



The Catholic Advocate

Vol. 58, No. 1

Official newspaper of the Archdiocese of Newark

January 7, 2009

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Bowe lauded for volunteer activities

Garners the "Woman of Faith, Woman of Action" award from the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women.

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Homilies look to inspire vocations

Father John D. Gabriel hopes to cultivate men in the archdiocese who are considering the priesthood.

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Advocate photo — Ward Miele



CNS photo

Major news stories in 2008, from the perspective of the Archdiocese of Newark, included the Sept. 8 episcopal ordination of Bishop Manuel A. Cruz (left), and Pope Benedict's tour of the United States, highlighted by a Mass at Yankee Stadium.

Pope's visit, Olympic gold top list of 2008 highlights

BY WARD MIELE
Managing Editor

NEWARK—Although the April visit of Pope Benedict XVI to New York will forever distinguish 2008 for the faithful in Archdiocese of Newark and the nation, significant local events during the year inevitably left their mark.

The year that just slipped into history was a time when the Church of Newark installed a new auxiliary bishop, Most Rev. Manuel A. Cruz, a native of Cuba. Another auxiliary bishop, Most Rev. David Arias—the first Hispanic auxiliary bishop in New Jersey—joyfully celebrated the 25th anniversary of his episcopal ordination.

It was a time too when Archbishop John J. Myers received two honors: appointment as a member of the Pontifical Council for Legislative Texts and later in the year, being named president and chairman of the board

of governors of the Pontifical North American College in Rome from where he graduated in 1967.

Last year will be remembered for a large contingent of young people from the Archdiocese of Newark making the long trip to far off Australia for World Youth Day. Meanwhile, in a world-class athletic achievement, Saint Benedict's Prep graduate Cullen Jones captured an Olympic Gold Medal swimming at the Summer Games in Beijing.

The Archdiocese of Newark continued to be among the national leaders in the number of men ordained to the priesthood with nine in 2008. The year saw establishment of a new archdiocesan Men's Commission and scheduling of the first annual Catholic Men's Conference—slated for March 28, 2009. And Saint John Parish in Newark—the oldest parish in the Garden State—scheduled a regular American Sign Language Sunday Mass for the deaf community.

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Marching to inspire conversion of hearts

BY MELISSA MCNALLY
Staff Writer

AREA — Faithful from the Archdiocese of Newark will be among thousands of people from throughout the country who converge on the nation's capital Thursday, Jan. 22 at the 36th annual March for Life rally to protest the U.S. Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion and remind lawmakers that the pro-life movement is more fervent than ever.

Groups from around the archdiocese plan to make the trek to Washington D.C. and brave the frigid temperatures in support of life. Father Joseph Meagher, director of the archdiocesan Respect Life Office, will depart on a bus the night before to attend a youth rally with those involved with campus ministry organizations.

Fr. Meagher, who has attended the March for Life since the early 1980s, believes the rally energizes and unifies the pro-life movement.

"The March for Life (Web site: www.marchforlife.org) is a very important shot in the arm for those who are faithfully working for life and are involved in pro-life work," he explained. "It says to our representatives that we are not going away; we are not going to stop proclaiming the dignity of every human person. We are speaking out for those most vulnerable."

Over 100,000 people are expected to attend the march with a larger number of young people joining the crusade every year. Peaceful and prayerful, the gathering draws faithful from all religions, but Fr. Meagher is impressed by the growing number of Catholics—young and old—who attend.

"(The March for Life) is a beauti-

Continued on page 8

Every picture tells a story about events in 2008



ONE MORE TIME—Numerous landmark events touched the heart of the Archdiocese of Newark in 2008. Archbishop John J. Myers handed off the seal of Saint Michael's Medical Center to Hope Ministries and Catholic Health East in October (top left), symbolizing the transfer of religious sponsorship of the Newark hospital. Swimmer Cullen Jones (far left in top right photo), a 2002 graduate of Saint Benedict's Prep, captured a gold medal at the Summer Olympics in Beijing. Bishop David Arias (middle left) celebrated the 25th anniversary of his episcopal ordination April 13 at a Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark. U.S. Cardinal Avery Dulles (middle center), a Jesuit theologian and friend of the Archdiocese of Newark, died Dec. 12 at the age of 90. Members of the Neocatechumenal Way communities (bottom left) of the archdiocese were among thousands who trekked to Sydney, Australia, in July for World Youth Day. Articles, activities and iconic images marked the "Year of Saint Paul," a worldwide observance that runs through June 29 to mark the the 2,000th anniversary of his birth.

—M. Gabriele



USPS-008-380

The Catholic Advocate
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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.

ADVERTISING
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FREQUENCY FOR THE YEAR
 The Catholic Advocate continues to be a bi-weekly publication. Publication dates for 2009 are January 7, 21; February 4, 18; March 11, 25; April 8, 22; May 6, 20; June 10, 24; July 15; August 12, 26; September 9, 23; October 14, 28; November 11, 25; December 9, 23.

NJPA



ISSN# 1084-3213

Weighs biotech research and ethics Vatican document defines 'The Dignity of a Person'

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—A landmark Vatican document issued in December warned that certain recent developments in stem-cell research, gene therapy and embryonic experimentation violate moral principles and reflect an attempt by man to “take the place of his Creator.”

The latest advances raise serious questions of moral complicity for researchers and other biotech professionals, who have a duty to refuse to use biological material obtained by unethical means, the document said.

The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith issued the 32-page instruction, titled *Dignitas Personae* (“The Dignity of a Person”) on Dec. 12, 2008. Pope Benedict XVI personally approved the text and ordered its publication. The Vatican said the new document falls under the category of “ordinary magisterium,” which is the Church’s teaching authority, and is to be received by Catholics “with the religious assent of their spirit.”

The statement represented an updating of the congregation’s 1987 instruction, *Donum Vitae* (“The Gift of Life”), which rejected in vitro fertilization, human cloning, surrogate motherhood and non-therapeutic experiments with human embryos. George Weigel, who’s column “The Catholic Difference” regularly appears in *The Catholic Advocate*, offered insight and commentary on the document (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Dec. 24).

The new instruction expanded on those teachings or presented new ones in the following areas:

Stem-cell research

The Vatican document acknowledged that stem cells have opened new prospects in regenerative medicine. It said it is morally acceptable to take stem cells when they do no serious harm to the subject, as is generally the case when tissues are taken from an adult organism, from the umbilical cord at the time of birth or from fetuses that have died from natural causes. On the other hand, it said, it is always “gravely illicit” to take stem cells from a living human embryo, because it invariably causes the death of the embryo.

Anti-implantation methods

An embryo is constituted after fertilization of the egg, and drugs and techniques that prevent its implantation in the uterine wall are morally illicit because they intend to cause an abortion, even if they don’t actually cause an abortion every time they are used, according to the document. Anyone who seeks to prevent the implantation of an embryo that may have been conceived, and who therefore requests or prescribes such a drug, generally intends abortion, it said. The use of such anti-implantation methods “falls within the sin of abortion” and is gravely immoral; when there is certainty that an abortion has resulted, there also are serious canon law penalties, it said.

Gene therapy

Genetic engineering that aims to correct genetic defects by intervening on non-reproductive cells—a process called somatic-cell gene therapy—is in principle morally acceptable, the document stated. The effects in this case are limited to a single person. But it is not permissible to make genetic modifications that seek to transmit the effects to the subject’s offspring, called “germ-line cell therapy,” because of potential harm to the progeny, the document said. It said that “in the present state of research” germ-line cell therapy in all its forms is morally illicit.

Embryo manipulation

The document repeated earlier condemnations of the in vitro creation of human embryos, a technique often used in fertility treatment, first because it separates procreation from the conjugal act in marriage, and second because in practice unused embryos are often discarded, thus violating the principle that “the human being is to be respected and treated as a person from the moment of conception.”

Freezing such embryos is itself a violation of ethics, because it exposes them to a serious risk of death or harm, the document said. Most of such embryos remain “orphans,” it said. Despite the good intentions of people who have suggested a form of “prenatal adoption” to allow unused frozen embryos to be born, such a proposal would be subject to medical, psychological and legal problems, it said.



Freezing human eggs

The freezing of oocytes (immature human egg cells) has been introduced as part of an in vitro fertilization technique, in which only those eggs to be transferred to the mother’s body are fertilized. The document said the freezing of oocytes for this purpose is morally unacceptable.

Hybrid cloning

The document rejected as immoral recent efforts to use animal eggs to reprogram human cells in order to extract embryonic stem cells from the resulting embryos. These efforts represent a grave offense against human dignity by mixing animal and human genetic elements capable of “disrupting the specific identity of man,” it said. In addition, use of the resulting stem cells would expose humans to unacceptable risks, it said.

In a section titled “The use of human ‘biological material’ of illicit origin,” the docu-



CNS photo

An embryologist removes frozen embryos from a storage tank at the Smotrich IVF Clinic in La Jolla, CA. The new Vatican document *Dignitas Personae* (“The Dignity of a Person”) warns that certain recent developments in stem-cell research, gene therapy and embryonic experimentation violate moral principles and reflect an attempt by man to “take the place of his Creator.”

ment examined the ethical questions posed for people who, in research or the production of vaccines or other products, deal with cell lines that are the result of a procedure the Church considers immoral. In cases where there is a direct connection, such as embryonic experimentation that inevitably involves the killing of the human embryos, such acts “always constitute a grave moral disorder,” it said.

It said the situation was more complex when a researcher works with cell lines produced apart from his research center or obtained commercially. The document rejected the “criterion of independence,” as formulated by some ethics committees, which argues that using such biological material would be ethically permissible as long as there is a clear separation between those causing the death of embryos, for example, and those doing the research.

According to the document, it was necessary to distance oneself in one’s ordinary professional activities from the injustice perpetrated by others, even when immoral actions are legal, in order not to give the impression of “tacit acceptance of actions which are gravely unjust. Therefore, it needs to be stated that there is a duty to refuse to use such ‘biological material’ even when there is no close connection between the researcher and the actions of those who performed the artificial fertilization or the abortion, or when there was not prior agreement with the centers in which the artificial fertilization took place.”

