

Celebrating the best and the brightest

Spotlight on college graduations in this issue. High school grads will be featured in the June 18 edition.

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Hudson Catholic taps Father Hall to take the helm

Graduate returns to his alma mater to serve as president and principal of the Jersey City high school.

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Archdiocese commemorates Memorial Day



The annual celebration of Memorial Day masses, organized and sponsored by Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Newark, was held on Monday, May 26. Archbishop John J. Myers (upper right) was the main celebrant at Holy Cross Cemetery, North Arlington. Bishop Edgar M. da Cunha, S.D.V., D.D., (bottom left), celebrated Mass at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, East Hanover. Andrew P. Schafer serves as the executive director of Catholic Cemeteries, which is dedicated to the respectful care of the deceased and bereavement support for families.

Advocate photos – Ward Miele and M. Gabriele

Newark school combats gang violence

BY MELISSA MCNALLY
Staff Writer

NEWARK—With rising gang violence plaguing their city, students and administrators of Saint Rose of Lima School are fighting back.

As the first private school in the state to offer the federal Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT) program curriculum, the parish school on Orange Street is combating the recruitment of gang members at a younger age.

GREAT is a school-based, law enforcement officer-instructed classroom curriculum. With prevention as its primary objective, the program is intended to resist youth violence and gang membership. Offered to the third, fourth and sixth grade students, it is taught by Officer Raymond Vonderheide, senior parole officer in the street gang unit of the New Jersey State Parole Board.

The curriculum was brought to the attention of Candida Esposito, director of staff develop-

ment at Saint Rose of Lima School, by Catholic Charities. "Catholic Charities visited with Principal Arthur L. Wilson, the State Parole Board and me and asked if we were interested in the program. The more education we give to these children to challenge gang violence, the better," Esposito explained.

Most of the children who attend the school live in Newark and are constantly exposed to gangs. "The students don't need me to tell them about gangs—it is in their environment. The gang problem is growing and I don't want to see that," Vonderheide said. The 12-week program hardly mentions the word "gang;" instead students are taught about peer pressure and making positive choices.

"The students gain confidence, which is the building block to making the right decisions. We perform skits and have activities that encourage communication and address peer-pressure and bullying," Vonderheide explained.

Students responded positively to the pro-

gram and "Officer Ray" especially. With long blonde hair and a relaxed demeanor, Vonderheide does not fit the profile of a typical police officer for the students. "I look a little different from the police officers they are used to seeing. When I tell them that in my spare time, I like to play my guitar, surf and snowboard, they respond to that," he recalled.

Although Vonderheide has been a police academy instructor and involved with fighting gang violence for 11 years, he is still nervous when teaching the youngsters. "The first time I taught the GREAT curriculum was over a year ago and I was terrified. I still feel nervous every time I first start a class. It takes about a week for the students to warm up to me. Sometimes the kids will come and talk to me about their problems and I am very flattered; it tugs at the heart-strings."

The rise of gang violence is due in part to its prevalence in the media, Vonderheide suggested.

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Celebrating flint that sparks priestly vocations

This is a time for rejoicing. Any of you who has ever attended an ordination at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark knows first-hand the elation, the energy, the celebration that springs forth when the sacrament of Holy Orders is conferred.

This year, as I was preparing for this special moment in the life of a bishop—calling men of all walks of life and backgrounds to become presbyters (see *The Catholic Advocate*, May 21)—I couldn't help but recall the words of our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI on April 18 at the gathering of seminarians and young people at St. Joseph's Seminary in New York:

"The people of God look to you to be holy priests, on a daily journey of conversion, inspiring in others the desire to

*Vocations to religious life
are nurtured by parents, relatives
and friends who encourage young
men and women to listen to
that 'inner voice.'*

enter more deeply into the ecclesial life of believers. I urge you to deepen your friendship with Jesus the Good Shepherd. Talk heart to heart with Him. Reject any temptation to ostentation, careerism, or conceit. Strive for a pattern of life truly marked by charity, chastity and humility, in imitation of Christ, the Eternal High Priest, of whom you are to become living icons (cf. *Pastores Dabo Vobis*, 33). Dear seminarians, I pray for you daily. Remember that what counts before the Lord is to dwell in His love and to make His love shine forth for others."

Each of the nine new priests here in the Archdiocese of Newark is truly excited by the journey he will be taking and each will need the love and support of you, the parishioners he will be serving. I know you will be a source of strength and inspiration to our new priests, and to all priests. I thank you today on their behalf.

While Newark continues to benefit from larger-than-average ordination classes in our nation, many of us tend to forget that vocations to priesthood and religious life don't just occur out of nothing. They are nurtured by parents, grandparents, relatives, friends, clergy, Religious and parishioners who encourage young men and women to listen to that "inner voice," which some describe as the start of the process of discernment. Without that active encouragement and a challenge to higher ideals, a

Sincerely in the Lord

By Archbishop
John J. Myers



priestly vocation cannot be developed and nurtured.

The Holy Father echoed this thought when he told the young people at St. Joseph's Seminary: "Let us always appreciate that it is in families that vocations are given life."

From the exuberant response of the thousands of young people that day in April to Pope Benedict's words, I believe that many of our youth would welcome the encouraging words: "Have you ever thought about..." from family and friends.

Yes, today is a time to rejoice in our new ordinandi. It is also a time for us to recommit ourselves, the people of God, to be the flint that lights the spark of a vocation to the priesthood or religious life.



Advocate photo — Ward Miele

JOYFUL MOMENT—At the conclusion of the Ordination Mass for nine priests to serve in the Archdiocese of Newark and two for the Society of Divine Vocations on Saturday morning, May 24, Archbishop John J. Myers led the entire group to the top steps of the altar to acknowledge spontaneous and sustained applause from those filling the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark. Moments earlier the archbishop received the first blessings of the new priests. In his homily Archbishop Myers told them "we acknowledge God's continual initiative to lead and serve His people. I can assure you that you will serve wonderful people." A short time later each new priest went to designated locations around the Cathedral Basilica to give blessings to family and friends. *The Catholic Advocate*, in its May 21 edition, published biographies of the new priests.

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FREQUENCY FOR THE YEAR

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

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Political extremists must not stifle faithful voices of reason, freedom

'Indifference' fuels tension in Middle East

BY WARD MIELE
 Managing Editor

SOUTH ORANGE—The Middle East is the geopolitical challenge of our time that will take generations to solve, declared U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Dr. Zalmay Khalilzad, speaking at a Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations forum on the campus of Seton Hall University (SHU).

Ambassador since March of last year, Khalilzad is a former U.S. ambassador to both Iraq and Afghanistan and was also a special presidential envoy to Afghanistan.

During his presentation on April 17, Khalilzad told his Jubilee Hall audience that the struggle in that troubled part of the world is the "crisis" between Islamic moderates and extremists. The situation is such that the world "cannot be indifferent." What happens in the Middle East, Khalilzad is convinced, will have a profound impact on world events. The process must be one in which extremists are "weakened" and moderates "encouraged."

Khalilzad stressed it is important to stay on the offensive to resolve the underlying tensions and conflicts of the region. Efforts must be

made to "marginalize" extremist elements while providing economic opportunity to the region. The United States can play a "supportive role" in this mission to achieve progress that will engender Middle East stability.

Despite the amount of international press attention that they receive, political and religious extremists in the Middle East are a "minority phenomenon," he emphasized. Unfortunately, these radical elements typically overshadow moderate political forces, which are the keys to progress in that part of the world.

The ambassador underlined the fact that support "for the rule of law" is critical. In that context he mentioned the "great contribution" that had been made with the drafting of a constitution for Iraq and Afghanistan.

Steps must be taken to deal with the Middle East's volatile combination of "regional rivalry and ambition." Khalilzad felt that "collective" action is needed to meet the potential threat posed by Iran. While he does not envision a "conflict" with Iran, the ambassador said the situation there must be "contained."

There must be an "effective use of multilateral institutions," such as the U.N., which can achieve comprehensive solutions for the region, he said. One of his primary goals is to support the role of the U.N. in Afghanistan, which he sees as a key element for stability in the broader Middle East. Iraq, he went on, presents problems on both the security and political fronts. He described Iraq as a "fault-line country."

Neighboring countries in the Middle East



Dr. Zalmay Khalilzad

"must play a positive role," according to Khalilzad. In that effort, the U.N., as "a neutral body," provides critical experience in dealing with "multilateral engagement." In addition, "an open ear and an open mind" among all parties would be constructive in improving the lives of all people in the region, he said.

Khalilzad is one of a long line of luminaries to address the SHU Whitehead School of

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Online outreach spurs catechists to recognize gifts of the disabled

BY MICHAEL C. GABRIELE
 Editor

NEWARK—Call it an interactive, online brainstorming session on catechesis for those with disabilities—to welcome them to faith-based communities as well as appreciate the spiritual gifts they offer.

Anne Masters, director of pastoral ministry with people with disabilities in the Archdiocese of Newark, took part in an online Web seminar or "Webinar" May 6, hosted by the Washington-based National Catholic Partnership on Disability (NCPD) and several other Catholic organizations.

The Web-based seminar focused on ways to bring children with autism spectrum disorders, developmental disabilities or visual or hearing impairments into full participation in religious education classes at the parish or diocesan level.

Masters traveled to Washington D.C. to participate in the high-tech outreach effort, which included a live audio stream, Power Point slide presentations and interactive, statistical bar charts that were created through online, real-time feedback.

An estimated one in 166 children nationwide has autism spectrum disorders, with boys more likely to be affected than girls. Statistical

evidence suggests the autism rate is especially high in New Jersey: one in 94 children. The disorder affects an individual's social skills, language expression and understanding and can be manifested by various repetitive behaviors. Tragically, families can feel rejected by their faith communities due to the disruptive behavior of their autistic children.

Interviewed by Catholic News Service (CNS) at the Webinar, Masters said the key aspect in catechesis for children with disabilities is to "begin by welcoming the child before you" and to find out what he or she needs. Webinar content can be found online at: <http://www.ncpd.org/Webinars.htm>.

The theme of inclusion is at the heart of Masters' work, which involves helping those with developmental disabilities, especially autism, feel welcome at Sunday Mass and other faith-based activities. The thrust also involves enlightening faith communities to recognize the spiritual gifts that those with disabilities can share. All people, regardless of ability or disability, have need and right to celebrate God's presence and participate in a community of faith, she said.

Last year, here in the Archdiocese of Newark, the PRAISE (Persons Recognized, Affirmed, Included in Spirit-filled Education)



Anne Masters

advisory board was established to work with the archdiocesan Office for Pastoral Ministry with Persons with Disabilities and Catechetical Office to develop a certification process for special learning needs in catechesis (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Dec. 19, 2007). Board members included Geraldine Gibbia, Linda Meyer and Mary Beth Walsh—three award-winning educators who live and work in the archdiocese.

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Seven named to review board

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Two educators, a district court judge, a psychologist and a civic association leader will begin three-year terms on the National Review Board June 1. A judge and another psychologist also have been named to the board for terms beginning June 1, 2009. Cardinal Francis E. George of Chicago, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, announced the appointments May 22. Established by the bishops in 2002, the board reviews diocesan compliance with the

“Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People,” oversees diocesan audits on child protection policies and practices, and recommends ways to ensure child protection to dioceses and church-based agencies.

Fewer youths to attend WYD

WASHINGTON (CNS)—World Youth Day (WYD) events typically draw hundreds of thousands of youths and in some countries they have reached or surpassed the 1 million mark. However, this year’s event in Sydney, Australia, July

15-20 will be on a much smaller scale. WYD officials have been saying they expect 225,000 pilgrims to take part in this year’s events, including 100,000 Australians. But local news reports have questioned if the projected figure is accurate, stating the final count may be significantly lower. The WYD office had projected the United States would be sending about 21,000 pilgrims to Sydney, but as of May 23, the number of registered U.S. pilgrims was significantly lower. Sister Eileen McCann, a Sister of St. Joseph and coordinator for youth and young adult ministry for the U.S. bishops, said 13,400 U.S. pilgrims are registered. Distance and expense this year are major factors.



CNS photo

Catholics attend Mass at the Basilica of St. Mary at the Sheshan shrine on the outskirts of Shanghai, China, May 24. During the Mass, Chinese pilgrims read aloud a prayer by Pope Benedict XVI (“Prayer to Our Lady of Sheshan”) as they marked a special day of prayer for the church in China. Around 2,500 pilgrims packed the shrine’s minor basilica on the day of prayer for the Church in China, which the pope had called for in his June 2007 letter to mainland Catholics.

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KEEPING COMPANY IN THE SPIRIT

Father Warren Hall to navigate new vision for Hudson Catholic

BY JAMES GOODNESS
Director of Communications

AREA—Father Warren R. Hall, 45, a Jersey City native and 1981 graduate of Hudson Catholic Regional High School, will serve as the new president and principal of the Jersey City school, effective this month.

In addition to welcoming a new leader, Hudson Catholic, which the De LaSalle Christian Brothers Order has operated as an all-boys institution since 1964, will transition to a co-ed school when it opens its doors in September 2009. Fr. Hall, in the coming months, will lead the effort to oversee and steer that major change in the student body profile.

"It's important for everyone to know that all involved in Hudson Catholic's long-range planning agree that broadening the field of eligible students to include young women is both a natural and necessary element of the school's future," Father Kevin M. Hanbury, Ed.D., Vicar for Education and Superintendent of Schools for the Archdiocese of Newark, said.



