



# The Catholic Advocate



Vol. 57, No. 6

CATHOLIC PRESS ASSOCIATION GENERAL EXCELLENCE AWARD 

March 19, 2008



CNS photo

# *He is Risen!*

# Practicing what you preach (and teach) in politics

Today, knee-deep into election “hype-steria,” I am beginning to see an unfortunate repeat of the events of 2000 and 2004, when pundits, politicians, media and even some candidates for office sought to paint the Catholic bishops as bad guys manipulating parishioners into voting for a particular candidate based on one issue alone.

Already, commentators are pointing to a document from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (“Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship”) as reason to claim that the Catholic Church is a one-issue only political interest group.

That simply is not true.

Over the past 30 years, every version of Faithful Citizenship has focused on the full spectrum of the Church’s concern for the problems and challenges of living in society today. At the center of this spectrum is the commitment to the sanctity and dignity of every human life—the only natural center from which to proceed.

The Church calls for Catholics to look at the “tough issues.” The Church has never issued a guide urging people to vote for one party or another, or one particular candidate.

With Faithful Citizenship, the bishops call on America’s Catholic voters to judge issues and the candidates in the light of the transcendent truths of right and justice. The current version, finalized in November 2007, is explicit in this teaching: “What faith teaches about the dignity of the human person and about the sacredness of every human life helps us see more clearly the same truths that also come to us through the gift of human reason... Because we are people of both faith and reason, it is appropriate and necessary for us to bring this essential truth about human life and dignity to the public square. We are called to practice Christ’s commandment to ‘love one another’ (Jn. 13:34)... and to protect the lives and dignity of all, especially the weak, the vulnerable, the voiceless.”

Not convinced? Still think that the Church is trying to slant people only to the abortion issue?

How about this? The Catholic bishops have spoken out against the war in Iraq, and called on the U.S. government to begin to transition that country toward peace. They have called on the legislative and executive branches of our government to find a permanent and solid solution to adequate healthcare for the poor. They seek fair living wages for all workers and for access to decent affordable housing. They seek an end to the death penalty, racism and torture—acts that never can be justified. It’s all in Faithful Citizenship.

Here in New Jersey, the Catholic bishops have been instrumental in helping to abolish the death penalty, in calling

## Sincerely in the Lord

By Archbishop  
John J. Myers



for adequate healthcare funding for the poor and affordable housing, in calling for access to quality education for the poor, for justice for victims of the modern-day slavery of human trafficking, and for immigration reform. Again, Faithful Citizenship echoes these themes.

If there is a one-issue focus at work here, it is this: all human life matters.

Too often, politics is a contest of powerful interests, partisan attacks, and nano-messages. Through Faithful Citizenship, the bishops call for a different kind of examination: one shaped by moral convictions of well-formed consciences and focused on the dignity of every human being, protection of the weak and vulnerable, and the common good. That is an agenda that transcends political parties and campaign promises.

I have a problem with pundits, candidates and even the average person in the street bristling when a bishop speaks

about the need for Catholics to make decisions about political issues based on the centrality of the dignity of human life. Political parties censure their members all the time for not toeing the line. The members comply and no one complains.

But when a bishop reminds Catholics to reach back into their faith when deciding issues, or accepting the responsibility of public life, the clamor of false indignation is deafening.

What am I looking for? The same thing that every solid American citizen should be looking for. I seek a candidate who knows that every one of us alive today began life on a very elementary nature, and understands that all future rights to which each of us is entitled wouldn’t mean a thing if this life were not allowed to develop.

I seek a candidate who is dedicated to nurturing a person’s opportunity for growth from the moment of conception through birth, early childhood, education, years in the workforce, retirement, final years and natural passing. I am looking for a candidate who will work to ensure that we do not accept short-term answers to problems, or quick fixes, or solutions that sweep problems under the rug and out of sight. Such expedient measures are done at a cost to human life and dignity.

Rather than damn the bishops, as some critics would, for Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, I urge everyone—Catholics and non-Catholics alike—to read the document and learn for themselves that it is an insightful and responsible challenge to look for the higher values in political life today.

Isn’t this what America is all about?

*The Church calls for Catholics to look at the ‘tough issues.’  
The Church has never issued a guide urging people to vote for one party or another, or one particular candidate. If there is a one-issue focus at work here, it is this: all human life matters.*

## Assumption makes plans for Caring Basket Gala

MENDHAM—Assumption College for Sisters, will hold its seventh annual “Caring Basket Gala” on Thursday, April 17 at the Hanover Marriott Hotel, 1401 Route 10 East, Whippany.

This is the major annual outreach event for Assumption (Web site: [www.acs350.org](http://www.acs350.org)), a fully accredited Sister formation college. Call (973) 543-6528, ext. 230, to purchase tickets for the gala.

Many graduates of the college, sponsored by the Sisters of Christian Charity, work in the Archdiocese of Newark. Msgr. John E. Doran, the archdiocesan Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia, serves on the college’s board of directors.

Sister Mary Joseph Schultz, S.C.C., is the president of Assumption College, which educates women called to a life of consecration to God and service in the Roman Catholic Church. The school provides a value-centered, two-year program in theology and the liberal arts.



Advocate photo – Ward Miele

**APPLAUDING BUSINESS AND LABOR**—As the Boy Scout honor guard enters the banquet hall at the 15th annual Archbishop’s Business and Labor Recognition Dinner, held March 4 at Mayfair Farms in West Orange, Archbishop John J. Myers, center, is joined in applause of the young people by honoree Jeffrey Vanderbeek, chairman and managing partner of the New Jersey Devils hockey team, left, and Rev. Msgr. Richard J. Arnholz, pastor of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Bergenfield and Archdiocesan Vicar for Pastoral Life. Vanderbeek and Raymond Pocino (inset), vice president and eastern regional manager of the Labors’ International Union of North America, were the honorees at the event, however, Pocino was unable to attend due to pressing union business in Washington, D.C. The annual affair, which benefits the CYO/Youth and Young Adult Ministries of the Archdiocese of Newark, raised \$200,000.

USPS-008-380  
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**PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT**  
The Catholic Advocate is published by the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Newark at 171 Clifton Ave., Newark NJ 07104-9500. Periodical postage is paid at Newark NJ and at additional offices. Postmaster: Please send address changes to: P.O. Box 9500, Newark, NJ 07104.

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**FREQUENCY FOR THE YEAR**  
The Catholic Advocate continues to be a bi-weekly publication. Publication dates for 2008 are April 9, 23; May 7, 21; June 4, 18; July 16; August 13, 27; September 10, 24; October 15, 29; November 12, 26; December 10, 24.

NJPA  
ISSN# 1084-3213

# Lost and found: two faith journeys inspire Women's Day of Reflection



Advocate photos – Melissa McNally

Pamela Swartzberg, chairwoman of the Women's Commission of the Archdiocese of Newark, enjoys a brief pause during the annual Women's Day of Reflection conference, along with Archbishop John J. Myers and guest speaker Teresa Tomeo (left to right). Archbishop Myers celebrated Mass to open the event. Tomeo, a radio commentator who hails from Jersey City, addressed the gathering, discussing her life and career while offering candid insights on her Catholic faith. "If you told me 15 years ago that I would be talking about God, I wouldn't believe you," she confessed.

## Speakers share tales straight from the heart

BY MELISSA MCNALLY  
Staff Writer

Commemorating the 20th anniversary of Pope John Paul II's apostolic letter *Mulieris Dignitatem* ("On the Dignity and Vocation of Women"), the annual Women's Day of Reflection—sponsored by the Women's Commission of the Archdiocese of Newark—addressed issues of faith and life facing modern women in society and the Church.

The March 1 event, "On the Dignity of Women: Reclaiming Authentic Femininity in the Public Square," attracted hundreds of faithful to the South Orange campus of Seton Hall University. The conference featured speakers Teresa Tomeo, a veteran news anchor and EWTN radio show host, and Janet Morana, co-founder of the "Silent No More" abortion awareness campaign.

Both speakers, who discussed critical, turning-point events in their lives, said they came back to the Church after many years of being disenchanted by their experiences in the secular world. A Jersey City native, Tomeo was

raised in a traditional Italian-American Catholic home. She worked for 20 years in the Detroit area as a radio and TV news reporter and anchorwoman.

"I fell away from the faith. I was constantly pulled in two different directions—following my dreams as a broadcaster versus practicing my faith. I became very worldly and almost lost my husband and my soul in the process," Tomeo said.

After being fired from her job at a local television station, Tomeo went through a "spiritual and heart journey." She realized that her career aspirations and her material possessions were not keys to her happiness. "Everyone must be humbled to be exalted and that idea is in opposition to the world today. Why is it OK for Mary and Jesus to humble themselves before the Lord, but we say no, 'it is all about me.'"

Tomeo left the secular news business and has been in Catholic media for five years. Today, her daily morning radio program "Catholic Connection" is heard on over 120 Catholic stations through EWTN Global Catholic Radio. Last year, she published "Noise: How Our Media Saturated Culture Dominates Lives and Dismantles Families."

The misconception that the Catholic Church subjugates and is unfair to women is an issue Tomeo is passionate about debunking. "Jesus is the one that raised women up and broke cultural norms. There is such richness in the Church's teaching. Saying the Church is outdated is a lie of the secular media. The

Catholic Church is the truth from God and it is not going anywhere because Christ said so," she declared.

While reconnecting with her faith, Tomeo became critical of the messages being sent through today's media. The feminist movement, she believes, has made progress for women, but also introduced several lies and misconceptions.

Continued on page 33



Janet Morana

## Abuse victims getting counseling, support

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Counseling, retreats, support groups and spiritual direction are among the types of assistance U.S. dioceses have offered to vic-

tims of sexual abuse, notes a new audit report. Such services were offered to more than 3,200 victims of abuse and their families, including 951 people who came

forward since the last report, said the “2007 Annual Report on the Implementation of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People” released March 7 by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. The audit by

The Gavin Group analyzed how 190 dioceses stacked up against the standards of the 17 articles of the “Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People.” The 2007 audit covered a period as long as 22 months for some dioceses, as the audit program shifted to a standard fiscal year. It was released the same day as the 2007 Survey of Allegations and Costs. The U.S. bishops, in 2002, adopted the charter and a set of norms to implement it amid a wave of revelations of sexual abuse by Church personnel.

be ‘facts,’ which, upon further study, have turned out not to be true.” He said one of the erroneous “facts” he was given was that the national Komen foundation provides grants to Planned Parenthood—a major provider of abortions—raising concerns that money donated to Komen in Arkansas could indirectly fund abortions. “However, the reality is that the national Komen foundation does not give grants to Planned Parenthood and therefore money given to Komen in Arkansas does not, even indirectly, fund abortion,” he said.

## Diocese rescinds Komen statement

LITTLE ROCK, AR (CNS)—Msgr. J. Gaston Hebert, administrator of the Diocese of Little Rock, has rescinded a February statement that discouraged parishes and schools in the diocese from supporting fundraising activities for Susan G. Komen for the Cure. The international organization, based in Dallas, raises millions annually for the detection, treatment and research of breast cancer. One of its signature events is the annual “Race for the Cure” held in communities around the country. After meeting with Komen officials, Msgr. Hebert said March 6 that the earlier position statement, prepared by the diocesan Respect Life Office and endorsed by him, “was based upon what were believed to

## New forms of sin threaten society

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—In today’s globalized culture, the social effects of sin are greater than ever before and deserve the Church’s urgent attention, a Vatican official said. New forms of sin have arisen in the area of biotechnology, economics and ecology, and many involve questions of individual rights and wider social effects, said Bishop Gianfranco Girotti. Bishop Girotti is an official of the Apostolic Penitentiary, an office that deals with questions relating to penance and indulgences. Bishop Girotti said the sense of sin in today’s world should be even more acute than before, since the effects of sin are often widespread.

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Rescue workers search rubble in Lahore, Pakistan, after two suicide bombings March 11. More than 20 people were killed and 100 were injured in the blasts, which badly damaged Catholic buildings.



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**RETREAT SMILES**—Fifty candidates for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) program at Saint Michael's Parish, Newark, which is staffed by the Vocationist Fathers, participated in a one-day retreat Feb. 24 at Our Lady of Divine Vocations Shrine and Retreat Center in Florham Park. Most Rev. Edgar da Cunha (second from right), Auxiliary Bishop of Newark—who had been assigned to the Newark parish before becoming a bishop—celebrated Mass at the retreat center. Pictured with Bishop da Cunha are, left to right, Vanessa Velaquez-Vega, sponsor Joel Santana, Sabrina Diaz-Talamantes and FaithHope DeJesus. Deacon Ciceilo Polanco is the parish's RCIA director for both its English and Spanish programs, while Deacon Rijo Johnson, S.D.V., Deacon Jose Negron and Clary Polanco serve as instructors.

## Ambassadors aid those in need

**DEMAREST**—Students at Academy of the Holy Angels (AHA) have been selected for the "O Ambassadors" program, a joint project of Oprah Winfrey's "Angel Network" and "Free the Children," to work towards the UN's "Millennium Development Goals" of learning about global issues and making a tangible difference in the lives of their peers in the developing world.

O Ambassadors clubs (Web site: [www.oambassadors.org](http://www.oambassadors.org)) work to find solutions to global challenges. "We are so excited to have been chosen to participate in the O Ambassadors program. The students have begun to plan various fund-raising events and are extremely excited to have this opportunity to help those in need," said Debbie Shanley, a business education technology instructor at AHA who directs the O Ambassadors club.

Every two months the ambassadors focus on world issues such as poverty, education, healthcare and sustainable development, then organize fund-raising and awareness-raising events. Contact Jillane Miroddi, AHA director of communications, at (201) 768-7822, ext. 244 for information on the club's activities.

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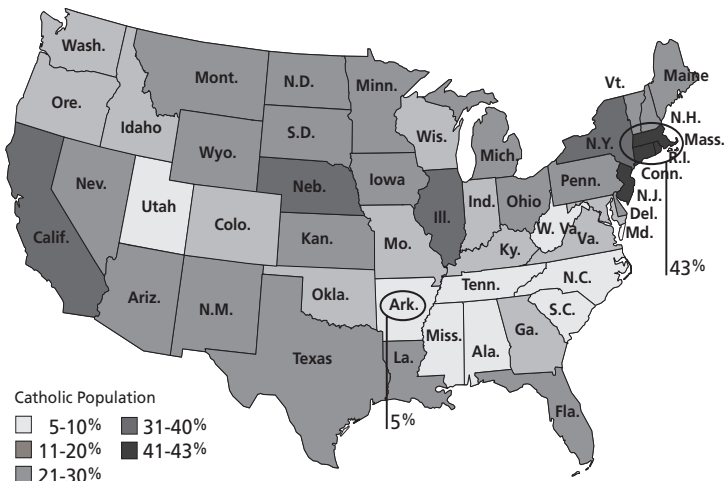
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## Catholics Across the U.S.

Massachusetts and Connecticut with Rhode Island have the greatest portion of Catholics when compared with other states. Arkansas has the least.



Source: Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life U.S. Religious Landscape Survey

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## Expos download info on high schools

By the calendar at least, the wonderful season of spring arrives tomorrow (March 20). That means it is time for the Archdiocese of Newark's High School Expo series, which is organized by the archdiocesan Schools Office.

Designed for students in the sixth and seventh grades as well as their parents, the expo format is a unique opportunity to get a jump-start on the first real milestone in a young person's life—high school.

Informality is the key to the 90-minute expo sessions that will take place next month at six strategic locations throughout Essex, Bergen, Hudson and Union counties.

Students and their parents can at their own pace stop by booths set up by the high schools. In addition to being able to take home a wealth of information on what each high school offers,

questions can be asked of school personnel and "student ambassadors." Usually 10 to 25 high schools are represented at an expo.

The schedule this spring includes the following schools: April 8, Visitation Academy, Paramus; April 9, St. Aloysius, Jersey City; April 10, Queen of Peace, North Arlington; April 15, St. John the Apostle, Clark; April 16, Our Lady of Sorrows, South Orange; and April 17 at the Archdiocesan Center in Newark, which is adjacent to the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart. All sessions run from 7 to 8:30 p.m. and no pre-registration is required. Visit the Web site ([www.rcan.org/schools](http://www.rcan.org/schools)) or contact Laura Cristiano, the director of marketing and public relations for the Schools Office, at (973) 497-4258 for details.

## Weighing questions on the 'ensoulment' of embryos

People are sometimes surprised to hear that the wrongness of destroying a human embryo does not ultimately depend on when that embryo might become a person, or when he or she might receive a soul from God. They often suppose that the Catholic Church teaches that destroying human embryos is unacceptable because such embryos are persons (or are "ensouled").

While it is true that the Church teaches that the intentional and direct destruction of human embryos is always immoral, it would be incorrect to conclude that the Church teaches that zygotes (a single-cell embryo) or other early-stage embryos are persons, or that they already have immortal, rational souls. The magisterium of the Church has never definitively stated when the "ensoulment" of the human embryo takes place. It remains an open question.

The Declaration on Procured Abortion from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith in 1974 phrases the matter with considerable precision:

This declaration expressly leaves aside the question of the moment when the spiritual soul is infused. There is not a unanimous tradition on this point and authors are as yet in disagreement. For some it dates from the first instant; for others it could not at least precede nidation (implantation in the uterus). It is not within the competence of science to decide between these views, because the existence of an immortal soul is not a question in its field. It is a philosophical problem from which our moral affirmation remains independent.

That being said, the moral teaching of the Church is that the human embryo must be treated as if it were already ensouled, even if it might not yet be so. It must be treated as if it were a person from the moment of conception, even if there exists the theoretical possibility that it might not yet be so.

Why this rather subtle, nuanced position, instead of simply declaring outright that zygotes are ensouled, and therefore are persons? First, because there has never been a unanimous tradition on this point. Second, because the precise timing of ensoulment/personhood of the human embryo is irrelevant to the question of whether or not we may ever destroy such embryos for research or other purposes.

Interestingly, ensoulment has been discussed for centuries, and so-called delayed ensoulment was probably the norm for most of Christian history, with immediate ensoulment gaining some serious momentum of its own beginning in the 1600s (and representing the position most widely held today).

Augustine seemed to shift his opinion back and forth during his lifetime between immediate and delayed ensoulment. In the 1200s, Thomas Aquinas held that human en-

MAKING SENSE  
OUT  
OF BIOETHICS

By Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk



soulment occurred not right at the first instant, but at a time-point removed from the beginning. This, he argued, would enable the matter of the embryo to undergo development and become "apt" for the reception of an immortal soul from God (by passing through simpler initial stages involving "vegetative" and "animative" souls).

Even today in various quarters, the discussions continue, with new embryological details like twinning and chimerization impinging upon the debate, and new conceptual questions arising from the intricate biology surrounding totipotency and pluripotency.