In the wider framework, it added, there are differing degrees of responsibility, and grave reasons may in some cases justify the use of such “biological material.” For example, it said, the danger to the health of children could

Continued on page 19

Pope asks children to pray for peace

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Children who know that Jesus is their best friend ask Him to heal the hearts and minds of those who sow war and terror and to inspire people to make the world a better place, Pope Benedict XVI said. “Dear children, you can pray that the Lord would change the hearts of weapons manufacturers, that He would

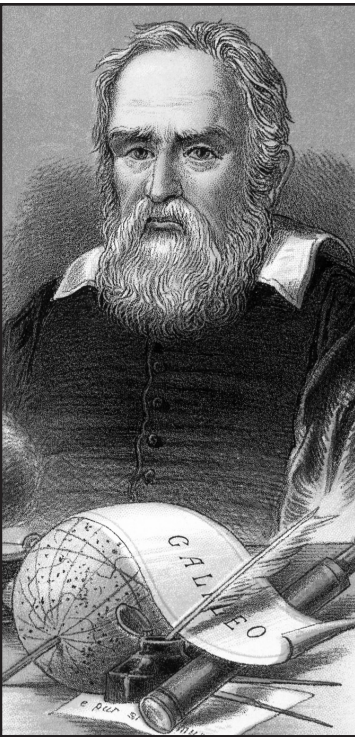
make terrorists sane again, that He would convert the hearts of those who always think of war and that He would help humanity build a better future for all the world's children,” the pope said. Meeting Dec. 20 with representatives of the children's section of Italian Catholic Action, Pope Benedict said involvement in the parish-based program is designed “to help you become saints; for this reason, it helps you meet Jesus, to love His

Church and to take an interest in the problems of the world.”

Astronomy fosters insight on creation

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—The discoveries of science and astronomy can help people better appreciate the wonders of God’s creation, Pope Benedict XVI said. Before reciting the Angelus with the faithful in Saint Peter’s Square Dec. 21,

the pope said that since the day marked the winter solstice it was the perfect time to greet all those who would take part in next year’s celebration of the International Year of Astronomy and the 400th anniversary of Galileo Galilei’s first use of the telescope to observe the cosmos. Just as the psalmist sang “the heavens declare the glory of God; the sky proclaims its builder’s craft,” he said, scientific discoveries and the laws of nature “are a great stimulus to contemplate the works of the Lord with gratitude.” The pope praised some of his predecessors who embraced scientific inquiry: 10th-century Pope Sylvester II, who was a scientist; 16th-century Pope Gregory XIII, who reformed the calendar with the help of a Jesuit astronomer; and 19th-century Pope Saint Pius X, who designed sundials. The obelisk in the center of Saint Peter’s Square is also a sundial, the pope said, and the shadow it casts along the pavement is the longest on this shortest day of the year. He said astronomy was used to help mark out the rhythm of daily prayers.



CNS photo Italian astronomer and physicist Galileo Galilei is seen with a globe, telescope and quill pen in this 19th-century painting.

of the architecture, topography, iconography and inscriptions of early Christian times. “I strongly encourage you to continue and in fact intensify your research of the Christian roots of our society.” The pope said the institute’s work, especially the study of Christian monuments, helps people “deepen the knowledge of the evangelical truth that has been transmitted to us, and offers an opportunity to follow the teachers and witnesses of faith that have gone before us. Knowing the heredity of past Christian generations allows succeeding generations to remain faithful to the deposit of the faith of the first Christian community” and to “make the unchanging Gospel of Christ resound in every time and every place,” he said.

Archaeology helps reveal faith roots

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Pope Benedict XVI said Christian archaeology was an especially important field of study today, offering Western society a way to renew its Christian roots. Those working in the archaeology of the early Christian period have the task of drawing new meaning from ancient sites and artifacts, the pope told members of the Pontifical Institute of Christian Archeology Dec. 20. The pope cited the importance of the institute’s work in Rome and its study



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Education reform is not a fiat of special interests

BY JAMES GOODNESS
Director of Communications

On Dec. 14, 2008, an advertorial—a paid advertisement that expresses an opinion on a current events topic—paid for by the New Jersey Education Association (NJEA) appeared in numerous newspapers in the state. The advertorial presented the group's opinion on the subjects of school choice and educational reform.

The author, NJEA President Joyce Powell, claimed that advocates of reform are trying to both gut the state's public school system and eliminate tenure in favor of "patronage positions to be filled at the whim of administration and politicians." The author used a very broad brush to spread her words around, but she succeeded only in painting herself into a corner.

Like the other Catholic dioceses in New Jersey and a broad coalition of civil rights, faith-based and parent organizations throughout the state, the Archdiocese of Newark is a proponent of school choice. We make no apologies for this stance. None of the Catholic dioceses has taken a position on eliminating tenure.

However, the author's statement wrongly seeks to place in the minds of readers of the newspapers where the group purchased this ad the idea that we do oppose tenure. In doing so, the author is not engaging in education—her chosen profession—but rather in propaganda and innuendo. Nor does the legislation that we support address the issue of tenure.

Proponents of school choice believe that education is a partnership involving parents and educators deciding together what to teach and about how best to provide that educational opportunity for the child. Education is not a fiat of a bureaucracy and its special interests.

In addition to adhering to the State of New Jersey curriculum guidelines on all subjects, in our Catholic schools we believe that the interweaving of faith and values education with the state curricula offers a significantly enhanced education. The parents of some 143,000 children throughout New Jersey agree.

The advertorial hauls out the boogeyman claim that school choice, in the form of a limited scholarship program funded by corporate tax credits—not vouchers, as

*Do the math.
The program does
indeed provide both
school reform and
fiscal reform in a
state badly in need
of financial relief.*

the author would have readers believe—will gut the public school system. The State of New Jersey educates in its public schools some 1.3 million children, at an average per-student cost to the taxpayers of the state of some \$18,500 annually. In the Abbott districts, to which the author refers in the advertorial, the actual average cost of education is significantly higher, with Newark recently reporting \$20,482 per student.

Under the proposed scholarship program, which seeks to provide an educational alternative for some 20,000 of those students in eight specific districts over a five-year period, the available scholarship will be \$6,000—equal to the average

cost of educating a child in a Catholic or urban private elementary school in New Jersey. The parent can use the scholarship to fund an alternative education in any public or nonpublic school.

Rather than actually cost the taxpayers and the Treasury of the State of New Jersey money, this kind of small reform will actually save the state some \$72 million over the life of the program, or \$3,600 for each child whose parents take advantage of the opportunity.

Do the math. Clearly the program does indeed provide both school reform and fiscal reform in a state badly in need of financial relief.

Nor do the savings to the state and local communities end here. With fewer children in an already overburdened system, less funding will be required for construction of new schools. Those students whose parents choose to have them remain in public schools will see classes that are smaller. This is something the author and her organization want, isn't it? And it can be achieved quickly and inexpensively.

The Archdiocese of Newark also believes in strong public schools. The 1.3-million parishioners of the archdiocese whose tax dollars pro-

vide the fuel for public schools in the state deserve the best possible public school system. But it should not be the only option available, particularly in the most troubled districts where public schools have failed so dramatically. We cannot accept the mantra of the author and her organization that merely paraphrases the Henry Ford statement: "Give them any education they want, so long as it's public education."

The author of the advertorial clearly fears reform, clinging tenaciously to tired rhetoric and settling for failure when students most in need deserve a quality education. While the scholarship program supported by the archdiocese and others will result in significant savings to taxpayers, the author's instance on maintaining the status quo will come at an enormous cost to children and our communities.

Indeed, the real cost of her beleaguered and increasingly untenable anti-reform position is not that it will "raid the state treasury," but that it will rob students of their future, locking them into failed schools, perpetuating disadvantage and unjustly depriving them of opportunity and the kind of education every child deserves.

Another year and another rally; marchers seek to stop abortion

The evil of abortion has plagued this country since 1973 when the U.S. Supreme Court made the gruesome procedure legal. The slaughter has got to stop.

To that end, faithful from throughout the Archdiocese of Newark on Jan. 22 will join with local clergy and Religious at the 36th annual March for Life in what has become an annual trip to the nation's capital to call for an end to the killing (see story on page one of this edition). As reported, the annual march, in recent years, has been energized by a growing number of teens and young adults, who have added their voices to the debate.

The date of the rally coincides with the high court's infamous decision. Despite the winter weather that could be less than ideal and the rather long bus trip to and from northern New Jersey, marchers have never been and will not be deterred. Too much is at stake.

Father Joseph Meagher, director of the archdiocesan Respect Life Office who has attended the March for Life since the early

1980s, put it best when he said in preparing for this year's march that the mindset of "disposable humanity" is unacceptable.

It sure is—no human being made by God in His image and likeness is disposable. To place a baby still in the womb at the same level as a broken-down car or old suit is as incomprehensible as it is horrific. But to the nation's everlasting shame, such decisions are made thousands of times each day.

*The mindset of
'disposable
humanity' is
unacceptable.*

— Father Joseph Meagher,
director of Respect Life Office

Last year, in his Respect Life column (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Jan. 9), Fr. Meagher decried the "holocaust" and toll of abortion: 48 million "legal" surgical abortions since 1973.

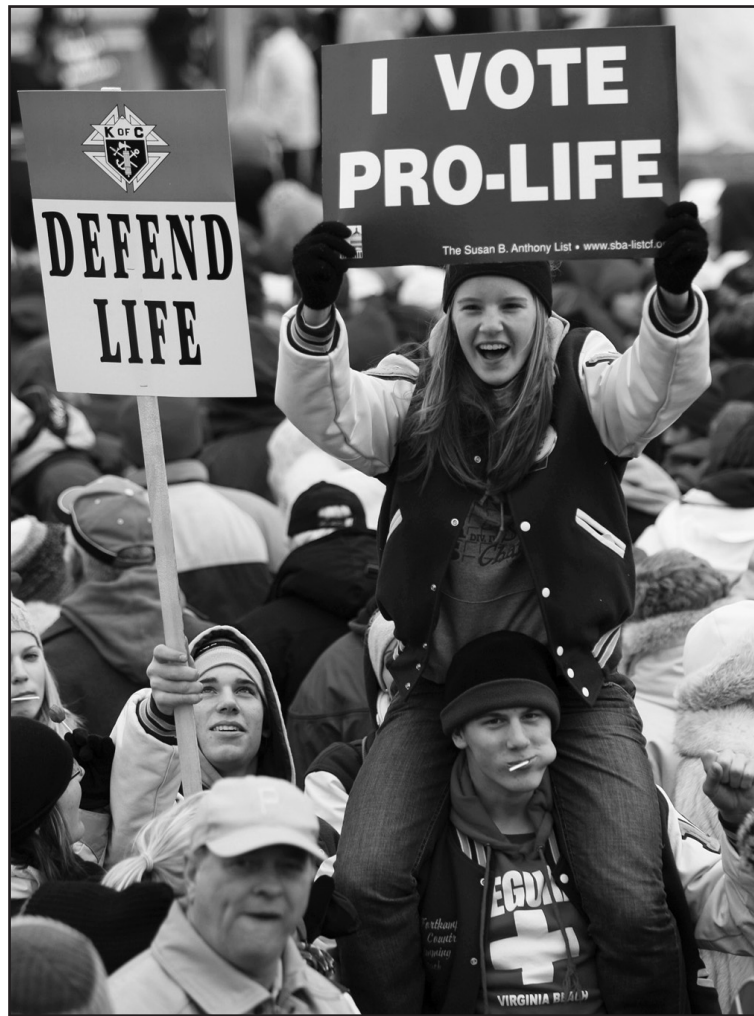
The importance and sheer magnitude of the anti-abortion fight is eloquently illustrated by the fact that Catholics from across the country will be joined on the streets of Washington, D.C. and in front of the U.S. Supreme Court by a multitude of other faith traditions. In unity there is strength.