According to a statement issued by the archdiocesan Office of Communications and Public Relations, planning will begin this summer so that Hudson Catholic will be ready to welcome young women in September 2009. While recruiting for the freshman class that year will include female and male candidates, the school also will extend an invitation to young women entering grades 10 and 11.

Fr. Hall earned a bachelor of arts in English from Seton Hall University (SHU), South Orange, while attending the university's College Seminary, Saint Andrew's Hall. He also earned a

Master of Divinity degree in Pastoral Ministry and a Master of Arts degree in Theology from Immaculate Conception Seminary at SHU, and was ordained to the priesthood for service in the Archdiocese of Newark in 1989.

His parish assignments within the archdiocese have included service at Saint Michael Parish, Cranford, and Saint Mary, Dumont. He also served for a time as priest secretary to former Newark Archbishop Theodore McCarrick.

Between 1999 and 2003, Fr. Hall served at parishes in Maryland and Delaware. Since 2003, Fr. Hall has been involved in campus ministry at Saint Thomas University, Miami, while pursuing doctoral studies in education.

As reported, during a May 7 gathering at Hudson Catholic, Fr. Hanbury applauded the determined effort to raise the sufficient funds necessary to keep a 44-year old institution, located at 790 Bergen Ave., open for the 2008-2009 school year and beyond (see *The Catholic Advocate*, May 21).

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Tent revival to run June 22-23

HOWELL—Good News International's 12th annual Catholic Tent Revival, which includes among its featured speakers Father Bill Halbing, pastor of Saint Antoninus Parish in Newark, will be held June 22-23 at Saint Veronica Parish, 4215 Rt. 9 North.

Each night begins at 6:30 p.m. The event is open to the public and admission is free.

"Everyone is invited to join us for three nights of grace and blessing. This year's tent revival will be focused on forgiveness and healing...and couldn't we all use some of that?" said Bill Wegner, president of Good News International.

Among the guest speakers is Steven McDonald, a former New York City police officer who was shot and paralyzed when he was just 29 years old. He will tell his remarkable journey through anguish and anger to peace that began with a decision to forgive his attacker.

Richard Lane is a recent convert to the faith. He started as a street corner preacher in St. Louis, and has gone on to become a Catholic lay evangelist and popular radio personality.

Fr. Halbing is sought after for local, national and international conferences and seminars.

Other highlights include contemporary Christian music by Refuge Music Ministry; bookstore and ministry fair; master clowns, kids' skits, and face painting for children; and food. The closing day special event will be the Celebration of Mass with Trenton Bishop John Smith, on Tuesday night.

Good News International is a lay ministry—an evangelization outreach by Catholic Christian men and women who are called to encourage and challenge their brothers and sisters to live a life of holiness. The group conduct parish missions, retreats, conferences and many other events, throughout the United States and other parts of the world.

For information visit www.GoodNewsInternational.net, call (732) 364-6158 or email goodnews@cybercomm.net.



June 4

St. Mary Parish, Nutley, eight-week bereavement support group, 7 - 8:30 p.m., call Elaine Tanimura at (973) 667-0335.

Holy Spirit Parish, Union, Holy Hour for Life, 7:30-8:30 p.m., (908) 687-3327.

June 5

Assumption Parish, Roselle Park, St. Anthony's Feast, through June 8, 6 - 10 p.m., (908) 245-1107.

St. Paul Parish, Ramsey, Mass and Healing Service celebrated with Father John Campoli, 8 p.m., call Mary Jane McGinley at (201) 327-1968.

June 6

The Sodality of the Children of Mary of St. Teresa, Jersey City, recitation of the "Little Office," 3:15 p.m., call Katherine T. Crossan at (201) 689-1471.

June 7

The Community of God's Love, Rutherford, Mass of Anointing of the Sick and Healing Prayers, 6 p.m., (201) 935-0344.

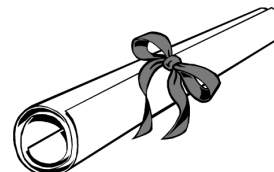
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Orange, pilgrimage to the Shrine of St. Jude in Baltimore, MD, 8 a.m., cost: \$35, call Josephine at (973) 243-1077 or Carla (973) 668-1076.

June 8

Queen of Peace Parish, North Arlington, blood drive, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., cost: \$15, (201) 997-0700.

June 9

St. Mary of the Assumption High School, Elizabeth, golf classic at Glenwood Country Club in Old Bridge, begins with a barbecue at 11 a.m., cost: \$150, RSVP to Joan Gallagher at (908) 352-4350.



June 11

SS. Peter and Paul Parish, Hoboken, annulment information evening, 7:30 p.m., (973) 497-4327.

June 12

St. Casimir Parish, Newark, Polish Apostolate meeting, 7:30 p.m., (973) 344-2743.

St. Andrew Parish, Westwood, Knights of Columbus Council 2188, golf classic at River Vale Country Club, 8 a.m., cost: \$150, (201) 954-4664.

June 13

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Scotch Plains, "Night of Comedy" featuring Johnny Watson, Ted Daniels and Roberta Rockwell, 7 p.m., cost: \$20, (908) 889-8880.

Caldwell College, tricky tray gift auction, 6 p.m., cost: \$25 general admission/ \$20 alumni, call Megan Hurley at (973) 618-3582.

June 14

Sacred Heart Parish, Newark (Vailsburg), family day and flea market, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., cost: \$15, (973) 373-9790.

Seton Hall University, South Orange, "Discovering the Gifts" young adult conference, featuring Sister Marilyn Minter, C.S.S.F., call Christine Yzaguirre at (973) 378-9840.

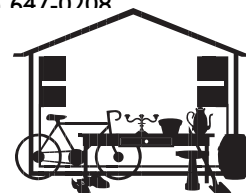
June 19

Seton Hall University, South Orange, "Transformational Leadership: The Call of the Business Leader," 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., (973) 275-2525.

Lacordaire Academy, Upper Montclair, "Cocktails, Camaraderie and Catching Up" alumni event, at the Upper Montclair County Club, cost: \$30 per person, RSVP by June 5, (973) 744-1156 ext. 27.

Other

The Shrine of St. Joseph, Stirling, will be accepting donated goods on June 15, 22 and 29 for the annual flea market and live auction held on Sept. 20, (908) 647-0708.



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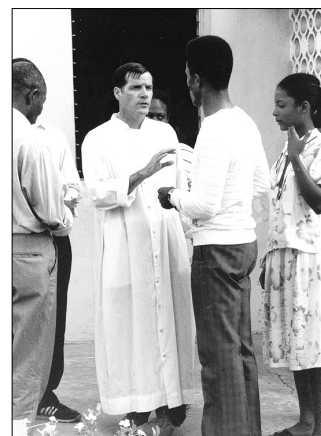
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The Archdiocese of Newark takes very seriously any and all credible complaints of sexual misconduct by members of the clergy, Religious and lay staff of the archdiocese. We encourage anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct to inform the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

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



Advocate photo-Ward Miele

INTERCESSION SOUGHT—With Father Michael A. Andreano (standing), secretary to the archbishop by his side, Archbishop John J. Myers (seated, center) led the ordinandi in praying the rosary in the sun-drenched garden of the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark just before the Mass of Ordination on Saturday, May 24. In his homily Archbishop Myers said “we together turned to the Blessed Virgin Mary as we prayed the rosary, asking that you might open your hearts to the Gift of the Holy Spirit as she was open in her own life. May you always seek her help and intercession.”

Time to celebrate new priests

A palpable joy permeated the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark late last month as Archbishop John J. Myers ordained nine new priests for the service of the Church of Newark and two for the society of Divine Vocations. *The Catholic Advocate* shares in that joy and wishes them well in the vineyard of the Lord.

For the ordinandi it was an intense spiritual moment anyone outside the clergy can only imagine. Being called by God to work among His people is at the same time a humbling, challenging and exhilarating experience. As Archbishop Myers counseled in his homily: “the challenge is great. . . . you will need great hearts, pastors ‘hearts,’ in fact, the heart of Christ to live your vocation.”

With the new priests coming from a variety of nations around the world, the diversity that is the strength of the Archdiocese of Newark is reinforced.

Each group of new priests is unique in its own right and the Class of 2008 is no exception. The group ranges in age from 27 to 65. It is a superbly educated collection of men, many of whom have worked in the private sector and with young people. The talents they bring to the priesthood will serve them and the faithful well.

Once again the Archdiocese of Newark was in the forefront of the number of men ordained to the priesthood in the United States. That has to be pleasing to Archbishop Myers—a former director of vocations back in Illinois. It is also a tribute to the archdiocese’s outgoing director of vocations, Father Brian Plate.

The Archdiocese of Newark rejoices in God’s selection of His new priests. May they have long and fruitful ministries.

A false alarm: ‘fire in clinic’ misses the point

One argument that is often made to justify destroying human embryos begins like this: Suppose there is a fire in a fertility clinic. You are the only adult present and there is a newborn baby and a tank of liquid nitrogen with 5,000 frozen embryos in the clinic. You can save only one of them before the place burns down. Which would you choose?

Only the most passionate and radical extremist, so the argument goes, would save the container with the embryos instead of the newborn baby. This seems to demonstrate what advocates of embryonic stem-cell research have been saying all along—namely that everybody makes a moral distinction between embryos and children, and that killing embryos cannot be on the same moral level as killing children. Embryo destruction, they conclude, poses no real moral problem if they are killed for research to benefit others.

Yet it is clear that this argument fails to justify what it proposes. We can see this by modifying the storyline slightly. Imagine three beautiful baby sisters who were just born, lying together and sleeping in the same hospital bed. The father of these girls is in the waiting room down the hall. In another bed next to the girls is their mother, unconscious and recuperating from surgery. The father is the only person in the hospital ward, when suddenly a massive fire flares up.

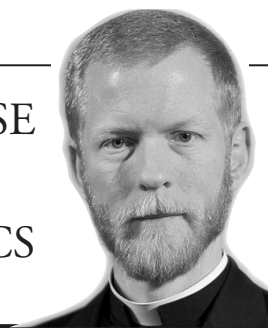
He runs down the hallway to rescue his family, but he can only choose one bed to roll out of the ward before the fire completely engulfs the room and makes it impossible to rescue anyone else. If he chooses to rescue his wife, rather than his three daughters, does that mean there is a moral distinction between his daughters and his wife?

Does that in any way imply that he would accept the idea of his daughters being experimented on by researchers or sacrificed for science? Certainly not! Such a conclusion would never follow from his action. The fact that he chose to save his wife would not indicate that he valued his three daughters any less than his wife, or that he viewed them as being “less human” than his wife. It might rather indicate that because he had spent a lot of time with his wife over the years, he was more emotionally attached to her, knew the sound of her voice, and on a first emotional level responded to his lifelong friendship with her. It says nothing about how valuable his daughters really are, even to their own dad.

For the case of the embryos who might get left behind, the same is true: rescuing the infant says nothing about the embryos’ intrinsic worth and dignity, because

MAKING SENSE OUT OF BIOETHICS

By Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk



the rescuer may first be reacting to what is most familiar to him—namely, the newborn baby.

As a priest and bioethicist, I often am asked the awkward question of what parents should do with their “leftover” embryos following in-vitro fertilization. Parental anguish and guilt are almost palpable.

Having personally met a number of such parents, I am convinced that some of them, if they had to “face the fire,” might well choose their own embryos over somebody else’s newborn. The “family connection” runs deep and I have even spoken with men who responded that for the case of their three daughters vs. their wife, they would stay in the clinic trying to save the whole family, even if it meant they would all end up perishing in the flames.

When it comes to a flash decision, then, as the fire rages in the clinic, this hypothetical case misses the essential question of what our moral obligations really are towards the human embryo. Instead, we are facing a hopelessly artificial and improbable triage situation, which can never be a legitimate basis for determining or deducing moral principles. In a frightening and difficult moment, it involves making split-second decisions, rather than engaging in calm, principled moral reasoning.

As we proceed to make that awful decision, we may instinctively sense how the newborn baby is already moving along a path towards becoming an adult member of society. Saving the newborn thus contributes to a reasonably certain future outcome, whereas saving the embryos does not raise such practical certainty about their future or their ultimate fate. Some embryos from the tank might end up being implanted into their mother’s womb, but still die or undergo “selective reduction.” Some might be destroyed because they are deemed “unfit” by clinic operators; oth-

ers might be handed over to researchers for embryo-destructive experiments and many might still remain in the deep freeze indefinitely.

If I were to grab the newborn out of the fire, that action says nothing meaningful about my thoughts on the moral value of human embryos trapped in the freezer, but speaks more to a snap judgment about foreseeable outcomes in a crisis or triage situation.

This scenario reminds us that making complex moral decisions under duress is not easy and will necessarily depend on many factors—the particular circumstances, familial relations, perceived likely outcomes, and other emotional details of the case. It also reminds us how the process of reaching correct ethical judgments does not ultimately depend on dreaming up exasperating and unrealistic scenarios.

The case of the fire in the clinic does remind us, nevertheless, that embryos are unfamiliar to us, so that we may react differently to them than we would to a fully formed baby. But it should also serve to remind us how embryos are not supposed to be familiar to us, and are not supposed to be in freezers in the first place, but only in the safe harbor of their mother’s womb. This classic argumentative example of the clinic fire ultimately fails to engage the serious question of the inestimable worth of each embryonic human, by a kind of sidestep maneuver that draws us into an emotional response based on what may be most familiar to us in a moment of crisis.

