in Newark, spoke of the desperation that so many Newark families feel because the public schools are not preparing their children to be productive members of society. And in not meeting this basic need, she told the committee that parents are frustrated and looking for leadership and vision from the legislature. The Jobs Scholarship Act would provide an important and necessary alternative, and a certain chance for success for these children.

Among the individuals testifying against the bill was Joyce Powell of the New Jersey Education Association (NJEA)—the state’s public teachers union. Calling it a taxpayer giveaway, she claimed that, if passed, the Urban Enterprise Zone Jobs Scholarship Act would draw away the best students from public schools, harm New Jersey’s urban public schools and drive the state deeper into financial crisis.

To support her contention, Powell stated that nonpublic schools in New Jersey do not have

to educate special needs students, do not require teacher certification, and do not have to adhere to the state’s core curriculum standards.

Countering her testimony was that of George V. Corwell, Ed. D., associate director for Education of the Trenton-based New Jersey Catholic Conference. Corwell stated that, in fact, nonpublic schools in New Jersey meet the educational needs of some 35,700 special needs students, “and that implying anything else is a slap in the face to those students.” He also informed the committee and public attending the hearing that over 95 percent of Catholic school teachers are certified and that many hold advanced degrees. Further, he said, it is likely that happy, high achieving students will remain in their current schools, and only those who are not succeeding would consider leaving for an alternative reason such as academics or safety.

Corwell added that the charter school movement had clearly shown that low-achieving students are the ones to take advantage of alternatives, contrary to the NJEA’s claims. He added that, while not required by the state, New Jersey’s Catholic schools voluntarily adhere to the same core curriculum standards as public schools.

In a nod to many thousands who are supporting the efforts of legislators to bring about positive change in education opportunities, Corwell spoke of the urgency of the issue in classic financial terms—time and money. “The state is out of money, and the children are out of time,” he declared.

Senators voting in favor of the bill were Committee Chair Lesniak (D-Elizabeth); Steven V. Oroho (R-Sparta); and Joseph M. Kyrillos, Jr. (R-Middletown). Sen. Teresa M. Ruiz (D-Newark),

voted against the bill.

The Urban Enterprise Zone Jobs Scholarship Act seeks to provide corporate tax credits to businesses that contribute to appropri-



Sen. Raymond Lesniak

ate organizations that provide scholarships to children to attend either a public or nonpublic school of their parents’ choice. No funding from the state education budget will be reallocated or deleted because of this bill.

The eight cities currently considered by the bills include Newark, Orange, Elizabeth, Jersey City, Trenton, Camden, Paterson and Lakewood. The Assembly version of the bill is expected to include the city of Passaic as well when the Assembly Education Committee considers it. Should that version of the bill be approved, the Senate version will be amended.

Doors open

Continued from page 2

your example will be a kind of wake-up call to parents and alumni of Catholic schools everywhere in the archdiocese and throughout the state. We need continued vigilance and long-term participation—financial and otherwise—of all stakeholders in Catholic schools in order to keep them affordable, vibrant and growing. We cannot continue this mission without you.”

Fr. Hanbury also announced that a Hudson Catholic alumnus, Father Warren Hall, would assume leadership of the school in June.

“We are overwhelmed and inspired by the generosity of our supporters,” Thomas Bender, chairman of the Hudson Catholic Alumni Association’s “Save Our School” committee, stated, echoing the sentiment of Fr. Hanbury. “We are grateful for the commitment of the Archdiocese of Newark and the Christian Brothers to work with us as we begin the process of shaping a new future for Hudson Catholic.”

During the period between the initial announcement on April 11 that Hudson Catholic would be closing at the end of this current school year and the May 7 meeting, alumni, parents and interested stakeholders met with archdiocesan officials and requested time to raise funds and address the issue of declining enrollment—two issues that have affected Hudson Catholic for several years.