Ironically, this year's March for Life will come 48 hours after President-elect Obama, a supporter of abortion rights, takes the oath of office.

As the March for Life has done every year, it will send the message loud and clear to lawmakers that opponents of abortion are not going away. The most vulnerable of our society deserve no less.

For those who cannot attend the March for Life, take time out Jan. 22 to stop by a local church or simply lean back at your desk at work and say a prayer in solidarity with those who traveled to Washington.

Hopefully there will not be the need for a 37th March for Life but if there is the faithful will be there. The right to life of every human being demands it.



CNS photo

Young people from throughout the nation, participating in the 35th annual March for Life last January, added their energetic voices to the rally. Once again, faces in the crowd at this year's rally will include many members of the Archdiocese of Newark.

Deciphering 'foreign' labels and hidden attitudes

When I was growing up, the word "alien" conjured up images of "E.T." or the "one-eyed, one-horned flying purple people eater." All the human beings coming to our shores from other lands were considered "immigrants."

Somehow in more recent years, perhaps due to the technical verbiage of federal law, "immigrants" have been deemed "aliens."

This shift in terminology, of course, tends to make some people think of others as non-people. In fact, those who come to our country from other nations share the same hopes and dreams for themselves and their families as we do, and as all of our own ancestors did.

We often fear what we don't understand, be it a foreign language or a cultural custom. However, as we come to meet each other on a one-to-one basis, we discover that there is so much more that unites us than divides us.

This is the spirit of the Church's annual National Migration Week, observed at this time of year in recollection of the visit of the three wise men (foreigners, aliens?) to the Holy Family in Bethlehem. Although they did not share the Jewish faith, they were keen enough to have read the Hebrew prophecies and to have made the connection when they saw the special star that they considered it was well worth a journey with gifts for someone they would never have otherwise met or even thought to adore.

My parish of Saint John the Evangelist in Bergenfield keeps me in touch with the beautiful traditions of at least

some of the 55 countries represented in our congregation. From the early morning novena before Christmas of the Filipino Simbang Gabi (yes, 250 people for 5 a.m. Mass each day) to the more traditional European and American practices of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day to the pageantry of the Three Kings celebration of our Spanish community, I can't help but appreciate the richness of our Catholic faith and the many ways of expressing it.

As Pope Benedict XVI said in his homily in Washington, D.C., on April 17, 2008: "Two hundred years later, the Church in America can rightfully praise the accomplishment of past generations in bringing together widely differing immigrant groups within the unity of the Catholic faith and in a common commitment to the spread of the Gospel. At the same time,

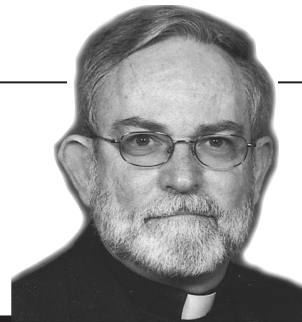
We often fear what we don't understand, be it a foreign language or a cultural custom.

conscious of its rich diversity, the Catholic community in this country has come to appreciate ever more fully the importance of each individual and group offering its own particular gifts to the whole.

"The Church in the United States is now called to look to the future, firmly grounded in the faith passed on by previous generations, and ready to meet new challenges—

SEEING & BELIEVING

By Rev. Msgr.
Richard J. Arnhols



challenges no less demanding than those faced by your forebears, with the hope born of God's love, poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit (cf. Rom. 5:5)."

In our own day, it is our task to live what Jesus taught in such a loving way that our children and grandchildren will have a faith to cherish and a desire to live it and pass it along.

As the bishops of our country reminded in 2000 in their document, "Welcoming the Stranger Among Us: Unity in Diversity," the Church of the 21st century "will be, as it has always been, a Church of many cultures, languages and traditions, yet simultaneously one, as God is one—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—unity in diversity."

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

Servant who brings forth justice for all nations

Readings: Isaiah 42:1 7; Psalm 29; Acts 10:34 38; Mark 1:7 11.

How often do we have, or foster, the occasion to speak with our neighbors about Jesus and His work? We may question the value of slogans on car bumpers and other such means of getting attention; certainly the quiet consistent witness of the Christian life is much more important. However, we should be prepared to share our faith with those who show interest.

As in the early Church, our focus should be centered on the death and resurrection of Jesus. This testimony of His obedience to the Father and His loving union with sinful humanity constitutes the foundation for all that He did and taught.

This Sunday's reading from the Acts of the Apostles sketches part of Saint Peter's response to a sincere inquiry about the Faith by a Roman centurion named Cornelius. First, Peter declared that "God proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all." His mission began "after the baptism that John preached, when God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power. He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him" (Acts 10:37).

Before Jesus embarked upon His ministry of peace-making, He accepted John's "baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins" (Mark 1:4). Although He did not need a symbolic experience of conversion for himself, Jesus wanted to manifest His solidarity with the common human condition. The divine plan was to repair the ravages of sin from within the human situation, enabling people to appreciate fully both the marvel of reconciliation and the peace that it brings.

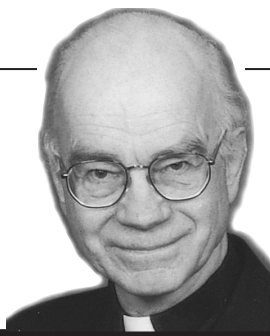
No one should despair about "preparing the way of the Lord," because Jesus has accomplished the central dimension of the healing and strengthening process. All that remains is the cooperation that manifests our desire to live as creatures formed in the divine image.

Mark describes the descent of the Holy Spirit and the

SUNDAY READINGS

The Baptism of the Lord
(Jan. 11, 2009)

By Rev. Lawrence Frizzell



Father's proclamation as experiences of Jesus himself. This implies that, in His baptism, the Lord came to know new aspects of His divine Sonship and mission. He would continue to advance in wisdom, age and grace before God and men (see Luke 2:52). His baptism manifested His bond with the human race, called to the eternal destiny of being God's children.

How would this be achieved? By response to God's will, now manifested with reference to the person of Jesus. Those disciples who were privileged to witness the Transfiguration heard the Father's voice: "This is my beloved Son. Listen to Him" (Mark 9:7).

Describing the Baptism, Mark records the words in the second person: "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased" (1:11). Already Jesus had manifested that pattern of obedience to the Father's will that would characterize His commitment until the moment He was "baptized" into death (Mark 10:38).

Son though He was, Jesus was also the Servant of both the Father and all humanity. The evangelists depict Jesus as the Servant of God, referring not only to the honorable title of Moses and the other prophets of Israel, but pointing precisely to the Servant describe in the second part of the Book of Isaiah.

"Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased, upon whom I have put my

Spirit" (Isaiah 42:1). Certainly the narratives of Jesus' Baptism echo the contents of this verse, with the designation that Jesus is not only Servant but also Son of God. Being sustained by God and imbued with the divine Spirit are realities elsewhere linked with a ceremony paralleled to royal or priestly unction. "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me" (Isaiah 61:1). From this liturgical and prophetic background, Saint Peter declared "God anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit and power."

The mission of the Servant is described first as bringing forth justice for the nations, establishing justice on the earth (Isaiah 42:1 and 4). The Hebrew term translated as "justice" means the written decree whereby right judgment is rendered in the court, so justice completes a process of responding to God's law. Rather than using force, the Servant will instruct leaders of good will throughout the world to follow God's will as the basis for resolving debated issues.

Over the centuries, Church leaders have tried to assist the secular rulers to find peaceful solutions to misunderstandings and grievances. This is one important dimension of "proclaiming peace through Jesus Christ" (Acts 10:36). Our prayer throughout the coming months should include the petition that spiritual alertness take precedence over political or military maneuverings in the many trouble spots of our world.

On all levels parents and teachers should exemplify the Servant's sensitivity to the fragility and other limitations of those searching for moral excellence. Persistent repetition of the integral message contained in the Gospel must be accompanied by tenderness toward "the bruised reed and the smoldering wick" (Isaiah 42:3). Then perhaps, those whose wounds are healed and flame enkindled will ask to know more about the Servant who is the divine Physician and the Light of the world.

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

Historic visit to U.S. marks a busy year for pope

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—For Pope Benedict XVI, 2008 was the year of Saint Paul, the year of the Bible and the year of the United States. Amid the hundreds of papal meetings and events, those three themes stood out in special focus as 2008 drew to a close.

In June, the pope opened a jubilee year to celebrate the 2,000th anniversary of the birth of Saint Paul. Accompanied by Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople and other representatives of Orthodox and Anglican churches, he said the apostle was a model of missionary courage for people struggling against religious indifference in modern society. (*The Catholic Advocate* this year has published numerous articles on Saint Paul—most recently the two-part “Living Church” series in the Oct. 8 and Sept. 17 editions.)

In October, the pope presided over a three-week Synod of Bishops on the Word of God that explored ways to bring Catholics closer to the Bible and promote better use of Scripture in liturgy, catechesis and evangelization.

In April, Pope Benedict made his first papal visit to the United States, spending six days in Washington and New York and addressing the U.N. General Assembly (see *The Catholic Advocate*, April 23 and 9). Among the highlights were a private meeting with victims of clergy sex abuse, masses at baseball stadiums in both cities and a solemn visit to ground zero to pray for victims of the Sept. 11 attacks.

During his U.S. visit, the pope took aim at what he called the “attack of a new secularism” that threatens to undermine traditional moral values and the voice of religion in public affairs. American society is at a moral crossroads, he told his listeners, as it faces problems such as social alienation and anger, increased violence and “forgetfulness of God.”

The pope’s clear and repeated condemnation of sex abuse in the United States was echoed during his July trip to Australia, where he joined more than 200,000 young Catholics from 170 countries for World Youth Day celebrations (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Aug. 6 and July 16). Before leaving the country, he celebrated a private Mass with Australian victims of clergy sex abuse.