In our world today, the clinic is not on fire, and we do not need to make a Solomonic choice between saving embryonic humans and those who are older. We ought to rather work towards building a society that cares for and safeguards them both.

(Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard University. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, MA, and serves as the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center (Web site: www.ncbcenter.org), which is based in Philadelphia.)

This hypothetical case misses the essential question of what our moral obligations really are towards the human embryo.

Opening pages of the past that resonate within us

I have been thinking recently more and more about the past. I guess that this is usual for every normal person as we grow older. Somehow the events and the faces of our youth become more and more vivid as we move on into the latter part of our existence on this earth.

A philosopher named Max Scheler in 1972 wrote a book entitled "On the Eternal Man." Like most philosophers this one uses compound, complex sentences to express himself. So you can get a pain in your brain trying to figure out his meaning.

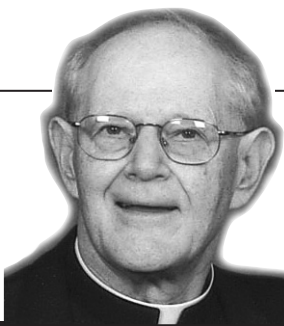
However, he speaks of the past, the present and the future. And of our past life he says, "The sense and worth of the whole of our life still come at every moment of our life within the scope of our freedom of action. Every event of our past remains indeterminate in significance and incomplete in value until it has yielded all of its potential effects. Only when seen in the whole context of (our) life, only when we are dead, does such an event take on the completed significance and unalterability which render it a fact."

Historical reality is incomplete and, so to speak, redeemable.

"The future ain't what it used to be."

VOICES

By Rev. Msgr. John Gilchrist



Yogi Berra said it more simply, "It ain't over till it's over." The sage Yankee legend also once said, "The future ain't what it used to be."

Professor Scheler's point is this: we are now, in some way, the product of all that went before in our lives. By divine providence we were born of a certain parentage, as part of a certain family. We were born male or female, in a certain country, with certain opportunities. We grew up in a world where we encountered people who affected our lives for good or for ill.

We had experiences that formed us—education, teachers and classmates. We enjoyed some beautiful experiences. We were hurt psychologically or physically by other events. We ourselves made some people happy. We may have hurt others. We did good things. We did some bad things.

In the midst of life's turmoil we responded to all the stimuli; all of the hostile and favorable forces that affected us with a variety of responses—fear, anger, joy, sorrow or gratitude.

What we are today we are because of all that went on before. If God has given us a long life, and our mind is still capable, perhaps we need to pause, to contemplate and confront the past.

As Catholic Christians we have the gift of the Holy Spirit and the sacraments, especially confession, to aid us in our meditation.

Professor Scheler reminds us all that the past is, in some way, still with us. We yet have time to renew our loves of the past, to forgive those who have hurt us, to even embrace the sorrows and pains of the past as God's will.

I see their faces—the ones I knew and loved and even disliked. It's time now to remember them and to claim ownership of our relationships. They were all part of my life. They are still part of my very being. By acknowledging them, I recognize my very inner, inner self.

As Cardinal O'Connor once said in his last days, "It's been a good ride." Perhaps it's time to make that past trip present once again. We can relive the ride and this time enjoy the entire panorama.

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

Mulling pope's call to universities, without spin

Pope Benedict XVI, during his recent historic visit to the United States, had barely left the Catholic University of America on April 17 when the Catholic higher education establishment's spin machine shifted into high gear.

One university president said that what most impressed him about the papal address to Catholic educators was what it was not: a dressing-down. Still another president cooed that she felt "affirmed." An administrator at yet another institution said that, as the pope hadn't cited *Ex Corde Ecclesiae*—John Paul II's concerns about Catholic identity were clearly old hat.

One got the distinct impression from the spin that a lot of people thought they'd dodged a bullet and were grateful

they weren't going home to face irate alums and dubious donors. The "Benedict loves what we're doing" blah-blah has continued ever since.

The facts, to put it gently, suggest something rather more complicated. Consider these excerpts from the Holy Father's address:

"A university's or school's Catholic identity...is a question of conviction. Do we really believe that only in the mystery of the Word Made Flesh does the mystery of man truly become clear? Are we ready to commit our entire self—intellect and will, mind and heart—to God? Do we accept the truth Christ reveals?"

What percentage of this year's Catholic college and university graduates could honestly answer those questions with a convinced "yes?" What percentage would even understand the first question?

"While we have sought diligently to engage the intellect of our young, perhaps we have neglected the will. Subsequently we observe, with distress, the notion of freedom being distorted. Freedom is not an opting out. Freedom is an opting in; a participation in being itself. Hence, authentic freedom can never be obtained by turning away from God."

Might these sentences be printed, framed, and posted in co-ed dormitories on Catholic campuses?

"We observe today a timidity in the face of the category of the good...an assumption that every experience is of equal worth and a reluctance to admit imperfection and mistakes. And particularly disturbing is the reduction of the precious and delicate area of education in sexuality to management of 'risk,' bereft of any reference to the beauty of conjugal love."

How many freshman orientation programs and student life offices on Catholic campuses would have to examine consciences here?

"I wish to affirm the great value of academic freedom. Yet any appeal to the principle of academic freedom in order to justify positions that contradict the faith and the teaching of the Church would obstruct or even betray the university's identity and mission; a mission at the heart of the Church's (teaching mission) and not somehow...independent of it."

Will the theologians at prestige Catholic universities who

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

By George Weigel



affirm *Humanae Vitae's* teaching on the morally appropriate means of regulating fertility, the Catechism's teaching on the disordered character of homosexual acts, and the teaching of *Ordinatio Sacerdotalis* on the inadmissibility of women to Holy Orders please raise their hands?

The spin machine notwithstanding, Benedict XVI put serious challenges before the nation's leading Catholic educators.

To resolve any doubts that the pope has a different idea of what befits a Catholic college or university than a lot of the Catholic higher education establishment, however, I propose a simple test. Whether or not to produce Eve Ensler's "*Vagina Monologues*"—a "play" that mocks the settled teaching of the Catholic Church—has become a tedious annual ritual on many Catholic campuses. Prominent among them is Notre Dame University—to the public mind, the flagship among U.S. Catholic institutions of higher education. There, the university's president, Father John Jenkins, C.S.C., has allowed Ensler's play on campus, acquiescing to the demands of some Notre Dame faculty while rejecting the counsel of other distinguished faculty members and the arguments of the local bishop.

In the patristic period, disputes within and among local churches were submitted to the Bishop of Rome for adjudication. So here's my proposal and my test case: let Father Jenkins send Pope Benedict XVI a copy of Ensler's play, asking the pope whether he considers this material appropriate for production or useful for discussion on a Catholic campus.

The answer, I predict, will not please the spin machine.

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



CNS photo

Pope Benedict XVI, during his April 17 address at Catholic University of America in Washington, highlighted the importance of Catholic identity. He said educators should help students to fully live their faith.

Transitional deacons become 'evangelizers'



Advocate photos—Ward Miele



FROM THE HEART—Clergy, family and friends filled the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark on Sunday, May 18 for the ordination of 13 new transitional deacons. In his homily, Archbishop John J. Myers told them they were “new evangelizers” called to the “particular charge” of helping with the charity work of the Church. He told them to “do the will of God from the heart.” Ordained were Matthew Richard Dooley, Hector Fabio Galvis Rios, Peter Oberenwa Iwuala, Christian Jaramillo, Pablo Antonio Martinez, Nnaemeka Andrew Jr. Onyemaobi, Andrew Junyong Park, John Jairo Prada, Mauro Primavera, Elky Reyes, Stephen Anthony Saffron and Mate Skublics. Ordained for the service of the Order of Friars Minor Capuchin was Robert Walter Williams. As pictured above, the candidates for ordination prostrated themselves before the altar during the Litany of the Saints as the assembled community asks the saints to intercede before God to send forth the Holy Spirit upon the new deacons.

Khalilzad

Continued from page 3

Diplomacy and International Relations—a list of world leaders that includes Lech Walesa, Nobel Peace Prize laureate and former president of Poland, who appeared on Dec. 1, 2005.

Many organizations based in the Archdiocese of Newark share Khalilzad's concerns regarding unfolding events in the Middle East as well as his goals for peace and global stability. One example is the Center for Interreligious Understanding, Carlstadt (Web site: faithindialogue.org), which is led by Executive Director Rabbi Jack Bemporad. Another is the Interfaith Dialog Center (IDC), Newark (Web site: www.idcnj.org), founded by Turkish-American Muslims of North Jersey in 2003. The IDC, through various seminars, lectures and education programs promotes respect and mutual understanding among all faiths and cultures.

“Moderate voices must be heard to bring about peace in the Middle East,” Dr. Levent Koc, IDC director, said, supporting Khalilzad's notion that the quest requires active engagement among people of faith and good will. “Today violence in the world is escalating and radical groups are becoming even more radical. If Western countries cooperate with moderate Muslims in places like the Middle East, then they can create peace.”

Father Hall

Continued from page 5

Earlier this year, 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. School supporters raised \$570,000 in contributions to meet expected costs for the coming year, and laid out long-range plans to gather \$1.5 million to help cover operations over the next three years.

Last April school administration acknowledged Hudson Catholic was confronting serious economic woes. In recent years enrollment at Hudson Catholic had declined significantly while costs to operate the school mounted—a dilemma faced by many Catholic schools in New Jersey and throughout the country. For example, the school registered only 65 incoming freshmen in February while in June it would graduate a class of 130. The project-

ed enrollment for September 2008 was only 312 students—a decline of 114 from the September 2007 enrollment of 426.

The overall student headcount throughout archdiocesan elementary and secondary schools at the start of the current school year was estimated at 42,500; 5 percent below the previous school year and a 10-percent decline from the 2005-06 school year (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Aug. 22, 2007).

“You have seen the effect of this (enrollment) decline in the annual tuition bills you have had to pay,” Dr. Paul Ward, president of the school, stated, prior to the recent fund-raising effort at Hudson Catholic. “Our fixed costs are spread over fewer and fewer students’ families. In the meantime, class size would increase and there would be fewer elective courses or tracks of study to match your sons’ interests and needs.

“Even with the staff cuts we made in our first budgetary plan, Hudson Catholic still faced a deficit of almost \$650,000 for next year alone,” Ward pointed out. “We would

have to finance such a deficit year in and year out.”

During meetings this spring to discuss the changing demographic and financial situation at the school, administrators of Hudson Catholic learned that the Archdiocese of Newark would not be able provide the level of emergency funding required to meet the long-term deficit projections, which would have resulted in the closing of the school. This situation created the sense of urgency to spur the successful fund-raising effort.

Fr. Hanbury, in his remarks to the audience on May 7, credited much of the tenacity and ingenuity of the effort to save Hudson Catholic to the school's symbol—the hawk. “In the animal kingdom, hawks are known for their keen vision, speed, strength and determination,” he said. “Together, you will begin the tasks of building stronger financial stability, recruitment programs, and long-range planning toward a growing school of the future filled with energetic students eager to learn in a faith-filled environment.”

Masters

Continued from page 3

The PRAISE board recently launched a pilot program that involves a one-on-one relationship between a catechist and an autistic child. The program has a two-stage mission: first to enable the autistic child to attend Mass; and then to have the child fully participate in Mass.

Using techniques designed by the PRAISE board, Masters explained that the “Applied Behavior Analysis” strategy in the pilot program employs “backward chaining,” which involves starting at the end of a given activity—in this case a Mass—and systematically working through to the beginning. This “reverse engineering” of the experience is thought to help orient the disabled individual, relieving any anxiety they might feel over the final outcome of an activity.

Msgr. Richard J. Arnholts, the archdiocesan Vicar for Pastoral Life and pastor of Saint John the Evangelist, Bergenfield, oversees programs for families and individuals with disabilities and special needs. Ron Pihokker, the director of the archdiocesan Catechetical Office, is a strong supporter of the PRAISE initiatives for the catechetical ministry. Masters, based at the Archdiocesan Center, can be reached at (973) 497-4309.

(Editor's note: CNS provided information for this report.)

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Advocate photo - M. Gabriele

LYNDHURST PROCESSION—The Lyndhurst parishes of Sacred Heart and Saint Michael the Archangel jointly celebrated their second annual Corpus Christi procession and day of devotion on May 25. Along with the colorful procession, which began at Sacred Heart and traveled south on Ridge Road to Saint Michael, the day included a noon Mass, exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, benediction and a barbecue. Father James E. Starasinich is the pastor of Sacred Heart and Father Stanley S. Kostrzomb is the pastor of Saint Michael.

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HOBY invites Shanay Fegins to seminar

ELIZABETH—Shanay Fegins, a sophomore at Saint Mary of the Assumption High School, has been selected to participate in this year's Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Seminar (HOBY) June 20-22 at Monmouth University.

The mission of HOBY is to recognize and develop leadership potential in high school students. Shanay is a candidate for induction into the National Honor Society, a member of the student council and girl's softball team.

While in the nation's capital, Feigns will attend a series of unique programs featuring introductions to distinguished national and community leaders from a cross section of society. Featured too will be an examination of the United States on the world stage.

