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The Catholic Advocate



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February is
Catholic Press Month



PAGES 14-15



SMA museum to host exhibit on Ghana art

The African Art Museum of the SMA Fathers, located at 23 Bliss Ave., Tenafly, will host an exhibit titled "Symbolism In Ghana." The display opens with a reception on Sunday, Feb. 20, 1 to 3 p.m.

Inside

USA & World News	4
Obituaries	16
Around the Archdiocese	16
Classifieds	18
Professional Directory	19

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Forum welcomes pilgrims on a 'faith quest'

BY MELISSA MCNALLY
Staff Writer

AREA—Faith Quest 2011, an adult spirituality forum to help celebrate the season of Lent, will be held Wednesdays, March 16 through April 6, 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Notre Dame Parish, 359 Central Ave., North Caldwell.

To defray expenses an offering of \$3 a session or \$10 for the four-week series is requested. Pre-registration is required to help with logistics planning. Each week participants can choose one course they wish to attend. Sessions will "stand alone," meaning attendance at a prior session is not required. For brochures and registration forms, contact Notre Dame Church office at (973) 226-0979 or any of the other sponsoring parishes. Call Patricia Fitzpatrick at (973) 994-0173 for further information on the program.

Launched in 2007 as part of the Archdiocese of Newark's "New Energies" initiative, the four cluster parishes of West Essex (Saint Aloysius, Caldwell; Notre Dame, North Caldwell; Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament, Roseland; and Saint Thomas More, Fairfield) collaborated to develop an adult education and information program during the Lenten season.

Topics for this year's series are prayer and spirituality; understanding sacred Scripture; faith formation; and spirituality. Speakers include Rev. Msgr. Joseph R. Reilly, rector of the College Seminary Saint Andrew's Hall, Seton Hall University; David Vincenti, engineer, poet, educator, lector and Saint Aloysius parishioner; Father Frank McNulty, teacher, pastor and author; Father Thomas A. Dente, director, Office of Divine Worship Archdiocese of Newark; Father Theodore W. Osbahr, pastor of Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament; Father Dominic Ciriaco, parochial vicar of Notre Dame Parish; Mary Bertani, pastoral minister, licensed therapist, and an experienced presenter on adult spirituality and formation; Rev. Stephanie Wethered, rector, Saint Peter's Episcopal Church, Essex Fells, a graduate of

Continued on page 12



Advocate photo—Michael Gabriele

Very Reverend Anthony J. Randazzo said the goal of the Faith Quest series is to provide formation opportunities for Catholic adults who wish to be more learned. The four-week series begins on March 16 and will be held at Notre Dame Parish in North Caldwell.

Reflection for women to explore collaboration

BY WARD MIELE
Managing Editor

NEWARK—An expanded and enhanced program will be featured at the annual Women's Day of Reflection on Saturday, March 19 at Seton Hall University (SHU) in South Orange.

Sponsored by the archdiocesan Women's Commission, the long-running spiritual event, with this year's theme of "Our Collaboration with God," will be highlighted by two new tracks, one for Spanish speaking faithful and another designed for college-aged young women.

Pamela M. Swartzberg, L.C.H.S., commission chairwoman, explained that the two additional tracks are part of an ongoing effort to broaden the event's appeal with the aim of attracting more women from throughout the Church of Newark and beyond.

Commenting on the Spanish

Continued on page 8

Archdiocesan officials visit Trenton to track scholarship bill's progress

BY MICHAEL C. GABRIELE
Editor

TRENTON—In a move that could enable hundreds of students to attend Catholic and private schools in Newark, Jersey City and beyond, the NJ Assembly Commerce Committee voted (by a count of 5-0) to release the long-debated Opportunity Scholarship Act pilot program.

The vote took place on Feb. 3 at the Statehouse. Representatives from the Archdiocese of Newark in attendance included Most Rev. Edgar M. da Cunha, S.D.V., Auxiliary Bishop of Newark; Rev. Msgr. Kevin M. Hanbury, archdiocesan vicar for education and superintendent of schools; Mary McElroy, director of NJ Network of Catholic School Families; and James Goodness, director of communications.

A spokesman for the New Jersey Catholic Conference (NJCC) said the next step is for the bill to

go to the Assembly's Budget Committee. It also must be reconciled with amendments that were passed, on Jan. 20, by the Senate's Budget and Appropriations Committee. If the bill moves forward through that process, it then would go to Gov. Chris Christie, who is believed to be a strong supporter of the legislation. He would sign the bill, also known as S1872 and A2810, into law.

The NJCC spokesman declined to speculate on the pending developments or a timeframe for legislative procedures, other than to say questions remain regarding the size of the pilot program and what districts would be affected in the bill.

Archbishop John J. Myers has been a strong advocate for the bill, as it has evolved in various iterations during the last five years. By contrast, the New Jersey Education Association (NJEA), the state's largest teacher's union, remains a vocal opponent of the bill.