We must recognize that it is God's business as to precisely when He ensouls embryos. We do not need an answer to this fascinating and speculative theological question, like counting angels on the head of a pin, in order to grasp the fundamental truth that human embryos are inviolable and deserving of unconditional respect at every stage of their existence. Rather, this moral affirmation follows directly on the heels of the scientific data regarding early human development, which affirms that every person on the face of the planet is, so to speak, an "overgrown embryo." Hence, it is not necessary to know exactly when God ensouls the embryo, because, as I sometimes point out in half-jest, even if it were true that an embryo did not receive her soul until she graduated from law school, that would not make it OK to kill her by forcibly extracting tissues or organs prior to graduation.

Human embryos are already beings that are human (not zebra or plant), and are, in fact, the newest and most recent additions to the human family. They are integral beings structured for maturation along their proper time line. Any destructive action against them as they move along the con-

tinuum of their development disrupts the entire future time line of that person. In other words, the embryo exists as whole, living member of the human species, and when destroyed, that particular individual has perished. Every human embryo, thus, is unique and sacrosanct, and should not be cannibalized for stem cell extraction.

What a human embryo actually is, even at its earliest and most undeveloped stage, already makes it the only kind of entity capable of receiving the gift of an immortal soul from the hand of God. No other animal or plant embryo can receive this gift; indeed, no other entity in the universe can receive this gift. The early human embryo is never merely biological tissue, like a group of liver cells in a petri dish; at a minimum, such an embryo, with all its internal structure and directionality, represents the privileged sanctuary of one meant to develop as a human person.

Some scientists and philosophers will attempt to argue that if an early embryo might not yet have received its immortal soul from God, it must be OK to destroy that embryo for research since he or she would not yet be a person. But it would actually be the reverse; that is to say, it would be more immoral to destroy an embryo that had not yet received an immortal soul than to destroy an ensouled embryo.

Why? Because the immortal soul is the principle by which that person could come to an eternal destiny with God in heaven, so the one who destroyed the embryo, in this scenario, would preclude that young human from ever receiving an immortal soul (or becoming a person) and making his or her way to God.

This would be the gravest of evils, as the stem-cell researcher would forcibly derail the entire eternal design of God over that unique and unrepeatable person, via an action that would be, in some sense, worse than murder. The human person, then, even in his or her most incipient form as an embryonic human being, must always be safeguarded in an absolute and unconditional way, and speculation about the timing of personhood cannot alter this fundamental truth.

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

*What a human embryo actually is, even at its earliest and most undeveloped stage, already makes it the only kind of entity capable of receiving the gift of an immortal soul from the hand of God.*

# A brief outline of Western Civilization's virtues

In his book, "Without Roots," Pope Benedict XVI deplored the addiction to historical self-deprecation rampant at the higher altitudes of European cultural and intellectual life: a tendency to see in the history of the West only "the despicable and the destructive."

The same problem exists on this side of the Atlantic; in our universities and among our cultural tastemakers, the healthy Western habit of moral, cultural and political self-critique can dissipate into forms of self-loathing. Perhaps a civilization can afford to think of its past as pathology when it has no competitors. That is manifestly not the case today, when the West is being challenged by radical Islamist jihadism and by the new and market-improved authoritarianism of China.

So, a question: What's right about the West, about this unique civilizational enterprise formed by the fruitful interaction of Jerusalem, Athens and Rome—biblical religion, rationality and the idea of a law-governed polity?

## Openness

Thanks to its belief in the power of reason, and its commitment to a search for truth unconstrained by political power, taboo, or the whims of false gods, the West has evolved the most open civilization in human history. As British philosopher Roger Scruton neatly put it, life in the West is an open book; it's too often a closed ledger elsewhere.

## Freedom

Over many centuries, the West thought its way through to the idea of the inalienable dignity and worth of every human life. That commitment to the dignity of the individual gave birth, in turn, to Western ideas of free-

## THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

By George Weigel



dom—the freedom of belief, freedom of expression, and freedom's defense as the primary function of government. The world now swears allegiance to the idea of "human rights." That idea was born in the West. So was the idea that slavery, an ancient human institution, is an abomination. So was the idea that women enjoy full political and legal equality with men.

## Knowledge

The Bible gave the West the idea of a God who imprinted his reason onto his creation; the Greeks gave the West the idea of the unflinching quest for truth. Put the two together and you get other great Western inventions: universities, libraries, research institutes and schools open to all. The West's thirst for knowledge, coupled with its commitment to openness and freedom of discussion, produced the scientific method and the scientific revolution; thus virtually every major invention of the past half-millennium has come from the West. If we live longer, healthier, less painful lives today than human beings did a thousand years

ago, we can thank the West's scientific and technological creativity, which is a function of Western culture.

## Generosity

In addition to ending the slave trade, abolishing slavery, and enfranchising women, the West has produced virtually every major humanitarian initiative in modern history, from the Red Cross to Doctors Without Borders, from the "green revolution" to the eradication of river blindness, from care for the mentally and physically handicapped to the abrogation of forced marriage. The modern human rights movement has taken root in many cultures, but it is motored primarily by the West, which is also the source of the overwhelming proportion of development aid for the world's poor.

## Beauty

Many cultures produce beautiful things, but only the West has produced Mozart, Bach, Michelangelo, Dante, Rembrandt and Shakespeare. Absent a humanistic culture, you're just not going to find the intensity of human grandeur and human weakness found, for example, in a Caravaggio painting or a Bernini sculpture.

## Humor

The West is singularly capable of making fun of itself; sometimes, to be sure, in vulgar ways. Still, that impulse to mock pretension and false piety, to cut the mighty down to size with a joke, is a sound one. Humor keeps things open, keeps things human and nurtures in the West a capacity for healthy self-criticism.

That the world's migration patterns tend to work in one direction, from the rest to the West, is not an accident. Six reasons why have been noted here; more could be added.

So, have you said something nice about your civilization today?

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

*As British philosopher Roger Scruton neatly put it, life in the West is an open book; it's too often a closed ledger elsewhere.*

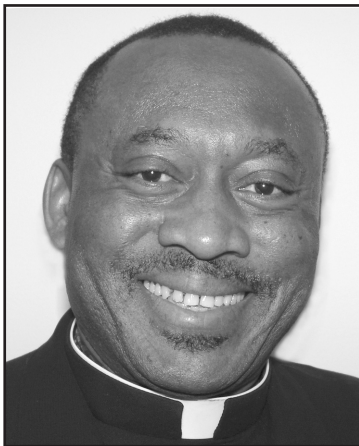
# Resurrection anchors faith needed to overcome fear

BY FATHER ANSELM I. NWAORGU  
Special to The Catholic Advocate

When we look at the whole Easter triduum (the three days leading up to Easter) and the event of the Resurrection, what we would see is the greatest motivational story of all time. Beginning from Palm Sunday (the Sunday we celebrate Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem), everything looked bleak for Christ, the Son of God.

He was betrayed by the one whom He chose to be His disciple; jeered by the very ones who shouted "Hosanna Son of David;" castigated by those He fed, cured, healed, saved and preached to; rejected by the very ones he defended. He even felt rejected by His father as He cried out: "My God, My God, Why have you forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46).

All these prevailed until that holy night, that fateful Sunday morning, when God spoke the last word in favor of His own Son by raising Him from death. In this very act of the Resurrection, God laid out some basic principles for successful living.



Father Anselm I. Nwaorgu

## Believe that God is on your side

The experiences of Christ in the days leading up to the crucifixion tell our story as we navigate through the maze of living life on earth. In many ways, life does not cooperate with our efforts. Among other things, we may have to deal with broken promises and betrayals; lack of support and sometimes abandonment from those who promised to be there; failures and disappointment in our endeavors. Sometimes we are moved to wonder, like the Israelites, if "The Lord is still in

our midst or not?" (Exodus 17:7).

The good news from Christ's resurrection is that God is still in our midst and that He is on our side. The apostle Paul tells us that, "God who raised Jesus Christ from the dead will also raise us (from our own difficulties) through His spirit that dwells in us" (Romans 8:11). The Resurrection is God's way of unleashing the power of faith necessary for us to counter our fears, re-evaluate our dreams and potentials and reclaim our purpose and value in life.

## Let go of the past and focus on the present

The Resurrection of Christ is a declaration of present and future blessings and a letting go of the past. "He is not here, He is risen" declared the angel. Why look for the living among the dead? Christ's death took our ugly past with it. His resurrection an-

nounced the brightness of our today and tomorrow.

As St. Paul says: "forgetting what lies behind, (let's) strain forward to what lies ahead, (and) continue (our) pursuit toward the goal, the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:13-15). Christ's resurrection is an invitation for us to press forward no matter what the adversity may be and to hold on to hope in the face of hopelessness.

The Resurrection calls us to focus on what God is doing right here and now. We need to let go of failed relationships, anger, disappointments and insecurities and embrace the Alleluia of Easter Sunday. God does not need our past in order to bless us today. Our past failures are only a moment in our history. They should not define who we are meant to be.

## Anchor your hope in the Lord

There is the story of a little bear cub that was playing in the midst of shrubs. He suddenly smelled danger and looking up saw a lion coming in his direction poised to attack. The little cub froze knowing very well that he had no change with the lion and that his last seconds with life were at hand.

As the lion was about to take a dash toward the cub, it suddenly stopped and began to back off and then turned and ran in the opposite direction. The little cub took a deep breath and thought in his mind that his poise must have scared the lion away. Little did the cub know that what happened was that mama bear showed up behind him as the lion made his last move for the kill. Life is all about who is standing behind you.

The writer of Ecclesiastes, after exploring all that could be

Continued on page 28

*Let your problems drive you closer to God. Always look beyond your anguish so that your life does not stop on a 'Good Friday' experience. Christ's resurrection is an invitation for us to press forward no matter what the adversity may be.*



Submitted photo

**FISHERS OF MEN**—St. Benedict's Prep School in Newark held a vocation awareness day Jan. 29, sponsored by the Newark Abbey's vocation office. Six hundred students, monks and faculty members listened as the school choir opened the assembly with the song "Falling in Love with Jesus." Father James Campbell and Father Joseph Campbell, 27-year-old identical twin brothers from the Diocese of Erie, PA, served as guest speakers, energizing students to consider a vocation to the priesthood and religious life. Following the assembly there was a special reception to celebrate the abbey's "Fishers of Men" program. Brother Patrick Winbush, O.S.B., (far left), director of vocations for Newark Abbey, is the moderator of the Fishers of Men program. Anyone considering a monastic vocation may contact Brother Patrick at (973) 792-5772.

## 'Spotlight' to shine on Catechism

**AREA**—The Catechetical Office of the Archdiocese of Newark is set to launch its "Spotlight on the Catechism," a four-part faith-education program open to the public.

All sessions listed below—including topics, locations, dates and presenters—will run from 7 to 9 p.m. The schedule includes:

**Spotlight on Faith:** The Creed: Our Catholic Faith—Saint John the Evangelist Parish, Leonia, March 31, April 7 and 14. The presenter will be Kevin Averill, a leader in Catholic education and catechetics.

**Spotlight on Sacraments:** The Paschal Mystery: Past, Present and Future—Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Jersey City, April 24, May 1 and 8. The presenter will be Sister Christine Tobin, S.F.C.C., director of religious education at Saint Paul Parish, Ramsey.

**Spotlight on Morality:** Our Moral Life: Restrictions or Possibilities—Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Parish, Roseland, April 15,

22 and 29. The presenter will be Father Michael Saporito, pastor of Saint Joseph Parish, Maplewood.

**Spotlight on Prayer:** God's Thirst—Our Lady of Peace Parish, New Providence, April 14, 21 and 28. The presenter will be Father Terrence J. Moran, C.Ss.R., retreat leader, spiritual director and author with experience in parish, educational and diocesan ministries.

Those involved in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) or other adult faith-formation groups can use the series to obtain doctrinal certification.

Registration for each course is \$25 per person. A certificate will be issued upon completion of each course. For additional information, contact Dr. Eugene Tozzi, associate director for adult and family catechesis for the archdiocesan Catechetical Office, by phone at (973) 497-4288 or via e-mail (tozzieug@rcan.org). Ron Pihokker is the director of the archdiocesan Catechetical Office.

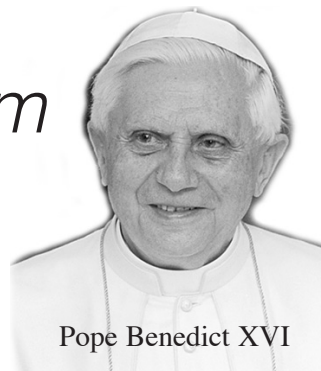


Submitted photo

**INTERFAITH DIALOGUE**—Father Elias D. Mallon, S.A. (second from left) of the Friars of Atonement and a member of the Roman Catholic/Muslim Dialogue of the Archdiocese of New York, recently addressed a forum at Felician College on Muslim/Christian interfaith dialogue. Father Elias is engaged in issues of interreligious cooperation at the United Nations through Franciscans International. Pictured with Father Mallon is (left to right) Brother Kevin Smith, Felician associate professor of religious studies; Ossa Elhadary, assistant professor of business; Sister Theresa Mary Martin, president of Felician College; and Fahmi Abboushi, associate professor of computer science.

## THE POPE SPEAKS

### Pope warns Catholics to beware of secularism



Pope Benedict XVI

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Priests, women religious and the Catholic faithful must guard against superficiality and egotism infiltrating Church life, Pope Benedict XVI declared.

The hedonist and consumerist mentality dominant in today's secular culture fosters, both in the lay faithful and men and women religious, "a tendency toward superficiality and egotism that harms ecclesial life," he said.

The pope made his comments March 8 during an audience with participants attending the Pontifical Council for Culture's plenary assembly. He said the theme of the meeting, "The Church and the Challenge of Secularization," was a fundamental question for the future of humanity and the Church.

Secularization, he explained, makes no reference to the transcendent and "invades every aspect of daily life," which then leads to a mentality that "God is in fact missing, entirely or partly, from human existence and conscience." Such secularization "is not only an outside threat for believers, but it has already appeared for some time now in the heart of the Church," he said.

The pope said attitudes of secularization can distort the Christian faith and a Catholic's lifestyle and everyday behavior.

He said the so-called "death of God" and the present reign of "a sterile cult of the individual" mean believers can risk succumbing to "spiritual atrophy and an emptiness of heart," which manifest themselves in a vague spirituality or superficial belonging to a faith-based community.

## Marcal Paper Mills executive to garner Dean McNulty award

**WYCKOFF**—Robert L. Marcalus, a parishioner at Saint Elizabeth Parish and the vice chairman of Marcal Paper Mills Inc., Elmwood Park, will receive the Dean McNulty Award for community service Sunday, March 30 at the Brownstone House, Paterson.

Msgr. Mark J. Giordani, the rector of Saint John the Baptist Cathedral in Paterson, will present the award to Marcalus. Tickets for the Dean McNulty dinner dance are priced at \$150 per person and can be reserved by calling the Paterson cathedral at (973) 345-4070 or Rose Van Houten at (732) 295-3090. All proceeds from the event go to the cathedral to support programs for the Bishop Frank J. Rodimer Center for the Diocese of Paterson.

Marcalus, 87, who served with



Robert L. Marcalus

the Navy during World War II, is a former president of the Wyckoff Board of Education. His many years of community service include being a trustee and regent of Saint Peter's College, Jersey City, and a trustee and president of St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center Foundation.

# It's unanimous: Bayonne academy picks a principal

## Guided by Sister Eileen, All Saints to greet 560 students in September

BAYONNE—Sister Eileen Jude Wust, S.S.J. will bring 22 years of experience as a principal to the new All Saints Catholic Academy when it opens its doors next September.

All Saints Catholic Academy, a Middle States-accredited Pre-K through grade 8 Catholic School, was formed by the city's seven parishes through a consolidation of the four existing schools—Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Saint Mary, Star of the Sea, Saint Vincent, and Saint Andrew (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Jan. 23).

years as principal of Our Lady of the Rosary School, Philadelphia. For the past five years Sister Eileen has been principal of Saint Matthias School in Somerset.

She holds a bachelor's degree in History from Chestnut Hill College, Philadelphia, and has a master's degree in counseling and human relations as well as a master's degree in school administration from Villanova University, Villanova, PA. Sister Eileen also holds state certifications as both a principal and social worker.

The selection process to choose a principal for the new academy began in January and involved reviewing the resumes of 35 candidates. A search committee of individuals from the parish and school communities and the archdiocesan education ministry reviewed the candidates' applications and recommended finalists to a board of pastors. The board, consisting of all seven pastors of parishes in Bayonne, will serve as the governing body for All Saints Catholic Academy.

Members of the search committee included Maryann Connelly, parent, Saint Andrew's School; Barbara Dolan, archdiocesan principal; Sister Marie Gagliano, M.P.F., archdiocesan schools office; MaryAnn Gilson, teacher and acting principal, Our Lady of Mount Carmel School; Brian McCabe, educator and member of All Saints Catholic Academy board; Rev. Lawrence Miller, pastor of Saint Mary Star of the Sea Parish; Diane Molesky, teacher, Saint Vincent de Paul School; Sharon Nadrowski, parent, Saint Mary Star of the Sea School; and Brother Ralph Darmento, F.S.C., deputy superintendent of schools and committee chair.

"The board of pastors was unanimous in its choice of Sister Eileen as principal of All Saints Catholic Academy," Rev. Msgr. Paul Schetelick, pastor of Saint Andrew Parish and the chair of the board of pastors, said, commenting on the appointment of Sister Eileen. "Not only did we all see her as the best candidate of all of those interviewed, we consider it a blessing that, through her presence as leader of All Saints, the Sisters of St. Joseph will be continuing their long history of educating children in the city of Bayonne."

"I think all of us involved in

Catholic education realize how difficult it is keep our Catholic schools open," Sister Eileen said in accepting the appointment. "It has become essential that we begin to think outside the box in order to ensure that the opportunity for faith formation and a quality academic education in a Catholic school setting remains an option to our parish families for their children."

"I commend the pastors and parishioners in Bayonne for their forward thinking and for uniting their efforts to support Catholic education in the newly formed Catholic school, All Saints Catholic Academy," she said.

The Archdiocese of Newark, in September 2007, announced



Sister Eileen Jude Wust

it would merge Bayonne's four remaining Catholic elementary schools into a single school, due to a 10-year trend of declining enrollment numbers.

"The makeup of the communi-

ty has changed quite a bit over the years," Father Kevin M. Hanbury, archdiocesan vicar for education and superintendent of schools, said in an interview earlier this year. "The process (for developing the academy model in Bayonne) was a long, but a necessary one that couldn't be rushed," Father Hanbury said.

"Academy designation implies that special skills and subjects are taught," Brother Darmento, who authored the guidelines for academy status in the archdiocese, stated. "It is not merely a merging of schools and inserting the word 'academy' into the school's new name. There are very specific academic standards and enrichment programs that academies must have in order to earn that name."