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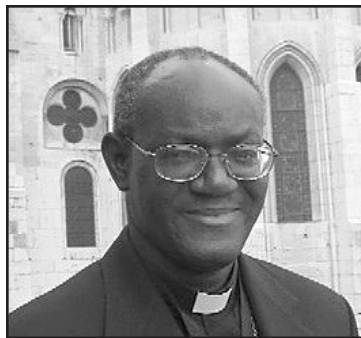
DIRECTED RETREATS—individually directed, silent retreats with Msgr. James A. Burke, Sister Barbara A. Connell, SC, Sister Margaret Ellen Burke, SCNY; Sunday, July 27 (7 p.m.) - Friday, August 1 (3:30 p.m.)

"QUILTING & CREATIVITY RETREAT"—use your creative gifts with Sister Patricia Reynolds, SC; Monday, August 4, (9 a.m.) - Friday, August 8, (3:30 p.m.)**

"A SAINT FOR OUR TIMES"—Elizabeth Seton, a role model for our times, with Sister Kathleen Flanagan, SC; Sunday, August 10 (7 p.m.) - Friday, August 15, (3:30 p.m.)**

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Bishop Simon Pierre
Saint-Hillien

Parish celebrates diversity

TEANECK—Saint Anastasia Parish, as part of its yearlong centennial celebration, is highlighting the parish's diversity with June as International Month which will include a Mass celebrated in Creole by Haitian Bishop Simon Pierre Saint-Hillien.

The Haitian Mass, at 5 p.m. June 7 will feature Father Marc-Arthur Francois, a Haitian priest from Saint Patrick Parish in Jersey City, and that parish's choir.

A reception with Haitian food, a display of Haitian artifacts and other cultural items will follow Mass.

The Filipino American Society of Teaneck (FAST) will host a Mass celebrating the parish's 100th birthday at 5 p.m. June 14.

"It is vitally important that in our centennial year, we not only acknowledge but celebrate the parish's wonderful diversity," said Father Daniel O'Neill, O. Carm.

For more information, call the rectory at (201) 837-3354 or visit the parish's Web site at www.saintanastasia.org.

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Essay contest inspires spiritual creativity

SOUTH ORANGE—The Institute for Christian Spirituality's Great Spiritual Books program, under the auspices of the Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology, honored winners of its annual high school essay contest at an awards ceremony on the campus of Seton Hall University.

The young people submitted a diverse collection of writings based on specific verses from the Gospels of Saint Matthew and Saint Luke.

In the essay category, Erica Ratti of Mother Seton Regional High School in Clark won first prize for her entry, "Doubting an Angel." Victoria Kovacs of Saint Mary's High School submitted "A Christmas Story" and earned second prize, while fellow Saint Mary's High School student Diana Brulet came in third place with her entry, "The Mystery and Joy of Christmas." Five additional participants went on to earn honorable mention.

The poetry category results show from Immaculata High School in Somerville Molly Millar taking the home first prize for her poem, "The Greatest Story Ever Told." Roselle Catholic High School student Nicole Karas' "Christmas Night," earned her second place in the poetry category, and Justin Roem of Don Bosco Preparatory School in Ramsey submitted "A Man, A Wife, A King" and was chosen for third place. Four additional participants were selected for honorable mention awards.

The Institute is now accepting submissions for its this year's contest, "Believing is Seeing." Participants will draw upon their knowledge and understanding of spirituality as it relates to "The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian" by C.S. Lewis. All entries for 2008 should be submitted by July 16. For more information contact Deborah Kurus, Institute for Christian Spirituality, at (973) 313-6329 or kurusdeb@shu.edu.



Submitted photo

CELEBRATING A CENTURY—Father Francis Gunn, former pastor of Saint Joseph Parish in East Rutherford, addresses a Holy Name Society Communion Breakfast marking the society's centennial. He noted "we celebrate all that has gone before, all the experiences in our journey of faith that have made us who we are. And, as believers in the Risen Christ, keep ourselves open to the miracles that God has yet to do in our world, in and through us."



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When Jesus turned around and noticed them following Him,

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

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

"Come and see,"
He answered.

John 1:38-39

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

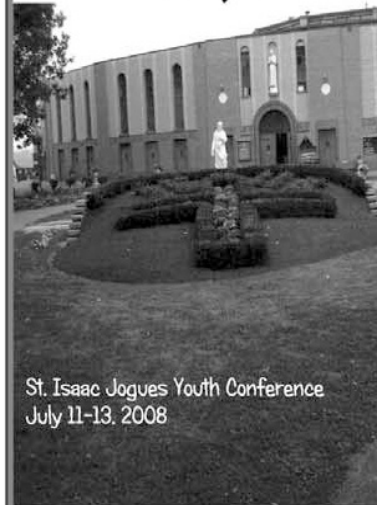


Fr. Brian Plate
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Vocationist priests ordained to serve archdiocese



Father Rijo Johnson S.D.V

BY JAMES GOODNESS
Director of Communications

NEWARK — When Archbishop John J. Myers ordained nine new priests for service to the Archdiocese of Newark at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart on May 24, he also ordained two priests of the Society of Divine Vocations — the Vocationists.

The two new Vocationists — Father Rijo Johnson, S.D.V. and Father Babu Thelappilly, S.D.V. — studied at Immaculate Conception Seminary at Seton Hall University, and received their formation at the society's vocationary in Florham Park.

Fr. Johnson, 28, was born in Kuriachira, India, and raised by his devoted Catholic parents, who belong to the Syro-Malabar Rite in the Catholic Church, which is predominant in South India.

He entered the vocationary (minor seminary) of the Vocationist Fathers in 1996. Then-Father Edgar da Cunha, S.D.V., who is now regional bishop for Essex County in the archdiocese, was one of three Vocationist priests who welcomed Fr. Johnson to the vocationary when they came to open the Vocationists' first mission in India.

In October, 2001 he was sent to the United States to further his religious formation, and entered in the novitiate at Father Justin Vocationary in Florham Park under the guidance of Rev. Father Armando Palmieri, S.D.V. (currently pastor of Saint Nicholas Parish, Palisades Park). He took his first vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience and became a member of the Vocationist Fathers community on June 29, 2003.

While he was studying for the priesthood, Fr.

Johnson was assigned to Saint Nicholas Parish and later to Saint Michael's Parish in Newark — parishes in the archdiocese administered by the Vocationists. He holds a bachelor's in Secondary Education and a master's in Systematic Theology from Seton Hall University. He celebrated his first Mass at Saint Michael Parish on Sunday, May 25.

Fr. Thelappilly is the fifth member of his family to be ordained to the priesthood. Also raised in the Syro-Malabar Rite, he entered the vocationary of the Vocationist Fathers and was made an acolyte by Father Louis Caputo, general superior of the Vocationists, in 2005. After making his solemn profession as a member of the Vocationists in February 2006, he was ordained a deacon by Bishop da Cunha in November 2006.

During the past four years, Fr. Thelappilly has served in Saint Nicholas Parish as director of religious education while working with the Holy Rosary Society and Legion of Mary. He earned a Master of Divinity degree in Theology at Seton Hall University. Fr. Thelappilly celebrated his first Mass at Saint Nicholas Parish on May 25, where he will serve as a parochial vicar.

The Society of Divine Vocations is a Catholic Religious Congregation founded by the Venerable Justin Russolillo in Italy in 1920. Vocationist Fathers and Sisters strive to foster vocations to the priesthood and Religious life, especially among the poor.

Its main ministry is to identify and guide those who believe they are called to serve God as priests or brothers. Vocationists have served in the Archdiocese of Newark since 1962.



Father Babu Thelappilly S.D.V.

Official Appointments

Archbishop John J. Myers has announced the following appointments:

NEWLY ORDAINED

(All were ordained May 24)

Reverend Michael Barone has been appointed parochial vicar of Saint Anne Parish, Fair Lawn, effective June 18.

Reverend Pedro Bismarck Chau has been appointed parochial vicar of Our Lady of Mount Virgin Parish, Garfield, effective June 21.

Reverend Andres Codoner has been appointed parochial vicar of Saint Columba Parish, Newark, effective June 18.

Reverend Raphael Joonyoung Lee has been appointed parochial vicar of Saint Gabriel the Archangel Parish, Saddle River, effective June 18.

Reverend Ireneusz Pierzchala has been appointed parochial vicar of Saint Philip the Apostle Parish, Saddle Brook, effective June 18.

Reverend Manuel R. Romerde has been appointed parochial vicar of Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Jersey City, effective June 18.

Reverend Bruno Sammarco has been appointed parochial vicar of Our Lady of Divine Providence Parish, Turks & Caicos Isl., British West Indies, effective June 18.

Reverend Ivan Sant has been appointed parochial vicar of Saint Mary Parish, Plainfield, effective June 18.

Reverend Paolo Tanzini has been appointed parochial vicar of Saint John the Apostle Parish, Linden, effective June 18.

NEWLY ORDAINED TRANSITIONAL DEACONS

(all were ordained May 18)

Reverend Mr. Matthew Dooley was assigned to Queen of Peace Parish, North Arlington, effective May 27 to April 27, 2009.

Reverend Mr. Hector Rios has been assigned to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Jersey City, effective June 13 to April 27, 2009.

Reverend Mr. Peter Iwuala has been assigned to Saint Mary Parish, Dumont, effective June 7 to April 27, 2009.

Reverend Mr. Christian Jaramillo was assigned to Saint Columba Parish, Newark, effective May 27 to April 27, 2009.

Reverend Mr. Nnaemeka Andrew Jr. Onyemaobi has been assigned to Saint Henry Parish, Bayonne, effective June 7 to April 27, 2009.

Reverend Mr. Andrew Park was assigned to Korean Martyrs Parish, Saddle Brook, effective May 27 to April 27, 2009.

Reverend Mr. John Prada was assigned to Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Jersey City, effective May 27 to April 27, 2009.

Reverend Mr. Stephen Saffron was assigned to the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark, effective May 27 to April 27, 2009.

Reverend Mr. Mate Skublics was assigned to Holy Redeemer Parish, West New York, effective May 27 to April 27, 2009.

Reverend Mr. Pablo Martinez was assigned to Saint Aedan Parish, Jersey City, effective May 27 to April 27, 2009.

Reverend Mr. Mauro Primavera was assigned to Holy Family Parish, Nutley, effective May 27 to April 27, 2009.

Reverend Mr. Elky Reyes was assigned to Saint Aloysius Parish, Newark, effective May 27 to April 27, 2009.

ALSO

Reverend Mr. Edward Hegnauer, newly ordained transitional deacon of the Archdiocese of Washington, DC, has been assigned to Saint Aloysius Parish, Caldwell, effective Sept. 6, to April 27, 2009.

ARCHDIOCESAN AGENCY MINISTRY

Reverend Warren R. Hall has been appointed president/principal of Hudson Catholic Regional High School, Jersey City, with residence at Saint Aloysius Rectory, Jersey City. The appointment is effective July 1.

PASTOR

Reverend Hilary Milton, O.Carm., parochial vicar of Saint Cecilia Parish, Englewood, has been appointed pastor of the parish effective July 1.

PAROCHIAL VICARS

Reverend Herman Kinzler, O. Carm. has been appointed parochial vicar of Saint Cecilia Parish, Englewood, effective July 1.

Reverend John Berchmans Antony was appointed summer parochial vicar of Madonna Parish, Fort Lee, effective June 1 through Aug. 31.

Reverend Stephen Aribé was appointed summer parochial vicar of Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Parish, Linden, effective May 28 through Aug. 31.

Reverend Melchor Joseph C. Braga was appointed summer parochial vicar of Ascension Parish, New Milford, effective June 1 through Sept. 30.

Reverend Slawomir Dabrowski was appointed summer parochial vicar of Sacred Heart of Jesus

Parish, Irvington, effective June 1 through June 30.

Reverend Eugene Newman Joseph was appointed summer parochial vicar of Our Lady of Peace Parish, New Providence, effective June 1 through Sept. 15.

Reverend Jerzy Pikulinski, O.F.M., Cap. was appointed summer parochial vicar of Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Wallington, effective June 1 through Dec. 31.

CAMPUS MINISTER

Reverend Amilcar B. Prado, parochial vicar at SS. Peter & Paul Parish, Hoboken, has also been appointed to part-time service in Campus Ministry at Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken. This appointment is effective July 1.

DEACON

Deacon John J. Wedemeyer was appointed permanent deacon at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Mountainside, effective May 12.

Deacon Michael DeRoberts, permanent deacon at Saint Anne Parish, Garwood, was appointed permanent deacon at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Mountainside, effective May 21.

INCARDINATION

Reverend Fernando R. Po, parochial vicar at Saint Elizabeth Parish, Wyckoff, was incardinated into the Archdiocese of Newark on May 13.

The background is a complex collage of overlapping geometric shapes in various colors including olive green, dark blue, teal, red, orange, and yellow. A large black circle is positioned on the right side, containing the text 'Class of '08'. A graduation cap is partially visible at the bottom right, with its tassel hanging down.

Graduation!

Class of '08

Special to

The Catholic
Advocate

June 4, 2008



Submitted photo

Dignitaries at Caldwell College's 2008 commencement ceremony included (front row, left to right) honorary degree recipient Thomas G. Ferguson; Caldwell College President Sister Patrice Werner; Alexander R. Giaquinto, Ph.D., vice chair of the Caldwell College board of trustees; (back row) Steven M. Freeman, chair of the trustees; and former NFL star Joe Klecko, the featured commencement speaker and honorary degree recipient.