Continued on page 18

St. Patrick's parade seeks young artists, writers



Archbishop John J. Myers

NEWARK — The Newark Saint Patrick's Day Parade, "keeping the tradition alive" in the state's largest city for 76 years, has established an art and essay contest for students in the Archdiocese of Newark. Celebrating its 76th year, the parade will be held on Friday, March 18.

Parade organizers said the art and essay contest is designed to encourage students in archdiocesan Catholic schools to learn about the life of Saint Patrick and his impact of the Irish on the local Church.

"As we begin our second 75 years as an organization, we've been mindful of our past as well as our future," Michael D. Byrne, general chairman of the Saint Patrick's Day Parade Committee Inc., said. "We've al-

ways been a very family oriented parade in that second and third generations continue to help put the parade on the street. We also want to reach out to the greater Catholic community and to the next generation, in particular, to promote the life and example of Saint Patrick."

Students in elementary schools have the opportunity to participate in an art contest. Participants will design parade logos, which feature elements of the Catholic and Irish contributions to our local area. Meanwhile, high school students can participate in an essay contest on the living legacy of Saint Patrick.

Prizes include savings bonds, cash prizes and the opportunity for winners to lead their schools' contingent in the parade, and have their work published in the parade's souvenir journal. For more information, call (973) 746-3280 or visit the parade's official Web site (www.NewarkParade.org) or facebook.com/NewarkParade.

Archbishop John J. Myers, the grand marshal of this year's parade and a champion of Catholic education, described the art and essay contests as "most-welcome additions to the celebration that will highlight the excellent faith-



Archdiocese of Newark in this year's Parade, to honor Saint Patrick, our local Church of Newark, and Archbishop Myers," said Maura Grace Harrington, Ph.D., chair of the contests and an instructor at Seton Hall University, South Orange.

The March 18 parade will be dedicated to the NJ Army and Air National Guard, which will have a strong contingent of guardsmen on hand including the 63rd Army Band. Grandstand ceremonies begin at noon and the parade steps off at 1 pm. from the Prudential Center on Mulberry Street, going past the Gateway Complex to NJPAC. From there, the parade travels along Center Street and Central Avenue, past Military Park and Saint Patrick's Pro-Cathedral, ending at Washington Park.

Mountainside parish plans feast Feb. 11

MOUNTAINSIDE—Our Lady of Lourdes in Mountainside Parish, on Friday Feb. 11, will celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and the 11th anniversary of its perpetual adoration chapel.

The celebration begins with a Mass at 7:30 p.m., with a reception to follow in Pollard Hall. Call the parish office at (908) 232-1162 for further information.

The perpetual adoration chapel opened Feb. 11, 2000 and has remained a place where the faithful can visit with the Blessed Sacrament 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The chapel, located adjacent to the church sanctuary at 300 Central Ave., features a library of devotional literature.

Irene Ciccarino, the chapel's coordinator, said the parish is extremely proud of its chapel. "An hour spent in the chapel is the best spent hour in the week," she said. Call Ciccarino at (732) 574-0064 for details on the chapel.

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June 8 & 22, December 22, August 10 & 24, September 14 & 28,
October 12 & 26, November 9 & 23, December 7 & 21

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Business, labor reception to raise funds for CYO



Advocate photo — M. Gabriele

Last summer, Marty Schwartz (left) of Local 164 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and Dean Janeway (right) of Wakefern Food Corp. joined Archbishop John J. Myers for a tour the CYO summer day camp in Kearny. Call (201) 998-0088, ext. 4154 to reserve tickets for the 18th annual Archbishop's Business and Labor Recognition Reception.

NEWARK—Dean Janeway, president and chief operating officer of Wakefern Food Corp., Keasbey, and Marty Schwartz, business agent, Local 164 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), Paramus, have been selected as the honorees for the 18th annual Archbishop's Business and Labor Recognition Reception.

The reception will be held Tuesday, March 1, at Mayfair Farms, 481 Eagle Rock Ave., West Orange. Tickets are priced at \$200 per person or \$1,800 for a group of 10 people. The event's organizing committee also is accepting ads for the reception journal.

Proceeds from the reception benefit the archdiocese's CYO programs, which serve young people of every religion and ethnic background. Since its inception the recognition dinner has generated more than \$2 million. Contact Geraldine Menegolla at (201) 998-0088, ext. 4154 to reserve tickets for the reception.

"Both these fine gentlemen exemplify the best in leadership qualities and are well known for the generous amount of time they dedicate not only to their professions but to charitable work as well," Archbishop John J. Myers said. "Mr. Janeway and Mr. Schwartz are both icons of character and success among their peers and exemplify the type of leaders who have been honored before them these many years."