(Editor's note: the archdiocesan Communications Department and Schools Office provided information for this article.)

*"Not only did we all see (Sister Eileen) as the best candidate, we consider it a blessing that, through her presence as leader of All Saints, the Sisters of St. Joseph will be continuing their long history of educating children in the city of Bayonne."*

—Rev. Msgr. Paul Schetelick

The new academy, which will be located at 19 West 13th street—the site of the former Saint Mary, Star of the Sea School—currently has 560 students enrolled to start the new school year next September. The site selection was based on the central location of the old Star of the Sea School within the community as well as its modern facilities. The structure houses a full-sized gym, science lab, library and cafeteria.

Sister Eileen, whose appointment is effective July 1, brings a decade of experience as principal in the Archdiocese of Newark to her new assignment. She previously served as principal at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, Oakland, and Saint Rocco School, Newark. She also spent seven

## Caldwell to honor benefactors at April 25 scholarship dinner

CALDWELL—Caldwell College will honor Deluxe Corp., Shoreview, MN, and Marge Curley, Class of 1973, and her husband Gary Ballerini of Verona, with its 2008 President's Award.

Caldwell College President Sister Patrice Werner, O.P., Ph.D., will present the awards at the 33rd annual Presidential Scholarship Gala on Friday April 25, at Mayfair Farms, 481 Eagle Rock Ave., West Orange.

Reservations for the event must be made by April 18. Contact Kristen Koehler by phone at (973) 618-3211 or via e-mail at kkoehler@caldwell.edu for reservations. Tickets are \$300 per person, a portion of which is tax-deductible. The gala, black-tie event will begin at 6 p.m. with a cocktail hour, followed by dinner and dancing.

Last year the event raised over \$250,000 for the Caldwell College Scholarship Fund, which enables students in need to pursue their educational and professional goals.

"The Deluxe Corp. is being honored with the 2008 President's Award for supporting our annual scholarship events at a leadership level and for the continuous involvement of their executive administration," Sister Patrice said. Since 1954, the Deluxe Corp. Foundation has awarded more than \$82 million to education, arts and human services programs and

nonprofits. "Caldwell College has personally experienced their generosity, as they have been corporate benefactors for over a decade, and their leadership has been dedicated to helping make the college's signature fund-raising events a success," Sister Patrice said.

"Ms. Marge Curley and Mr. Gary Ballerini are being honored with the 2008 President's Award for their generous and consistent support of Caldwell College for more than two decades. They are the donors of the beautiful Caldwell College seal, which is the centerpiece of the new plaza that now joins the Newman Center and the Student Center buildings," Sister Patrice said.



Sister Patrice Werner

## Bishop Arias revises Holy Week schedule

WEST NEW YORK—Most Rev. David Arias, O.A.R. Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of Newark, has revised his Holy Week schedule.

Holy Thursday, March 20, he will attend a Holy Hour for Priests at Saint Henry Parish in Bayonne. That evening at 7 p.m., Bishop Arias will celebrate Mass at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Newark.



Most Rev. David Arias

On Good Friday, March 21, he will participate in a procession at Resurrection Parish, at Saint Mary's, in Jersey City at 5:30 p.m. and at 7 p.m. Liturgical Services at Saint Bridget's Parish, also in Jersey City.

Easter Sunday the bishop will celebrate 1:30 p.m. Mass at Saint Joseph of the Palisades Parish in West New York.

# Retirement Fund for Religious – 2007 Donations

## BERGEN COUNTY

DEANERY 1		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Ch. of Presentation	Up. Saddle Rr.	\$8,975.00
Guardian Angel	Allendale	4,719.00
Im. Conception	Mahwah	2,686.00
Im. Heart of Mary	Mahwah	3,315.00
Most Blessed Sac.	Franklin Lake	13,585.00
Nativity	Midland Park	3,503.00
O.L. of Mt. Carmel	Ridgewood	14,099.00
O.L. of Perpetual Help	Oakland	1,408.03
St. Catharine	Glen Rock	5,964.60
St. Elizabeth	Wyckoff	14,505.00
St. Gabriel	Saddle River	9,536.00
St. Luke	Hohokus	4,780.00
St. Paul	Ramsey	10,630.00
DEANERY #1 TOTAL		\$97,705.63

DEANERY 2		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Assumption	Emerson	\$2,947.00
Im. Conception	Norwood	5,310.00
O.L. Mother Church	Woodcliff Lake	3,227.00
O.L. of Good Counsel	Westwood	8,637.00
O.L. Mercy	Park Ridge	6,350.00
O.L. Victories	Harrington Pk.	2,495.00
Sacred Heart	Haworth	1,723.00
St. Andrew	Westwood	3,607.66
St. Anthony	Northvale	2,020.00
St. John Baptist	Hillsdale	3,482.00
St. Joseph	Demarest	4,165.00
St. Mary	Closter	7,241.00
St. Pius X	Old Tappan	1,100.00
DEANERY #2 TOTAL		\$52,304.66

DEANERY 3		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Annunciation	Paramus	\$3,162.00
Ascension	New Milford	1,927.00
O.L. Mt. Carmel	Tenafly	5,877.00
O. L. Visitation	Paramus	3,394.00
St. John Evangelist	Bergenfield	7,234.66
St. Joseph	New Milford	8,193.00
St. Mary	Dumont	3,478.00
St. Peter	River Edge	6,241.00
St. Therese Lisieux	Cresskill	3,978.00
DEANERY #3 TOTAL		\$43,484.66

DEANERY 4		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Korean Martyrs	Saddle Brook	\$2,934.00
O.L. Mt. Virgin	Garfield	1,597.00
O.L. Sorrows	Garfield	400.00
Sacred Heart	Rochelle Park	1,837.00
St. Anne	Fair Lawn	3,335.00
St. Frances De Sales	Lodi	908.27
St. Joseph	Lodi	2,344.00
St. Leo	Elmwood Park	2,690.00
St. Philip Apostle	Saddle Brook	2,188.00
St. Stanislaus Kostka	Garfield	3,000.00
DEANERY #4 TOTAL		\$21,233.27

DEANERY 5		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Holy Trinity	Hackensack	\$5,039.00
Im. Conception	Hackensack	1,447.00
O.L. Queen Peace	Maywood	2,475.00
St. Anastasia	Teaneck	4,650.00
St. Francis Assisi	Hackensack	302.00
St. Francis Assisi	Ridgefield Park	1,980.00
St. Joseph	Bogota	3,226.00
St. Joseph	Hackensack	397.00
St. Margaret	Little Ferry	4,000.00
DEANERY #5 TOTAL		\$23,516.00

DEANERY 6		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Epiphany	Cliffside Park	\$2,344.00
Holy Rosary	Edgewater	461.00
Holy Trinity	Fort Lee	3,906.00
Madonna	Fort Lee	1,490.00
O.L. of Grace	Fairview	1,755.00
St. Cecilia	Englewood	2,410.35
St. John Baptist	Fairview	938.00
St. John Evangelist	Leonia	3,552.00
St. Matthew	Ridgefield	1,753.00
St. Michael	Palisades Park	1,893.00
DEANERY #6 TOTAL		\$20,502.35

DEANERY 7		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Assumption	Woodridge	\$2,429.00
Corpus Christi	Hasbrouck Hts.	3,426.00
O.L. Mt. Carmel	Lyndhurst	1,808.00
Queen of Peace	No. Arlington	4,789.00
Sacred Heart	Lyndhurst	3,689.30
Sacred Heart	Wallington	2,961.00
St. Joseph	E. Rutherford	1,550.00
Im. Conception	Secaucus	1,647.00
St. Mary	Rutherford	4,274.70
St. Michael	Lyndhurst	2,225.00
DEANERY #7 TOTAL		\$28,799.00
BERGEN COUNTY TOTAL		\$287,545.57

## HUDSON COUNTY

DEANERY 8		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Holy Family	Union City	\$588.21
Holy Redeemer	W. New York	934.00
O.L. Fatima	No. Bergen	1,345.00
O.L. Libera	W. New York	304.22
Sacred Heart	No. Bergen	1,500.00
St. Anthony Padua	Union City	1,273.00
St. Augustine	Union City	1,855.00
St. Joseph Palisades	W. New York	3,447.00
Sts. Joseph & Michael	Union City	1,009.00
St. Rocco/St. Brigid	Union City	1,500.00
DEANERY #8 TOTAL		\$13,755.43

DEANERY 9		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
O.L. of Grace	Hoboken	\$877.00
St. Ann	Hoboken	818.00
St. Francis	Hoboken	3,380.00
St. Joseph	Hoboken	345.12
St. Lawrence	Weehawken	1,755.00
Sts. Peter and Paul	Hoboken	4,005.72
DEANERY #9 TOTAL		\$11,180.84

DEANERY 10		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
O.L. Mt. Carmel	Jersey City	\$1,081.00
St. Aedan	Jersey City	969.00
St. Ann	Jersey City	694.00
St. Anne	Jersey City	1,572.00
St. John the Baptist	Jersey City	1,646.00
St. Joseph	Jersey City	1,167.00
St. Nicholas	Jersey City	948.00
St. Paul of Cross	Jersey City	832.50
DEANERY #10 TOTAL		\$8,909.50

DEANERY 11		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Holy Rosary	Jersey City	\$500.00
O.L. Czestochowa	Jersey City	1,042.00
St. Anthony	Jersey City	589.00
Resurrection:	Jersey City	2,303.00
St. Bridget	Jersey City	
St. Boniface	Jersey City	
St. Mary	Jersey City	
St. Michael/St. Jude	Jersey City	
St. Peter	Jersey City	
DEANERY #11 TOTAL		\$4,434.00

DEANERY 12		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Christ the King	Jersey City	\$125.00
O.L. Mercy	Jersey City	2,888.00
O.L. Victories	Jersey City	863.00
O.L. of Sorrows	Jersey City	350.00
St. Aloysius	Jersey City	5,243.00
St. Pat/Assump/All Sts.	Jersey City	0.00
St. Paul (Greenville)	Jersey City	1,070.00
DEANERY #12 TOTAL		\$10,539.00

DEANERY 13		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
O.L. Mt. Carmel	Bayonne	\$2,144.00
O.L. Assumption	Bayonne	1,270.00
St. Mary Star of Sea	Bayonne	2,521.00
St. Andrew	Bayonne	2,625.00
St. Henry	Bayonne	2,223.00
St. Joseph	Bayonne	923.00
St. Michael	Bayonne	530.00
St. Vincent De Paul	Bayonne	1,000.00
DEANERY #13 TOTAL		\$13,236.00

DEANERY 14		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Holy Cross	Harrison	\$1,407.00
O.L. Czestochowa	Harrison	775.00
O.L. Sorrows	Kearny	1,000.00
St. Cecilia	Kearny	2,153.00
St. Stephen	Kearny	5,604.00
St. Anthony	E. Newark	328.00
DEANERY #14 TOTAL		\$11,267.00
HUDSON COUNTY TOTAL		\$73,321.77

## ESSEX COUNTY

DEANERY 15		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Blessed Sacrament	Roseland	\$6,238.00
Notre Dame	No. Caldwell	6,730.00
O.L. of the Lake	Verona	5,252.00
O.L. of Lourdes	W. Orange	2,452.04
St. Aloysius	Caldwell	7,930.00
St. Catherine Siena	Cedar Grove	10,252.00
St. Joseph	W. Orange	2,987.90
St. Philomena	Livingston	9,279.00
St. Raphael	Livingston	2,523.00
St. Thomas More	Fairfield	3,565.00
DEANERY #15 TOTAL		\$57,208.94

DEANERY 16		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Holy Family	Nutley	\$3,924.00
Im. Conception	Montclair	3,217.00
O.L. Mt. Carmel	Montclair	988.00
O.L. Mt. Carmel	Nutley	3,095.00
Sacred Heart	Bloomfield	2,094.00
St. Anthony Padua	Belleville	2,068.00
St. Cassian	Up. Montclair	3,129.00
St. Mary	Nutley	2,631.00
St. Peter	Belleville	1,900.00
St. Peter Claver	Montclair	770.00
St. Thomas the Apostle	Bloomfield	6,909.28
St. Valentine	Bloomfield	1,975.00
DEANERY #16 TOTAL		\$32,700.28

DEANERY 17		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Holy Name	E. Orange	\$1,154.00
Holy Spirit/Help Christ.	E. Orange	1,233.32
O.L. Mt. Carmel	Orange	723.00
O.L. Valley	Orange	838.00
St. John	Orange	1,905.00
St. Joseph	E. Orange	540.00
DEANERY #17 TOTAL		\$6,393.32

DEANERY 18		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Good Shepherd	Irvington	\$533.00
O.L. Sorrows	S. Orange	5,304.00
Sacred Heart of Jesus	Irvington	568.00
St. Joseph	Maplewood	1,432.00
St. Leo	Irvington	810.00
St. Andrew Kim	Maplewood	2,046.00
DEANERY #18 TOTAL		\$10,693.00

DEANERY 19		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Im. Conception	Newark	\$582.00
O.L. Good Counsel	Newark	583.49
Sacred Heart Cathedral	Newark	1,700.00
St. Francis Xavier	Newark	2,062.00
St. John	Newark	200.00
St. Lucy	Newark	1,359.00
St. Michael	Newark	1,250.00
DEANERY #19 TOTAL		\$7,736.49

DEANERY 20		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Bl. Sac./St. Charles	Newark	\$535.00
Queen of Angels	Newark	605.00
Sacred Heart	Newark	873.36
St. Antoninus	Newark	929.30
St. Columba	Newark	289.00
St. Mary	Newark	1,445.00
St. Patrick Pro Cath.	Newark	201.17
St. Rose of Lima	Newark	120.00
St. Stanislaus	Newark	820.00
DEANERY #20 TOTAL		\$5,817.83

DEANERY 21		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Holy Trinity/Epiphany	Newark	\$540.00
Im. Heart of Mary	Newark	1,177.00
O.L. Mt. Carmel	Newark	729.50
St. Aloysius	Newark	453.00
St. Benedict	Newark	1,527.00
St. Casimir	Newark	333.00
St. James	Newark	1,691.17
DEANERY #21 TOTAL		\$6,450.67
ESSEX COUNTY TOTAL		\$127,000.53

## UNION COUNTY

DEANERY 22		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Little Flower	Berkeley Hts.	\$3,595.95
O.L. of Lourdes	Mountainside	4,260.00
O.L. of Peace	New Providence	12,317.00
St. James	Springfield	3,942.50
St. Rose of Lima	Short Hills	29,740.00
St. Teresa	Summit	13,663.71
DEANERY #22 TOTAL		\$67,519.16

DEANERY 23		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Assumption	Roselle Pk.	\$1,827.00
Christ the King	Hillside	1,960.21
Holy Spirit	Union	4,913.00
St. Anne	Garwood	1,927.00
St. Catherine	Hillside	900.00
St. Joseph	Roselle	2,100.00
St. Michael	Union	3,644.39
St. Michael	Cranford	4,150.00
St. Theresa	Kenilworth	3,370.00
DEANERY #23 TOTAL		\$24,791.60

DEANERY 24		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Holy Family	Linden	\$516.00
St. Agnes	Clark	10,478.00
St. Eliz. of Hungary	Linden	3,223.00
St. John Apostle	Linden	3,724.00
St. Mark	Rahway	1,569.00
St. Mary	Rahway	714.00
St. Theresa of Child Jes.	Linden	1,493.00
DEANERY #24 TOTAL		\$21,717.00

DEANERY 25		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Blessed Sacrament	Elizabeth	\$1,069.00
Holy Ros. & St. Mich.	Elizabeth	1,376.00
Im. Conception	Elizabeth	2,000.00
O.L. Fatima	Elizabeth	225.00
St. Adalbert	Elizabeth	1,144.00
St. Anthony Padua	Elizabeth	1,368.00
St. Genevieve	Elizabeth	3,817.00
St. Hedwig	Elizabeth	788.00
St. Mary	Elizabeth	1,759.00
Sts. Peter & Paul	Elizabeth	1,707.00
St. Thomas Aquinas	Newark	213.00
DEANERY #25 TOTAL		\$15,466.00

DEANERY 26		
PARISH	CITY	AMOUNT
Holy Trinity	Westfield	\$12,935.55
Im. Hrt. of Mary	Sc. Plains	4,710.00
St. Bartholomew	Sc. Plains	4,097.00
St. Bern. & St. Stan.	Plainfield	1,444.00
St. Helen	Westfield	8,578.00
St. Mary	Plainfield	1,818.00
DEANERY #26 TOTAL		\$33,582.55
UNION COUNTY TOTAL		\$163,076.31

ARCHDIOCESAN TOTAL \$654,408.18

Misc. Contributions: \$ 600.00

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St. Theresa's Chapel,  
Paramus 765.00

St. Joseph Korean,  
Demarest 1,830.00

Total \$3,464.00

Total From Parishes \$650,944.18

## Official Appointments



Archbishop John J. Myers has announced the following appointments:

### PAROCHIAL VICAR

**Reverend Marvin S. Mejia** was appointed parochial vicar of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Bayonne, effective Feb. 15.

**Reverend Cayetano Moncada** was appointed parochial vicar of St. Francis Xavier Parish, Newark, effective Feb. 15.

### CHAPLAIN

**Reverend Donald K. Hummel**, administrator of St. Agnes Parish, Clark, and director of Continuing Education and Ongoing Formation of Priests, was appointed chaplain of the Union County Prosecutor's Office, Elizabeth, effective March 3.

### RELEASE

**Reverend Peter Hung Viet Tran**, parochial vicar of St. John the Baptist Parish, Jersey City, has been released for pastoral service within the Diocese of Metuchen for a period of three years effective June 18.

**Reverend Charles B. Urnick**, pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, Norwood, has been released for pastoral service within the Diocese of Las Vegas for a period of five years effective July 1.

## March 21

**Queen of Peace Knights of Columbus Council 3428**, North Arlington, blood drive, 3-6 p.m., (201) 991-9606.



**Knights of Columbus Council 3632**, Verona, rosary prayer across from Pilgrim Medical Center (abortion clinic), Montclair, 8:45-10 a.m., call Larry at (973) 736-5684.

## March 27

**St. Paul Parish**, Wyckoff, Life in the Spirit Seminar, first of six weekly Thursday talks, 8-9:30 p.m., call Mary Jane at (201) 327-1968.

**Trinitas Hospital**, Elizabeth, "Sleep and Heart" health seminar, 6:30-8 p.m., (908) 994-5138.

## March 29

**Knights of Columbus Council 1146**, Rahway, pasta night, 4-8 p.m., cost: \$15 for adults/ \$7 children, call Nina Mendelson at (732) 762-2428.