Joe Klecko recalls words of JFK to stir souls at Caldwell College

CALDWELL—Former New York Jets star defensive lineman Joe Klecko encouraged Caldwell College graduates to overcome fear, resist evil, take risks and demonstrate courage in life.

Sister Patrice Werner, O.P., Ph.D., the president of Caldwell College, awarded degrees to 408 graduates, including 269 undergraduates and 139 master's students. Klecko, along with Thomas Ferguson—former chairman and chief executive officer of CommonHealth USA and generous philanthropist—received honorary degrees at the May 18

commencement ceremonies.

Klecko, a four-time football pro-bowler and a member New York Jet's "Sack Exchange," is a member of Catholic Athletes for Christ, an organization with a mission to serve Catholic athletes and share the Gospel of Christ in and through athletics.

Continuing his theme of courage, Klecko pointed out the Bible states numerous times: "Be not afraid." He recalled world leaders who looked beyond themselves to serve the greater good, such as President John F. Kennedy who, in his Jan. 20, 1961

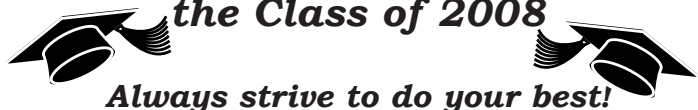
inaugural address, stated: "Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country." He also cited Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta, who with God's help and courage, was able to embrace, care for and give those suffering from leprosy dignity in their lives.

Sr. Patrice spoke of how graduation is a time of mixed emotions—joy, love, pride, gratitude, sorrow, and "perhaps a certain fear of what lies ahead." She said Dag Hammarskjold, Nobel Peace Prize winner and secretary-general the United Nations (April 1953 to September 1961), in his journal "Markings," captured

Continued on page 18

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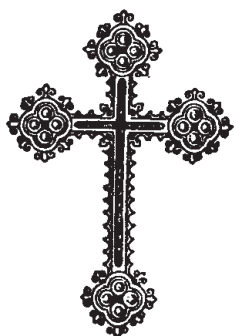
Congratulations Class of 2008

George Azrak	Kara Maguire
Alessandro Binder	Seton McFarland
Emma Clarke	Daniel Morgan
Celia Drew	John Mueller, Jr.
Jillian Esposito	Kasey Nippes
Stephanie Hicklin	Lauren Russo
Molly Higgins	Daniel Shea
Clare Keating	Elizabeth Sheehan

Krystyn Wypasek

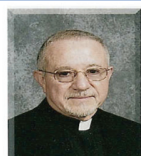
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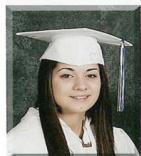


Mrs. Beverly Trotte
Principal



Mr. Joseph Bonacci
Teacher

Immaculate Conception School Secaucus, New Jersey Class of 2008



Jasely Alvarez



Justin Araujo



Francisco Armendariz



Emil Bibera



Sarah Buckley



Ann Marie Caliguire



Joseph Canillas



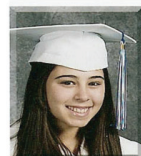
Christopher Carpenter



Kimberly Dombrowski



Toni-Anne Fajardo



Gabriella Fumia



Eleanor Julien



Alain Mollinedo



Mohnish Pardasani



John Pestana



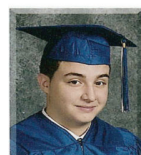
Zilpa Rizzo



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- Eleven Bloustein Scholars
- Prudential Spirit of Community Commendation
- Designated Advanced Placement Scholars and Scholars with Honor
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- Two Bridges for the Homeless Volunteer of the Year Awards
- Distinguished Recognition for Project Acceleration through Seton Hall University

Saint Peter's grads look to 'seize day' with Jesuit ideals

HOLMDEL—"You are from Saint Peter's College. You can accomplish anything," Class of 1958 graduate Thomas D. Carver, Esq., executive director of the New Jersey Casino Reinvestment Development Authority, told this year's 900 graduates at commencement exercises May 18, held at the PNC Bank Arts Center.

Carver, the keynote speaker,

along with Robert J. Roggenstein (Class of 1965), a former principal of award-winning McNair Academic High School in Jersey City, received honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa, degrees.

Introduced as a "pioneer, transformer, lawyer, and champion of equal opportunity," Carver encouraged the gradu-

ates to "respect all and fear none." He referred to the Latin phrase "*Carpe Diem*" while presenting his keynote address, inspiring the graduates to reach beyond their abilities and "seize the day."

He told the graduates that the success they anticipate and hope for might not happen instantly. Referring to Jesuit ideals, he added that success comes in many different forms, noting, that "men for others is what this institution is all about. No matter how far you go, what you do, if someone says you are a 'man for others' you have accomplished a great deal." The keynote speaker affirmed that Jesuit education has given graduates "the knowledge to differentiate between alternatives and assume risk."

In his current position, Carver implemented a 25-year transportation plan as well as an initiative to provide affordable housing in South Jersey. He previously served as state commissioner



Submitted photo

With diplomas firmly in hand, four graduates of Saint Peter's College made a timely eyewear fashion statement to let the world know they are proud members of the Class of 2008.

Sacred Heart captures 21 track meet medals

LYNDHURST—Triple medal winner Brittney Cammisa powered the Sacred Heart School track team to a strong finish at the recent Saint Paul Invitational at Don Bosco Preparatory School.

Cammisa took home silver medals in the girls' fifth and sixth grade 100-meter dash and 400-meter run and anchored the bronze medal-winning 4 x 100-meter relay. Joining Cammisa on the relay were Ann Marie Boyarko, Kathleen McLaren and Giananna Cammisa.

Melissa DeFrancesco and Kourtnei Carty combined with Amber Bretz and Kaitlyn Bridge to take home another bronze in the girls' K-2 4 x 50-meter relay, with DeFrancesco also grabbing a bronze in the broad jump and Carty winning bronze in the softball throw.

Katelyn Reilly notched a bronze medal in the seventh and eighth grade girls softball throw.

In boys' action Matt Duane, Anthony Pontoriero and Michael Pettigrew took home two medals apiece.

Duane won bronze in both the K-2 boys broad jump and 50-meter dash, with Pontoriero taking bronze in the fifth and sixth grade 800-meter run and Pettigrew winning bronze in the fifth and sixth grade 100-meter dash.

Pontoriero and Pettigrew joined Ben Kawalak and Alex Perera for a bronze medal in the fifth and sixth grade boys' 4 x 100-meter relay.

*Congratulations
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Graduating Class
of 2007-2008*



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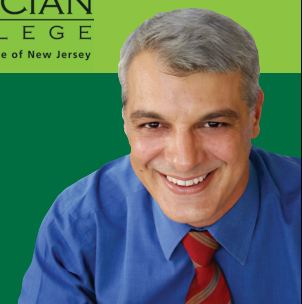
6:30 p.m. in the Cafeteria
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www.felician.edu

adultandgraduate@felician.edu

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Smiling Felician College graduates, in a highlight moment at the May 18 commencement ceremony, gave keynote speaker Richard Fritzky a standing ovation at the end of his remarks.

Fritzky's heartfelt words inspire Felician graduates

LODI—Felician College held its 44th annual commencement exercises May 18 at Breslin Theatre, where Richard Fritzky, the featured speaker and former president of the Meadowlands Regional Chamber of Commerce, shared thoughts on the complicated endings, beginnings and changes in life.

"Having achieved greatly, you look to advance the line further, but fear creeps in," Fritzky said. "What about that job, the plan, the dream, the next steps, the next challenge? The music inside you grows louder. It always does."

He advised students to "take a deep breath, and simply breathe the free air. Imagine the sun shining upon you and a warm wind at your back. Feel the strength that is you and listen to your hearts. There you

will find that spark of the divine," he said.

Fritzky addressed the graduates and their guests from a wheelchair, having lost both his legs and nine of his fingers to Neisseria Meningitis, a rare bacterial infection, which he contracted in 2005. He reminded graduates to embrace suffering, public service and joy.

"So plant and grow in love and cast your nets upon the waters and build castles in the air and dream huge," he said. "Believe in yourself and in the miracles that are there for you alone to fashion. And whenever you come to doubt the power of the miraculous in your lives, just pause and remember me—a friend who bears witness to the miraculous every time he opens eyes or his mouth or his mind."

Continued on page 19



Saint Dominic Academy
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Ilibagiza urges SHU graduates to keep hope alive

Genocide survivor focuses on faith

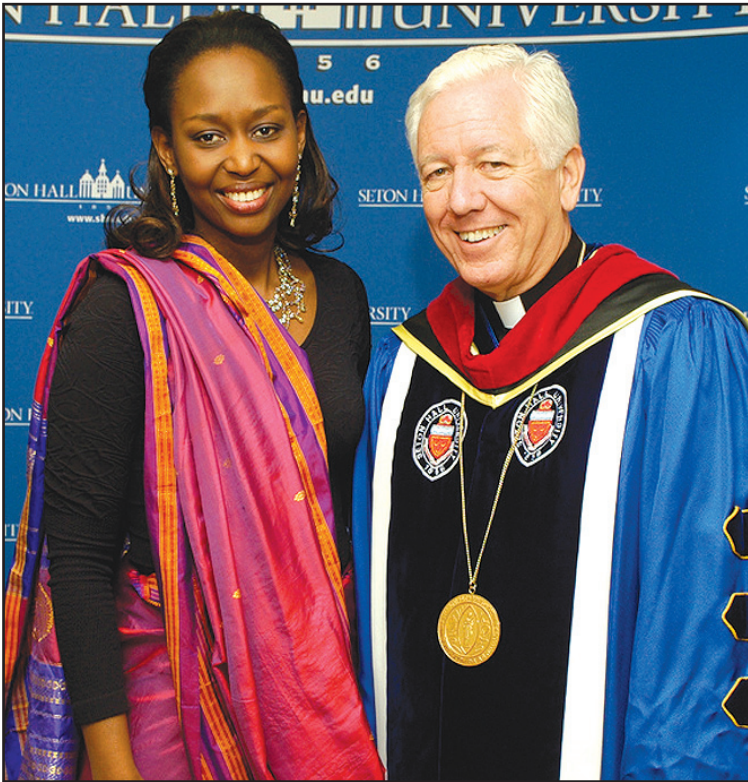
BY MADDALENA ALLEGRETTA
Special to The Catholic Advocate

EAST RUTHERFORD—Seton Hall University (SHU) awarded diplomas to over 2,000 students at its 151st commencement on May 12 at the Izod Center. Immaculee Ilibagiza, a New York Times best-selling author and survivor of the Rwandan genocide, addressed the SHU Class of 2008. She received an honorary degree and her remarks focused on the strength of faith in the worst of cir-



cumstances. Ilibagiza told the SHU graduates that, during the nightmare days of mid-1994, she found solace in praying the rosary during her ordeal. “Prayer has the power to change you,” she said. “After spending three months in hiding I discovered a lot about what it means to be alive.” Her autobiography “Left to Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust,” will be the required reading for the incoming SHU freshman Class of 2012. The book has been translated into 15 languages worldwide and conveys Ilibagiza’s journey to God in the worst of circumstances. “We are all faced with choices and I can only hope that you take each day as a gift, choosing to love and forgive,” she said. “If I can forgive, anyone can forgive and anyone can keep hope alive.” Former White House Press Secretary Tony Snow originally had been scheduled to be the SHU commencement speaker, but he was unable to attend the ceremony due to health reasons. University President Msgr. Robert Sheeran, in his charge to the Class of 2008, urged them to approach this contemporary, globalize society with something more than just knowledge but also humanity. “Your new skills, supported by reason and faith, by ethics and compassion, give you the kind of perspectives you’ll need as servant leaders to renew the society you have inherited,” Msgr. Sheeran said.

Continued on page 21

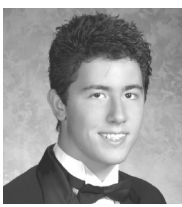


Submitted photos
Rwandan genocide Immaculee Ilibagiza (left), pictured with University President Msgr. Robert Sheeran, addressed SHU graduates (photo at left) as the featured commencement speaker. Last year, during a presentation at Caldwell College, Ilibagiza described the horrors of the genocide (see The Catholic Advocate, May 9, 2007). She was forced to spend three months in hiding and lost most of her family and friends.

Congratulations to the Graduates of St. Anthony High School

The Best Return on Your High School Tuition Investment is at St. Anthony High School

College scholarship offers totaling more than 5 million dollars were offered to the members of the 2008 graduating class of St. Anthony High School. This class of 60 students has 27 girls and 33 boys. In addition to the colleges listed below, students received acceptances from: Bowling Green State University, Caldwell College, Catholic University, Claflin College, College of Mt. St. Mary, College of Mt. St. Vincent, College of New Jersey, Cornell, Drew, Drexel, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, Fairfield, Fairmont State, Felician, Fordham, Haverford, Indiana State of Pennsylvania, Iona, Johnson and Wales, Kean, King’s College, Lemoyne, Lincoln, Lock Haven, Long Island University, Miami Dade, Morgan State, Moravian, Morris College, New England College, Northwood, Notre Dame, NJ City University, Point Park, Radford, Ramapo, Stockton State, St. Joseph’s, Southern Connecticut, Syracuse, Temple, Bridgeport, University of Chicago, University of Kansas, New Haven, Maryland, Wesley College, Wilmington University, Baltimore International College, Becker College, Berkeley College, Bloomfield College, Centenary College, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Marquette University.