The evening begins at 6 p.m. with a cocktail reception where guests can meet Archbishop Myers. Food stations, the reception awards program and dessert will follow.

Janeway joined Wakefern in 1966 as a junior accountant and

Event slated for March 1

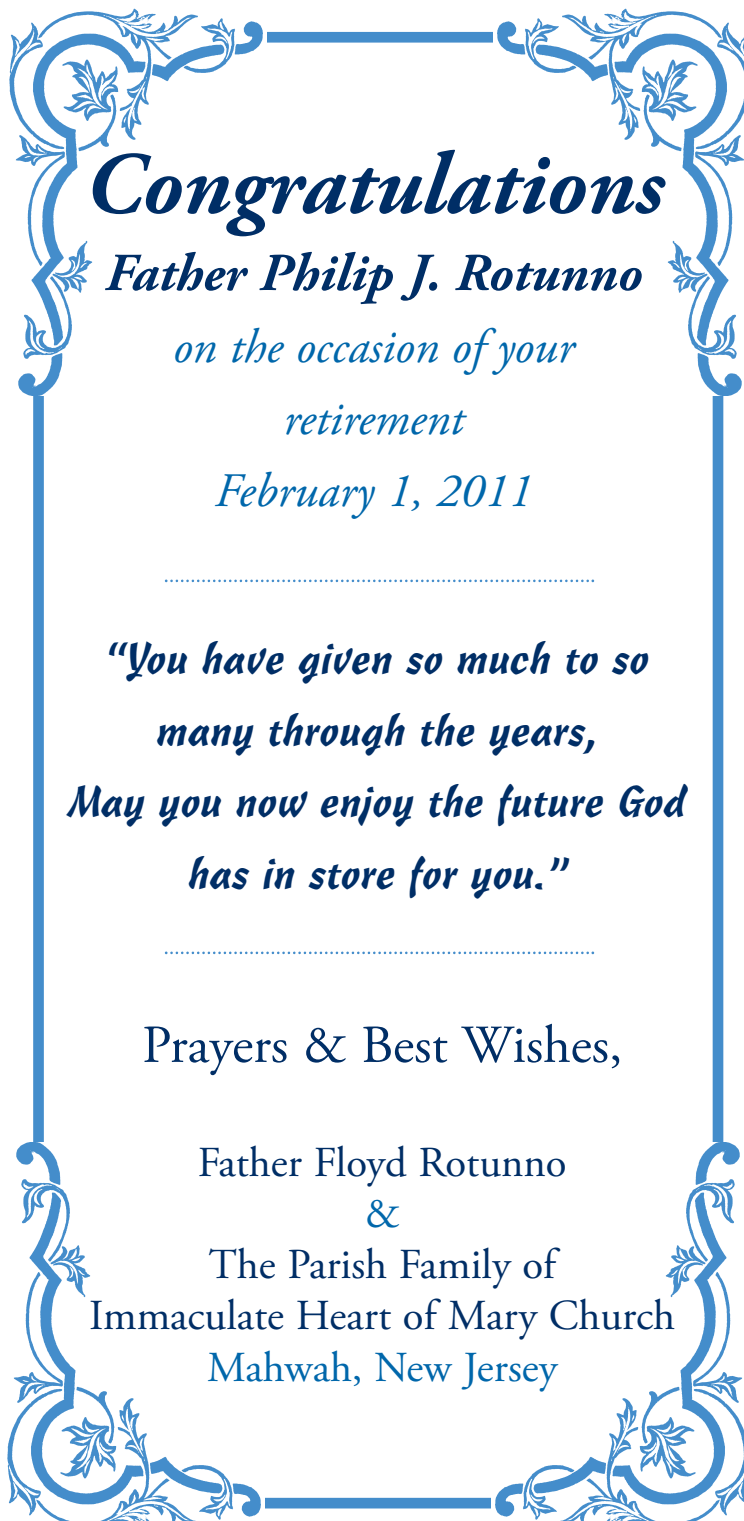
worked diligently through the years to eventually assume the position of president and chief operating officer in 1995. Over the years he has received numerous business awards.

He has also been involved with numerous charities throughout his life and in 2009 was recognized for his long-time support of the Special Olympics of New Jersey at their Inspire Greatness Gala.

After serving in the United States Navy Seabees, Schwartz was accepted into Local 52 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) where he completed a four year apprentice-

ship. During his years with the IBEW he served in various capacities and was a member of the executive board of Local 52. When Local 52 and 162 merged in 2000, Schwartz became a business agent.

Schwartz has been president of the Essex County Building Trades Council for 10 years; served on the New Jersey State Building and Construction Trades Council's Executive Board for 10 years; and was a member of the Essex West Hudson Labor Council for 24 years. In addition, he has been chairman of the Paramus Planning Board for the past three years.