His visit to Australia was the longest foreign trip in duration and distance. Addressing cheering throngs of young people, he urged them to give themselves to Jesus

and resist the spread of a “spiritual desert” in the modern world.

Pope Benedict’s third foreign trip of 2008 was to France, where he said Mass for an overflow crowd in Paris and visited the Marian shrine of Lourdes, where he commemorated the 150th anniversary of Mary’s apparitions at the site (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Feb. 20).

In June, President George W. Bush paid a visit to the Vatican, in a sense returning the pope’s visit to the White House two months earlier. Although the pope and the Vatican steered clear of involvement in the U.S. presidential election campaign, as soon as it was over the pope sent a message to President-elect Barack Obama, congratulating him and offering prayers for him and the entire country.

China was clearly on the pope’s mind in 2008. He established May 24 as the world day of prayer for the Church in China, saying Catholics there should never live in fear of spreading the Gospel.

The Church in Iraq suffered increasing anti-Christian violence and intimidation, and the pope deplored the death of Chaldean Catholic Archbishop Paulos Faraj Rahho of Mosul, who was found dead in March, two weeks after being kidnapped. In July, the pope discussed the worsening situation with Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki.

In India, a deadly wave of anti-Christian violence in Orissa state

prompted a papal appeal for greater government protection.

In interreligious affairs, the pope helped arrange a new chapter in Catholic-Muslim dialogue when the Catholic-Muslim Forum met at the Vatican in November (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Nov. 12). Addressing participants, he said members of both faiths have a common obligation to defend human rights and help the world’s suffering.

In a meeting in October with the International Jewish Committee on Interreligious Consultations, the pope said Catholic-Jewish dialogue was a “sacred duty.” The meeting was shadowed in part by continuing controversy over the sainthood cause of Pope Pius XII (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Nov. 12). At a Mass Oct. 9 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Pope Pius’ death, the pope defended the late pope’s efforts to help Jews during World War II; at the same time, he has put Pope Pius’ cause on hold while the Church reflects more deeply on the issue, Vatican officials announced (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Oct. 22).

The pope issued no encyclicals or other major teaching documents in 2008, yet in talks to parishes, politicians and Church organizations he focused increasingly on two themes: economic justice and the environment. He urged international leaders to tackle global poverty with courage and to honor the commitments made in 2000 toward structural relief to poorer countries.



Pope Benedict XVI

Report eyes state/faith-based alliances

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The incoming Obama administration is being handed a report that recommends it embrace the outgoing Bush administration’s partnerships with faith-based organizations, but with some reforms.

The Brookings Institution, in cooperation with Wake Forest University Divinity School’s Center for Religion and Public Affairs, in November released its in-depth report with recommendations for the new administration on future partnerships with faith-based organizations. President George W. Bush established the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives by executive order in December 2002.

Among its many recommendations, the report calls on the Obama administration to:

- Welcome religious organizations to partner with government and increase funding for programs that work.
- Clarify restrictions on direct aid and religious activities.
- Protect the identity of religious providers and improve monitoring of compliance with church-state safeguards.
- Address religion-based decision-making in government-funded jobs.
- Avoid cronyism and religious patronage by highlighting peer review, evaluation and accountability.

“The next administration should welcome religious organizations to partner with government to serve those in need, whether through financial or non-financial partnerships,” the report said. “Both religious

and secular groups have particular strengths in reaching and serving certain populations, and both have long and productive histories of partnering with government.”

There are risks for religious groups—such as Catholic Relief Services and Catholic Charities USA—when partnering with the government, because it creates a situation where organizations can become too dependant on public funding, according to Melissa Rogers, director of the Center for Religion and Public Affairs at Wake Forest University Divinity School in Winston-Salem, N.C., and a co-author of the report. Though Rogers applauded many of the Bush initiatives in faith-based organization partnerships, she strongly recommended reforms.

“Existing executive orders and rules should be amended to prohibit the use of direct aid to subsidize explicitly religious activities,” she said. “Accompanying materials should note that any explicit religious content must be privately subsidized and offered separately, in time or location, from programs funded by direct government aid.”

E.J. Dionne Jr.—a senior fellow with the Brookings Institution, a syndicated columnist and a professor at Jesuit-run Georgetown University—said in recent years some civil servants charged that the peer-review processes in some cases appeared slanted toward entities with political leanings sympathetic to those of the Bush administration.

“Using this system to reward religious friends and cronies is unacceptable,” Dionne said. “The next president should direct agency heads to instruct peer reviewers on their legal and ethical obligations.”

Life march

Continued from page 1

ful time to witness faith and tenacity, especially of the young people and families," he said. "When you reach the top of the hill, you see everyone singing songs, praying the rosary or just quietly walking."

With such a decisive issue, the rally is simultaneously enlivening and energetic while dealing with abortion. Fr. Meagher described some of the marchers as "upbeat" in such an "intense and dark" situation. Unifying such a diverse group of people, the pro-life movement encompasses those who have been directly impacted by abortion.

"There are an increasing number of people attending the march because more and more people are affected by abortion. There are so many people wounded by abortion and are getting healing. The women who have suffered are getting out there and speaking. Hopefully, we can turn the tide of the American people," Fr. Meagher said.

The theme of this year's March for Life is equal care for both pregnant mother and pre-born child with no exceptions. Fr. Meagher believes that pro-choice advocates falsely accuse the pro-life movement of only caring for the unborn baby.

"We care about the moms," he said. "We work with them in crisis pregnancy shelters, help them continue their education,



Submitted photo

Students in the Youth for Life Club at Queen of Peace High School, North Arlington, will join thousands at the annual March for Life on Jan. 22 in Washington D.C. Led by Cheryl Riley and with chaperone Father Charles Kelly, the 70 students also will attend the youth rally the day before the march. Gage Roman and Stephanie Rozalski, inset photo, are co-presidents of the club.

offer job assistance and even marriage counseling."

Although the march will not immediately change laws, the faithful priest hopes that the rally slowly chips away at abortion rights. "Laws are supposed to serve society," he said. "Abortion does not serve our country or family life. My hope is that the laws are tempered and then a total correction of the debacle of Roe v.

Wade. The pro-life movement is not just about changing laws—it is about a conversion of the heart."

The attitude of a "disposable humanity" plagues our society, Fr. Meagher believes. The March for Life provides hope that our country can change. "People in the pro-choice movement really believe that they are doing good. People who are pro-abortion are confused and have a lack of hope for humanity. The March for Life re-instills hope."

Michelle Krystofik, associate director of the Respect Life Office, sent out a newsletter in the beginning of this month detailing where and when buses leave for the march. Usually she "holds down the fort" and does not go to Washington D.C. She is thrilled by the amount of young people who attend the rally.

"It is really energizing for the (pro-life) base," Krystofik observed. "It is not just 'gray-hairs' that are at the rally. This shows the government that young people want to stand up for life. Young people 'get it.' It is not just their parent's future, but their future and their children's future as well."

The Freedom of Choice Act, which would eradicate state laws that prohibit abortion, could be signed into law this year. However, Krystofik is optimistic about the battle ahead.

Jim Sondey, chairman of the archdiocesan Pro-Life Commission, will be walking in his 18th March for Life. He believes going back to Washington every

year makes a statement that life is important.

Seeing people from all over the country join in the march inspires Sondey. "Seeing their enthusiasm warms my heart on a cold January day. Some of them stay in auditoriums across the country to make it to the March for Life. I admire their dedication."



Jim Sondey

Various archdiocesan groups will be attending the march. The Archdiocesan Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, Kearny, is organizing a bus ride and overnight pilgrimage (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Dec. 10). Sondey and his fellow pro-life supporters will be leaving the Garden State for the 225-mile journey Jan. 22 at 7 a.m. and plan to return by 11 p.m.

"It's a long day but it is well worth it," Sondey said. "When you start marching up the hill and

see everyone, it is overwhelming. You realize that there are people that feel the same way you do. You realize you are not alone."

These days young people are at the forefront at the battle for life. Cheryl Riley is the special events coordinator and moderator of the Youth for Life Club at Queen of Peace High School, North Arlington. Last year, she led a group of 50 students to Washington D.C. (See *The Catholic Advocate*, Jan. 9, 2008). This year, the number has grown to 70 students on two buses headed toward the rally for an overnight stay.

Riley, also a post-abortion minister in the archdiocese, shares her story of healing with members of Youth for Life. She has participated in the March for Life five times. "I love making the trip with the kids. I know how important it is to get to the youth. The affects of abortion are all around them now. Abortion does not discriminate: it is not just young teenage girls getting abortions."

Kellianne Garcia, 18, has changed her mind on the issue of abortion since she joined Youth for Life. Involved with the club since sophomore year, she once believed "mistakes happen" and it would be acceptable to terminate a child. After listening to Riley share her testimony at a school assembly, Garcia rethought her previous stance on the issue.

"Now I know there is more to life than having fun. When you have an abortion, your unborn baby and the regret of having an abortion always stays with you. People have abortions to escape reality, because they don't want to deal with their actions. You have to put up and confront the issue. There are other options besides abortion," Garcia said.

After her first March for Life, she was overwhelmed by the number of people who shared her beliefs. She hopes the government, like her, has a change of heart about abortion. "You have to be there to see the emotions going through everyone (at the march). I want justice for the unborn babies. Hopefully, the government will get a clue and agree that that abortion should be illegal."

Co-president of the Youth for Life Club, Stephanie Rozalski, 17, joined the group last year. After attending the march, her passion for the pro-life cause grew. "I didn't really think abortion was that important and the issue didn't matter to me. I just didn't believe that the unborn child was a baby. After the March for Life, I wanted to change people's minds like I had been changed."

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Email: arnewrespect@sanj.net

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Advocate photos – M. Gabriele

FESTIVE OCCASION—The annual luncheon for retired priests of the Archdiocese of Newark was held Dec. 17 at the Archdiocesan Center in Newark. The event also marked the 42nd anniversary of Archbishop John J. Myer's ordination to the priesthood. Msgr. Edward G. Bradley, archdiocesan director of the Ministry to Retired Priests; Most Rev. Charles J. McDonnell, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of Newark; and Archbishop Myers (top photo, left to right) are pictured at the luncheon. In the photo at the left, Msgr. Thomas Ivory (left) and Most Rev. Thomas A. Donato, Auxiliary Bishop of Newark, share a word at the end of the meal before departing the chancery.

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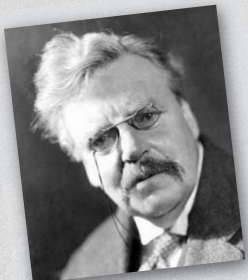
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Highlights

Continued from page 1

The following is a list of month-by-month highlights, as reported in *The Catholic Advocate*, that defined 2008.