RYAN GALLAGHER – HOBOKEN VALEDICTORIAN
Ryan was accepted at Cornell, Purdue, Sacred Heart, and Rutgers, Penn State, North Carolina Wesleyan College.
Ryan will attend Rutgers.



IVETTE MOREL – JERSEY CITY CO-SALUTATORIAN
Ivette was accepted at American University, Seton Hall and St. John’s.
Ivette will attend St. John’s.



YULIZA RIVERA – JERSEY CITY CO-SALUTATORIAN
Yuliza was accepted at Albright College and Rutgers.
Yuliza will attend Rutgers.

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Submitted photo

SCHOLAR ATHLETES—Union Catholic High School in Scotch Plains recently announced its senior Scholar Athletes for the school year. Capturing the honor were, back row, left to right rear; James Trollo, Tony LaRocca, Jimmy Thornton, Alex Niziolek, Brian O'Donnell, and, front row; Samantha Peters, Jillian Roth, Cynthia Ritter, Allison Whitefleet, Alicia Palmieri, Angela Sessa. Offering congratulations are front row left and right, Sister Percylee Hart, principal, Jim Reagan, Sr. athletic director.

Caldwell

Continued from page 14

some of this fear when he wrote: "Tomorrow, you will have to play a much more difficult piece. Tomorrow, when the audience is beginning to listen for wrong notes...then we shall see what you can really do."

She told the graduates that as they leave Caldwell College, "my hope and prayer for each of you is that you will leave confident that your journey here at Caldwell—the knowledge gained, skills developed, friendships formed—will enable you to play well the more difficult pieces that await you in the years ahead." In addition, she said her hope was that the graduates would use some of their time and talents "to make the world a brighter place and that people will be better for having known you and accompanied you on your journey."

Ferguson, who has been active in community affairs in New Jersey, served three terms on the Caldwell College board of trustees and has been a significant benefactor of the college for many years. He encouraged the graduates to stay connected to Caldwell.

Bergen Catholic schedules 'Summer Crusaders' classes

ORADELL—Bergen Catholic High School will offer courses in academics and technology through its "Summer Crusaders" program July 7 to Aug. 1.

Any male student going into

the eighth or ninth grade in September 2008 can attend.

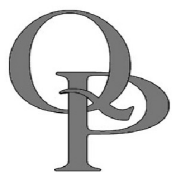
The four-week program will offer a cycle of week-long courses in forensic science, math basics and enrichment, multimedia,

visual art, high school preparation, creative writing, and Spanish language and culture.

For more information or for a brochure of courses including dates, times, and pricing,

contact the Bergen Catholic High School Office of Admissions at (201) 634-4151.

For additional information call the school at (201) 261-1844.



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Submitted photo
Sister Theresa Mary Martin (center), president of Felician College, presented honorary doctoral degrees to Richard Fritzky (left) and Dennis Daniels (right).

Felician

Continued from page 16

Sister Theresa Mary Martin, president of Felician College, presented diplomas to 372 graduates. "This day marks the culmination of the academic rigor, personalization, and moral fiber, which shaped your experience at Felician and stages the commencement of a new and challenging agenda," Sr. Theresa said.

Many of the students were graduating from adult cohort programs in business, nursing and teaching—students who earned their degrees while working full time and taking care of family. The Felician Class of 2008 included the first graduates from the Master of Business Administration (MBA) program at Felician, including Leo McGuire, the sheriff of Bergen County.

Nurses from the first on-site RN, BSN program at East Orange General Hospital (EOGH) received their diplomas with the assistance of Kevin Slavin, EOGH president. In addition, associate

degrees were granted to the inaugural cohort of teaching assistants from the on-site teacher education program, Stepping Up, held at a daycare center in Paterson.

Christian Mathews, this year's valedictorian, was elected "Student of the Year" by the faculty and the Felician Committee for Student Affairs. Both Mathews and Allyson Marie Castelli, the salutatorian, were among the Felician students named to "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges."

Sr. Theresa presented honorary doctoral degrees to Fritzky and Dennis Daniels, who is a vice president at Wakefern Food Corporation and a member of the Felician College board of trustees and council of regents. Daniels has chaired the annual Founders Day Gala for the past 16 years, raising more than \$3 million targeted for student scholarships.

"Dennis Daniels is a true friend of Felician College," Sr. Theresa said. "His legacy is far reaching and his compassion, integrity and character speak volumes about what really matters in life."



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Stellar students in archdiocese honored as Bloustein Scholars

AREA—The Schools Office of the Archdiocese of Newark has released this year's Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars.

Students who place in the top 10 percent of their class and have a minimum combined SAT score of 1,260, or who are ranked first, second or third in their class as of the end of junior year receive the prestigious academic honor.

Distinguished Scholars for the 2007-2008 academic year received award offers of \$1,000 annually. The Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars of the Catholic Secondary Schools in the Archdiocese of Newark are, in alphabetical order:

BERGEN COUNTY Academy of the Holy Angels, Demarest

Cristina Alcorta, Kathryn Baselice, Kathryn Denicola, Helen Janiszewski, Ginger Mills, Chimno Nnadi, Kaitlin Savarese, Alyda Stabile, Maia Warner, Melanis Weismiller.

Queen of Peace High School, North Arlington

Julianne Candio Skil, Rachel Chow, William de Cothis, Keya Thakkar, John Wilson.

Immaculate Conception High School, Lodi

Nicole Ferrarini, Gillian Koegel, Kaitlyn McFarlane.

Saint Joseph Regional High School, Montvale

Patrick Marra, Ryan Mati, Jose Santana, Evan Waldron.

Bergen Catholic High School, Oradell

Gregory Certo, Christopher Conway, Daniel Delaney, Sean Dikdan, Brian Foster, Dong Won Kim, Chung Hoon Lee, Hun Lee, Vincent Lu, Joshua Malone, Tariq Mirza, Michael Palmer, Justin Pathickal, Jerome Sullivan, Michael Ubriaco, Pete Nell Viernesa, Christopher Vitiello, Vlad Vladescu.

Paramus Catholic Regional High School

Christopher Cagna, Michele Calamari, Maria Carnovale, Ariella Chivil, Rachel Davies, Peter Gingeleskie, Katherine



Submitted photo

Bloustein Scholarship recipients at Immaculate High School in Lodi, left to right, Nicole Ferrarini, Kaitlyn McFarlane and Gillian Koegel, prepare to receive their diplomas along with the rest of the Class of 2008.



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University of Maryland
Drexel University
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North Carolina University
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Joseph Feghalt, Erin Mulrain, In Hyuk Song, Stephanie Spanarkel.

Don Bosco Preparatory High School, Ramsey

Joseph Amoresano, William Breitweiser, Dominick Grochowina, Mark Hayden, Robert Hoffmann, Nicholas Lennon, Christopher Longobardo, Zachary Morrissey, Eric Pfisterer.

Immaculate Heart Academy, Washington Township

Mary Alcaro, Sarah Camiscoli, Jennifer Daffron, Marissa Danna, Christie Dugan, Dana Flynn, Allison Gallagher, Mary Jo Holuba, Meaghan O'Neill, Susan O'Rourke, Amanda Pannell, Cristina Ramos, Jaclyn Scifo, Krystle Sevilla,

ESSEX COUNTY Mount Saint Dominic Academy, Caldwell

Monica Bulay, Caroline Fraissinet, Tania Jachens, Anais Lugo-Guercio, Brittany Mullen, Monica Srinivasa.

Marylawn of the Oranges Academy, South Orange

Mailhah Al-Bayan, Jasmine Brown, Morgan Gaynor.

Immaculate Conception High School, Montclair

Daisy Bravo, Jade McClain, Rachel Niemczyk.

Saint Benedict's Preparatory School, Newark

Kevin Hall, Brandon Jarrett, Melvin Lara, Daniel Sheehan.
**Seton Hall Preparatory School,
West Orange**

John Bain, Gennaro Bruno,

Continued on page 21

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Bloustein Scholars

Continued from page 20

Dennis Burke, Robert Campagna, Steven Candido, Alexander Cohen, Patrick Dalrymple, Julian De Martinis, Zachary Gaggis, Anthony Kline, Ryan McCormick, Bogumil Misiuk, Colin Mitchell, Louis Sakellaris, David Seijas, Adrian Wirstiuk.
Saint Vincent Academy, Newark
Carla Ferreira, Klaudia Kosiak, Alexandra Sarabia.
Lacordaire Academy, Upper Montclair
Victoria Buccholz, Kristin Leccese, Christine Madsen.

HUDSON COUNTY
Holy Family Academy, Bayonne
Amanda Cavanagh, Kate Duffy, Christina Ramdat, Rachel Santiago.
Saint Dominic Academy, Jersey City
Alison Fournier, Kerri Rogers, Mary Ann Savulich, Iqra Shahid.
Marist High School, Bayonne
Miguel Kevin Deldoc, Shaina Marie Malagad, Adrienne Joy Sapal.
Saint Mary's High School, Jersey City
Joan Broqueza, Nelson Maldonado, Janet Reyes.
Caritas Academy, Jersey City
Megan Marti, Cynthia Pozo, Tibinda Riaz.

Hudson Catholic Regional High School, Jersey City
Philip Caleja, Adrian Celiz, Ra-Twoine Fields.
Saint Peter's Preparatory School, Jersey City
Louis DiPaola, Juan Garcia, Anthony Giannobile, Eamon Hartnett, Joseph Holder, Daniel Librojo, Daniel LiVolsi, Christopher McNulty, Steven Rizzo, Ramon Sandoval, Michael Stefanelli, James Ward, Francis Whelan.
Saint Anthony High School, Jersey City
Ryan Gallagher, Ivette Morel, Yuliza Rivera.
Saint Joseph of the Palisades High School, West New York
Nicole Lamey, Lloyd Alcalá, Emily Maisti.
UNION COUNTY
Mother Seton Regional High School, Clark
Christina Albuquerque, Simone

Jeronimo, Charity Melchor-Stophel, Daina Nanchanatt, Prital Patel, Vrajeshri Patel, Kathleen Tower, Stephanie Wawszkiewicz.
Roselle Catholic Regional High School
Ian Donovan, Matthew Dudek, Timothy Faver, Meghan Friedman, Emilyann Sachko, Nicole Kennedy, Courtney Luongo, Lauren Lutz, Liam Quigley, Lorena Salas, Ellen Salmi.
Benedictine Academy, Elizabeth
Raquel Firme, Crystal Orr, Jennifer Ramos.
Union Catholic Regional High School, Scotch Plains
Michael DiPaolo, Michael Mastrola, Alexander Niziolek, Cynthia Ritter, Angela Sessa, Christopher Wytenus.
Saint Mary of the Assumption High School, Elizabeth
David Garcia, Freddy Sanchez, Leandro Zaneti.
Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child, Summit

Seton Hall

Continued from page 17

Archbishop John J. Myers addressed members of the SHU Class of 2008, recalling the words of Pope Benedict XVI to Catholic educators last April in Washington, D.C. "Relativism...prevents one from attaining truth," he said. "Genuine education offers true, authentic values that will allow students to be contributing members of society." At each commencement a

student with excellent academic credentials from a specific school within the university is chosen to give the valedictory address. This year's selection was Jennifer Lackie, an International Relations major from the John C. Whitehead School of Diplomacy. Lackie described her growth from the nervous freshmen to mature senior. "I learned a lot throughout college, yet most importantly I found out that college is about finding yourself," Lackie said.

Katherine Borowiec, Anna Burke, Lauren Fedor, Megan Haley, Megan Hogan, Camila Vega.
Saint Patrick High School, Elizabeth
Danielle Dorilus, Kevin

Fernandes, Idris Pitt.
Oratory Preparatory School, Summit
Paul Cubelli, Jonathan Evans, Virendra Goolcharan, John Patrick Lodato, Alexander Morrison, John Shea.


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Submitted photo

Immaculate Conception High School President Sister Maureen Crowley helps, left to right, freshman Ayahna Turner; sophomore Kai Smart and sophomore DaShawn Harvey-Nash sign the school's Honor Code contract.

Commitment to honesty, integrity flourishes with honor code at IC

MONTCLAIR—The commitment of every member of the Immaculate Conception High School (IC) family to honesty and honor was easy to spot during this past school year.

Throughout the school's corridors and stairwells, flyers created by members of the Student Council and its moderator Sarah Moje, inspired students with messages about honor from thinkers such as Shakespeare, Sophocles, Saint Thomas a Becket and J.K. Rowling. The commitment was visible at the top of every test and assignment handed in, on which each student is required to "... pledge on my honor that I did not give or receive any help on this test or assignment."

The code gave the students clear guidelines and rules for avoiding plagiarism and spells out the consequences of cheating on tests and assignments. Homework, for example, must be done at home—not during homeroom or lunch—to eliminate the temptation to "borrow" papers.

Violation of the honor code resulted in a variety of punishments, including a failure on a test or assignment, detention, or a conference with parents. Repeated infractions incurred more serious consequences, such as consecutive detentions, suspension, ineligibility for sports and extracurricular activities, removal from positions of leadership and ineligibility for graduation with honors.