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John 1:38-39

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Singing hymns of thanksgiving for consecrated life

WASHINGTON—Pope John Paul II, in 1997, instituted a world day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. This celebration, according to information provided by the U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops (USCCB), is attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on Feb. 2. This feast is also known as “Candlemas” Day—the day on

which candles are blessed symbolizing Christ who is the light of the world.

In *Vita Consecrata*, the 1996 Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation, Pope John Paul II wrote of the different forms of consecrated life as “the many branches which sink its roots into the Gospel and brings forth abundant fruit in every season of the

Church’s life.” These diverse forms include: monastic life, the orders of virgins, hermits, institutes completely devoted to contemplation, apostolic religious life, secular institutes, societies of apostolic life, and new or renewed forms of the consecrated life.

Those in consecrated life are called to reflect light of Jesus Christ to all peoples. The celebration of World Day for Consecrated Life highlights the gift of consecrated persons for the whole Church, the USCCB explained. In the Archdiocese of Newark,

the world event was marked with a celebration at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart on Feb. 2.

The following is an abridged version of Pope Benedict XVI’s address on the World Day of Consecrated Life, provided by the USCCB, which was given at the Vatican on Feb. 2, 2010 to mark occasion.

Venerable John Paul II decreed that a special “Day of Consecrated Life” be celebrated in the whole Church. The purpose of this day is threefold: first of all to praise and

thank the Lord for the gift of consecrated life; secondly to promote knowledge and appreciation of it among the whole people of God; and lastly to invite all those who have dedicated their life totally to the cause of the Gospel to celebrate the marvels that the Lord has worked in them.

On this profession of faith in Jesus Christ—the only and definitive Mediator—that consecrated life, a life consecrated to God through Christ has meaning in the Church. It has meaning only if He is truly the Mediator between God and us; otherwise it would merely be a form of sublimation or of escape.

If Christ were not truly God and at the same time fully man, the foundation of Christian life as such would be lacking as, in quite a significant way, would the foundation of every Christian consecration of man and woman. The consecrated life, in fact, powerfully witnesses and expresses the reciprocal seeking of God and man, the love that attracts them to each other.

The very fact of being consecrated makes the consecrated person, as it were, a bridge to God for all who encounter him or her—a reminder, a reference point. And this is all by virtue of the mediation of Jesus Christ, the Consecrated One of the Father. He is the foundation. He shared our weaknesses so that we might participate in His divine nature.

Rather than on faith our text insists on “trust,” with which we may draw near to the “throne of grace,” since our high priest was Himself “put to the test in all things like ourselves.” We may approach Him to “receive mercy” and “find grace” and “help in time of need.” It seems to me that these words contain a great truth and also a great comfort for us who have received the gift and commitment of special consecration in the Church.

Consecrated people are called in a special way to be witnesses of this mercy of the Lord in which human beings find their salvation. They have a vivid experience of God’s forgiveness, because they know that they are people saved, that they are great when they see themselves as small and feel renewed and enveloped by the holiness if God when they recognize

Continued on page 10

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Interpreting and applying the Commandments

Readings: Sir 15:15-20; Ps 119:1-5, 17-18, 33-34, 1 Cor 2:6-10; Mt 5:17-37.

The ancient Hebrews did not express an elaborate philosophy concerning human free will and responsibility for decisions. They were taught that freedom is an aspect of being created in God's image and likeness. Decisions have enormous consequences so they must be weighed carefully. This truth is found in the teaching of "the two ways," which lies at the basis of the biblical version of the moral life. "I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. Choose life, then, that you and your descendants may live..." (Dt 30:19). The good way is found by obeying the commandments of Moses, repeated by prophets, priests and sages, who offer guidance so that the choice will bring a fuller, richer life to the community of Israel and its members. This point is made by Jesus ben Sira, a sage in Jerusalem two hundred years before Christ. Like the great teachers of Israel before Him, Jesus of Nazareth emphasized the continuing importance of God's moral law; the duty to follow it and to teach it is crucial to each person's destiny. There is a hierarchy of importance among the commandments, as the rabbis also taught, but all must be obeyed. "The person who keeps the commandments and teaches them will be


considered great in the kingdom of heaven" (Mt 5:19). The written text of the commandments had to be proclaimed and taught to each generation. At the time of Jesus there were several groups of Jews who tried to do this. The Sadducees claimed that this was a prerogative of the priests in the Temple and their representatives throughout the land. The Pharisees were educated laymen who believed that God gave Moses an oral Law to complement the written text of the commandments. Moses passed this law to Joshua and the other prophets who followed him. The Pharisees saw themselves to be heirs of that long tradition. The group that produced the Dead Sea Scrolls followed the principles taught by their "Teacher of Righteousness" for interpreting the Torah (instruction or law), the Prophets and the Writings that constitute the Hebrew Bible. Like the Pharisees, Jesus stressed that transgression of the Law brought eternal death (as well as capital punishment in some cases), so a hedge or fence needed to be erected around each of the commandments. To avoid murder (and the death penalty), one must control anger and harsh words that might lead to physical harm. Jesus placed a similar hedge of self-control around the prohibition of adultery. Although Sadducees and Pharisees permitted divorce and