January

Thousands of pro-life supporters, including a large contingent from the Archdiocese of Newark, make the annual trip to Washington, D.C. for the Right to Life march against abortion.

In an interfaith effort to help the homeless, Saint Joseph Parish in Maplewood and Our Lady of Sorrows Parish in neighboring South Orange participate in the building of Abraham House, a project of the local Habitat for Humanity office in Newark.

As part of a comprehensive hospital transition plan designed to preserve a much-needed Catholic healthcare presence in Newark, the boards of Cathedral Healthcare System, Cathedral Services and Columbus Hospital approve a strategic transition with Catholic Health East.

February

In a letter to all Catholics distributed at weekend masses to mark World Marriage Day, the state's bishops salute husbands and wives and ask God to bless them with the strength to preserve in their vocation so that each day and they and their families will grow in love.

The African Conference of Catholic Clergy and Religious in the United States, says its former president, Father Anselm I. Nwaorgu—pastor of Blessed Sacrament/Saint Charles Borromeo Parish in Newark—can be a resource for African priests unfamiliar with their new home in the United States.

March

The Franciscan Friars of the Renewal in Newark sponsor a men's day retreat, "Husbands Love Your Wives," at their Most Blessed Sacrament Friary in the state's largest city.

First Friends, a volunteer group based out of Saint Mary of the Assumption Parish in Elizabeth, puts Catholic compassion and social teaching into action for international asylum seekers at the Elizabeth Detention Center.

Faithful from throughout the Archdiocese of Newark fill the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark for an evening prayer service, celebrated by

Archbishop John J. Myers, honoring the 150th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady at Lourdes, France.

Commemorating the 20th anniversary of Pope John Paul II's apostolic letter "On the Dignity and Vocation of Women," the archdiocese's Women's Commission holds its annual Women's Day of Reflection.

April

Anticipation builds throughout the Archdiocese of Newark and the entire metropolitan area for the mid-month visit of Pope Benedict XVI to the United States.

At a special Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark, Most Rev. David Arias, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus, celebrates the 25th anniversary of his episcopal ordination.

May

Officials at the New Jersey Cord Blood Bank in Allendale—the state's only public cord-blood bank that supports adult stem cell research—say the facility is in danger of closing due to lack of funding, as reported in *The Catholic Advocate's* annual Healthcare issue. Saint James Hospital in Newark completes a two-month transition from an acute-care center to the Saint James Campus of Saint Michael's Medical Center.

Archbishop Myers welcomes to his residence in Newark the nine men he will ordain to the priesthood later in the month.

Pope Benedict XVI names Archbishop Myers a member of the Pontifical Council for the Legislative Texts.

June

Saint Rose of Lima School in Newark becomes the first private school in the state to participate in the federal Gang Resistance Education and Training program.

In a major press conference at the Archdiocesan Center in Newark, Archbishop Myers announces the Holy Father's appointment of Cuban refugee Rev. Msgr. Manuel A. Cruz, 54, as a new bishop for the Archdiocese of Newark. Later that month, the archbishop begins the local celebration of the worldwide "Year of Saint Paul" with Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

The archdiocese's new Catholic Men's Commission announces that the first Men's Conference will be held March 28, at the Essex County Richard J. Codey Arena in West Orange.



Advocate photo – M. Gabriele

Archbishop John J. Myers (third from right), posed with Ramapo College President Peter P. Mercer (wearing tie) and students after concelebrating Mass with Father William P. Sheridan at the Mahwah campus last February. The archbishop used the opportunity to underline the link between Ramapo campus ministry students and nearby Immaculate Conception Parish, where Fr. Sheridan serves as pastor. Last month it was announced that Ramapo College has established a chapter of the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS). Based in Denver, FOCUS has 39 chapters in 21 states, including Ramapo and Seton Hall University, South Orange.

July

Nine of the 13 remaining Catholic hospitals in New Jersey will operate in a "strained financial situation" for the foreseeable future as they face major a major reduction in state funding of Charity Care, according to Father Joseph Kukura, president of the Catholic HealthCare Partnership of New Jersey, Princeton.

The Urban Ministry Task Force, the first in a comprehensive evaluation of spiritual, cultural, economic and community life throughout the Archdiocese of Newark, gathers information to define and address challenges faced by inner-city parishes. Sister Linda Klaiss, S.S.J., leads the effort.

Young people from every corner of the archdiocese (and the world) make the long trip to Australia for World Youth Day in Sydney.

August

Deacon Gregory Quinn issues a call for volunteers to priests, deacons, Religious and lay people to join the archdiocesan Office of Prison Ministry, which serves 12,000 inmates at a dozen facilities in the four counties of the Church of Newark.

Saint John Parish in Newark becomes the site of regularly scheduled American Sign Language Sunday Mass. In addition to the Mass, a social program especially for the Deaf is initiated.

Cullen Jones, a graduate of Saint Benedict's Prep in Newark

and a member of the USA's 4x100 100 meter freestyle relay swim team, wins a gold medal in Beijing Olympics.

September

Dominating news of the month is the installation of Most Rev. Manuel A. Cruz as Auxiliary Bishop of Union County and Vicar for the Hispanic Apostolate. The Cuban native is installed Sept. 8 at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

October

Reflecting on their assignments, several adjunct clergy from around the world, assigned to the Archdiocese of Newark, all express deep appreciation of this country's multiculturalism they say they gained during an enriching pastoral experience among devote and welcoming parishioners.

In a formal ceremony, Archbishop Myers hands the seal of Saint Michael's Medical Center in Newark over to Hope Ministries, symbolizing the transfer of the religious sponsorship of the 141-year-old city hospital. Hope Ministries is a religious community affiliated with Catholic Health East.

End-of-life decisions are the focus of two national leaders—Bobby Schindler and Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk—who address the annual Life Issues Seminar at Saint John the Apostle Parish in Linden, co-sponsored by the archdiocesan Respect Life Office and Pro-Life Commission.

November

Reflecting the unfolding national economic crisis—marked by an increasing unemployment rate and a plunging stock market—a longtime program of the Career Resources Ministry at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Ridgewood, which assists those out of work or anticipating unemployment, experiences a rise in attendance.

A new repository chapel for some 200 relics from throughout the archdiocese at Queen of Peace Parish in North Arlington is established, creating a centralized location in the archdiocese for veneration of the relics.

Archbishop Myers joins with the Administrative Committee of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops endorsing comments made by Cardinal Justin Rigali of Philadelphia and Bishop William E. Lori of Bridgeport, CT, that life begins at conception and that since its beginning, the Church has taught the grave moral evil of abortion.

December

Archbishop Myers is named chairman of the board of governors and president of the Pontifical North American College in Rome. He is an alumnus of the Class of 1967.

Cardinal Avery Dulles, a national Church leader with strong ties to the Archdiocese of Newark, passes away at the age of 90. Cardinal Dulles had been the oldest living U.S. cardinal.

Norma Bowe garners award for her volunteer activities

KENILWORTH — Norma Bowe, Ph.D., a faculty member at Kean University in Union, received this year's Woman of Faith, Woman of Action award at the annual Christmas luncheon of the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women held Dec. 6.

Bowe began her career as a nurse in hospital and hospice care. She moved on to psychiatric nursing and then into administration. Her doctorate is in Community Health Policy.

The award recipient has an extensive record of community vol-

unteer work. At Kean University Bowe founded "Be the Change," a student group of volunteers who work at a variety of community projects. She obtained grant money for community health programs Elizabeth, Orange and Plainfield. Bowe also mentors students interested in healthcare careers.

Bowe facilitates a bereavement group for students who have experienced the death of a parent. She is a volunteer consultant for Bethel Ministries of Newark in its drug and alcohol recovery programs.

Norma Bowe (center) is honored at the annual Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women's Christmas luncheon by Mary Loftus, council president (left), and Margaret Henderson, (right), who nominated her.



Submitted photo

At Kean University, Bowe brings at-risk young people between the ages of 13-18 to campus for activities and mentoring to improve their ability to apply for college. In addition, Bowe is a volunteer at Northern State Prison

in Newark where she teaches college level health education courses twice a week to inmates who do not qualify for other educational opportunities. She also brings Kean University students to the prison for joint classes in

an effort to increase awareness of prison relates issues while exposing students to the value of social responsibility. Bowe is also a volunteer at Serenity House in Newark, a prison re-entry program for women.



Submitted photo

NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT — Joan Malasig, a seventh grade student at Our Lady of Victories School, Jersey City, (back row, third from right) was joined at a Dec. 12 Mass at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., by several of the 23 national winners in the annual Pontifical Mission Societies' Holy Childhood Association Christmas Artwork Contest. Malasig's entry, published in the Dec. 24, 2008 edition of *The Catholic Advocate*, will be on display at the National Shrine. Pictured with the students is Msgr. John E. Kozar, national director of the Pontifical Mission Societies. Concelebrants of the Mass included Msgr. Robert J. Fuhrman, director of the archdiocesan Pontifical Mission Societies.

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History of Lateran Basilica, a Church cornerstone

Because the media drama of the papacy often has Saint Peter's for its stage, many Catholics may not know that the Patriarchal Vatican Archbasilica isn't the Pope's cathedral. Saint Peter's belongs, in a sense, to the whole Church, and the pope presides there as universal pastor of the Church.

The Lateran Basilica—or to give it its full name, the “Patriarchal Archbasilica of the Most Holy Savior and of Saints John the Baptist and Evangelist”—is the pope's cathedral, the site of the cathedra of the Bishop of Rome.

Long styled as “mother and head of all churches in the city and the world,” the Lateran Basilica was built by Constantine as a votum or thanksgiving offering for his victory over Augustus Maxentius, and consecrated by Pope Saint Sylvester I in either 318 or 324. The foundations of Constantine's basilica were once the barracks of an elite Roman cavalry unit that had backed the wrong horse, so to speak, in Constantine's struggle with Maxentius.

For some 900 years, the popes lived in the Lateran palace adjacent to the basilica. There, Pope Innocent III confirmed the special vocations of Saint Dominic, Saint Francis of Assisi and their follow-

ers. The palace now houses the Vicariate of Rome, the local diocesan administration. In the 15th century, the Lateran Basilica was home to the first Jubilee “Holy Door,” symbolizing pilgrims passing from sin to grace—a tradition that has continued down to the Great Jubilee of 2000.