**St. Mary Parish**, Rutherford, Anointing of the Sick, 3 p.m., (201) 438-2200.

**Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish**, Newark, tricky tray, 7 p.m., cost: \$7 for adults/ \$3.50 for children, (973) 483-0597.

**Notre Dame Parish**, North Caldwell, support group for fathers whose children have died, 10 a.m., (973) 497-4327.

**Knights of Columbus Council 835**, Belleville, tricky tray, 6 p.m., cost: \$15 call Joseph Downey at (862) 220-1160.

**St. Andrew Parish**, Westwood, Bereavement Mass, noon, (201) 666-1100.

## March 30

**Queen of Peace Knights of Columbus Council 3428**, Ladies Auxiliary, North Arlington, communion breakfast, 9:45 a.m., cost: \$5 for adults/ \$2 for children, (201) 997-2086.

**Oratory Prep School**, Summit, Centennial Family Mass, noon, luncheon will follow, (908) 273-1084, ext. 10.

**Queen of Peace Parish**, North Arlington, International Day of the Unborn, noon Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and procession, call Robert R. Tarantula at (201) 991-9606.

## March 31

**Holy Family Parish**, Nutley, Rosary Society meeting, 7:45 p.m., call Joyce Ritacco (973) 235-0668.

## April 2

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

**Center for Hope Hospice and Palliative Care**, Scotch Plains, "Journey through Grief," four-part lecture series, held at Roselle Catholic High School, (908) 654-3711.

## April 4

**Oratory Prep School**, Summit, centennial celebration, at The Villa in Mountain Lakes, (908) 273-1084, ext. 10.

**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.

**Sacred Heart School**, Lyndhurst, tricky tray, cost: \$8 per person, under 18 not admitted, RSVP by March 28, 6 p.m., (201) 939-4277.



## April 5

**Good Shepherd Academy**, Nutley, beefsteak dinner, 7-11 p.m., cost: \$35 for adults/ \$15 for children, call Gina Tamburri at (973) 751-4187.

## April 6

**Queen of Peace Knights of Columbus Council 3428**, North Arlington, Polish Dinner Dance, 2-6 p.m., cost: \$20 for adults/ \$5 for children, advanced ticket sales only, call Eugene Przebieglec at (201) 991-3047.

## April 19

**Holy Family Parish**, Nutley, Padre Pio Dinner Dance, at Hanover Manor in East Hanover, 6:30 p.m., RSVP by March 31, cost: \$75, call Lina Manetta at (973) 667-2673.

## Other

**Office of Family Life Ministries**, Archdiocesan Center, Newark, "Retrouvaille" (Rediscovery) is a program designed by the Church to provide help and support for troubled marriages. The program begins with a weekend experience on April 4-6. Call (973) 497-4327.

*He is risen, alleluia!*

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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.

## Catholic Cemeteries Masses



All masses are at 9:30 a.m.  
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### April 1

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### April 2

Holy Cross Chapel,  
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### April 4

Good Shepherd Chapel,  
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# Easter Vigil leads the faithful to light of Christ

BY REV. THOMAS A. DENTE  
*Special to The Catholic Advocate*

Advent and Christmas are seasons of the Church year that help us to focus on the mystery of God becoming one of us: “The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.” (John 1:14) The seasons of Lent and Easter, with the celebration of the Easter triduum at their core, help us to focus on why God became one of us.

During Lent and Easter, we recall that God became one of us through the person of Jesus Christ to redeem us from sin and death. Therefore, Easter is the most important feast of the Church year, especially when we consider how this great work of salvation was accomplished through the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Throughout His life on earth, Jesus preached about the kingdom of God and proclaimed the Good News to the poor. He told us that He came not just that we may have life but that we may have it in abundance. But for all of His words, Jesus knew that nothing speaks more powerfully than actions: multiplying the loaves and fish, raising Lazarus from the dead and ultimately dying on a cross and rising on Easter Sunday.

Like Jesus, the Church knows that both words and actions are necessary to recall and experience the saving events of Easter.

The high point of the Lenten/Easter cycle is the triduum—a three-day period of prayerful preparation for a major religious feast or event, with its crowning liturgy of the Easter Vigil. The Easter Vigil includes an extended celebration of the Word of God in which passages from the Bible are read including the creation account, the passage through the Red Sea, and of course, the account of the Lord’s resurrection.

Celebrated at night, this special Vigil Mass also contains extra rites that are not celebrated any other time of the year. Of all of the signs, symbols and rites unique to the Easter Vigil, three stand out in particular: the use of fire, water and the celebration of the Easter sacraments with the “Elect.” The Elect are those who are celebrating the sacraments of baptism, confirmation and Eucharist the night of the Easter Vigil.

At the beginning of the Easter Vigil Mass, a special fire is prepared outside the church where all the people gather. The fire is blessed and the new Paschal



Candle is lit and carried into the church followed by all present. This candle is a reminder of the pillar of light that led the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt. Now, God’s people present at the Easter Vigil are led by Christ’s light out of the darkness of death into the light of life.

When the candle is placed in the church, a special chant called “the Exsultet” is sung in which God is asked to “Accept this Easter candle...” and “let it mingle with the lights of heaven...to dispel the darkness of this night.” All present also receive a taper lit from the Paschal Candle as a reminder that they have been enlightened by Christ through their own baptism.

Another element unique to the Easter Vigil is the blessing of the font and holy water. This special blessing recalls the many times that water was used in salvation history: creation, Noah’s Ark, Jesus’ baptism in the Jordan. It prepares the font for the Elect to be baptized and for the assembly to renew their baptismal promises.

Water has many different qualities that speak on Easter night. Water cleanses just as baptism cleanses Original Sin. However, too much water can be

deadly as in drowning and flooding, just as Jesus had to die on the cross to bring salvation. Water quenches thirst and fertilizes the land, just as Jesus gives life through His resurrection.

Just as the Holy Spirit hovered over the waters at creation, the Spirit is also called upon to hover over the waters of the baptismal font so that out of it can be born new members of the Body of Christ—the Elect who are present for baptism.

We do not always think of human beings as signs or sym-

bols in the liturgy, but in truth, the gathered assembly of God’s faithful people to celebrate the Eucharist and other liturgies of the Church is itself a sign of Christ’s presence among us.

This is especially true of those who are going to celebrate their initiation at the Easter Vigil. These Elect are about to undergo, before all present, their baptism, confirmation and celebration of first Communion. This is a communal event in which all present take part.

Continued on page 28

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to all  
our friends  
in the  
Archdiocese  
of Newark

Easter Blessings!

The Parishes of Deanery 25 join in wishing all of their parishioners, families and staff a Blessed and Happy Easter. We invite and encourage all Catholics to commemorate Christ’s passion, and rejoice in His Resurrection.

Blessed Sacrament Church  
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Holy Rosary/St. Michael Church  
Elizabeth

Immaculate Conception Church  
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Immaculate Heart of Mary/St. Patrick Church  
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St. Adalbert Church  
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St. Anthony of Padua Church  
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St. Genevieve Church  
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St. Hedwig Church  
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SS. Peter and Paul Church  
Elizabeth

# Giving time to the most profound drama in history

What would sports fans do if the game their favorite team was playing went into overtime? Would anyone look at the time and walk out because "one and a half hours is enough?" Wouldn't they be caught up in the excitement and stay?

Now, as people of faith, we have entered into the Church's commemoration of the trial, sufferings and death of Jesus. The drama may seem different from a sports event because we know the outcome: we believe that, in spite of the odds against Him, Jesus triumphed.

Because of His faithful obedience, He was rewarded by the heavenly Father with life. He lives on a higher level, in communion with the Father and the Holy

Spirit. Of crucial importance to us is the fact that this gift is shared with all who follow Him.

Spectators at a sporting event enjoy seeing others achieve excellence, but we are not merely looking on the drama of the Cross and Resurrection. Rather, we are involved in a very personal way. "Do you not know that in a race all

the runners compete, but only one received the prize? So run that you may obtain it" (1 Cor 9:24).

We exercise self-discipline and develop a deeper spirit of prayer in the weeks of Lent so that we will be ready for "the finals." Ideally, this means more than Mass on Palm Sunday and on Easter Sunday. So much is offered by the

Church during Holy Week, especially in the sacred triduum. From the Liturgy of the Lord's Supper on Thursday night, we are invited to follow Jesus in his trials and sufferings on Good Friday and to mourn with the Church until the Vigil on Holy Saturday night. Who would complain if a game went into overtime? So consider giving equal time to the most profound drama in history. The beauty of worship is that the deepest realities of Jesus' self-giving are made available to us, to the faithful of every generation.

A vigil is "a watch kept during nocturnal sleeping hours." In the Jewish tradition at the time of Jesus, after the Passover Meal celebrating the Exodus of the Israelites from Egypt, the men would enter a time of prayer to prepare for the coming of the Messiah. The celebration involved commemoration of the first meal of unleavened bread and a lamb offered so that its blood brought deliverance from the angel of death (Ex 12:1-13).

This unique historical event was the context for God to manifest his power, wisdom and mercy toward the descendants of Abraham and Sarah. Each generation would strive to be prepared to receive signs of those same divine attributes in times of danger, and they looked forward to the completion of God's plan in the consummation of history.

The Exodus is described as "a night of watching by the Lord, to bring them out of the land of Egypt, so this same night is a night of watching kept to the Lord by all the people of Israel throughout

their generations" (Ex 12:42). In perpetual gratitude for God's intervention to deliver Israel from slavery, the people of Israel not only celebrate the Passover Meal with its evocative symbols and narrative of the Exodus, but the men keep vigil to prepare for the coming of Elijah to manifest the Messiah.

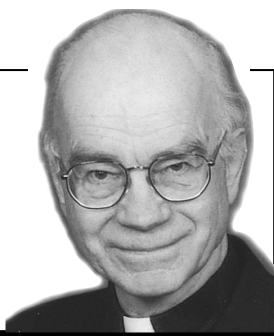
The Aramaic translation of Exodus 12:42 contains a tradition dating back to the time of Jesus. This is called "the Hymn of the Four Nights." Reviewing the series will be instructive for us. "The first night was when the Lord revealed Himself over the world in order to create it." This was revelation of the Word, who brought light into being. "The second night was when the Lord appeared to Abraham...Now Isaac was 37 years old when he was offered upon the altar." In popular Christian imagination and art Isaac was but a lad; however, calculating that "the sacrifice of Abraham" (Gen 22) was a prelude to the death of Sarah, the Jewish tradition emphasized that Isaac was an adult and a willing victim. "The heavens stooped and descended and Isaac saw their perfection." This vision was the cause of his diminished eyesight, which later allowed Jacob to trick him in order to obtain the blessing of the first-born.

"The third night was when the Lord appeared to the Egyptians in the middle of the night: His hand slew the first-born of the Egyptians and His right hand protected the first-born of Israel, so that what Scripture states would be fulfilled:

Continued on page 16

## SUNDAY READINGS

By Rev. Lawrence Frizzell



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blessings upon  
each & everyone  
"Happy Easter"*



# A Happy and Blessed Easter.

*From Our Family To Yours.*



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## Readings

Continued from page 14

'Israel is my first-born' (Ex 4:22)." The last of the 10 plagues, grim as it was, constituted a

measured response to the decree of Pharaoh that all the male children of Israel be put to death (Ex 1:22). The Pharaoh relented briefly from his oppression of the Israelites and allowed them to depart for the wilderness. Their

flight was facilitated by the parting of the waters of the Red Sea, a sign of God's mighty deeds of protective care.

"The fourth night will take place when the world shall arrive at its end in order to be dissolved. The iron yokes will be smashed and the perverse generations annihilated. Moses shall arise from the middle of the desert and the King Messiah shall come from above. The one shall advance at the head of the flock and the other shall advance at the head of the flock, and the Word of the Lord shall go between the two and they shall walk together." The "nights" of the past are stages of the divine plan to bring creation to its consummation, which, in the human order, is eternal communion for the righteous in the new, heavenly Jerusalem.

The sacrifice of Abraham, known as "the binding of Isaac" in the Jewish tradition, took place on Mount Moriah ("the Lord will provide," Gen 22:14), where Solomon built the Temple (2 Chronicles 3:1). This identity of location showed that Israel's animal sacrifices received their value from the merits of the patriarchs, from their faithful obedience to God's will. The liberation of Israel from Egyptian

servitude oriented the chosen people to the Land in which they would be free to serve the living God. Moses was promised that "one like himself" to lead the people (Dt 18:15, 18) and the promise of an Anointed One (Messiah, Christ in Greek), Son of David to be warrior and judge defending Israel was proclaimed by many prophets. This experience was the pledge of the fullness of redemption, i.e., the vanquishing of evil forces and the gift of eternal life.

Those Catholics who are familiar with the series of readings for our Easter Vigil should recognize that the selection of texts is intended to evoke our gratitude for: the divine gift of creation through the Word of God (Gen 1:1 - 2:2); the sacrifice of Abraham (Gen 22:1-18); the crossing of the Sea (Ex 14:15 - 15:1) with the sung response being the Hymn of Moses (Ex 15:1-18); and a series of texts celebrating prophetic hope for the fullness of redemption in the final days (Isaiah 54:5-14, 55:1-11; Baruch 3:9-15, 32 - 4:4; Ezekiel 36: 16-28).

Does the selection of four or more of these biblical texts seem tedious to some? Perhaps they would feel the same about the first time they watched a game of cricket! We would prepare ourselves for a sports event by learning the rules of the game, the names and numbers of players on our favorite team. Have we engaged in prayerful study of the Sacred Scriptures so that we would be prepared to join the Church in the greatest feast of the liturgical year? The thrill of being an active participant in the great drama of God's work in history should lead us to a deep sense of commitment as we renew our baptismal promises.

Enjoy being a "fan" of the sport that catches your fancy. There are worse ways of spending one's time. However, a commitment—serious, but without fanaticism—to our faith and its practice has much more lasting rewards.

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

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## Divine Mercy Sunday

*Sunday March 30, 2008*

19th Anniversary

Celebration in Thanksgiving

**We will celebrate at: Saint Catharine's Church  
905 South Maple Avenue, Glen Rock, New Jersey**



Saint Faustina Kowalska  
of the Most Blessed Sacrament

"My mission will not come to an end upon my death...I will draw aside for you the veils of heaven to convince you of God's goodness" (Diary, 281).

All are invited to a Grace Filled Day.

For further information, call the

Rectory at (201) 445-3703.

**3:00 PM** - Chaplet at The Divine Mercy Shrine on church grounds. Led by Louise Pacos. Please gather at Shrine on time.

**3:15 - 4:15 PM** - Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament.

Followed by closing Benediction and The Veneration of The First Class Relic of Saint Faustina Kowalska to the public.

The Divine Mercy



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ITALY.....	October 16-26	Father Dan Grigassy, O.F.M.
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# resurrection

a season  
of remembrances

March 19, 2008

# Archdiocese of Newark



2007-2006

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

*My Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,*

I am pleased to present to you highlights of the financial information of the Archdiocese of Newark for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007. In the past year, through prudent stewardship practices and your generosity, we have continued to reach out to others in need, to provide faith-filled education, to ensure essential pastoral, physical and spiritual outreach to those at the fringes of society, and to strengthen our ability to worship according to our teachings and traditions.

This is a particularly difficult time in our state's history. Some in our society seek to marginalize or minimize the sanctity and dignity of every human life, to offer shortcuts to the hard and difficult problems that we face, and to ignore altogether the very real responsibilities of helping others in need — in other words, to act according to the words of the Gospel of Our Lord, Jesus Christ. Through this past year, as we have always, this local Church of Newark has sought to fill the void created by societal apathy, to bring comfort to those who hurt, to be an alternate choice — a values-centered choice — to an educational system that many believe has failed, and to be a visible sign of Christ's presence among us. Unfortunately, the demands of meeting such challenges never abate.



**Archbishop John J. Myers**

I urge your participation in everyday parish and school life, and I will rely on your wisdom, devotion and understanding to help us meet the ever-growing spiritual and physical needs of the people of this local Church of Newark.

The contributions that form the basis of this report come from many sources — the Archbishop's Annual Appeal, special gifts, parish assessments, to name a few. But deep down, they come from you, the faithful parishioners of the Archdiocese. Your loving and willing financial participation in the life of this Church supports everything from education, to general operations, to health care and social services, to pastoral outreach and programming support, to priestly formation and caring for our elderly and infirm clergy. These highlights reaffirm that so many of you in this great Archdiocese continue to espouse the Stewardship way of life and loudly proclaim the importance of Archdiocesan ministries such as marriage preparation, youth and young adult services, schools and ethnic ministries. Your generosity is truly appreciated, and is a gift of vitality to the Archdiocese.