The impetus for an honor code had been building for several years. At the beginning of the 2006-2007 school year, Principal Jo Ann Degnan set the tone for the new initiative by announcing that the theme for that year would be "IC Honor." The code is an offshoot of the seven-year-old Character Education Program the school uses to accent the importance of principles and morals. Other parts of the program include Character Education Day, which often features a motivational outside speaker; character education

essay assignments and lessons in the classroom; and "Words of Wisdom" presented by Student Council leaders over the P.A. system each morning.

As part of Immaculate's 2006-2007 Middle States evaluation, the school's planning committee, consisting of faculty, students and parents, expanded the Character Education Program by presenting the honor code as a required future "Action Plan."

The code, its rules, regulations and consequences were introduced and explained to students during this past September's orientation. Each member of the student body signed a contract declaring his or her willingness to abide by the code.

"IC's mission statement says that we're here to develop the whole person—morally, socially and culturally. There is not one area in which honor and integrity are not important," said Mrs. Degnan. "Any schools that teach only academics and not integrity are failing in their jobs as institutions. A school has a responsibility to prepare students for society, and if they neglect to place emphasis on integrity, then students aren't prepared for the moral issues they will face."

Student reactions were not completely positive. Kirk Lambert, a senior, was concerned that "other students are going to find a way to get around it." Junior Alexia Spruell felt that the punishments are "a little harsh." Both students were committed to adhering to the program, however.

Many other reactions were positive. Said Student Council president Brandon Harris, "It serves as a reminder and, for those who take the concept of honor personally, it removes a temptation." Commented sophomore Kai Smart, "Sometimes you want to look at another student's paper and then you see that word 'honor' on the top of your paper and it reminds you that it's your honor. You don't want to dishonor yourself."

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Dennis Justin Cameron	Ryan Paul Fiore	Nancy Rose Savage
Erin Elizabeth Cervone	Meghan Elizabeth Gallo	Brandon Michael Tong
Julia Fay Chesterman	Annemarie Therese Hansen	Theodora Maria Turrin
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Olivia Belen Contreras	Ashley YeEun Jung	Lucas Randall Unanue
Matthew Christopher Coyne	Brian Thomas Lafferty	Jessica Lynne Whatley
Dillon Paul DeStefano	Trevor Paul Leland	

Caldwell grad plans to assist persecuted Catholics in China

CALDWELL – Chung Ping Mak is so proud he is a graduate of Caldwell College that he wears his Caldwell College sweatshirt any chance he gets. “I’m 60 years old and here I am

putting on my college sweatshirt walking down the street. People ask me if my daughter goes there and I tell them that I am a graduate of the college.”

Mak, who graduated May 18 with a master’s in pastoral ministry, says the degree has helped him grow in his understanding of Catholic Theology and is helping him in his volunteer work as board member and treasurer with The Cardinal Kung Foundation. The foundation promotes the Roman Catholic Church in China, through financial support and prayer. It works to inform the public about the persecutions of the underground Roman Catholics in China, foster religious vocations, educate underground seminarians and priests and provide basic support to Chinese Roman Catholic clergy and religious.

China began persecuting Roman Catholics in the early 1950s when the communist government took power and it established the Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association, whose members severed ties with the Vatican. Catholics who did not join the patriotic association and stayed loyal to the Vatican have suffered decades of persecution as underground Catholics.

A former treasurer for a major corporation, Mak already had a MBA degree when he started at

Caldwell College. While teaching CCD at his parish, Transfiguration in Chinatown, New York City, a friend challenged him to join the Caldwell College pastoral ministry program. “Once I was in the program, everything was fascinating. It is amazing to see the difference between the secular business world and the spiritual civilization.”

Recently, he was asked to speak on the history of the Mass at his parish. Then, he recalled, he was “being put to the test” on what he learned in the graduate program at Caldwell College.

Mak is hopeful for Chinese Catholics. He points to the letter that Pope Benedict XVI wrote to Chinese Catholics in July 2007 where he called for reconciliation between the underground Catholics and the Catholics of the government sanctioned Patriotic Church. Although the letter strongly criticized the Chinese government’s interference on Church activities and depriving the freedom of religion for the faithful, it did encourage dialogue between Vatican and the Chinese government to improve their relationships. “We need to continue to pray for Church of China. There will be a day that the merciful God will deliver the Chinese Catholics out of sufferings and persecutions,” Mak explained.



Submitted photo

Chung Ping Mak, a member of the Class of 2008 at Caldwell College, intends to use his master’s in pastoral ministry in his volunteer work with the Cardinal Kung Foundation. The Foundation promotes the Roman Catholic Church in Ping Mak’s homeland.

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National Graduation Rates

Catholic high schools have the highest graduation rate in the U.S.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

99%

OTHER RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS

98%

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

actual high school diploma 71%

includes GED certificates 87%

Source: National Catholic Educational Association
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Fourteen professed sisters earn degrees



Submitted photo

The largest graduating class of Assumption College for Sisters since 1969, 14 professed sisters from developing countries, includes, left to right, seated, Sister Sujatha Sreemalle, S.D.V.; Sister Teresa Phan, L.H.C.; Sister M. Lucia Wande, D.M.; Sister Ann Vang Tran, L.H.C. and Sister Teresa Trinh Phan, F.M.V. Standing are Sister Martina Ngondo, C.S.J.B.; Sister Jacinta Mutisya, C.P.S.; Sister Werner Mdendemi, O.S.B.; Sister Atanasia Lwila, O.S.B.; Sister Gaudiosa Fidelis, O.S.B.; Sister Teresa Mbugua, C.P.S.; Sister Prisca Mallya, D.M.; Sister Maria My Nguyen, F.M.V. and Sister Teresa Mfuné, S.H.R.

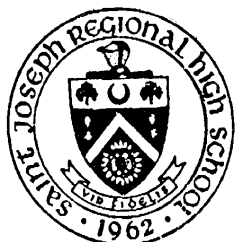
MENDHAM—Assumption College for Sisters (ACS) conferred associate degrees on 14 professed sisters from developing countries at May 17 ceremonies in Mary Immaculate Chapel. It was the largest graduating class since 1969.

The Most Rev. Thomas A. Donato, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Newark, delivered the commencement address. He counseled the graduates to stay focused at all times and to remain women of prayer, describing prayer as “our hope for the future.”

Divine Vocations Sister Sujatha Sreemalle of Andhra Pradesh, India, represented the graduating class.

Sister Mary Clare Stopper, S.C.C., of the Class of 1963, was presented with ACS’ Distinguished Alumna Award. Over the past 45 years, she has taught grammar school students in North Carolina, New York and Pennsylvania. Currently, she teaches kindergarten at Saint John Neumann Regional Academy, Williamsport, PA. Earlier this year, the Williamsport-Lycoming Chamber of Commerce named Sister Mary Clare “Outstanding Professional Educator of the Year.”

Twelve of ACS’ 2008 graduates plan to pursue baccalaureates, beginning in the fall. Seven colleges and universities around the country have awarded them scholarships.



- Vir Fidelis -

Saint Joseph Regional High School, in Montvale, is proud to announce these “*faithful men*” are the newest SJR alumni.
Congratulations & Best Wishes to the Class of 2008!

Curtis Frederick Adams
Christopher Glenn Anderson
Richard Alan Anderson
Michael C. Antonicello
Tomas Joseph Barrios
Michael Bartolomeo
Richard Erich Bassler III
Michael Stephen Patrick Braaf
Kevin John Buonadonna
Jamal Butler
Taylor Adam Campbell
Jeffrey Michael Caride
Joseph John Cataldo
Jonathan Donald Chase
Christopher S. Cholewa
Frank Samuel Cintineo
David Andrew Cooke
Matthew John Javier Corcoran
Sergey Pedrovich Corporan
Kevin Sean Davis
Matthew Flynn Davis
David Edward DeGhetto
Alec Thomas DelVecchio
Mark William DePaola
Matthew James DePietro
Andrew Michael Dichiaro
Ryan Thomas Dinnebeil

Matthew Felix Dominguez
Marc Enel Douyon
Brian Christopher Doyle
Daniel James DuBee
Christopher Louis Emmanuele
Nicholas C. Fiumefreddo
Marvin Allen Fulford, Jr.
Matthew James Gabay
Michael Albert Gallo
Patrick Joseph Glasson
Michael Greco
Stephen Anthony Guarino
Michael John Guerriero
Brendan Denis Hall
LeShon Germaine Vikram Hill
Michael Alexander Hutton
Joseph Jimenez
Ryan William Kearney
Thomas Francis Kelly
Patrick Anthony Kivlehan
Christian Klein
Kevan James Klein
John L. Lampkin
Dae Ki Lee
Christopher J. Leigner
Brendan Ross Lobban
Ryan Michael LoCurto

Rodney E. Macelus
Gian Macri
Patrick Joseph Marra
Ryan Michael Mati
Christopher Carl McGuire
John Denis McNamara
Kesnel Herve Menard
Joseph Edward Mesiano
Raymie Arthur Middleton
Peter James Mineo
Adam David Nelson
Patrick Thatcher Neumann
Robert John Noone
Robert H. O’Brien
Sean O’Hara
Frank D. Outsley
Andrew Jeffrey Palladino
Michael William Peer
Austin Monk Phillips
John S. Picheria
Matthew Alan Protas
Cory Joseph Raymond
John-Christopher Record
Renso Star Reyes
Kevin Joseph Rice
Alexander Charles Rivera
Jose Orlando Santana

Alfred Louis Ben Sanzari
Rayhan Navid Sarwar
Dominick Anthony Sass
Michael John Sass
Thomas Joseph Schneider
George Robert Shihanian, Jr.
Frank Joseph Siclari
Denny Sidirokastritis, Jr.
James Matthew Sousa
Ross James Spohn
Won Il Suh
Sean V. Sykes
Jeffrey Michael Tavani
Kyle H. Thomas
Peter Joseph Trawinski
Robert Edward Vazquez
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Evan John Waldron
Brian Daniel Walters
Eric David Walther
Shadean Carlton Watson
Kevin Thomas White
Sean Michael Wilk
Hakeem Omar Williams
Michael Nabil Yazgi

Saint Bartholomew Academy cites long-standing supporters

SCOTCH PLAINS—Three persons were recently honored for their “steadfast commitment to the long tradition of Saint Bartholomew the Apostle school community.

The Academy’s Advisory Council, whose primary purpose is to assist pastors and principals in ensuring that the Academy maintains a competitive, quality-driven Catholic education, chose Sister Anita Canale, M.P.F., Eileen A. Lynch, and Donald E. Wussler.

The Advisory Council and the gala committee initiated an endowment that will insure its future longevity.

Sister Anita is recognized for her teaching tenure at Saint Bartholomew Academy. She taught at the school 15 years, teaching fifth grade in 1977, then the sixth and eighth grades in the 1980’s and 1990’s. Sister Anita specialized in English in the upper grades and was the moderator of the forensic league, winning first-place awards for six consecutive years. “The students themselves were highly motivated, and this made my responsibility pleasurable and rewarding. I found Saint Bartholomew’s to be a very warm and friendly parish and school community. The students were bright studious and responsible.” Sister Anita worked under the leadership of three principals who each promoted and protected the calling of their students. “What a privilege to be on their team!”

Lynch has been a member of the parish for 49 years with her husband Deacon Jack Lynch. She noted it is a “great feeling to walk into a church or school and be greeted by so many long-time friends.” Through the years, Lynch has been very involved in the parish, taking on the responsibilities in the Family Life committee, the baptism instruction program, Pre-Cana, the Family Life Apostolate, and co-president of the Home School Association. She served as the parish food pantry coordinator for many years, became a Eucharistic minister and serves on the church bereavement committee. From August 1987 to July 1991, Lynch worked as the coordinator of the religious education program. For the past 16 years, she has been secretary of Saint Bartholomew Academy.

Wussler has been a part of the Saint Bartholomew parish since its inception. He served as an altar boy at the first celebration of Mass

at the original church. Subsequently, Wussler has functioned as a past president of the Parish Council and serves as a parish trustee; a member of the Finance Council; the Ecumenical representative for Saint Bartholomew the Apostle to the Archdiocese; a customary Saint Bartholomew Italian Festival volunteer; and the parish representative to the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Ministerium, an association of clergy and

elected ambassadors of the two communities. He and his family also provided the bus service for Saint Bartholomew School in the late 1950’s and early 1960’s, assuming routes formerly driven by parish priests. He commented “being a member of the Saint Bart’s family has always meant so much to me.”

The gala cocktail hour was sponsored by Rossi Funeral Home.



Submitted photo

Cited for their support of Saint Bartholomew Academy at a recent gala were, left to right, the principal, Sister Louise Lauretti, M.P.F.; Eileen A. Lynch, Sister Anita Canale and Donald Wussler. Offering congratulation were, first and second from the right respectively, Msgr. Sean Cunneen and Father John. J. Paladino, pastors of Immaculate Conception Parish in Scotch Plains and Saint Bartholomew Parish respectively.