The most notable papal tombs in the Lateran basilica are those of Lotario de Conti di Segni and Gioacchino Pecci—better known to history as Innocent III and Leo XIII. Thirty-seven years old when elected to the papacy in 1198, Lotario was already a noted

Lateran, where the greatest of medieval popes now rests in the arm of the basilica's transept. Leo XIII is buried opposite, in the transept's other arm—a papal memorial parallelism that prompts some thought.

When Pecci was elected pope in 1878, the papacy controlled no sovereign territory (the Papal States had been absorbed into the Kingdom of Italy); the pope was the “prisoner of the Vatican” and many among the worldly wise imagined the Office of Peter a spent force

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

By George Weigel



canonist, theologian, and liturgist. During his papacy, Innocent III was Europe's most powerful political figure, and a forceful exponent of the view that papal authority trumped that of kings and emperors. He died in Perugia a relatively young man, in 1216, on a mission that combined diplomacy with the spiritual renewal of northern Italy.

Innocent's tomb remained in Perugia until 1891 when Leo XIII (who had served as bishop of Perugia) brought it to the

in human affairs. (England's Cardinal Henry Edward Manning, fearful of Italian interference in the conclave of 1878, proposed holding the papal election in Malta under the protective guns of the Royal Navy.)

Yet Leo XIII's 25-year pontificate saw the papacy begin to assert the kind of influence that would culminate in the pivotal role played by Pope John Paul II in the collapse of European communism and the liberation of central and



CNS photo

The Basilica of Saint John Lateran is one of nine sites in Rome designated for pilgrimage during the Pauline year.

eastern Europe. This was the power of moral argument and persuasion, and Leo XIII was its first successful modern papal exponent.

Sovereignty is important for the exercise of the papal office: in order to fulfill his mission as universal pastor of the Church, the pope cannot be subject to any other sovereignty. So the Lateran Treaties of 1929, which created the Vatican City micro-state, were not unimportant.

But just as important, and arguably more important, was Leo XIII's assertion of the moral authority of the keys—the papal

mandate to teach and persuade the nations, using the tools of both faith and reason.

In the Lateran, the statue of Innocent III lies recumbent upon his marble catafalque. The effigy of Leo XIII stands erect, boldly proclaiming the moral truths that make society possible. Leo, architect of the modern papacy, embodied the Church persuasive in life; fittingly, that is how he is sculpted in death.

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

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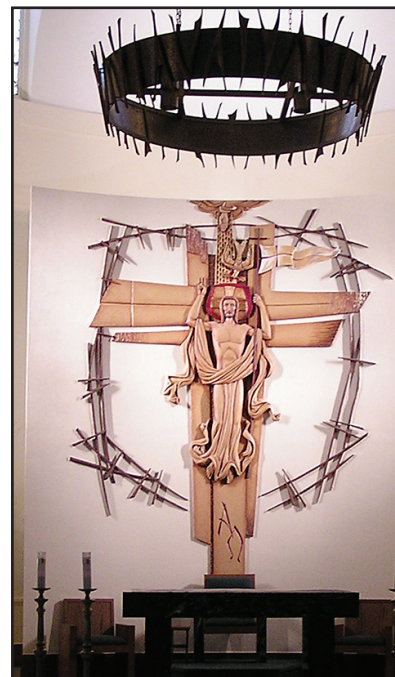
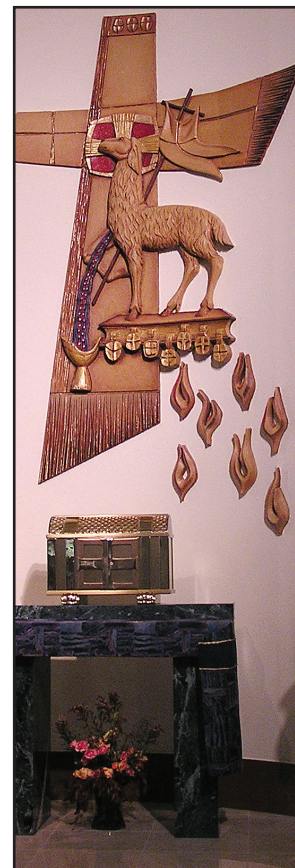
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Submitted photos

INTERIOR IMPROVEMENTS—A \$450,000 renovation project at Holy Trinity Parish, Westfield, was completed in mid-November, allowing the faith community to celebrate Mass on Thanksgiving Day. Msgr. Joseph

P. Masiello, the pastor of Holy Trinity, deacons Keith T. Gibbons and Tom A. Pluta, and representatives from the archdiocesan Office of Property Management Administration, managed the project, which began Sept. 22. Renovations included interior painting, repair and refinishing of pews, the addition of center-aisle carpet runners and installation of upgraded lighting and sound systems. Steve Belloise is the executive director of the Property Management Administration.

Fr. Gabriel reaches out for vocations

Homilies aim to cultivate men considering call of priesthood

BY WARD MIELE
Managing Editor

Director of vocations for the Archdiocese of Newark less than a year, Father John D. Gabriel has already been struck by the “beautiful experience” of how the Lord works in the lives of men contemplating dedicating their lives to the Church.

“It strengthens my priesthood,” he declared.

The former pastor of Saint Thomas More Parish in Fairfield who sees archdiocesan parishes and families as vital elements in fostering vocations, Fr. Gabriel was ordained 22 years ago in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Aug. 6, 2008).

An important part of his job, Fr. Gabriel explained, is “to motivate the clergy to have a passion for vocations” by encouraging young men. As a pastor, the vocations director recalled, he soon realized that such motivation “does not happen automatically.” The role of the pastor and parish staff is “crucial” to fostering vocations’ awareness,” he added.

To fortify the parish’s role in bringing local men into the priesthood, Fr. Gabriel has let it be known that he is eager to speak at Mass. His first homily took place in the fall at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in West Orange. After delivering his sermons, Fr. Gabriel noted that, on many occasions, a man who says he is thinking of the priesthood approaches him after Mass.

Fr. Gabriel is also enjoying staying at Emmaus Discernment House, located at 91 Washington St. in Newark, where young men work or attend school during the day and stay for an average of one year. All eight residents from a year ago, Fr. Gabriel pointed out, went on to the seminary. Today there are 14 residents.

There are three primary reasons why a man moves into Emmaus House, Fr. Gabriel said. “They think God is calling them but they are not totally sure,” he noted as the first reason. The calling to the priesthood can manifest itself in different ways for different men. Discernment, he said in a previous interview, is a complex, personal process of spiritual exploration. It is coming to the realization that God is calling you. “It is a



Advocate photo – Ward Miele

Father John Gabriel, left, director of vocations for the Archdiocese of Newark, launched his program of inspirational homilies on religious vocations at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in West Orange. Greeting him were the pastor, Father Joseph Petrillo, right, and long-time weekend assistant Father Peter Lennon.

feeling in the heart that begins a relationship with God,” he said.

A second reason is for potential priests from foreign countries who would move onto the priesthood in the United States to learn English. The third factor is that a young man finds himself in debt and can ease the situation

by living at Emmaus House.

A pleasant surprise so far as vocations director, Fr. Gabriel remarked, is that during the weekly Eucharistic Adorations sessions he is often approached by someone who says he “clearly” heard the Lord’s call to the priesthood.

Continued on page 15

Vocation & Religious Awareness
January 7, 2009



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Holy Hours series to continue in Jersey City

BY DANIEL PETERSON

Special to The Catholic Advocate

AREA—The next installment in the Holy Hour series celebrating the Year of Saint Paul, organized by the Archdiocese of Newark's Vocations Office, will be held Feb. 12, 7:30 p.m., at Saint Paul the Apostle Parish, 14 Greenville Ave., in the

Greenville section of Jersey City. Most Rev. Dominic A. Marconi, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of Newark, will address the topic: "This Treasure We Possess in Earthen Vessels (2 Cor 4:5-15)."

Father John D. Gabriel, archdiocesan vocations director, said Holy Hour services are designed to pray and "plead the Father to send His Holy Spirit upon the Church for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life."

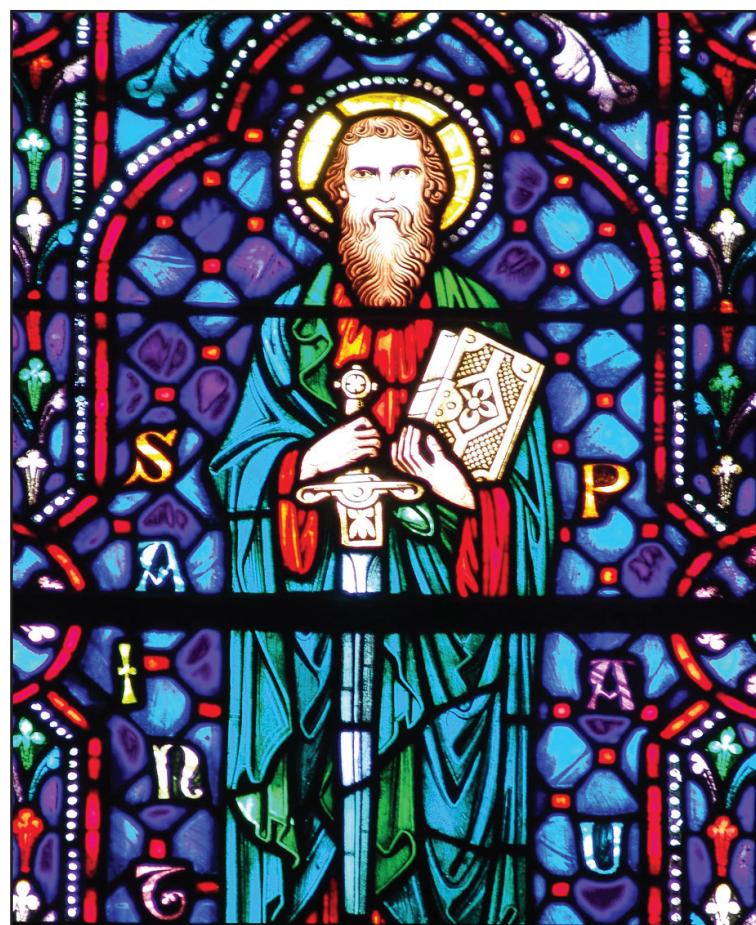
The presiding bishop at each Holy Hour service will expose the Blessed Sacrament for adoration. After a period of prayerful silence, the bishop will read from a letter of Saint Paul and then offer a re-

flection and how it applies to individuals who are being called to the priesthood or consecrated life. A seminarian from Immaculate Conception Seminary, South Orange, will give a witness talk about his own vocation story and how he responded to the Lord's call. The Holy Hour will end with benediction and repossession.

The Holy Hour series will conclude June 4 at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, 89 Ridge St., Newark, with Archbishop John J. Myers celebrating the concluding rite.