With every good wish, I am  
Sincerely in the Lord,



Most Reverend John J. Myers  
Archbishop of Newark

Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Newark Chancery Office  
Condensed Financial Information  
Fiscal years ended June 30, 2007 and 2006

Assets

	2007	2006
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 9,371,491	\$ 11,176,165
Accounts and loans receivable, net	33,113,567	29,922,906
Contributions receivable, net	1,503,148	1,923,379
Prepaid expenses and other assets	1,135,908	1,131,245
Investments:		
Custodial Funds	203,778,344	200,117,283
Endowment Funds	74,052,422	73,010,908*
Other Funds	<u>63,440,044</u>	<u>41,683,984*</u>
Total investments	341,270,810	314,812,175
Property and Equipment, net	<u>26,241,358</u>	<u>26,978,209</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 412,636,282</u>	<u>\$ 385,944,079</u>

Liabilities and Net Assets

	2007	2006
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 7,952,398	\$ 8,205,111
Accrued subsidies to affiliates and other obligations	8,518,997	8,217,887
Conditional asset retirement obligations	1,262,463	1,213,094
Custodial funds	<u>203,778,344</u>	<u>200,117,283</u>
Total liabilities	<u>221,512,202</u>	<u>217,753,375</u>
Net Assets:		
Unrestricted net assets	84,909,331	62,476,472
Temporarily restricted net assets	12,434,502	12,975,499
Permanently restricted net assets	<u>93,780,247</u>	<u>92,738,733</u>
Total net assets	<u>191,124,080</u>	<u>168,190,704</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 412,636,282</u>	<u>\$ 385,944,079</u>

Statement of Activity and Changes in Net Assets

	2007	2006
Change in unrestricted net assets		
Operating support and revenue	\$ 33,060,133	\$ 30,960,558
Operating expenses	<u>31,519,420</u>	<u>43,449,133</u>
Increase (decrease) in unrestricted net assets from operations	1,540,713	(12,488,575)
Non-operating income	<u>20,892,146</u>	<u>3,693,990</u>
Increase in unrestricted net assets	22,432,146	(8,794,585)
(Decrease) in temporarily restricted net assets	(540,996)	963,976
Increase in permanently restricted net assets	<u>1,041,513</u>	<u>1,500,165</u>
Increase in net assets	22,933,376	(6,330,444)
Net assets, beginning of year	<u>168,190,704</u>	<u>174,521,148</u>
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 191,124,080</u>	<u>\$ 168,190,704</u>

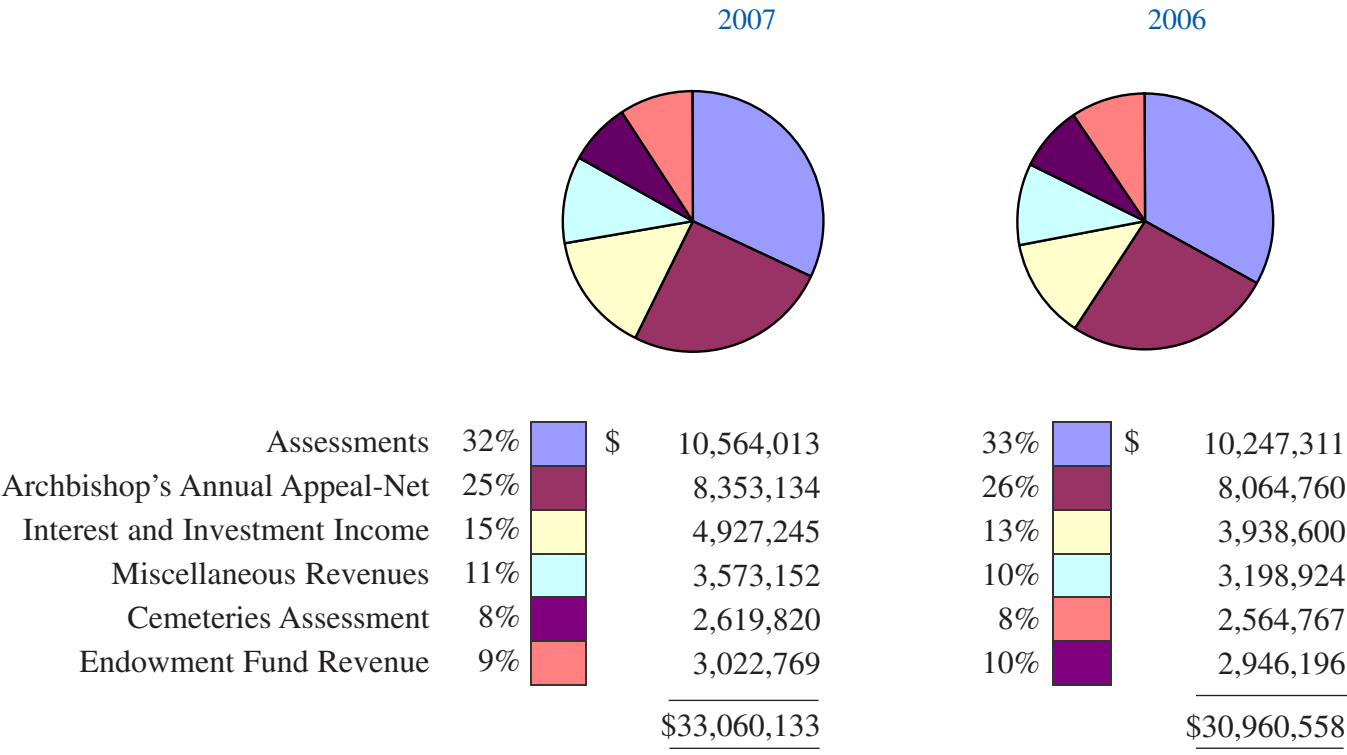
Statement of Cash Flows

	2007	2006
Net cash provided (used) in operating activities	\$ 297,015	\$ (6,768,031)
Net cash provided (used) in investing activities	(3,143,202)	10,798,575
Cash flow provided by financing activities	<u>1,041,513</u>	<u>1,006,621</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(1,804,674)	5,037,165
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	<u>11,176,165</u>	<u>6,139,000</u>
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	<u>\$ 9,371,491</u>	<u>\$ 11,176,165</u>

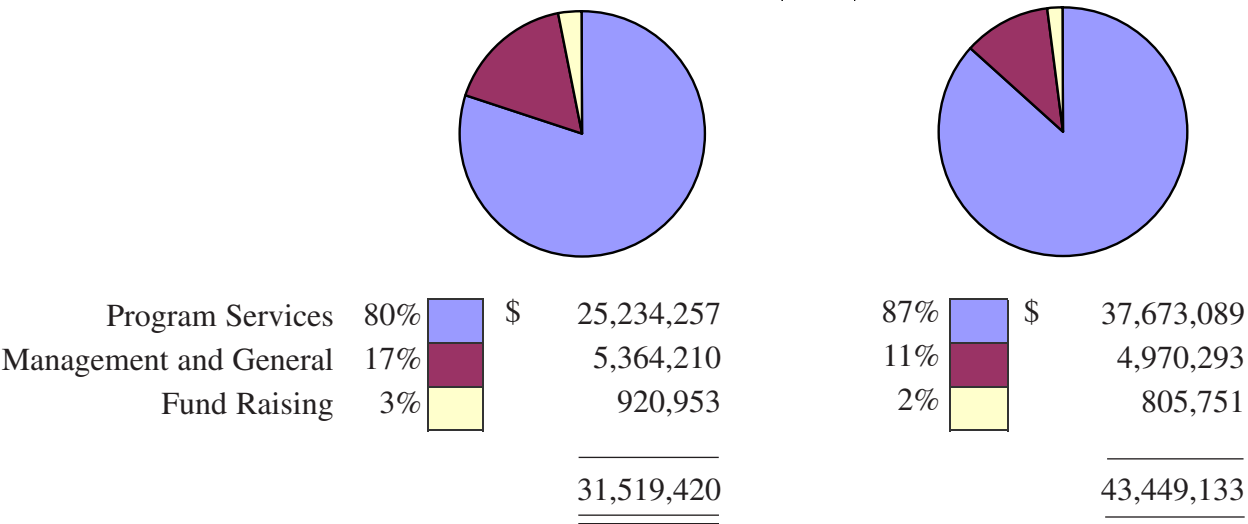
\*2006 balances have been reclassified to conform with 2007 presentation.

Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Newark Chancery Office  
Condensed Financial Information  
Fiscal years ended June 30, 2007 and 2006

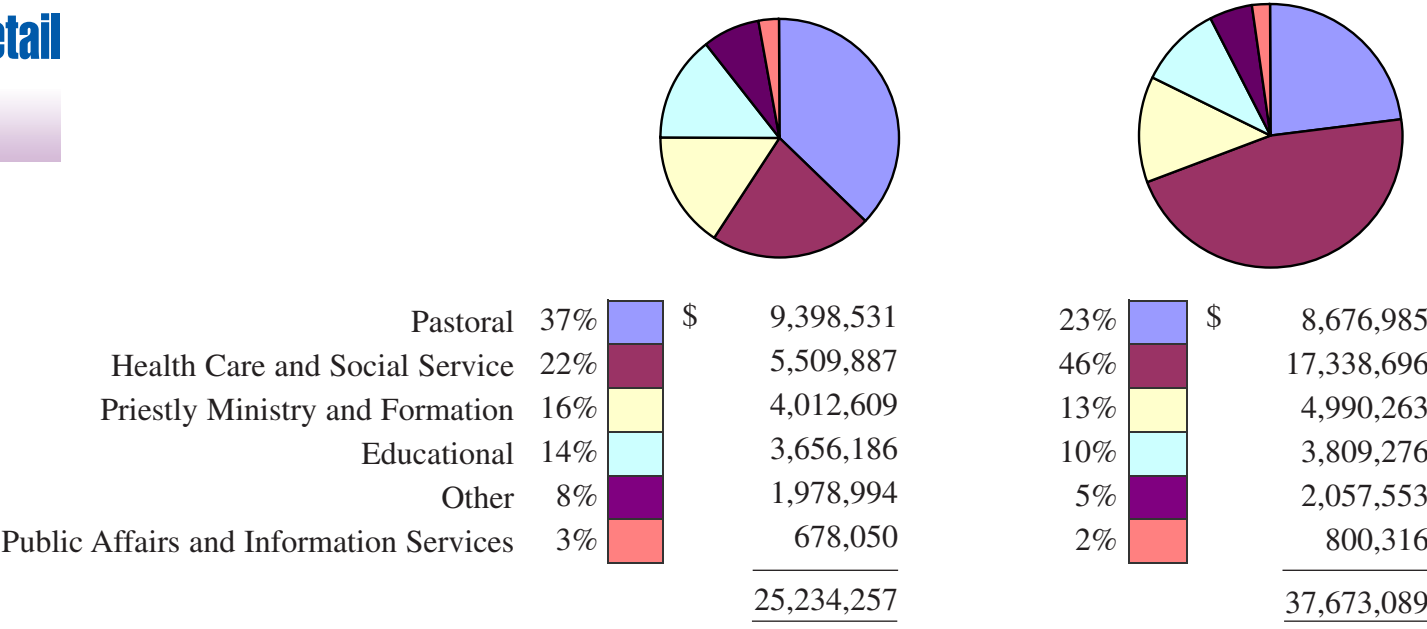
Support and Revenue



Operating Expenses



Program Services Detail





# Pope pens words of hope, faith

Have you ever read a papal encyclical? I would guess that most Catholics have not. Why? Because they are usually very long, very theological, and having been translated from the decent obscurity of the Latin tongue into compound, complex sentences, they are ultimately very boring.

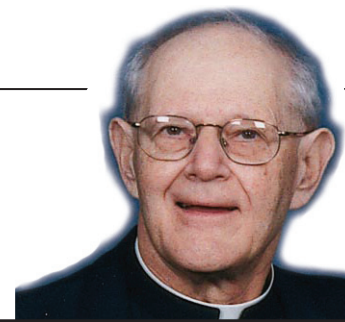
We usually wait for theologians and scholars to cull the central thoughts and then deliver them to us in a watered-down readable version. However, Pope Benedict XVI is a rare man. He has the brilliance and knowledge of a true professor, the holiness of a man of God and the simplicity to be able to write in such a way that anyone

can understand his message. His latest work is called in Latin *Spe Salvi* from the first words of the Latin text that reads *spe salvi facti sumus* (in hope we were saved).

Some of it is a little difficult. In dealing with the mysteries of faith, it would be, of necessity, a bit hard to understand. But the message of the Holy Father is clear and, more

## VOICES

By Rev. Msgr. John Gilchrist



importantly; it speaks to us on a very human level. This pope feels with the people. He is one of us in our hopes, our fears, and our dreams. He has a beautiful soul. It shines through his words.

Since Easter is on the horizon, I would like to share with you a few of the pope's thoughts. I am no scholar, but I will try to pass on to you some nuggets from this treasure chest of wisdom.

First, the pope speaks of faith

and hope. They are two sides of the same coin. Faith leads us to hope. "Faith is the substance of things hoped for—the proof of things we can not see." Faith is the basis of hope. Without faith, there is no hope in the future, in life eternal.

So how does faith and hope affect our lives?

The pope considers death—he has a unique perspective. "To continue living forever," he says,

Continued on page 23

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CNS photo

## 'Spe Salvi'

Continued from page 22

"appears more like a curse than a gift. Admittedly, one would wish to postpone death for as long as possible. But to live always, without end, all things considered, can only be monotonous and ultimately unbearable."

I immediately thought of the fictional character Dracula. The

poor vampire, the undead in the novel, was doomed to live for century after century. And he was forced to see the same human foibles repeated again and again. For this creature, death was a relief.

In the real world, how often have I met elderly people who have simply had enough of this life. Their family and friends have passed on. They simply want to let go and go to God.

Quoting Saint Ambrose, the Holy Father writes "Death is, then, no cause for mourning, for it is the cause of man's salvation. There is a contradiction in our attitude which points to a contradiction in our very existence," the Holy Father continues. "On the one hand, we do not want to die. Above all, those who love us do not want us to die. Yet, on the other hand, neither do we want to continue living indefinitely. So what do we really want? This gives rise to a deeper question. What, in fact, is life? What does eternity really mean?"

The pope quotes Saint Augustine: "Ultimately, we want only one thing—the Blessed Life, the life which is simply life, sim-

ply happiness." Yet, at the same time we do not know that thing toward which we are driven.

The Holy Father then describes eternal life. "It would be like plunging into an ocean of infinite love, a moment in which time—the before and after—no longer exists; a plunging anew into the vastness of being in which we are simply overwhelmed with joy."

But then there is one more important question. Is Christian hope individualistic? Is salvation a private thing—for me alone?

The pope turns to a wonderful, spiritual priest, Henri de Lubac, a French theologian who speaks ironically. "If I were to save myself alone and find God, should I have found joy? No...only in my joy and that is something wildly

different...The joy of Jesus can be personal. It can belong to a single man and He is saved. He is at peace...now and always, but He is alone. The isolation of this joy does not trouble Him. On the contrary—He is the chosen one! In His blessedness He passes through the battlefields with a rose in His hand."

Continued on page 28



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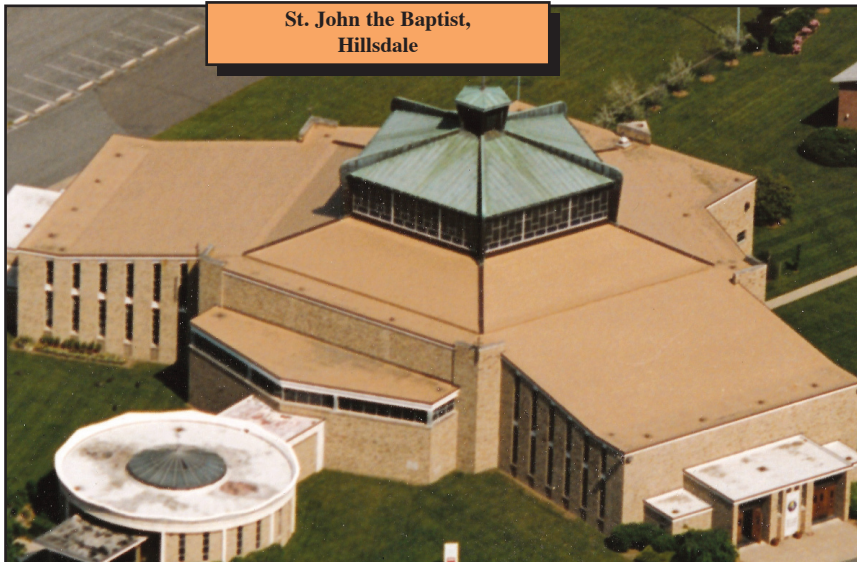
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# Confronting sorrow, separation in grieving process

I often wonder how Mary and the Apostles spent the time between Jesus' death and His Resurrection. In the Stations of the Cross, the last image of the sorrowful mother holding her dead son in her arms, so beautifully recreated by Michelangelo's "Pieta," is then concluded with the body of Jesus laid in a donated tomb.

As the Scriptures recount, Mary Magdalene (and others) go there on Sunday morning for burial anointing. She relates her encounter with the risen Jesus to the Apostles, gathered together in the upper room; then Peter and John go running to the tomb. The disciples on the road to Emmaus are disillusioned and distraught, yet also turn to the Apostles after they recognize Him in the breaking of the bread.

I'm not sure when sitting Shiva began in Judaism, but surely the solemn Sabbath after Passover precluded the practice if it were to be part of what the friends and relatives of Jesus might have done. We can only begin to imagine the emotional roller coaster they expe-

rienced between Holy Thursday evening and Easter night.

The process of grieving for Christians can be a real challenge. Letting go of a loved one to what we believe to be a better place may be spiritually consoling, but the physical loss is still emotionally trying. Our fast-paced American culture leads us to expectations, self-imposed or otherwise, that we should continue with our normal routine or get back to it as soon as possible.

I personally had to confront this reality last month when my administrative assistant at the chancery, Linda Robinson, died after a long bout with a variety of illnesses. I had spoken with her often during the course of her

many ups and downs, sometimes as boss, sometimes as priest, sometimes as friend.

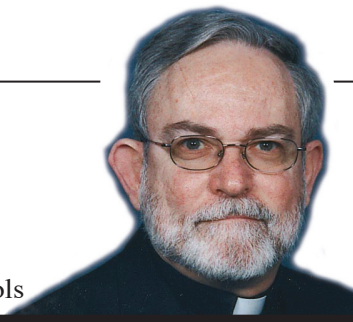
We even had a phone conversation the night before she died, during which she spoke of her more positive outlook and expectation to be in the office the next day. Of course, my shock was nowhere near that of her son, Jason, who actually found her dead the next morning, all dressed for work.

Vicariate members expressed their condolences, but basically it was business as usual while I was still trying to process the impact of her death on my psyche, assist her son in making arrangements, and provide for the things that needed

Continued on page 27

## SEEING & BELIEVING

By Rev. Msgr. Richard J. Arnholz



CNS photo/courtesy of He Qi

The morning of the Resurrection is depicted in "He Is Risen," a painting by contemporary Chinese Christian artist He Qi. His artwork blends Chinese folk customs and traditional Chinese painting techniques with Western painting methods.



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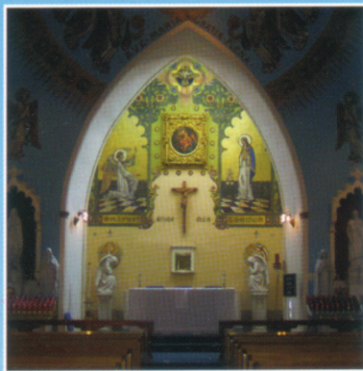
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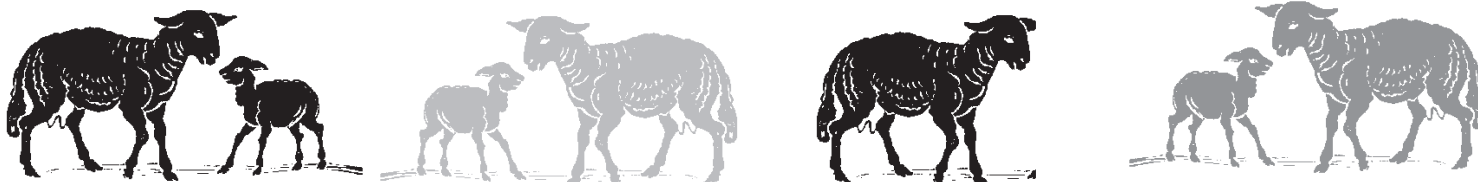
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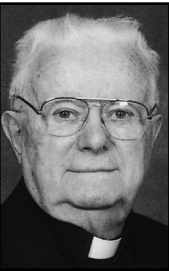


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Obituaries

Father Michael A. Fuino



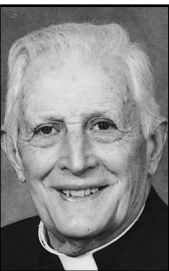
Father Michael A. Fuino, who served as a pastor and chaplain in the Archdiocese of Newark, died on Jan. 18. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Father Fuino on Jan. 25 at Saint Lucy Parish, Newark.