With encouragement from the archdiocese, the group raised some \$570,000 in contributions to meet expected costs for the coming year, and have begun an extensive effort to raise some \$1.5 million to help cover operations over the next three years.

Hudson Catholic, which the De LaSalle Christian Brothers have operated as an all-boys institution since 1964, will change in September 2009 to a co-ed school. With new direction from an invigorated volunteer board, parent organization and new leadership in September, plans for long-term viability now appear to be on track.

In its announcement to parents and students in mid-April, school administration wrote that Hudson Catholic had been facing continuing serious economic difficulties in recent years. Despite the best efforts of dedicated staff and volunteers, enrollment at Hudson Catholic had continued to decline while the necessary costs of providing a quality education had risen. In February the school registered only 65 incoming freshmen while in June it would graduate a class of 130. The projected enrollment for September 2008 was only 312 students, a decline of 114 from the September 2007 enrollment of 426.

Nirva Vital

Continued from page 3

she said. “They asked if we thought we were better than they were. My friends in Catholic school pushed each other to succeed.”

The benefits of a Catholic education far outweighed the schoolyard taunts, according to Vital. “Catholic school set a foundation of morals and values. Being Catholic, I also learned more about my faith. All the students were one-on-one with teachers because of the smaller classes. There were only 20-30 students per teacher. You felt safe, like you were in a family,” she recalled.

Currently a research assistant in geriatric studies at The University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ), Vital always had an interest in healthcare within the urban community. While in high school, she worked at Newark Beth Israel Hospital and her plans for the future include further exploration of inner-city healthcare.

“Right now, I take part in qualitative research

on the geriatric population. We assess their needs and study dental care, osteoporosis and HIV in the elderly community,” Vital explained. “I would like to continue my education with another master’s degree.”

Maternal/child health is her preferred area of study. “Promoting health and pre-natal care in urban communities is of great interest to me. If you are living a healthy lifestyle, you will have a healthy child,” Vital said.

Having a scholarship program, such as an urban scholarship bill, will provide students with opportunities that they may not receive otherwise. Vital is grateful for all the SFIC and a Catholic education has provided her family.

“I appreciate the SFIC helping my family,” she said. “When you help someone else, it gives them the motivation to succeed. Later, the efforts will pay off and the students will become upright citizens. Hopefully, the scholarships will set a precedent for a positive cycle as opposed to negative one.”

HELP WANTED

Christ the King Preparatory School, Newark's Cristo Rey High School, which is sponsored by the Archdiocese of Newark and opened in August 2007, is seeking applications for the Director of the Corporate Internship Program. The Director reports directly to the President (School's web site address is ctkprep.org). Deadline for receiving applications is May 23, 2008. Starting date is negotiable but as soon as possible. Salary depends on experience and qualifications but is negotiable.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Administers the school's Corporate Internship Program. Principal responsibility includes leading effort to procure 25-30 corporate sponsors per year for the next three years, developing and maintaining relationships with current and potential corporate sponsors, overseeing student job preparation, monitoring student performance while on the job, supervising the intern evaluation process, and overseeing student transportation to and from the job location.

- Hires and supervises all staff in the Corporate Internship Program.

- Serves as a member of the school leadership team and advises the President on operations, school policies, budget matters and other issues related to the running of a Cristo Rey school.

- In cooperation with the Principal, is responsible for students' admission as well as for the dismissal of students for disciplinary reasons.

- Participates in full meetings and committee meetings of the Board of Trustees and implements directives of the Board, as delegated by the President.

- Performs other duties as required.

POSITION REQUIREMENTS

- Masters in Business, Finance or related field required
- Minimum 5 years experience in business administration, including staff supervision, required.
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CONTACT

Please send application (with resume and references) or nominations to:

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Qualified applicants contact: J. Caratenuto (703) 405-5856.