Each Holy Hour service begins at 7:30 p.m. The remaining schedule includes:

- **March 6**, Saint Henry Parish, 82 West 29th St., Bayonne—"May I Never Boast of Anything But the Cross" (Galatians 6:14-18), Most Rev. Thomas A. Donato
- **April 23**, Saint James Parish, 45 S. Springfield Ave., Springfield—"On the Foundation of the Apostles" (Ephesians 2:19-22), Most Rev. Manuel A. Cruz
- **May 14**, SS. Peter and Paul Parish, Hoboken—"He Who has begun the Good Work in You" (Philippians 1:3-11), Most Rev. John W. Flesey.



Advocate photo - M. Gabriele

Saint Paul the Apostle Parish in Jersey City will host the next Holy Hour service. The landmark structure proudly displays statues and a stained-glass window (pictured above) that depict Saint Paul.

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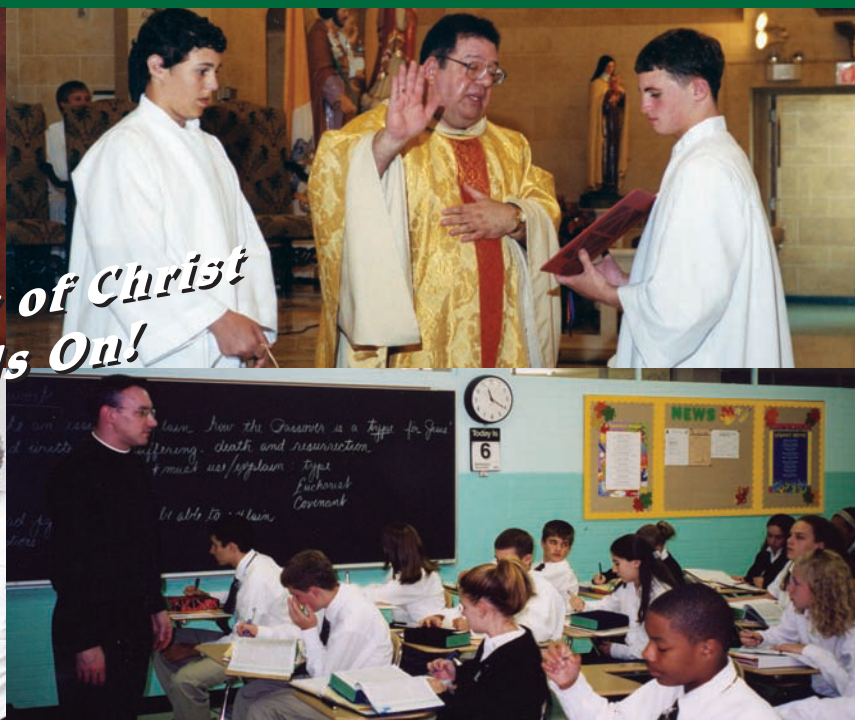
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Fr. Gabriel

Continued from page 13

Still, Fr. Gabriel added, deciding to become a priest has its challenges. Often, he explained, a young man is "afraid to take that next step." Part of the reason for that, he admitted candidly, is that there are often many "good" alternatives such as marriage and fatherhood.

A key element in the overall process is the "On the Road" discernment group program that began in November and ends in June. Held at Immaculate Conception Seminary on the South Orange campus of Seton Hall University, each session has its own individual theme and runs from 7:30 to 9 p.m. The remaining schedule includes Jan. 14 ("Trust God");

men. He recalled a comment of Archbishop John J. Myers that a sign of the health of a diocese is the number of men from within who become priests.

Looking ahead to this year, Fr. Gabriel intends to bring "more technology" to the vocations effort in the Archdiocese at Newark.

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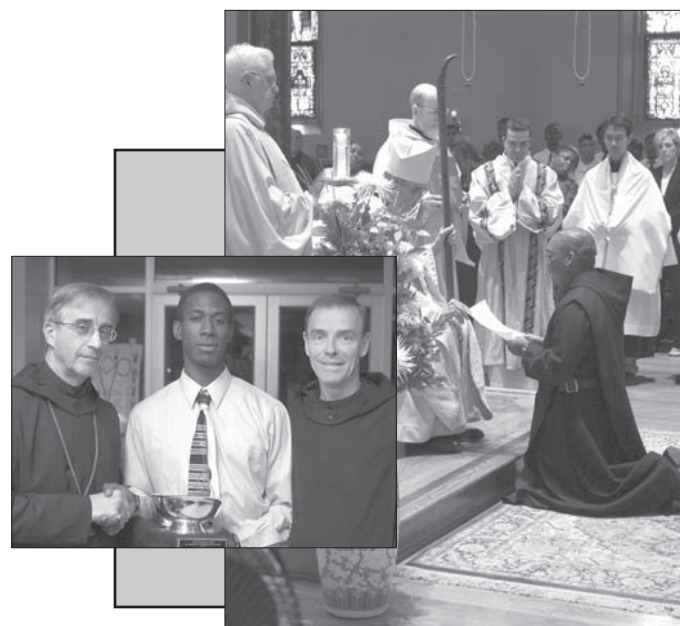
*After delivering
his sermons, Fr.
Gabriel noted that,
on many occasions,
a man who says he
is thinking of the
priesthood
approaches him
after Mass.*

Feb. 11 ("It Takes Time");
March 11 ("Your Peace is Found
in Jesus, Your Fear from the
Spirit Against Christ"); April 8
("God's Will is Found in Your
Will When You are in Christ");
May 6 ("You Must Stand
Firm"); and June 3 ("Jesus
Speaks to You Through the
Church"). For additional infor-
mation on this program, call Fr.
Gabriel at (973) 497-4365.

In addition, the archdiocesan
Vocations Office has launched
the Holy Hour series, celebrat-
ing the Year of Saint Paul as a
way to inspire vocations (see re-
lated story on page 14).

Vocations in the Archdiocese
of Newark are doing well, ac-
cording to Fr. Gabriel. Three
years ago the archdiocese led
the nation with 17 new priests
and since then has been consis-
tently among the leaders.

Still, he stressed, "there is
never a time when you can say
you don't have to work at it." He
noted too that while the archdio-
cese is grateful for international
vocations, a lot of energy has to
be directed toward filling the
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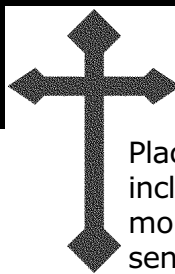
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"The Nurturing of Faith," a photo by Kathleen Valentinetti of Saint Francis of Assisi Parish, Ridgefield Park, was a winning entry in the School of Theology's previous photo contest.

New SHU center sponsors photo contest

SOUTH ORANGE—The Catholic Center for Family, the newest branch of Immaculate Conception Seminary's School of Theology, located at Seton Hall University (SHU), is sponsoring a photo contest for teens and young adults: "Images of God in My Family Life."

The photo contest, the inaugural event to unveil the new center, is divided into three age groups: Group 1 (ages 13-16); Group 2 (ages 17-20); and Group 3 (ages 21-24). Each group will compete

to earn the following prizes: 1st place, \$500; 2nd place, \$250; and 3rd place, \$100.

Winning photos will appear in *Stirrings*, the newsletter of the school's Institute for Christian

Spirituality. Entries must be submitted by Jan. 31. Contact Kathleen Childers by phone at (973) 761-9016 or via e-mail at childeka@shu.edu to obtain an entry form.

Immaculate slates parish mission Jan. 11-14

NORWOOD—Father Charles Moutenot, S.J., director of spiritual programs and president of Loyola House of Retreats, Morristown, will be the featured speaker at the annual mission hosted by Immaculate Conception Parish, 211 Summit St.

Open to the public, the parish mission sessions will run Jan. 11-14, 7:30 to 9 p.m. No pre-registration

is necessary and admission is free. Call the parish office at (201) 768-1600 for more information.

Fr. Moutenot will present the topic "Christ Lives in You," based on the writings of Saint Paul in Galatians 2:20 ("It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.") He will speak about how a union with God through grace in Christ can open minds.

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January 9

Sodality of the Children of Mary of St. Teresa, will meet in the chapel of St. Peter Hall, 2652 Kennedy Blvd., Jersey City, recitation of the "Little Office," 3:15 p.m., followed by Mass, call Katherine T. Crossan at (201) 689-1471.

NEW JERSEY BLOOD SERVICES, blood drive at St. Henry Parish in Bayonne, 1:30-7 p.m., call Marie Forrester at (732) 616-0798.

January 10

LUMEN CENTER, Caldwell, "Getting Closer to Your Dreams," 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., cost: \$35, (973) 403-3331 ext. 25.

St. JOSEPH SCHOOL, East Rutherford, tricky tray, 6 p.m., cost: \$10, call Frances R. Alberta at (201) 939-3193.

January 11

St. AUGUSTINE PARISH, Union City, Inclusive Family Mass in Spanish, 5 p.m., call Anne Masters at (973) 497-4309.

January 14

LADIES AUXILIARY OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 3428, North Arlington, potluck dinner, 2-6 p.m., cost: \$15 for adults/\$10 for children, (201) 955-2240.

January 15

OFFICE OF FAMILY LIFE MINISTRIES, Newark, annulment information evening, at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Bloomfield, 7:30 p.m., (973) 497-4327.

January 16

NEW JERSEY BLOOD SERVICES, blood drive at Roselle Catholic High School, 2-7:30 p.m., call Marie Forrester at (732) 616-0798.

January 17

ARCHDIOCESE OF CAMDEN, Annual Charismatic Retreat, at St. Pius X Spiritual Life Center in Blackwood, through Jan. 18, cost: \$120 for double occupancy, \$160 for single occupant, call Patricia at (609) 729-9141.

January 18

St. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH, Bloomfield, "New Year, New Beginnings" guided retreat, 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., register by Jan. 14, call Anna at (973) 338-9538.

January 19

CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF THE SACRED HEART, Newark, Pro-Life Mass and holy hour, with celebrant and homilist Most Rev. Manuel A. Cruz, D.D., noon, (973) 484-4600.

January 20

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL PARISH, Lyndhurst, 22-hour adoration and prayer service dedicated to the Child Jesus, begins at 9 a.m. and ends with 7 a.m. Mass the following day, (201) 935-1177.

January 21

LUMEN CENTER, Caldwell, "The Seven Stages of Faith: Where Am I in Relationship with God?" 5-7:30 p.m., (973) 403-3331 ext. 25.

XAVIER RETREAT CENTER, Convent Station, "Many Faces of Prayer," on four Tuesdays: Jan. 20, Jan. 27, Feb. 3 and Feb. 10, 10-11:30 a.m., cost: \$40 for four sessions, (973) 290-5100.