Born in Newark, Father Fuino received his bachelor's degree from Seton Hall University in 1938 and his Master of Divinity degree in 1942 from Immaculate Conception Seminary.

Father Fuino was pastor at Saint Rocco Parish, Newark (1953-1963) where he built a grammar school staffed by Religious Teachers Filippini. His other assignments in the archdiocese included: Holy Rosary, Jersey City, parochial vicar; Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Newark, parochial vicar; Saint Anthony of Padua, Union City, pastor; and United Hospital of Newark, chaplain.

Father Fuino retired to Saint John Vianney Residence, Rutherford, in 1997, where he continued to work with the Hispanic community at Saint Lucy Parish, Newark.

Father Sylvester J.M. Livolsi



A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Feb. 21 at Saint Aloysius Parish, Caldwell, for Father Sylvester J.M. Livolsi, 85, who died on Feb. 16.

Ordained in 1948, Father Livolsi served as administrator at Our Lady

of Mount Virgin Parish, Garfield, and was the guardian of the Sanctuary of Mary, Our Lady of the Holy Spirit, in Branchville. He retired from the archdiocese on Feb. 1.

Father John M. Shih



Father John M. Shih, 85, who served as an archdiocesan chaplain and parochial vicar, died on Jan. 11. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Father Shih on Jan. 15 at Madonna Parish, Fort Lee.

His assignments in the archdiocese include: NJ Northern State Prison, Newark, parochial vicar; Saint Michael the Archangel, Lyndhurst, parochial vicar; Saint Anthony, Newark, parochial vicar; Christ Hospital, Jersey City, chaplain; and Holy Rosary Academy, Union City, chaplain.

Father Robert J. Patterson

Saint Elizabeth Parish, Wyckoff, celebrated a Mass of Christian Burial on Jan. 22 for Father Robert J. Patterson, 75, who died on Jan. 18.

Father Patterson's assignments in the archdiocese include: Blessed Sacrament/Saint Charles Borromeo, Newark, parochial vicar; Corpus Christi, Hasbrouck Heights, parochial vicar; Christ the King, Jersey City, parochial vicar and pastor; and Saint John, Orange, pastor.

Father John D. Sweeney

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Feb. 9 at Saint Joseph Parish, West Orange, for Father John D. Sweeney, 78, who died on Feb. 6.

Ordained in 1956, Father Sweeney's

assignments in the archdiocese included serving as a parochial vicar at: St. Bridget, Jersey City; Immaculate Heart of Mary, Scotch Plains; Saint Joseph, Jersey City; Our Lady of Peace, New Providence; Saint Rose of Lima, Short Hills; Assumption, Roselle Park; and St. Joseph, West Orange.

Deacon William J. Toth



Deacon William J. Toth, 67, the founder and co-director of the Work Institute at Seton Hall University, South Orange, died on Feb. 3. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Deacon Toth on Feb. 7 at Saint Elizabeth Parish, Wyckoff.

He earned his master's degree in Moral Theology from Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology, South Orange, and a Ph.D. in Christian Ethics from Union Theological Seminary.

He joined the Immaculate Conception Seminary faculty 17 years ago and served as associate professor of Christian ethics.

A deacon at Saint Elizabeth Parish, he also taught a monthly Christology course and regularly delivered homily at Saturday Mass. Last fall Deacon Toth was a featured speaker at a forum at Seton Hall, which discussed the canonization of Saint Josemaria Escriva, the founder of Opus Dei.

Sister Elizabeth Patricia Fitzgerald, S.C.

Saint Anne Villa, Convent Station, celebrated a Mass of Christian Burial on Jan. 3 for Sister Elizabeth Patricia Fitzgerald, S.C., 91, who died in Jan. 1.

Sister Elizabeth Patricia was born in

Jersey City and was a member of the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth for 75 years. Her assignments in the archdiocese included educational ministry at Saint Mary, Plainfield, and Saint Andrew, Westwood.

Sister Elizabeth Joseph McGrath, S.C.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Feb. 8 at St. Anne Villa, Convent Station, for Sister Elizabeth Joseph McGrath, S.C., 93, who died on Feb. 4.

Born in Weehawken, Sister Elizabeth entered the Sisters of Charity in 1932 and was a member for 75 years. Her educational ministry assignments in the archdiocese included: Sacred Heart Elementary School, Jersey City; Saint Rose of Lima, Newark; Holy Trinity Elementary School, Westfield; Saint Mary School, Plainfield; Saint Teresa of Avila, Summit, and Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Tenafly.

Sister Mary Ann De Salvo, M.P.F.

Saint Lucy Chapel, Morristown, celebrated a Mass of Christian Burial on Jan. 15 for Sister Mary Ann De Salvo, M.P.F., 92, who died on Jan. 11.

Sister Mary Ann received a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Seton Hall University and received the Pro Meritis Jubilee Medal for distinguished service in the Archdiocese of Newark in 1990.

Sister Mary Ann served as a convent superior and principal of Saint Rocco School, Newark. For 36 years, she served as religious education coordinator and minister to the sick and homebound at Holy Family Parish, Nutley.

Grieving

Continued from page 24

to be done to keep the office functioning in the interim. There were several offers of help that were truly appreciated, but, otherwise, meetings still took place and new ones scheduled for me.

Most priests establish a "professional distance" from emotions as we are called to help so many families deal with death, but certain ones do touch a personal place within us.

Many times the person about to die is better prepared to depart this life than the survivors are to confront the separation. I remember celebrating the Anointing of the Sick with my mother shortly before her death almost 25 years ago. She once again instructed her young priest son, allowing that I could feel sad for a while, but assuring me that she'd been living her whole life so that she might be happy with God forever in heaven, so I should rejoice, too.

I was so touched by her sincer-

ity, yet found myself jealous in the ensuing weeks, feeling sorry for myself that she was enjoying heaven while I was feeling the sadness of the separation. It took me a few years to catch myself from asking why my dad and sister set one place less at holiday dinners than I was used to seeing for so many years.

My father's death was no less traumatic. He had offered a lengthy, beautiful prayer for me and with me from his hospital bed two days before he died. His entrusting my sister and I to God's care continues to stay with me almost 14 years later.

I can remember as a teenager wondering if there really was life after death or if it were just another story like the Easter Bunny scenario whose "reality" transforms its meaning as one grows up. Somewhere since then it came to me, that if I really believed the Gospels and the fact that the Apostles and others were willing to give their lives as testimony that they actually experienced the Risen Lord, then I could readily

believe Jesus' promise of eternal life. If He said He would rise and then did it, I would believe whatever else He said about our ultimate destiny.

Cemetery visitation is popular at Easter, too, as families remember their dead, filled with the hope of resurrection on the last day. Though acknowledging that their bodies lie in the earth, we know that "they" are not there. Prayers at the grave, though often offered with bowed heads, rise up to God rather than going down into the ground.

Through our wonderful belief in the communion of saints, we can maintain a spiritual contact with those who have gone before us. Nonetheless, it is appropriate that their bodies or cremated remains be honored with burial or entombment, much as Jesus' was, in a cemetery, preferably Catholic, giving them a place of dignity fitting for temples of the Holy Spirit.

We first become the Holy Spirit's abode on the day of our baptism. We will be reminded of it

again if our parish is blessed with the baptism of the Elect at the Easter Vigil. As the history of our salvation is recounted, from creation to Abraham, Moses, and the prophets, we are prepared to renew the promises originally made for most of us by parents and godparents to renounce sin and to live a life of faith. Even if there are no baptisms celebrated at the Vigil, we all will be sprinkled with the blessed Easter water, which first marked our new life in Christ.

While current fashion trends tend to produce more casually attired worshippers in most Catholic churches, Easter generally calls many people to dress up much more elegantly. As a child, I remember that Easter was always a time for a new suit. It wasn't until my seminary studies that I learned of the connection of this with the white garment put on by the newly baptized at the Easter Vigil as "an outward sign of (their) Christian dignity."

The theme of light, of course, permeates the Vigil. From the lighting and blessing of the new

fire outdoors after sunset to the solemn procession with the newly lit Paschal candle through the Church, stopping three times to light the candles of all the faithful gathered there, we simultaneously experience in ritual the dawn of creation ("Let there be light.") and the sunrise of Easter morning which saw the Son rise from the dead.

Our town has an ecumenical sunrise service on Easter morning at nearby Coopers Pond. Close to 100 people attend. As the first streaks of light appear, there is a transformation of the landscape. The appearance of the trees goes from dark balls to more defined branches with leaves and buds, and birds resting on them. We, too, can see our lives with greater clarity when we allow Christ's life and teachings to illumine our minds.

"Light of Christ! Thanks be to God!"

(Rev. Msgr. Richard J. Arnholz is pastor of St. John the Evangelist parish in Bergenfield, and Archdiocesan Vicar for Pastoral Life.)

## Anchor hope

Continued from page 8

explored, enjoyed all that could be enjoyed, amassed as much wealth as could be amassed, and did everything that could be done on the face of the earth, declared that “Vanity of vanities, all is vanity.”

We are sometimes tempted to anchor hope in our own strength, abilities, and achievement; in material things, human love and promises; in wealth and power. The question therefore is: where is our hope for successful living anchored? The Bible tells us that those who hope in the Lord “are like a tree planted near streams of water, that yields its fruit in season. Its leaves never wither; whatever they do prospers” (Psalm 1:3).

### Believe you will overcome

We must always remember that, many times in life, our blessings lie on the other side of our pain. No wonder the Bible encourages us to “boast of our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces

endurance, and endurance, proven character, and proven character, hope, and hope that does not disappoint us” (Romans 5:3-5).

Therefore, let your problems drive you closer to God. Always look beyond your anguish so that your life does not stop on a “Good Friday” experience. On that fateful Good Friday, many of the people walked away in despair. But for those who gathered in the upper room praying, the Good News was on the way. God always has a plan that goes beyond Good Friday. God’s plan for you includes an Easter Sunday.

Let us celebrate this Easter with style. Let this year’s Easter Alleluia announce a new beginning in our lives. Tell yourself that “this is my Easter to rise” and tell a family member or friend: “Don’t let this Easter pass you by.”

(Father Anselm I. Nwaorgu, Ph.D., is the pastor of Blessed Sacrament/Saint Charles Borromeo Parish, Newark. He is a former president of the African Conference of Catholic Clergy and Religious in the United States.)

*God’s people present at the Easter Vigil  
are led by Christ’s light out of the  
darkness of death into the light of life.*

## Easter Vigil

Continued from page 13

The gathered assembly is the church into which these Elect are being initiated. They are to become true disciples of Christ.

As Catholic Christians, we believe that the Holy Spirit is at work when someone is baptized and confirmed. We also believe that Christ is truly present in the celebration of the Eucharist. At the Easter Vigil, all witness the saving power of God at work in the lives of the Elect as they travel with Jesus into the waters of death and resurrection, are anointed with the

Holy Spirit and receive the Eucharist for the first time. There is no greater witness to the resurrection on Easter night than to witness and participate in the celebration of the sacraments of initiation.

At the Easter Vigil, with fire and water, word and sacrament, the Elect are born into the Church while the rest of the assembly renews their commitment as disciples of Christ. At the Vigil, the resurrection of Christ is truly experienced by all present and God’s people are made new again to carry on Christ’s mission in the world.

(Father Thomas A. Dente is the director of the archdiocesan Office of Divine Worship.)

## ‘Spe Salvi’

Continued from page 23

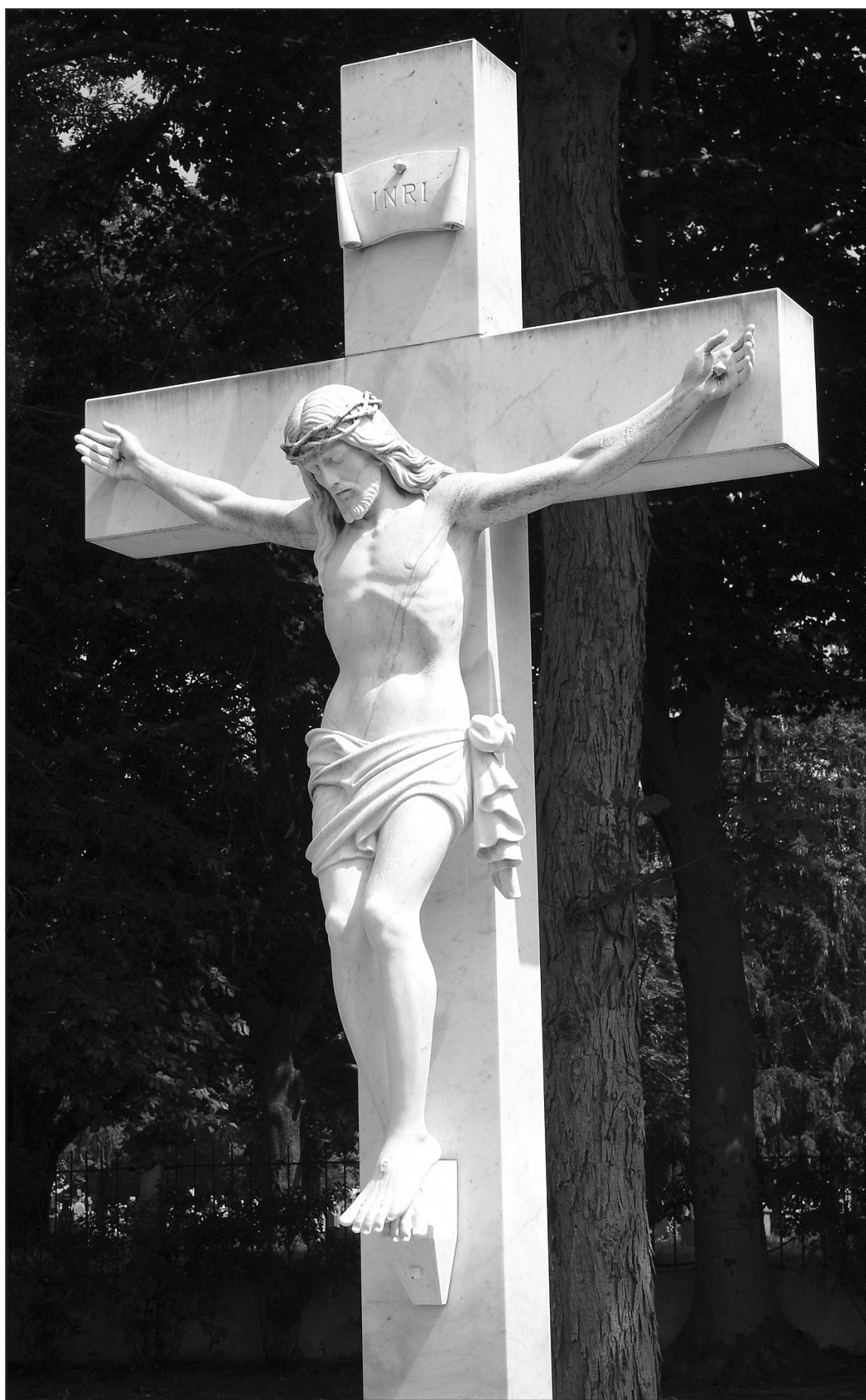
De Lubac is being cynical. “The truth is the opposite. Salvation is a “social” reality. The real life is communal. It can only be attained in a “lived union” with a people. For each individual it can only be attained within this “We.” It presupposes that we can escape from the prison of our “I” because only then does our gaze open out to the “Source of joy—

to love itself—to God”

Yes, we will share God’s love with those we love in the hereafter. I think of the most common question children have asked me over the years. “Will my pet dog or my cat be in heaven?”

I always answer the children this way. “Heaven is a place of perfect happiness. When you get there, if your pet will make you happy, he or she will be there. Heaven is a Garden of Eden restored.”

There is much more in *Spe Salvi*. The Holy Father speaks of



Advocate photo – M. Gabriele

*‘Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.’  
—Luke 23:42*

sin, of purgatory, of prayer for the deceased and other things as well. But, basically, Pope Benedict presents a beautiful vision of Christian faith and hope. He makes us grateful to be Catholics and fills us with the joy and hope that, hopefully, one day we will all be found in the eternal life of joy with God.

Only sin can prevent us from

sharing in that ecstasy of God. May we all live in such a way so as to complete our journey happily. One day each of us will hear that distant trumpet, and, hopefully, rising from our mortal body we shall be carried on a golden shaft of light, beyond the veil of our mortality, to that far distant shore, where—God willing—all those

whom we knew and loved in this world will be waiting. There, wrapped in the glory of God, we shall be together forever.

He is Risen! Yes, He is truly Risen! And one day we shall rise with Him. Happy Easter!

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

# Catholic Cemetery Conference extends joyful message of hope

BY MARK R. LAZAROSKI  
Special to The Catholic Advocate

My Easter message is simple. The Resurrection is hope. The Resurrection is the most powerful event in the history of the world. It is the source of our faith. The whole city of Jerusalem knew about it and eventually the whole Roman Empire. It was the news of the time. If CNN had been there, it would have been a breaking news event.

During His time on earth, Jesus made what some people thought to be outrageous claims. He claimed to be God. On the day Jesus cleared the moneychangers out of the temple, they asked what right He had to do this. Jesus answered and said to them: “Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up.” The Jews said: “This temple has been under construction for 46 years, and you will raise it up in three days?” But He was speaking about the temple of His body (John 2:19-21).

Jesus did exactly what He had promised. He rose from the dead. Jesus settled once and for all that there is life after death, not just for Himself, but for all who believe in Him.

His Resurrection brought life out of death. “I am the Resurrection and the life; whoever believes



Mark R. Lazaroski

in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die” (John 11:25-26).

Through His Resurrection, Jesus shows us He is the Son of God. He said, “All power in heaven and on earth is given to me” (Matthew 28:18). In John 10:18 He says: “No man taketh it away from me: but I lay it down of myself. And I have power to lay it down: and I have power to take it up again.” No force could keep Him in the tomb. The Romans killed Him; they put Him in a tomb. They rolled a large stone in front of the tomb, sealed it and posted a centurion to guard the tomb.

Jesus rose from the dead. He did exactly what He promised to

do. “Then the angel said to the women in reply, ‘Do not be afraid! I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified. He is not here, for He has been raised just as He said” (Matthew 28:5-6).

And that is Good News!

The Resurrection is our source of hope. Because Christ rose from the dead, we do not have to fear death any more. We have been born again into a life full of hope. “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in His great mercy gave us a new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you who by the power of God are safeguarded through faith, to a salvation that is ready to be revealed in the final time” (Peter 1:3).

Easter holds promise and hope. It is a chance for our families to gather to celebrate the power of love conquering death.

May this Easter season bring you great joy, hope and love as we give thanks to God for the gift of Jesus Christ, the assurance of resurrection and the promise of life eternal.