remarriage (see Dt 24:1-4), Jesus returned to the original plan of the Creator (Mt 19:1-12) and thus overcame potential inequities of a commandment that allowed divorce as a prerogative of the husband. No one should pledge to do something by a vow or take an oath lightly. Jesus reacted against the cheap use of God's Name by

prohibiting all oaths. These passages of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount should be studied in relation to the rest of the Gospel so that the Church's position on each can be evaluated accurately. As we do this we should renew our appreciation for the need of God's grace and light so that our daily lives reflect the high standards of Jesus' teaching.

SUNDAY READINGS

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Feb. 13, 2011)



By Rev. Lawrence Frizzell

Parish in Orange to honor Civil War sesquicentennial

ORANGE—The 150th anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War will be remembered during a special Civil War Military Mass on Sunday, Feb. 20, 12:15 p.m., at Our Lady of the Valley Parish, 510 Valley St. Father David G. Moreno, S.D.B., Chaplain of the 7th New Jersey Volunteer Infantry re-enactors, will celebrate the Mass, which will be attended by members of the 2nd New Jersey Brigade and other re-enacting organizations who will participate in period attire. The Mass will remember the 623,000 Americans who perished during the Civil War, honor the more than 75,000 New Jerseyans who participated, and "pray for peace and unity in our nation today," Fr. Moreno said. The liturgy will include Latin chants and Civil War-era vest-



Submitted photo Father David Moreno is pictured with President Lincoln impersonator Robert Costello

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Saint Dominic Academy senior receives Saint Timothy award



Felisa Velasco

JERSEY CITY—Felisa Velasco, a senior at Saint Dominic Academy (SDA), is a recipient of the Saint Timothy Award, the highest recognition that the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry and the Archdiocese of Newark can confer on a young person.

Most Rev. Edgar M. da Cunha, Auxiliary Bishop of Newark, presided at the annual Youth Ministry Recognition Mass, which was celebrated last October at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart. The award is given to an extraordinary youth “who selflessly serves his or her peers and youth ministry with unwavering commitment and dedication.”

A parishioner at Saint Paul the Apostle Parish in Jersey City, Velasco won the award for Hudson County. She was nominated by her pastor, Father Robert Antczak, and youth minister Donna. Deloughery. She is active in her parish as a lector, eucharistic minister, youth group leader and the youth leader guitarist for the parish choir.

Velasco is a member of the International Baccalaureate program, president of the Asian Interest Club, a link crew leader, captain of the swim team and treasurer of the Math Club. She is also a member of the Hospitality Club, the Dominican Youth in Action Club and the National Honor Society.

“I feel very honored and blessed,” she said. “I thank my family, friends and God for all their support of everything I do. Most of all, this award has driven me to serve my community even more.”

Velasco was one of three students to garner the award. The other recipients include Ralph Lenzi IV of Church of the Guardian Angel Parish, Allendale; Angelica Cifelli, Saint Thomas More Parish, Fairfield.

In his homily, Bishop da Cunha thanked those involved in the youth ministry for their faith, prayers and leadership.



Submitted photo

SCIENCE TEAMWORK—Middle School students at Visitation Academy in Paramus worked together on a variety of science projects including lava lamps and acid-base carbon letters, all of which were on display during the recent celebration of Catholic Schools Week.

SHP interfaith forum eyes efforts for open dialogue

WEST ORANGE — Seton Hall Prep (SHP), on Jan. 20, hosted an interfaith dialogue forum, featuring spirited presentations from guest speakers representing the Catholic, Muslim and Jewish communities of New York City.

In his opening remarks, Justin Kiczek, director of SHP’s Service Learning for Social Justice Program, cited the school’s guiding philosophy to develop young men “who can act responsibly with consideration for others and take their place as active members of a pluralistic society.” The presentations and accompanying classroom ac-

tivities engaged SHP students and faculty in the dialogue.

Panelist Henry Goldschmidt, an education programs associate at the Interfaith Center of New York, stressed the need to make the world safe for religious difference. That can be accomplished, he explained, by increasing respect and mutual understanding among people of different faiths, ethnic and cultural traditions as well as by fostering cooperation among religious communities and civic organizations to solve common social problems.

Continued on page 7

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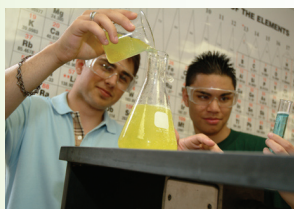
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SHP forum

Continued from page 6

Goldschmidt noted his fellow panelists, Imam Al-Hajj Talib ‘Abdur-Rashid and Father Steven Pavignano, O.F.M., are “deeply committed” to those goals.