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St. Bartholomew Catholic School is a K through 8th grade school located in East Brunswick, New Jersey. St. Bartholomew enrolls 330 students with a professional staff of 18, and is fully Middle States Accredited. Candidates for principal must be willing to assume responsibility for the day-to-day administration of the school, as well as, assist in developing long range goals for the school. Excellent communication skills and enthusiasm for developing and maintaining a top grade academic and religious oriented school are a must. Candidate must be a practicing Catholic with a strong Catholic identification to carry out the mission of St. Bartholomew as a Catholic School; Candidate must hold a Master's degree in educational administration and must be well-versed in curriculum and instruction; Candidate must have a minimum of five years educational experience which includes junior high school teaching experience.

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Search Committee
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PRAYER TO ST. JUDE

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

D.L.

PRAYER TO THE
BLESSED VIRGIN

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

C.J.M.

PRAYER TO ST. JUDE

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

E.C.

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.

T.K.

PRAYER TO THE
BLESSED VIRGIN

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

S.L.

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.

L.J.G.

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.

G.R.

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Young adult forum ponders how to see gifts from God

SOUTH ORANGE—The fifth annual New Jersey Young Adult Conference, “Discover the Gifts,” will be held at Seton Hall University’s (SHU) Jubilee Hall Auditorium on Saturday, June 14, 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The conference gives young adults throughout New Jersey an opportunity to share their faith experiences and come together as a community.

Sister Marilyn Minter, CSSF, currently the director of Music and Liturgy at the provincial house in Lodi, and campus minister at Immaculate Conception High School, will deliver the keynote address, which will focus on how young men and women can recognize their God-given gifts and use them to serve the Lord and the people of God.

The conference also will include six workshops: the gift of healing; the gift of service; the gift of self in family and relationships; reverencing the gift; finding your gifts (tools for self-discovery); and a World Youth Day panel. Participants will have the opportunity to attend Mass, participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, partake in the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, as well as listen to praise and worship music.

Sponsors for the conference include the Parish Partnership Program of the Institute for Christian Spirituality, Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology at SHU, the Archdiocese of Newark and the dioceses of Paterson, Metuchen and Trenton.

To register or to learn more about the conference, visit the Web site (www.njyoungadultconference.org) or call Christine Yzaguirre at (973) 378-9840.

The Institute for Christian Spirituality, a center where those already in ministry or considering a vocation to ministry, could obtain a foundation in their faith, learn effective skills in pastoral ministry and receive tools for discernment and spiritual growth.



Submitted photo

TEAM EILEEN—Saint Vincent Academy, Newark’s college-preparatory high school for young women, took first place as the school with the largest contingent of runners and walkers among more than 10,000 participants at the first Susan G. Komen “Race for the Cure” event held in Branch Brook Park on Sunday, May 4. Saint Vincent’s “Team Eileen,” made up of 177 students, alumnae, faculty, friends and family members from as far away as Massachusetts, was named in honor of Sister Eileen Bradshaw. Sr. Eileen, front row, center, is the director of alumnae affairs at Saint Vincent. A Sister of Charity of Saint Elizabeth, Sr. Eileen was treated for breast cancer five years ago. She recently suffered a recurrence and is undergoing chemotherapy. Sister June Favata, administrative director of Saint Vincent’s, described Sr. Eileen as part of the “heart and soul” of the school.

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Heart association lauds St. Joseph Medical Center

PATERSON—Saint Joseph's Regional Medical Center has been cited with multiple awards from the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association for its coronary artery disease, stroke and heart-failure care.

The medical center, a neighbor of the Archdiocese of Newark, is a recipient of the "Get With The Guidelines" (GWTG) Silver Performance Achievement Awards in coronary artery disease, the Silver Performance Achievement Award for stroke, and the Silver Performance Achievement Award for heart-failure treatment. Saint

Joseph's is the only hospital in New Jersey recognized in all three categories.

"Saint Joseph's Regional Medical Center's care for heart disease and stroke patients is among the best in the country. These awards recognize that patients suffering from heart failure, coronary artery disease or stroke receive outstanding medical care at Saint Joseph's," said William A. McDonald, President and Chief Executive Officer of Saint Joseph's Healthcare System.