Christ is risen, Alleluia!  
(Editor’s note: Mark R. Lazaroski, C.C.C.E., is the president of the Catholic Cemetery Conference, Hillside, IL. )



**GIRL SCOUT AWARDS—** Archbishop John J. Myers presided March 9 at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark, at the annual Girl Scout Awards Sunday service. For the first time two awards were presented. Rosemarie Brodeur, accompanied by Steven Ference of Troop 213 from St. Philip the Apostle Parish in Saddle Brook (top photo), received the Companions of the Journey award for her dedication and leadership during a 65-year commitment to Catholic Girl Scouting. Archbishop Myers presented Aimee McCarthy, from Girl Scout Venture Crew 2000, Northern New Jersey Council, Paramus, with the Saint Timothy Award.



Advocate photos—Ward Miele

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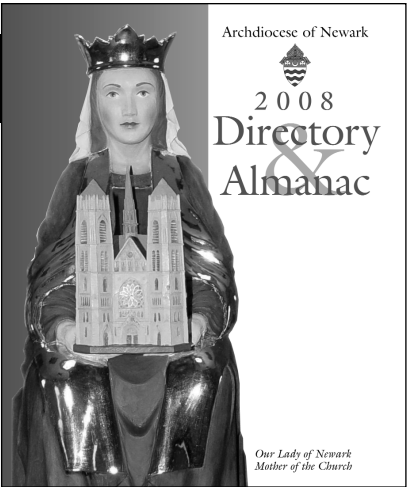
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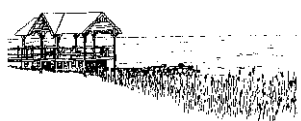
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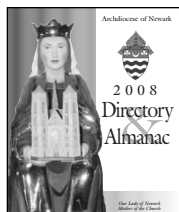
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# Qualified quintet indicate they heard it through the Grapevine



Advocate photo – Ward Miele

**FOCUS FIVE VISIT THE ARCHBISHOP**—Father James Spera, seated, left, director of campus ministry at Seton Hall University, South Orange, and vice rector of the College Seminary of the Immaculate Conception (Saint Andrew Hall), accompanied members of the local chapter of Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS) to meet with Archbishop John J. Myers at the Archdiocesan Center in Newark. The FOCUS missionaries who visited the archbishop last month included Andy Day, team director (seated at right), and (standing, left to right) Renee Burke-Drazba, Michael Landers, Jenny Harnish and Amanda Pirihi. Last January the quintet took part in the five-day national FOCUS conference, which was held in Grapevine, TX (see *The Catholic Advocate*, March 5). Founded in Colorado in 1998, FOCUS (Web site: [www.focusonline.org](http://www.focusonline.org)) fosters the "fullness of life and truth in the Church" through small-group Bible studies, leadership training, Christian fellowship, missions and retreats, and one-on-one discipleship. The Grapevine conference called on Catholic young adults to work within their respective campuses and hometown communities.

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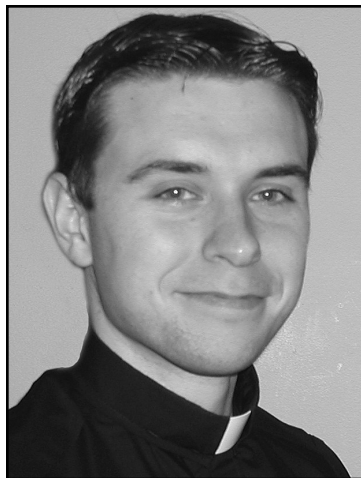
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Nicholas Bellotti

## Bellotti instituted as new acolyte

ROME—Nicholas Bellotti of the Archdiocese of Newark, a second-year seminarian at the Pontifical North American College, was among 44 seminarians instituted as an acolyte during a Mass on March 2, with Most Rev. Frank Dewane, Bishop of the Diocese of Venice, as the main celebrant.

Acolytes assist deacons and priests during the Sacred Liturgy and are also responsible for bringing Holy Communion to the sick. With their institution as acolytes, the seminarians have now received both the ministry of lector and acolyte in anticipation of their diaconal and then priestly ordinations.

# Felician gets an 'A' for community service

## Franciscan spirit guides outreach

LODI—The Corporation for National and Community Service has named Felician College to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for "exemplary service efforts and service to disadvantaged youth."

Launched in 2006, the community service honor roll is the highest federal recognition a school can achieve for its commitment to service learning and civic engagement. Honorees are chosen based on a series of selection factors including scope and innovativeness of service projects, percentage of student participation in service activities, incentives for service and the extent to which the school offers academic service-learning courses.

The Franciscan tradition at Felician College (Web site: [www.felician.edu](http://www.felician.edu)) is integrated throughout the school's core curriculum, where students have the opportunity to deepen their sense of civic responsibility and foster a sense of service to others. Felician students volunteer at a variety of service learning sites throughout New

Jersey, including the American Red Cross, Habitat for Humanity, hospitals, soup kitchens, schools and animal shelters.

Sister Theresa Mary Martin is the president of Felician, which has campuses in Lodi and Rutherford.

"Americans rely on our higher education system to prepare students for citizenship and the workforce," U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings said, congratulating the winners. "We look to institutions like these to provide leadership in partnering with local schools to shape the civic, democratic and economic future of our country."

The corporation jointly sponsors the honor roll through its "Learn and Serve America" program with the Department of Education, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, USA Freedom Corps and the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation.

The Corporation for National and Community Service (Web site: [www.nationalservice.gov](http://www.nationalservice.gov)) is a federal agency that improves lives, strengthens communities and fosters civic engagement through service and volunteering. The corporation administers Senior Corps, AmeriCorps and Learn and Serve America, a program that supports service learning.

"College students are tackling the toughest problems in America, demonstrating their compassion, commitment, and

creativity in by serving as mentors, tutors, health workers and even engineers," a corporation spokesperson said.

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

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

"Come and see,"  
He answered.

John 1:38-39

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The School of Saint Elizabeth in Bernardsville, New Jersey, seeks a dynamic educational leader to serve as Principal for its 200+ student Pre-K through Grade 8 program in northern Somerset County.

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The position is scheduled to begin July 1, 2008. Salary will be commensurate with experience. Interested candidates should forward a letter of interest, resume, statement of educational philosophy, salary requirements, and references by March 31, 2008 to: Rev. John N. Fell, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, 111 Claremont Road, Bernardsville, NJ 07924, or email to : olphemail@aol.com

Diocese of Metuchen, seeks an  
Associate Director of the Youth and  
Young Adult Ministry Office

to assist with continuing to grow youth and young adult ministry in the parishes throughout the diocese with these skills: effective Administration/Organization skills, ability to initiate yet work together with the Director as an energetic team; good Communication, Leadership, and Presentation skills. The position ensures timely planning and promotion of youth and young adult gatherings; the updating of an accurate database and website; leading Young Adult/Theology on Tap, faith sharing, and other activities; the oversight of the basketball league; and assisting with parish support, visits, presentations, and training as needed. Candidates must have a minimum of BA (MA preferred). The ideal candidate will have a deep desire to connect with and bring together people in the Catholic faith, preferably have a concentration in either theology, education, religious education, pastoral ministry or closely related field or/and a strong background in youth ministry/catechesis (4 + yrs.) with a focus on comprehensive youth ministry, the ability to communicate effectively in English (Spanish is a plus), and to facilitate interactive learning experiences. Word, Excel, Access, Publisher and Web proficiency. Creative and tech-savvy a plus! Please e-mail a résumé/cover letter to Michael Wojcik at [mwojcik@diometuchen.org](mailto:mwojcik@diometuchen.org). Subject line "Associate Director, Youth and Young Adult Ministry Office." Or mail to Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, Diocese of Metuchen, P.O. Box 191, Metuchen, NJ 08840.

## PRINCIPAL

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## TEACHER

Catholic Middle School. Science, Math; BSEd+ 1 yr. exp. Fax (973) 674-6126 or mail resume: St. John Grammar School, 455 White St., Orange, NJ 07050. Attn: Sister Kieran Nduagbo, Principal.

The Catholic Schools Office of the Diocese of Paterson is currently accepting applications for anticipated openings in elementary school administration for the 2008/2009 School Year. Positions would commence as of July 1, 2008.

*We seek applicants with the following qualifications:*

- Practicing Catholic
- A minimum of 5 years experience in Catholic School Education
- Masters Degree in Educational Administration
- New Jersey Teaching Certificate and New Jersey Principals' Certificate

To be considered as a candidate, please forward your letter of interest, current resume, and supporting documentation to:

Frank Petrucci, Ed.S., Superintendent of Schools  
Catholic Schools Office of the Paterson Diocese  
777 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ 07013  
Telephone: (973) 777-8818, ext. 251, Fax (973) 779-0083



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## NOVENAS

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.

R.T.G.

PRAYER TO THE  
BLESSED VIRGIN

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

C.J.M.

## PRAYER TO ST. JUDE

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

M.F.

## 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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Reflection

Continued from page 3

“On the positive side, the jobs and educational advancements made as a result of the feminist movement are great,” she said. “However, the sexual revolution and the rise of abortions and birth control are the negatives. It is not progress or dignity for women to act like men behaving badly.”

The so-called “women liberation” movement also ushered in sexual stereotypes in the media that connect to high-risk behaviors in women, Tomeo argued. “There is an emphasis on women’s personal appearance and a person is made as an object. The media contributes to this problem.”

The rise of eating disorders can be attributed to the images women see in the media, according to Tomeo, noting that she struggled with anorexia as a young girl. “One in three women is on a diet and girls as young as eight years old are beginning diets. There is also an increase in middle-aged women struggling with body image and eating disorders. It is not just a television show or a music video. We have to worry about what the culture is feeding our girls.”

Tomeo also shared a tragic story of how one of her friends and co-workers recently committed suicide. “It took me a long time to

develop and restudy my faith,” she said. “My friend bought into everything that the culture was telling her. I thought to myself: ‘that could have been me.’ Through the grace of God I am here. You can’t go for the brass ring without God.”

Morana spent 18 years away from the Church and understands Tomeo’s plight to reconnect with her faith. “In high school, I lied and said I went to confession when I really did not. Then, I stopped going to Mass. It is a slippery slope to leaving the Church,” Morana recalled.

She married at a young age and went on birth control between having her two children. Morana’s marriage began to suffer. She wanted her children to have a Catholic education and went back to college to become a teacher.

“I was still away from the Church but started to go back when my children where in Catholic school,” she said. “I had my list of things I disagreed with at the Church, including the pope’s stance on birth control.”

The catalyst for Morana returning to the Church was Father Frank Pavone, national director of Priests for Life. Father Pavone tackled her list of questions, offered her Bible study and discussed the Catholic faith in depth. Four months later, Morana had her first confession in years and re-

ceived the Holy Eucharist.

“It felt like it was my First Communion,” Morana said. “I lost all sense of where I was and was overcome with emotion. I was very lost for a long time and if I can come back to the Church, you can come back too.”

Morana has been Father Pavone’s assistant since 1988 and is associate director of Priests for Life (Web site: www.priestsforlife.org), a Staten Island, NY-based organization that encourages priests to preach and teach the sanctity of life. She is featured on Father Pavone’s “Defending Life” series seen on EWTN and is the co-host and producer on the “Gospel of Life” series seen on Sky Angel Network. She is also a weekly guest on Tomeo’s radio show.

As co-founder of the “Silent No More” awareness campaign, a national effort to assist women who have had abortions to share their testimonies, Morana approaches abortion from a different perspective. “I realized no one was talking about abortion from a woman’s perspective. More women die of legal abortions today than yesterday’s ‘back-alley’ abortions. So many women bought the lie of abortion. Some even numb the pain by abusing alcohol or drugs. This is the damage. This is the legacy of abortion.”

Morana believes that through “Silent No More,” women who have suffered an abortion can feel

they can come back to the Church. “I want women to know that if they have had an abortion, the Church is here for you. There is no unforgivable sin. People don’t know that there is a way back. I don’t know any other way to be healed from an abortion without Jesus. You have to be an ambassador that the door to the Church is always open.”

The message of forgiveness is essential to healing the pain of abortion, Morana believes. “Many girls’ lives spin out of control for years until someone heard their pain. If you talk about abortion in a loving, caring way, you can get more women to heal. The women of ‘Silent No More’ are the true heroes. With joy, they are stopping women from getting abortions. Our goal is to make abortion unthinkable.”



Teresa Tomeo

‘Great Expectations’ auction to benefit HFA scholarships

BAYONNE—Holy Family Academy (HFA) will hold its fifth annual “Great Expectations” auction on Friday, April 11, 7 to 11 p.m., at Mayfair Farms, 481 Eagle Rock Ave., West Orange.

The event, which benefits the school’s scholarship fund, will offer items such as Bruce Springsteen concert tickets and a Nintendo Wii gaming system. Prior to the auction, raffle tickets for a \$5,000 travel voucher from Four Seasons Travel can be purchased for \$100; only 300 raffle tickets will be sold.

Admission is \$65 per person and includes a buffet dinner. Call Terry McGuckin, HFA development director, at (201) 436-9144 or (201) 339-7341, or visit the school’s Web site (www.hfa.bayonne.net) for details.


Bergen Catholic to induct 10 into Hall of Fame March 30

ORADELL—Ten new members will be inducted into the Bergen Catholic High School Hall of Fame at the 13th annual Alumni Association-sponsored Hall of Fame Dinner on Sunday, March 30, at the Fiesta in Wood-Ridge beginning at 5 p.m.

Tickets and additional information can be obtained by calling Marge Millus in the B.C. Alumni Relations Office at (201) 634-4142.

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**WORKING OUT**—Union Catholic Regional High School, Scotch Plains (Web site: [www.unioncatholic.org](http://www.unioncatholic.org)), recently kicked off a health awareness initiative for students, faculty and staff. Activities included various forms of exercise in conjunction with an emphasis on healthy eating.

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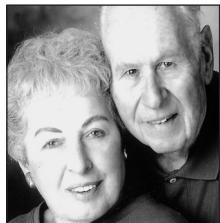
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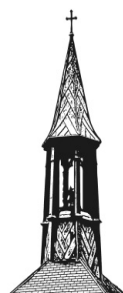
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## Trinitas canine demonstrates courage

ELIZABETH — Inker, the first therapy dog in Trinitas Comprehensive Cancer Center's (TCCC) Animal Assisted Activities Program, now has something in common with patients.

The nine-year-old male golden retriever is undergoing chemotherapy for cancer. After noticing lumps on the dog's neck last month, Inker's owner, Pat Dobson, brought Inker to her veterinarian who recommended immediate chemotherapy treatment for canine lymphoma. This is a common and treatable cancer, which occurs in the lymph nodes or other organs. Approximately 50 percent of dogs with this condition achieve remission through chemotherapy.

Dobson, a retired school teacher living in Watchung, takes Inker to weekly treatments at the Animal Medical Center in New York City, affiliated with Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.

Carol Pepe, director of social work, and Lisa Liss, director of volunteer services, launched the Animal Assisted Activities program at Trinitas Hospital in September 2005. At the program's inception, Inker was the only dog providing emotional support to Trinitas Hospital's patients. One year later the program began at Trinitas Comprehensive Cancer Center and Inker provided the first patient visit. Since that time, Inker has visited patients two days a week for one hour a day. Although he is continuing on this schedule, Dobson will shorten his visits when he is tired. In total, Inker has visited nearly 900 patients since the program began.

In addition to Inker, the pro-



Submitted photo

Henry Wise of Roselle (left) shares a moment with Inker, the golden retriever who visits patients at Trinitas Comprehensive Cancer Center, and his owner, Pat Dobson. Inker continues to visit cancer patients even as he undergoes treatment for canine lymphoma.

gram currently has two other therapy dogs. A total of six dogs have enhanced the well-being of patients since the program began.

"Patients look forward to visits by Inker and doctors often include animal visits in their orders," said

Donna Filocamo, LCSW, manager of psychosocial services at the Trinitas center.

For more information on the Animal Assisted Activities Program at Trinitas Hospital, call Pepe at (908) 994-5335.

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from  
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## PRINCIPAL

St. Barnabas Parish High School, Bronx is now accepting resumes for a principal. We are a small all girls college preparatory school. Applicants must be a practicing Catholic, with a master's degree minimum, certified by N.Y.S. as a school administrator, a minimum of 5 years teaching experience and an understanding of Catholic High School structure and leadership ability. Please send resume to:

**Msgr. Edward M. Barry**  
**St. Barnabas Rectory**  
**409 East 241<sup>st</sup> Street, Bronx, N.Y. 10470**

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### Holy Week 2008 Schedule

**Confessions: 6:30-7:30pm**

Monday, March 17th • Tuesday, March 18th

**Holy Thursday, March 20th**

Morning Prayer: 9:15 am

Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:30 pm

**Good Friday, March 21st**

Morning Prayer: 9:15 am

Cross Service: 3:00 pm

**Holy Saturday, March 22nd**

Morning Prayer: 9:15 am

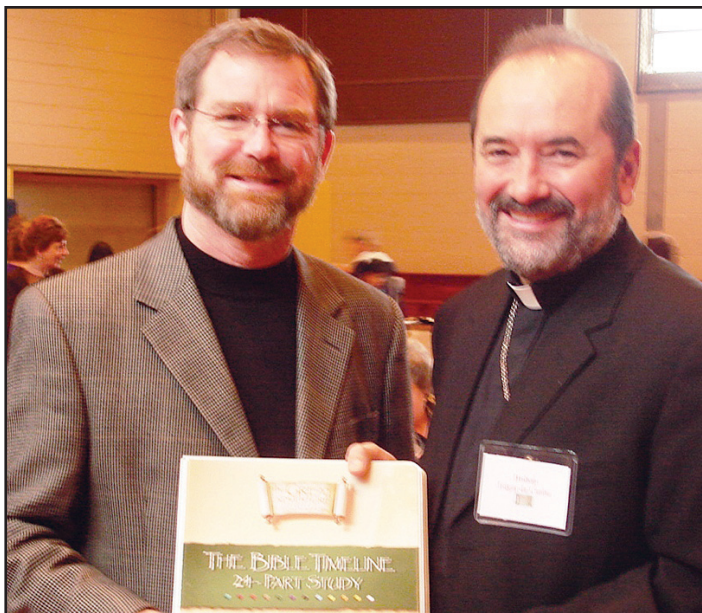
Blessing of Food: 9:30 am

No 5:30 pm Mass

Easter Vigil: 7:30 pm

**Easter Sunday, March 23rd**

7:30, 9:00, 10:30 am and 12:00 Noon



Submitted photo

**BIBLE STUDY**—Over 200 people gathered March 8 at the Archdiocesan Youth and Young Adult Retreat Center, Kearny, to take part in "Great Adventure—A Journey through the Bible." Jeff Cavins (left), author, theologian and TV commentator, led the seminar, which was sponsored by the Archdiocese of Newark's Office of Evangelization. Cavins is pictured at the forum with Most Rev. Edgar M. da Cunha, Auxiliary Bishop of Newark. Anyone interested in joining an archdiocesan Bible study group should contact Liliana Soto-Cabrera, coordinator of evangelization, by phone at (973) 497-4353 or via e-mail at [sotolili@rcan.org](mailto:sotolili@rcan.org).