Imam Talib is the leader of the Harlem Shura, a coalition of seven Harlem mosques and deputy Amir of the Islamic Leadership Council of New York and Deputy Amir of the Muslim Alliance in North America. He has worked actively on a wide range of social issues, including HIV/AIDS in the United States and Africa, and the religious and human rights of prisoners incarcerated in the criminal justice system.

His contributions to the Muslim and other communities have been recognized by awards from the New York City council, the Council on American Islamic Relations and other organizations. He has lectured at numerous mosques, churches, synagogues and seminaries throughout New York City and has been the subject of several articles in *The New York Times*.

The pastor of the historic All Saints Church on East 129th St. in Harlem, Fr. Pavignano is a Franciscan friar in the Order of Friars Minor, an order seeking to emulate the life and ministry of Saint Francis of Assisi. He is active in a wide range of ecumenical and interfaith programs, including work with Muslim communities in Harlem and in Hartford, CT. His community-based ministries include a Harlem food pantry.

Fr. Pavignano serves on his provinces’ African-American Committee. He also is involved with the Franciscan’s ministry for Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation, a program that works to create systemic social change, to bring about justice and peace, to end poverty, oppression and violence.

During the program, Imam Talib reminded the students that they, as the leaders of the future, will need to find ways for people to live together, in as much as the believers in the Christian and the Muslim faiths together make up a majority of the world’s population. Fr. Pavignano noted that, regarding the dialogue between Islam and Christianity, “our Muslim brothers, while practicing a different faith, have souls that speak the same language.”

To demonstrate the past interfaith dialogues that occurred, Fr. Pavignano read a prayer composed by Saint Francis after he had traveled to the Holy Land and met with and prayed with Muslim clerics. He told students that the prayer, in terms of its form, was similar to Muslim prayer.

Students shaped the latter half of the Jan. 20 assembly with questions developed previously in their theology classes. The questions ranged from inquiries about the nature of the Muslim faith to a question about how each has faced religious discrimination. Other questions centered on how the terrorist attacks of 9/11 have had an impact on their own New York City congregations.



Submitted photo

Justin Kiczek (at the podium) welcomed students to the school’s recent interfaith dialogue forum. Panelists included (left to right) Father Steven Pavignano, O.F.M., Henry Goldschmidt of the Interfaith Center of NY, and Imam Al-Hajj ‘Abdur-Rashid, spiritual leader of the Mosque of Islamic Brotherhood in Harlem. Following the program, conversations on interfaith dialogue continued among students and teachers in the classrooms. SHP, in a related program, will host its “Peace and Justice Day” conference on March 30.

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Collaboration

Continued from page 1

track, Swartzberg explained it was added in response to “many requests from the Spanish speaking population of our archdiocese. We hope many Spanish-speaking women will attend.”

Regarding the track for young women, the commission chairwoman said “all along we have wanted to reach out to college age women still in the formative years of their Catholic faith.” Swartzberg went on to note the track’s speakers will “appeal to that age group, many of whom are facing important life decisions.” The goal, Swartzberg stressed, is to “equip young women with the teachings of the faith” at a critical time in their lives.

The Women’s Day of Reflection runs from 8:15 a.m. to 5 p.m.

and will take place at SHU’s Jubilee Hall and the student center. Following registration which begins at 8:15 a.m., Archbishop John J. Myers will open the English track celebrating Mass at 9:30 a.m. Most Rev. Manuel A. Cruz, Auxiliary Bishop of Newark, will close the Spanish track celebrating Mass at 4:15 p.m. Confessions will be heard throughout the day. Also available during the entire program will be adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception.

The cost to attend the Women’s Day of Reflection is \$25 per person, \$20 in groups of five or more and \$10 for students. Clergy and Religious will be admitted at no charge.

The keynote speaker for the English track, Dr. Susan Selner-Wright, will take to the podium in the morning and afternoon to address the topics “Women of

Conviction” and “Collaboration with Our God” respectively. In the morning session, Selner-Wright will look at the lives of three women of faith...a career woman, a married missionary and young mother and martyr. The afternoon presentation will focus on the theme of the day. Selner-Wright will discuss how women can pursue their primary vocation to grow in holiness. Emphasis will be on cooperation within the Trinity and between God and man.

Selner-Wright, an associate professor at Saint John Vianney Theological Seminary in Denver where she is chairwoman of the Philosophy Department and direction of the pre-theology program, has been in the classroom with college students and seminarians for more than two decades. Her teaching and scholarship focus on metaphysics, ethics and the philosophy of Saint Thomas Aquinas.

A special presentation during the lunch break of the English track will be a discussion of women’s health issues by Dr. Anegele Lanfranchi, a physician in private practice. Lanfranchi will talk about women’s health in general and breast cancer risks and prevention in particular.