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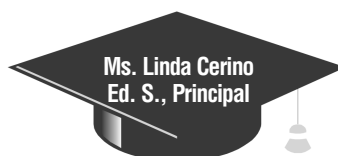
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Ms. Catherine Joyce
8A Teacher

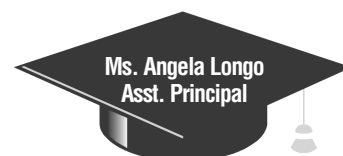


Maria Aguirre
Misayka Ahmed
Wilfred Ahoua
Luis Aparicio
Anthony Bailey
Gelmy Barreto
Laura Cubano
Chantell Espinosa
Oliver Ferreira
Freddy Figueroa
Jessica Goungounga
Mohammed Kamara
Denise Landivar
Ivan Mera



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Ebrima N'Dure
Mirely Peralta
Andrea Polo
Jaysa Ramos
Roberto Recio
Ruth Rodriguez
Kenneth Romero
Kidane Rutty
Alexis Solorzano
Destiny Sosa
Luis Sosa
Jazzlynique Wilson



Mr. William McGee
8B Teacher

Crystal Nieves
Michael Nunez
Hasael Paulino
Anthony Pescoran
Mark Prescod
Cyndhia Reynoso
Nathalie Rivera
Edwin Rodriguez
Aurelie Rosario
Faith Saye
Ana Luisa Torres
Ashley Vasquez
Joseph Williams

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DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Church of St. Joseph in Mendham, New Jersey is seeking a Director of Religious Education. The candidate should have experienced as a DRE or in a related area. The individual must have excellent interpersonal, management and communication skills, both verbal and written.

St. Joseph's is an active parish with a religious education program of more than 800 students between the ages of 4 and 16. The applicant must have the ability to work collaboratively with parish staff, parents and religious education council. The applicant must also have a proven track record in staff development, and in program development and coordination. The position will be available beginning July 1, 2008.

All interested candidates should forward their resume and letter of interest to:

Msgr. Joseph T. Anginoli, Pastor
Church of St. Joseph, 6 New Street, Mendham, NJ 07945
(973) 543-5950

PRO-LIFE OPENINGS

The Several Sources Shelters, our non-profit, non-sectarian shelters for pregnant women are in need of kind, compassionate individuals to fill the following openings: LIVE-IN ASSISTANT HOUSEMOTHER, \$13,500-\$16,500/ year—with three weeks vacation per year. Driver's license required. To receive a specific job description please call K. Wrona (201) 818-9334.

YOUTH MINISTER

The parish of Immaculate Heart of Mary in Scotch Plains seeks to fill the newly created part-time position of youth minister. As a member of the pastoral staff the youth minister will have the opportunity to develop a vibrant program to serve this 1700 family suburban parish. Candidates should be Catholic and have a deep commitment to the teachings and work of the church. For consideration please forward resumes to Jeanne Fox at IHMRELED@aol.com

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July 1, 2009
www.oratoryprep.org

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The ideal candidate will be a distinguished educational leader who is a thoughtful, practicing Catholic. In particular, the school seeks a candidate with a high-level of energy and ambition to sustain the positive momentum, strong base of support, and standard of excellence for which the school is known today.

Candidates should send a letter of interest, current résumé, statement of educational philosophy, and names of five professional references to:

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Brother Ralph Darmento, F.S.C.
Deputy Superintendent of Schools
Archdiocese of Newark
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NOVENAS

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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.

B.W.

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 THE
BLESSED VIRGIN

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

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THANK YOU ST. JUDE

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

M.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.

B.W.

PRAYER TO ST. JUDE

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

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GREAT

Continued from page 1

"In the past, it was believed that kids that joined gangs were just poor, inner-city children who came from broken homes. Today, people want to be in gangs because they are cool. Gangsters are on television doing commercials. It is tough to compete with that image. Kids see gang members as successful and they don't realize

that hundreds of others have died trying to achieve that success."

Children have difficulty separating fact from fiction in terms of what gangs really are. "I have been asked if I have been on 'Cops,' if I have ever been run over by a car, and if I ever shot someone. The kids are used to what they see in movies."

One of the main goals of GREAT is to let students know that there are other options of what to do in the future. "I ask all the



Advocate photo- Melissa McNally

Officer Raymond Vonderheide, senior parole officer in the street gang unit of the New Jersey State Parole Board (left) lets sixth grade student Monsun Mersier try on his bulletproof vest at Saint Rose of Lima School. Vonderheide taught third, fourth and sixth grade students the federal Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT) program, designed to prevent youth violence and gang membership.

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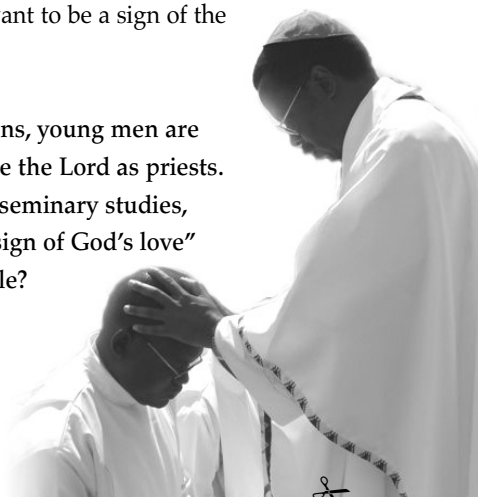
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for strength, for hope."*
Chanakila Lubasi
ordained a priest in Zambia, Summer 2007

His seminary classmate Aaron Njobvu, also ordained last year, agrees. "I am becoming a priest above all to serve," he says. "I want to be a sign of the love of God for all."

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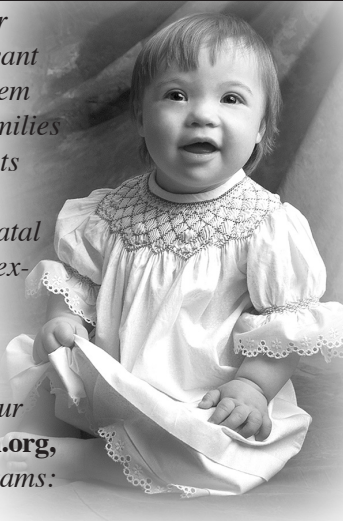
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are affected by gangs outside the school walls. "When children leave this school and go to a public high school, they should know how to deal with gangs. Children are influenced by a culture that glorifies gang association. The GREAT program discourages that. Especially in an urban setting, the kids just want to belong."

Wilson considers the program successful and would like to continue with it next year. "The children think the program is terrific and are enthused with Officer Vonderheide. There is no way to truly measure the success of GREAT until the sixth graders are in eighth grade and ready to graduate. I definitely endorse this program."

Originally intended just for sixth grade, the third and fourth grade classes were added to the curriculum. Wilson argued that gangs are recruiting younger and younger members and the GREAT program is an important tool to combat it. "It is never too young to start teaching children about gangs. At the third-grade level, the boys especially begin forming attitudes and assert themselves. The children want to do things that they see on television and model their behavior on what they see in the streets."

There has been a shift in familial structure and the value system of the students according to Wilson. "In urban areas, many of the students are being raised by their grandmothers that are one generation removed from the problems facing the children. A lot of parents are losing their children to the streets. We are combating a lot of forces. Saint Rose of Lima is not a violent school, but the children live in a culture outside of school where they see violence everyday."

Together with the school's drug education programs, GREAT is important to the all-around education and well-being of the students. "This program is a starting point and it is centering our character education program," Wilson said. "It enhances our curriculum and shows children the positive options instead of the negative options."



Submitted photo

TRUE LOVE WAITS—LIFENET, a New Jersey-based, pro-life educational non-profit organization, conducted a “True Love Waits” training seminar for 38 adult youth leaders, campus ministers, catechists and college students at the Archdiocesan Youth Retreat Center in Kearny on April 26. Rebecca O’Keefe, Christine Flaherty—the executive director of LIFENET—and Maria Minano (left to right) were among those who attended the seminar. True Love Waits is a five-session course is designed for high school and college-age students and young adults. The training seminar utilizes videos, discussion questions, skits, videos and games to cover topics related to God’s design for love, life and marriage. LIFENET conducts training seminars three times a year. The next program will be held Saturday, Nov. 22. Call (973) 509-8123 for more information.

St. Peter’s Prep Grand Gala nets \$170,000 for financial assistance

JERSEY CITY—The inaugural Saint Peter’s Prep’s 144 Grand Gala at the Teaneck Marriott at Glenpointe, to benefit the school’s financial assistance program, raised \$170,000. The gala is the latest step in a 130-year commitment by Saint Peter’s Prep to enable young men of diverse backgrounds to receive a col-

lege preparatory education in the Jesuit tradition. Saint Peter’s Prep is dedicated to ensuring that students who are academically capable of attending the school will not be turned away due to financial need. The school offers merit- or need-based financial assistance to over 40 percent of the student body.

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VISITOR FROM NIGERIA—Bishop George Dodo from the Diocese of Zaria, Nigeria (center) visited Father Stanley Gomes (right), director of adjunct clergy for the Archdiocese of Newark and Father Bernard Duga (left), adjunct clergy and chaplain at Hackensack Hospital, at the Archdiocesan Center in Newark on May 20. Father Duga is originally from the Diocese of Zaria and is a student at Seton Hall University (SHU), South Orange. Bishop Dodo came to New Jersey to plan for another priest in his home country to attend the university and work in the archdiocese. "Hopefully, he (the new priest) should arrive here this summer," Bishop Dodo said.



Advocate photo—Melissa McNally

Parish plans talk on AIDS

SUMMIT—An AIDS awareness prayer service and program will be held Tuesday, June 17, 7:30 p.m. in Saint Teresa of Avila's Parish's Memorial Hall, 306 Morris Ave.

The pastor, Msgr. Robert Harahan, will preside. Open to the public, the evening will offer an opportunity to commemorate loved ones lost to AIDS and learn what can be done to help.

Dr. Terrence Zealand, founder of the AIDS Resource Foundation for Children (www.aidsresource.org), 77 Academy St., Newark, will serve as the featured speaker. After a brief prayer service, Zealand will discuss his foundation, which, together with Saint Clare's Social Services team, cares for over 950 medically fragile babies, many of them orphans.

Following the presentation, there will be time for informal discussion as well as questions and answers.

Zealand and his wife, Faye Zealand, founded their Newark-based organization in 1985 and within two years opened the first home for children with AIDS in the country: Saint Clare's Home for Children in Elizabeth.

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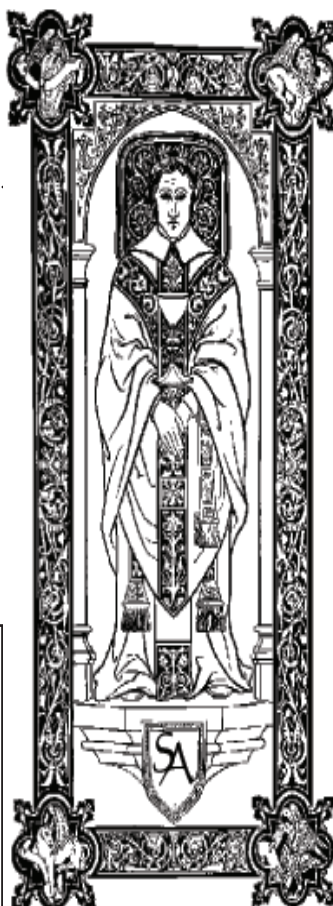
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Honoring Mary in May

Schools throughout the Archdiocese of Newark honored Mary during May. Among the schools that took part in traditional May Crowning events were Visitation Academy Interparochial in Paramus, top photo, Saint Joseph School, East Rutherford, middle right photo, and Saint Therese of Lisieux School in Creskill, bottom right, whose First Communion Class was joined by the pastor, Father Joseph P. O'Brien, O.Carm. At the bottom left, ninth and tenth graders at Oratory Preparatory School in Summit honored the mother of God by making rosaries. Earlier in the month the freshmen led a Youth Rosary at Saint Teresa of Avila Parish.



Submitted photos, composite by Marilyn Smith

Felician Sisters call upon leaders to end Iraqi war

LODI—The Congregation of Sisters of Saint Felix of Cantalice, the Felician Sisters, have issued a formal statement to President Bush and the U.S. Congress for a “responsible” end to both this country’s “occupation” of Iraq and an end to the war there, according to a press release from the

Immaculate Conception Province.

The Sisters call for development of an Iraqi Peace Conference that would “unite all factions of Iraqi society and empower the Iraqi people by creating a viable structure that supports the socioeconomic development of their society.

The congregation, which numbers 2,000 Sisters worldwide, also called on the U.S. government, the release continues, “to respond compassionately to Iraqi refugees accepted into the United States.” Sister Mary Barbara Ann Bosch, leader of the worldwide religious community, termed the war “dehumanizing to all people and devastating to the earth.”

The formal statement can be found in its entirety at www.feliciansisters.org.

‘Fertile’ parish feels blessed

LINDEN—Three ordinations to the priesthood from Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Parish within the last 12 months has been a source of pride and joy for members of the Union County faith community.

Last May, Father Alberto Tamayo was ordained. This past May 17, Father Patrick McPartland was ordained at Saint Mary’s Cathedral in Trenton by Bishop John Smith. At the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark on May 24, Father Pedro Bismark Chau was ordained.

“We are blessed to find such fertile ground for vocations right in our own midst” said Father Benedict Worry, O.S.B., the pastor of Saint Elizabeth. Saint Elizabeth Parish will open its 100th anniversary year of celebration in the fall.

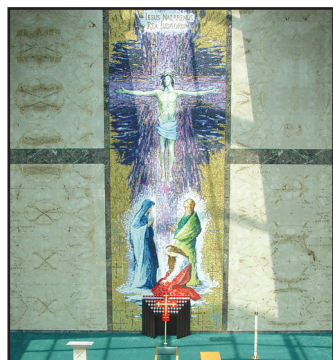


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