January 22

St. JOHN THE APOSTLE PARISH, Linden, Healing Mass, 7:45 p.m. (908) 486-6363.

January 23

MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS SCHOOL, Wallington, benefit cocktail party celebrating alumni, cost:

January 24

\$50, RSVP by Jan.14, call Betty at (973) 473-4876 or Ginny at (201) 804-3995.

Sacred Heart School, Lyndhurst, tricky tray, 6 p.m., cost: \$8, RSVP by Jan. 16, (201) 939-4277.

February 7



HUDSON CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, Jersey City, dinner dance to honor Brother Patrick King, F.S.C., as Grand Marshall of the St. Patrick's Day Parade, 7-11 p.m., cost: \$75, (201) 332-5970.

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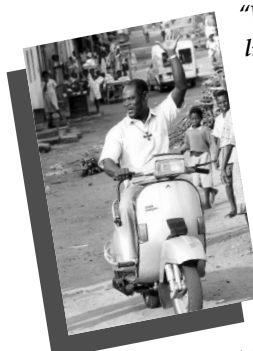
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How to report abuse

The Archdiocese of Newark takes very seriously any and all 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.

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Roselle 50th reunion to roar Jan. 10

ROSELLE—The sixth annual "Lions in Winter Reunion" at Roselle Catholic High School on Jan. 10 will be part of the school's 50th anniversary celebration.

Call the Union County school at (908) 245-2350 for details on the event.

Reunion events include basketball games, activities for children, a cheerleading clinic, yoga classes and a variety of shopping vendors. Food will be available throughout the day and there will be special presentations made to the school's state champion cross country and bowling teams.

The school's "Bridges" program, which provides food and clothing for the homeless, will conduct a winter clothing drive during the reunion. Most needed are coats and blankets.

Document

Continued from page 3

permit parents to legitimately use a vaccine that was developed using cell lines obtained illicitly. In such a case, it noted, the parents have no voice in the decision over how the vaccines are made. At the same time, it said, everyone should ask their health care system to make other types of vaccines available.

The instruction repeated earlier Vatican condemnations of human cloning, whether done to produce embryos for stem cells or to define the genetic identity of an individual person, which the document called "a form of biological slavery."

Couples need to be aware that techniques such as pre-implantation diagnosis, which is used in artificial fertilization and leads to the destruction of embryos suspected of defects, reflects a growing "eugenic mentality," according to the document. It cited an increasing number of cases in which couples with no fertility problems are using artificial means of procreation in order to engage in the ge-

netic selection of their offspring.

The document closed with an appeal to view the Church's teachings not as a series of "no's" but as an effort to protect society's weakest and most defenseless against forms of unjust discrimination and oppression.

"There are those who say that the moral teaching of the Church contains too many prohibitions. In reality, however, her teaching is based on the recognition and promotion of all the gifts that the Creator has bestowed on man: such as life, knowledge, freedom and love," it said.

"Behind every 'no' in the difficult task of discerning between good and evil, there shines a great 'yes' to the recognition of the dignity and inalienable value of every single and unique human being called into existence," it said.

Dignitas Personae drew on a number of sources, in particular *Donum Vitae* and Pope John Paul II's 1995 encyclical, *Evangelium Vitae* ("The Gospel of Life.") It also cited the teachings of Pope Benedict XVI, notably his address on stem cells to the Pontifical Academy for Life in 2006.

Newscaster Brian Patrick brings 'Son Rise' to EWTN

IRONDALE, AL (EWTN)—"Son Rise Morning Show," a unique, fast-paced Catholic radio talk show, made its national debut Jan. 5 as EWTN Global Catholic Network added the Cincinnati-based radio program to its morning lineup.

Hosted by veteran Newscaster Brian Patrick, the show airs 7 to 8 a.m. (Eastern time) Monday through Friday. The program will deal with Catholic history, catechetics, conversations on music and films, Bible food recipes and pastoral counseling.

"Evangelization dynamos" to be featured on the program include Bill Donaghy, who is doing a new blog with Christopher West, called "Twisted Mystics," which looks at "Songs of Our Culture with the Voice of the Theology of the Body."

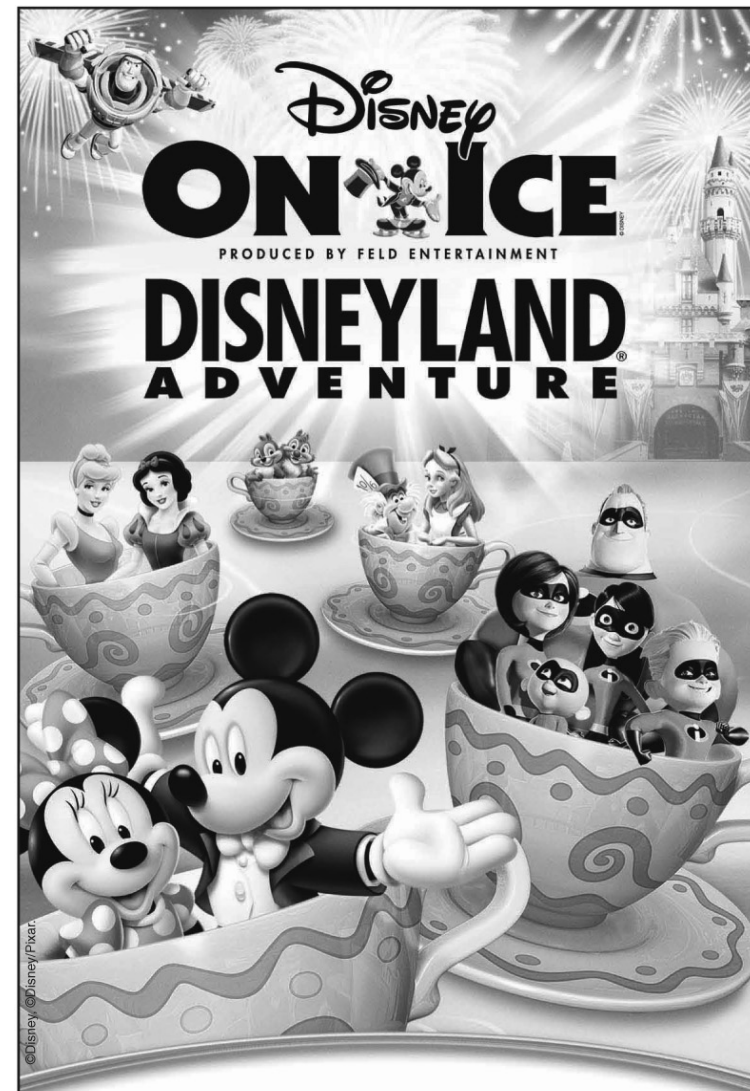
Another dynamo is Rita Heikenfeld from abouteating.com, who talks about Bible food and gives listeners recipes to try.



Brian Patrick

he had hit bottom in 1990, but instead of ending his life, he turned to God.

Now in its 27th year, EWTN Global Catholic Network programming is available via direct-broadcast satellite television, radio services and networks and the Internet (Web site www.ewtn.com).



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BY WARD MIELE
Managing Editor

Normally no one gets up at 3 a.m. for a 9:15 a.m. Mass. But for those hearty souls of the media covering Pope Benedict XVI's Mass at Saint Patrick's Cathedral during his historic April visit to the metropolitan area, such an early rising was necessary.

Several days earlier I had traveled to the New York Sheraton to pick up my press credentials. Since the U.S. Secret Service was involved in issuing the credentials, sending them through the mail was out of the question. It became instantly obvious that the visit of the pope, who is also a head of state, was going to have extraordinary security in place—a sad commentary in this post-9/11 era.

The usual hassle-laden ride into the Big Apple on Saturday morning, April 19, was anything but at 3:45 a.m. Except for a garbage truck in the Lincoln Tunnel I hard-

ly saw another vehicle; the same went for mid-town Manhattan. The press had to be at the hotel at 5 a.m. for what was described as a Secret Service "sweep."

My bleary-eyed colleagues and I crowded into a hotel ballroom to receive our assignments for Saint Patrick's Cathedral. Each group was assigned a certain section of the building and received an alphabetically listed credential for that section.

I was in section "C" along with a dozen other photographers from around the world. We waited around for a while fighting off sleep and drinking stale coffee when it was announced that the Secret Service wanted to see the section "C" people in an adjoining room.

Equipment in hand, we schlepped down the hallway where we were told by no-nonsense Secret Service agents to place our camera equipment against the far wall and step back. We did so and a specially trained dog was brought in by an agent han-

dlar to inspect each camera bag.

Once that phase of the sweep was completed it was down another hallway into another room. This time, one by one, we had to place our camera equipment on a table for a hands-on inspection by an agent. Lens were taken off the camera, batteries taken out of the flash units, each pocket of the camera bags inspected and finally, we had to take a photo and show it to the agent.

Phase three of the sweep was in another room where we passed through an airport-type metal detector. By then the sun had come up on a crisp and clear spring day. We were marched out of the hotel to a waiting bus and checked by the Secret Service as we left the building and got onto the bus.

The short bus ride to Saint Patrick's Cathedral was along city streets strewn with faithful and clergy walking to attend the historic Mass. The bus stopped in front of the cathedral and New York's Finest cleared a path for the media.



Advocate photo—Ward Miele

Waiting for the pope, early morning, April 19, New York City, Saint Patrick's Cathedral.

Once the section "C" people were in place, an area roped off and under the watchful eye of Secret Service agents, personnel from the New York Archdiocese and, eventually, a representative of the Vatican Press Office, a wait laden with anticipation took over. A muffled roar of the crowd outside let every one inside Saint Patrick's know the Holy Father had arrived right on time. Once he stepped into the cathedral the applause was deafening.

Press photographers were restricted in their movement. In fact the Vatican Press Office representative was in charge and randomly

took three of us up near the altar at different times to get our shots. The window of opportunity was no more than three minutes and rough on the knees.

I feel fortunate that as the Holy Father reached the altar, I was among the three photographers told to go up and take our pictures. The photo I took that appeared in *The Catholic Advocate* (April 23, 2008, page 7) was just as the pontiff was about to step onto the altar. I was no more than 15 feet from him and felt privileged, awe-struck and lucky to be there. I got my shot too!

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*You also are invited to attend Mass at 9 a.m.
\$30 charge per person includes light breakfast, lunch and spiritual gifts booklet. Registration encouraged by January 23. Please call Jo-Anne Lieder at 973-313-6331 or e-mail liederjo@shu.edu to register, for more information or in the event of inclement weather.



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