A graduate of Georgetown



Pamela Swartzberg



Azeneth Gonzalez

Medical School, Lanfranchi is a clinical assistant professor of surgery at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and a diplomate of the American Board of Surgery.

Making three appearances during the new Spanish track will be Azeneth Gonzalez. At the age of 21, Gonzalez was well on her way to fame and fortune as a talented musician. But she felt unfilled and reached out to God and found mercy and healing. She now uses her talents in service to the Lord especially in pro-life ministry.

The young women’s track will present the topics “Just the Way You Are: Girl, You are Amazing” by Denver-based youth minister Haley Timmons; and “Relation-

ships and Dating 101: Love is a Battlefield” with Alexa McCartney of LIFENET, an organization partnering with the Archdiocese of Newark to instill respect for the dignity of every human life through chastity and pro-life educational programs for teens and adults.

In urging area women to attend this year’s program, Swartzberg emphasized that the Women’s Day of Reflection will present the unique opportunity “to experience, in a variety of ways, the exciting teachings of Jesus Christ, especially as they relate to women.” Attendance, the chairwoman continued, will “help women understand how to listen to what Jesus asks of them so they can go out and do His will.”

Swartzberg said a new track at the Day of Reflection is designed to equip college-aged women with teachings of the faith at a critical time in their lives.

The Parish Community of St. Paul the Apostle, Jersey City (Greenville)



extends to our dear pastor, V. Rev. Robert Antczak, our warmest wishes on his retirement. His dedication and love will remain with us always.



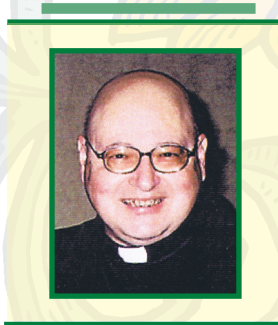
We will forever be grateful for his creativity in fostering all aspects of parish life, his leadership and support of all, and his tireless efforts on behalf of the people of St. Paul the Apostle and the surrounding communities.

May his future be blessed with many happy and healthy years.

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For 20 wonderful years as our Pastor



Father Phil,
God Bless You on your
Retirement.

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our hearts and prayers.

We will love you and
miss you.



Submitted photo

EPIPHANY CELEBRATION—Adding authenticity through the use of live animals, over 350 members of the faith community at Saint Rose of Lima Parish in Short Hills celebrated the Feast of the Epiphany on Jan. 2. The display, a “live” nativity scene of music, Scripture, dance and pageantry, was designed to educate children and provide a vibrant demonstration of the Christmas story. “The Epiphany presents to us the culmination of the Christmas story. Our celebration of the Incarnation of the ‘Word Becoming Flesh’ is a universal celebration for all people in all times and all places,” Rev. Msgr. George R. Trabold, the pastor, said.

St. Anthony grads write home to share college experiences

JERSEY CITY—For the past 18 years, every graduate of Saint Anthony High School has gone on to college. As part of the annual celebration to mark Catholic Schools Week (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Jan. 26), the school provided snapshots of recent graduates and their accomplishments.

Dwayne Parris, Class of 2009, is a sophomore at Brown University in Providence, RI. He is not only pursuing a political science and economics concentration, but is also an officer in the school’s pre-law society, a minority peer counselor for first-year students of color at Brown, and an SAT mentor for high school students in Providence.

A member of the Class of 2008, Michael Molina is a junior at the University of Chicago pursuing a degree in political science. He is president of the campus Puerto Rican Students Association and a member of the fencing team. Molina works in the university library and does volunteer work for the National Coaching Fellows Organization.

Yuliza Rivera, one of two Saint Anthony salutatorians in the Class of 2008, is a junior at Albright College, PA. Yuliza is on the dean’s list, majoring in Fashion Design and Merchandising, and English. She is also a deejay for the school’s radio station as well as a model and a designer for campus fashion shows. The other 2008 salutatorian, Ivette Morel, attends Saint John’s University, NY, where she is a finance major. Morel also is office manager of the Saint John’s Student Life Department.

Christopher Wall, valedictorian for the Class of 2010, is at Villanova University, Philadelphia, while 2010 salutatorian Nicole Kelly attends at Susquehanna University, PA.

From the Class of 2009, Valedictorian Raven Tait is at Wake Forest, NC, and Salutatorian Mariah Tarawally attends Felician College, Lodi.

Among other recent Saint Anthony valedictorians and salutatorians, Reinaldo Correa, Class of 2007, is a senior at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN pursuing three majors: English, Sociology, and Women’s and Gender Studies. He is also an officer in the Association of Hispanic Students and a member of the school’s Latin Dance performance group.