### PRINCIPAL OPENING Catholic Elementary School

Our Lady of Mount Virgin School in Middlesex Borough, New Jersey is in need of a dynamic educational leader to fill the position of Principal for its 200+ student Pre-K through Grade 8 program.

The successful candidate must be a practicing Catholic with a minimum of five years teaching experience, and should possess or be eligible for NJ Certification as an elementary school principal. Prior administrative experience in a Catholic school is preferred, but not required. The successful candidate should have demonstrated competence in academic leadership, strategic planning, staff development and public relations, and have the ability to work collaboratively with faculty, students and parents in a Christian environment.

The position is scheduled to begin on July 1, 2008. Interested candidates should forward a resume, curriculum vitae, references and cover letter by April 4, 2008 to:

Rev. Patrick J. Kuffner  
**Our Lady of Mount Virgin Parish**  
 600 Harris Avenue, Middlesex, NJ 08846  
 e-mail to: [pkuffner@olmv.net](mailto:pkuffner@olmv.net)

## Oratory plans for big 100

**SUMMIT**—Bishop Edgar M. da Cunha, S.D.V., will celebrate a Centennial Family Mass at Oratory Preparatory School, 1 Beverly Rd., Sunday, March 30 at noon. Father Paul Prevosto, school chaplain, will concelebrate. The Mount St. Mary Academy chorale group will perform at the Mass and a catered luncheon will follow.

Separately, Oratory Prep will host a gala reception on Friday, April 4 at The Villa in Mountain Lakes to mark the school's 100th birthday. Call (908) 273-1084, ext.10, for reservations.



### THE PARISH of the TRANSFIGURATION

St. Ann's and St. Rocco's Communities  
*invites you to celebrate*  
**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

at

**THE CENTER of DIVINE MERCY**

St. Rocco's Church

212 Hunterdon Street • Newark, NJ

#### Schedule of Events for Sunday, March 30th

10:00 a.m. Solemn Mass of Divine Mercy

11:30 a.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Adoration

Confession

Begins (concluding at 3:00 p.m.)

Noon Rosary

3:00 p.m. Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Healing Blessing

Benediction

Please direct questions to: Melissa Lucanie (973) 568-9644  
 or email at: [mlucanie@franciscancharitiesinc.org](mailto:mlucanie@franciscancharitiesinc.org)

## Parishes to celebrate Divine Mercy

AREA—Parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Newark have scheduled Divine Mercy Sunday celebrations for March 30.

Pope John Paul II proclaimed Divine Mercy Sunday at the canonization of Saint Faustina Kowalska (1905-1938) on April 30, 2000. In order to draw the attention of the faithful to God's great love and mercy, manifested in such a wonderful way in the Paschal mystery, the Church offers a plenary indulgence on Divine Mercy Sunday.

Pope Benedict XVI underscored the importance of the Divine Mercy message when he declared "the cult of Divine Mercy is not a secondary devotion, but an integral dimension of a Christian's faith and prayer." Divine Mercy Sunday graces flow not from a particular devotional practice, but rather from the Eucharist and its worthy reception.

Saint Catharine Parish, Glen Rock, will begin its celebration with a service at 3 p.m. in the Chaplet at the Divine Mercy Shrine on church grounds. Louise Pacos, a parishioner who started the movement at Saint Catharine, will lead the service. The faithful will have the opportunity for adoration before the Blessed Sacrament from 3:15 to 4:15 p.m.. Adoration will be followed by a closing benediction and veneration of the First Class Relic of Saint Faustina Kowalska. Call the rectory at (201) 445-3703 for details.

Father John D. Gabriel, the pastor of Saint Thomas More Parish, Fairfield, phone: (973) 227-0055, will be

the homilist at the parish celebration from 2 to 4 p.m.

The celebration at Assumption of Our Blessed Lady Parish, Wood-Ridge, phone: (201) 438-5555, begins at 2:30 p.m. with exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Divine Mercy praises, the Divine Mercy chaplet and benediction.

Observances at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Nutley, phone: (973) 667-2580, begin at 3 p.m. with praying of the Divine Mercy chaplet followed by Mass at 4 p.m.

A 2 p.m. eucharistic adoration, recitation of the rosary and the Divine Mercy chaplet and confessions will begin the celebration at St. John the Apostle Parish, Linden, phone: (908) 486-6363. Mass will be celebrated at 3 p.m. and refreshments will be served following Mass.

Outside of the archdiocese, the annual Divine Mercy Sunday weekend celebration at the National Shrine of The Divine Mercy, 2 Prospect Hill Rd., Stockbridge, MA (Web site: [www.thedivinemercy.org](http://www.thedivinemercy.org)), will be held March 29 and 30. Contact Carol Scott-Mahoney, pilgrimage director at the Stockbridge shrine, at (413) 298-3931 for details on the weekend celebration.

For more than 25 years, the Marians of the Immaculate Conception have welcomed pilgrims to the shrine to celebrate the Feast of Divine Mercy. During that time it has grown into one of the largest Divine Mercy Sunday celebrations in the country.



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**Preached Retreat for Sisters:** Sunday-Friday, June 22-27, 2008

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**Kathy DiFiore-Founder**

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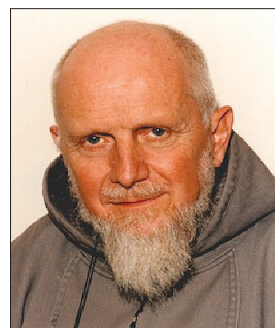
[www.severalsources.net](http://www.severalsources.net) • [www.chastitycall.org](http://www.chastitycall.org)

## Divine Mercy Sunday

with Fr. Benedict Groeschel

**March 30, 2008**

**St. Philomena Church, Livingston**



**Fr. Benedict Groeschel, CFR**  
Guest Homilist

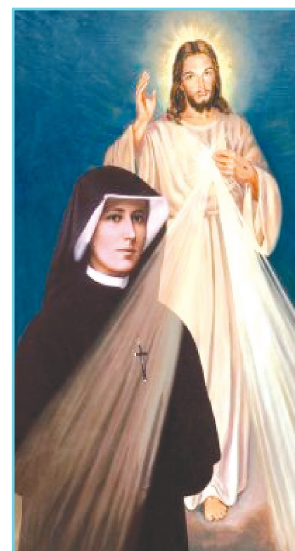
**1:15** Confessions  
**2:00** Mass  
**3:00** Chaplet of Divine Mercy Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament Veneration of Relic of St. Faustina and the Image of Divine Mercy

"I want this image to be solemnly blessed on the First Sunday after Easter. That Sunday is to be the Feast of Mercy. On that day, the depths of my mercy will be open."

Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.



### St. Philomena Church

386 South Livingston Avenue

Livingston, NJ

(973) 992-0994

## Traditional Latin Mass

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1360 Pleasant Valley Way, West Orange, NJ 07052

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#### Mass Schedule

Sunday: 7:30 a.m. • 9:00 a.m. • 11:00 a.m. (High Mass)

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: 9:00 a.m. (starting December 5)

**First Friday: 7:00 pm followed by Benediction**

Tuesday: 7:00 p.m. (with devotions to St. Anthony)

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. (with Miraculous Medal Novena)

• Confessions daily 1/2 hour before each Mass •

• Eucharistic Holy Hour of Adoration: Thursday 7:00 p.m. •



# Pastor lauds his community's enthusiasm, spiritual 'thirst'

BY MELISSA MCNALLY  
Staff Writer

At the end of World War II, a third of Maywood's 4,000 residents were Catholic. Those who lived to the east of Maywood Avenue attended Sacred Heart Parish in Rochelle Park, then staffed by the Franciscans. Early in 1946, the Franciscans announced they would have to erect a new church to administer to the increasing population.

Archbishop Thomas J. Walsh approved a petition to the Archdiocese of Newark requesting separate status for Maywood as a mission of Holy Trinity Parish, Hackensack. Father Thomas F. Burke, a parochial vicar in Hackensack, celebrated the first Mass in the new mission on Aug. 17, 1947. Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish was consecrated on June 4, 1948. Rev. Msgr. Eugene S. Burke was named administrator. In the same month, Father James G. Neafsey

was appointed pastor.

In the early life of the parish, masses were celebrated at the borough hall and at Maywood Avenue School. After a search for property, design, groundbreaking and construction, Father Thomas Burke celebrated the first Mass in the new building on Dec. 17, 1950. The school opened on Sept. 10, 1951, under the direction of the Religious Teachers Filippini.



## Our Lady Queen of Peace, Maywood

At the opening, there were 565 pupils enrolled from kindergarten through eighth grade. In 1992, the archdiocese directed Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish to join with St. Peter Parish in River Edge to form a co-sponsored school, which continues to this day.

During Father Neafsey's time as pastor, he organized the Rosary Society, Altar Society, CYO and Boy Scouts. When he died in August of 1956, his senior assistant, Father John Pagash, became acting pastor until a successor was appointed about six weeks later. The archbishop chose the Father Thomas Burke, who officially assumed his duties on September 29, 1956.

During Father Donald McLaughlin's pastorate, which began in 1989, the church was re-decorated, the original lights were replaced and parish carnivals were reintroduced to help defray expenses. The parish council was enhanced with new committees and Cornerstone weekends became an annual spiritual experience for the parish women.

In June 1996, Father Joseph Pietropinto was appointed pastor. Realizing the need for increased lay involvement in parish activities, he reconstituted the pastoral and finance councils. A capital campaign for financing a parish renovation was launched in the spring of 1999. A year later, the church was temporarily closed for the renovations.

After seven years at the parish,

Father Pietropinto was transferred and Rev. Msgr. Peter Zaccardo became pastor. Archbishop John J. Myers, in January 2007, accepted Msgr. Zaccardo's retirement request and Father Lawrence Fama was appointed pastor on July 1. Msgr. Zaccardo remains active in the parish as pastor emeritus.

"In my eight months as pastor, I have seen an increase in enthusiasm, zeal and a 'thirst for more' among the parishioners. The people are very open to rolling up their sleeves and getting involved. I look forward to working with the parish in forming new committees to enhance our spiritual life and parish life," Father Fama said.

Important to the life of the parish, educating young people in their faith is a priority. "There are 225 students in grades 1-8 in our religious education program. We have 18 catechists and our focus is to keep the young people involved and interested in the Church."

Father Fama explained that the parish youth group consists of two levels: junior high school (grades 7 and 8) and senior high (grades 9-12). Led by Katie Pierce, the youth group meets on Sundays "to learn about our faith in a way that they can apply to daily life. They sponsor and participate in fundraising activities throughout the year and some of those funds are used for special events such as retreats," he said.

The parish has several ministries that encourage community outreach. The homebound ministry and "Meals from the Heart," led by Jean Rocco, provides meals for parishioners who are ill or cannot leave their homes. The bereavement ministry assists families during their time of grief and even provides breakfast for the family on the morning of the funeral.

Jim Moran, a parishioner for 45 years, is head of the bereavement ministry. He is also on the parish council and serves as a eucharistic minister and lector. "(Our Lady Queen of Peace) is a little parish and I feel at home here. It satisfies all of my spiritual needs and any way I can give back to the community, I do it. We have an above average liturgical staff and there is a real focus on faith here," he said.

Moran believes Father Fama, in his first pastorate, is making strides at the parish. "(Father Fama) is a 'hands-on guy.' His



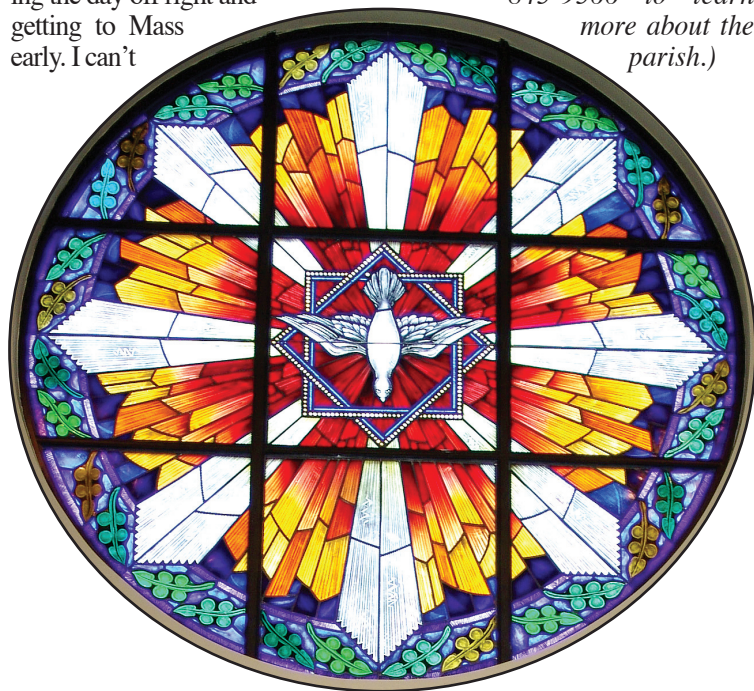
Founded over 50 years ago, Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish emphasizes community outreach and service among its 1,100 registered families. As a result, three or four new families register each week. Pictured here is a tapestry of Our Lady Queen of Peace, which hangs in the church's "gathering place." Deacon Tony and Carmella Balestrieri donated the tapestry in memory of their son, Michael.

leadership is felt in all aspects of parish life. He is doing remarkably well here."

The Lenten season is an important to Michael Tracey, a lifelong Our Lady Queen of Peace parishioner, who said the parish provides an environment conducive to reflection. "Lent is an exciting time for me," Tracey said. "I like starting the day off right and getting to Mass early. I can't

think of a better way to start the day. Lent is a time to reflection. I pray that younger families realize and appreciate all that they have and include Mass as an enjoyable focus to have their lives centered around."

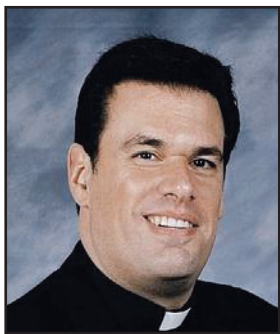
(Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish is located at 400 Maywood Ave. in Maywood. Call (201) 845-9566 to learn more about the parish.)



Advocate photos — M. Gabriele

Michael Tracey, lifelong Our Lady Queen of Peace parishioner, credits Father Fama's leadership with providing "innovative ideas that were not at our parish before. It is an exciting time. He has a passion for bringing people in and being active. He has a lot of energy and there are a lot of good people around him. We have a good mix of older and younger parishioners." Pictured here is the parish's rose window.

### Meet the Pastor



Father Lawrence Fama

**Birthday:** April 5, 1963  
**Hometown:** Newark  
**High School:** Immaculate Conception, Montclair  
**Seminary:** Immaculate Conception Seminary, South Orange  
**Undergraduate:** Rutgers University  
**Ordination:** May 30, 1992  
**Hero:** Pope John Paul II  
**Favorite Saint:** St. Therese of Lisieux  
**Favorite Sport:** Volleyball  
**Favorite Food:** Everything (except liver)  
**Favorite Subject in School:** History  
**Favorite Movie:** "The Song of Bernadette"  
**Last Book Read:** *The Genius in the Design*  
**Occupation if I Weren't a Priest:** I can't even imagine doing anything else!

## Registration for pro-life youth rally due March 21

SOUTH ORANGE—The fifth annual New Jersey “Pro-Life Youth Rally” for all Garden State high school students, hosted by the Salesians of Don Bosco, will be held Friday, April 18 at Seton Hall University (SHU).

The deadline for registration is Friday, March 21. The registration fee is \$10 per person, which includes lunch.

To register, download and send in the form found under “Salesians for Life” at the bottom the Salesians’ homepage: [www.salesianym.com](http://www.salesianym.com). Contact Elizabeth Jarocki, Salesian pro-life coordinator, by e-mail at [SalesianProLife@gmail.com](mailto:SalesianProLife@gmail.com) or by phone at (973) 761-0201 for details.

Registration and check-in for the rally will begin at 8:15 a.m. at SHU’s Regan Recreation Center. Programs will start at 9 a.m. and the event is slated to conclude around 2 p.m. The rally will include Mass, a musical performance by students from Queen of Peace High School, North Arlington, and a presentation by internationally acclaimed pro-life activist and recording artist Gianna Jessen.

## Dora Mighty wins ‘Loud’ poetry crown

ELIZABETH—Dora Mighty, a senior at Saint Mary of the Assumption High School, captured first place in the regional “Poetry Out Loud” competition held recently in Red Bank.

Mighty, who resides in Orange, presented “Solitude” by Ella Wheeler Wile, “Aunt Jemima” by Lucille Clifton and “Still I Rise” by Maya Angelou.

As regional representative, Mighty will compete against six other regional winners at the statewide level March 27 in Trenton. Each state winner will receive an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. for the national championship. The National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation are the co-sponsors of the Poetry Out Loud program (Web site: [www.poetryoutloud.org](http://www.poetryoutloud.org)).



Advocate photo – Ward Miele

**PALM SUNDAY—** The Cathedral Choir of the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, led by John J. Miller, director of music ministries, highlighted the celebration at the Newark cathedral on Palm Sunday of the Lord’s Passion. Selections performed by the choir at the March 16 Mass included “All Glory, Laud and Honor,” “O Sacred Head Surrounded,” and “Hail Redeemer, King Divine.” Archbishop John J. Myers was the main celebrant at the noon Mass.

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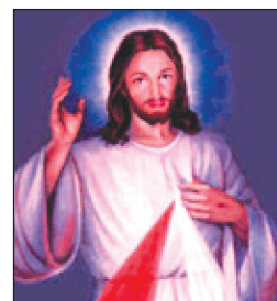
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Kelly Sullivan, Kelly Bishop and Charlotte Becker. Photo by Gerry Goodstein.

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

March 30, 2008



### ST. LUCY’S CHURCH

118 7th Ave., Newark, NJ  
(2 blocks from the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart)

1:30 PM Exposition & Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament. The Divine Mercy Chaplet at 2 PM, 3 PM, 4 PM  
1:30PM-4:00PM Confessions will be heard  
3:45 PM Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament  
4:00 PM Sunday Mass

**After Mass:** *Kissing of the first class relic of St. Faustina*  
*All Invited!*

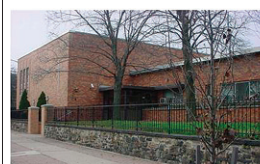
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**Holy Family Academy, 239 Avenue A, Bayonne, NJ**

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