Get With The Guidelines helps ensure that patients treated and dis-



Submitted photo

Posing proudly with their awards are, left to right, Kathleen Sauter, director, Cardiovascular Services; Lorraine Marut, RN, APN, C, Nurse Practitioner, Cardiovascular Services; Robert Faillace, MD, chairman of Cardiovascular Services; Diana Reiner, RN, APN, C, Nurse Practitioner, the Neurology Stroke Center; Avery Katz, MD, Medical Director; the Neurology Stroke Center and Chief of Neurology; Maria Brennan, MSN, RN, CHPQ, C, Chief Nursing Officer and vice president of Patient Care Services; Maryanne Crowther, RN, APN, C, Nurse Practitioner, Cardiovascular Services and Deborah Terrone, RN, APN, C, Nurse Practitioner, Cardiovascular Services.

charged receive quality care in accordance with guidelines that will reduce the risk of secondary events. It takes advantage of the "teachable moment," the time soon

after a heart attack or stroke, when patients are most likely to listen to their healthcare professionals' treatment recommendations.

Studies demonstrate that pa-

tients who are taught how to manage their risk factors while still in the hospital reduce their risk of a second heart attack or stroke.

These awards signify that Saint Joseph's has reached a high quality goal of treating coronary artery disease, stroke, and heart failure patients with standard levels of care outlined by the American Heart Association/ American College of Cardiology secondary prevention guidelines and recommendations.

According to GWTG treatment guidelines, patients are started on aggressive risk reduction therapies such as cholesterol-lowering drugs, and medications such as beta-blockers, ACE inhibitors, aspirin, diuretics and anticoagulants in the hospital, or in the case of stroke, they may receive clot-dissolving medications, medicines to prevent blood clots and DVT prophylaxis.

For more information about the programs and services available at Saint Joseph's, call (877) 757-7547.

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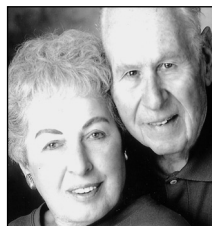


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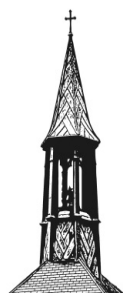
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Healthcare access for poor must not be sacrificed

NJ bishops raise concerns over cuts to Charity Care

(Editor's note: The Catholic Bishops of New Jersey issued the following statement at their board of bishops meeting at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark, on May 13.)

Catholic hospitals have served the people of New Jersey for more than 150 years. In the 19th century, dedicated and committed religious men and women came to New Jersey and established some of the first hospitals in our state. Today, Catholic hospitals continue because of the commitment and dedication of thousands of physicians, nurses, other healthcare profes-

sionals, and staff who provide care to more than 2.5 million individuals each year at 13 hospitals.

Recognizing the many challenges of healthcare delivery today, the Catholic Bishops of New Jersey desire to continue our Catholic mission of providing first-rate service and quality care in our hospitals that welcome patients, especially the poor and vulnerable, without regard to race, religion, or social status.

As New Jersey's fiscal year 2009 budget is debated, we call for healthcare access for the poor and vulnerable to be a priority that is not sacrificed. As the state looks at the proposal to cut \$143 million from the Charity Care program and \$10 million from graduate medical education, we are concerned that the poor and vulnerable will be harmed as programs are curtailed, staff is reduced and some hospitals are forced to close.

The New Jersey Commission on Rationalizing Health Care Resources was correct in concluding that many NJ hospitals are in "poor financial health" because of underfunding by Medicaid and Charity Care. This underfunding is a threat to the future of many of our Catholic hospitals.

In 2006 Catholic hospitals provided nearly 20 percent of the state's documented Charity Care. The cost of this care was over

\$241.9 million. The proposed fiscal year 2009 Budget would reimburse approximately \$143.6 million towards Charity Care or more than \$98 million less than costs. Two Catholic hospitals provided over \$16.7 million in Charity Care in 2006 and received no reimbursement at all for the services they provided.

We support the efforts that are being proposed to bring universal healthcare access to New Jersey and we are proud to partner with the state in providing access to healthcare especially for the poor and vulnerable. At the same time, we ask that the funds for Charity Care that would be affected by proposed cuts be restored so that

this partnership may continue.

Most Rev. John J. Myers
Archbishop of Newark

Most Rev. William C. Skurla
Bishop of the Byzantine
Catholic Eparchy of Passaic

Most Rev. Joseph A. Galante
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Holy Name technology targets cancer

TEANECK—When it comes to radiation oncology—one of the most rapidly progressing areas in cancer care—every technological advancement highlights the treatment challenges that remain.

Physicians at the Regional Cancer Center at Holy Name Hospital have found solutions to treatment problems with image-guided radiation therapy (IGRT). A cutting-edge technology acquired earlier this year, IGRT combines the precision of intensity modulated radiation therapy (IMRT) with the visual confirmation of X-ray or CT scans on a single machine.

"IGRT offers unprecedented accuracy of treatment by taking target motion into consideration," Benjamin Rosenbluth, M.D., a radiation oncologist at Holy Name, said. "It enhances our ability to target the tumor, increases the uniformity of treatment and decreases the risk of damaging to healthy tissue surrounding the tumor."

The most sophisticated IMRT technology—which has been in use at Holy Name for three years—can be rendered less effective by changes in

patient positioning or by the effects of the body's own internal motions on tumors. Soft tissues like the bowel, bladder and prostate can shift, and the tumor itself can drift slightly from the original treatment area, exposing non-cancerous organs and structures to unnecessary radiation.

Dubbed "the seek and destroy approach to radiation therapy" the "Dynamic Targeting" IGRT system enables doctors to see tumors at the time of treatment and to make ultra-fine adjustments to the patient's position, allowing an increased radiation dose that hits every contour of its target and nothing outside of it.

"Once upon a time," Rosenbluth said, "treatment was planned at one point in time, and therapy was given based on that. With IGRT, we review the image and shift or match right before the treatment, just before the beam is turned on. At Holy Name, we've fully embraced this technology," he said, noting that the system's manufacturer uses the Regional Cancer Center at Holy Name as an IGRT demonstration site for healthcare professionals from other facilities.

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Advocate photo – M. Gabriele

TIME, TALENT AND SOFT TREASURES—Claire Poli (left), coordinator of Saint Henry's Crocheting and Knitting Group, visited the Newark chancery on May 8 and donated handmade baby blankets, sweaters, hats and boots to Carla Gonzalez, executive director of the archdiocesan office of Development and Stewardship. The items will be delivered to local parishes and Good Counsel Homes for unwed mothers. Women gather at the Bayonne parish on Sundays after Mass during the seasons of Advent and Lent to crochet and knit items to “spread the warmth of God’s love and our love to our neighbors,” Poli said, noting her group always welcomes yarn donations to continue the outreach effort. Call the parish at (201) 436-0857 for more information. Most Rev. Thomas A. Donato, Auxiliary Bishop of Newark, is the pastor of Saint Henry.



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Cemeteries pitches baseball outing

AREA—Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Newark will host its third annual “Baseball Game Day” fund-raiser Tuesday, June 24 at Yogi Berra Stadium, Little Falls. Registration at the stadium will begin at noon.

Proceeds from the game will be earmarked for a planned 9/11 memorial at Holy Cross Cemetery, North Arlington. Contact John DeRienzo, sales man-

ager for Catholic Cemeteries, by phone at (973) 497-7951 or via e-mail at derienjo@rcan.org for information on the outing.

The family-friendly event will feature events throughout the day, between-inning promotions, banners and professional tabletop displays on the concourse level. The stadium concession stand will provide the traditional baseball menu.



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