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Survey reveals education trends for women Religious

WASHINGTON—Women entering religious orders today are highly educated and experienced in numerous Church activities, according to a national survey posted by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

The survey report, “The Profession Class of 2010: Survey of Women Religious Professing Perpetual Vows,” was released Feb. 2, the Church’s World Day for Consecrated Life. It was conducted by the Georgetown University-based Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) and commissioned by the U.S. bishops’ Secretariat of Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations.

The survey was sent to sisters represented by the two conferences of religious women: the Leadership Conference of Women Religious; and the

Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious, as well as contemplative communities.

Respondents represented 52 religious orders. A total of 68 out of 79 sisters contacted completed the survey. Major findings in the survey noted that women religious of the Class of 2010 generally are more diverse than previously professed women religious in terms of racial and ethnic identity. Six in 10 identify as white, one in five identifies as Asian, and one in 10 identifies as Hispanic/Latina. Nearly nine in 10 sisters and nuns were born Catholic and eight in 10 came from families in which both parents are Catholic, according to the survey.

Half of responding women religious (51 percent) said they attended a Catholic elementary school. Women Religious are about as

likely as other U.S. Catholics to have attended a Catholic high school and much more likely to have attended a Catholic college.

Survey results indicate the responding women Religious are highly educated. Twenty-five percent of respondents said they earned a graduate degree before entering their religious institute. Six in 10 entered their religious institute with at least a bachelor’s degree or more.

Many women religious were active in parish life before entering their religious institute. For example, four in 10 said they participated in a youth group and three in 10 participated in a young adult group. Eighty-five percent had ministry experience before entering their religious institute, most commonly in liturgical ministry, faith formation, or social service ministry.

Three-quarters of responding sisters and nuns said they regularly participated in retreats before they entered their religious institute. Two-thirds indicated they prayed the rosary and/or participated in eucharistic adoration. Six in 10 participated in a faith sharing or Bible study group and/or in regular spiritual direction.

Nine in 10 women Religious say they were encouraged to consider religious life by someone in their life. Of those who reported that they were encouraged to consider a vocation, more than half (52 percent) say they were encouraged by a religious sister. A third were introduced to their institute through the recommendation of a priest or advisor.

Most women Religious of the profession class of 2010 (84 percent) participated in some type of vocation program or experience prior to entering their religious institute. Most commonly this was a “Come and See” experience or a vocation retreat.

“We are proud of the vocation, sacred commitment and service that women religious have made in the Church,” said Archbishop Robert J. Carlson of St. Louis, chairman of the Committee for Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations. “Making the profession of poverty, chastity and obedience is counter-cultural. It requires courage and fidelity to remain faithful to a religious vocation.”

Sister Mary Joanna Ruhland, R.S.M., associate director of the USCCB Secretariat, said the report demonstrates that family life and education are significant factors in forming children in the spiritual life.

“Many women, before entering, were active in Church and participated in spiritual exercises and retreats,” Sr. Mary said. “This is a tremendous witness to the power of Christ and prayer in the Church,” said “It also points to the witness of answering God’s call that religious women and priests give to young people. The personal relationship each has with Christ is fostered by the role models they see in, and encouragement they receive from, women religious and priests.”

In the Archdiocese of Newark, Archbishop John J. Myers last year appointed Sister Joanne Bednar, S.C.C., as the archdiocesan delegate for religious (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Feb. 24, 2010).

A Boonton native, Sr. Joanne is a graduate of Morris Catholic High School, Denville; Assumption College for Sisters, Mendham; Marillac College, St. Louis;



Sister Joanne Bednar

and University of Scranton, PA (Masters in Business Administration). She holds a certificate from the Hospital Executive Development Program at St. Louis University.

Sr. Joanne is a member of the North American Eastern Province of the Sisters of Christian Charity, Mendham. The motherhouse of the Sisters of Christian Charity, located at Mallinckrodt Convent, is home to Assumption College for Sisters, an accredited two-year liberal arts college that awards associate degrees in Arts and Religious Arts. Assumption College for Sisters (Web site: www.acs350.org) prepares women from Religious communities from both the United States and around the world to continue their studies toward bachelor’s degrees at other accredited educational institutions. It also serves as the center for women discerning life as a member of the Sisters of Christian Charity.

In announcing the appointment last year, Archbishop Myers noted that Sr. Joanne “brings to the important work of being my delegate to the great Religious of this archdiocese both strong leadership and collaborative qualities and the unique charism of the Sisters of Christian Charity—a group of dedicated and faith-filled women who have embraced the mission of furthering the educational opportunities for women Religious so that they may serve the Lord in missions and schools throughout the world.”

(Editor’s note: The entire survey results can be found at online (<http://www.usccb.org/cl/profession-class-2010.shtml>).

Thanksgiving

Continued from page 4

their sins. For this reason, for contemporary men and women too, consecrated life remains a privileged school of “compunction of heart,” of the humble recognition of one’s poverty but it likewise remains a school of trust in God’s mercy, in His love that never abandons us.

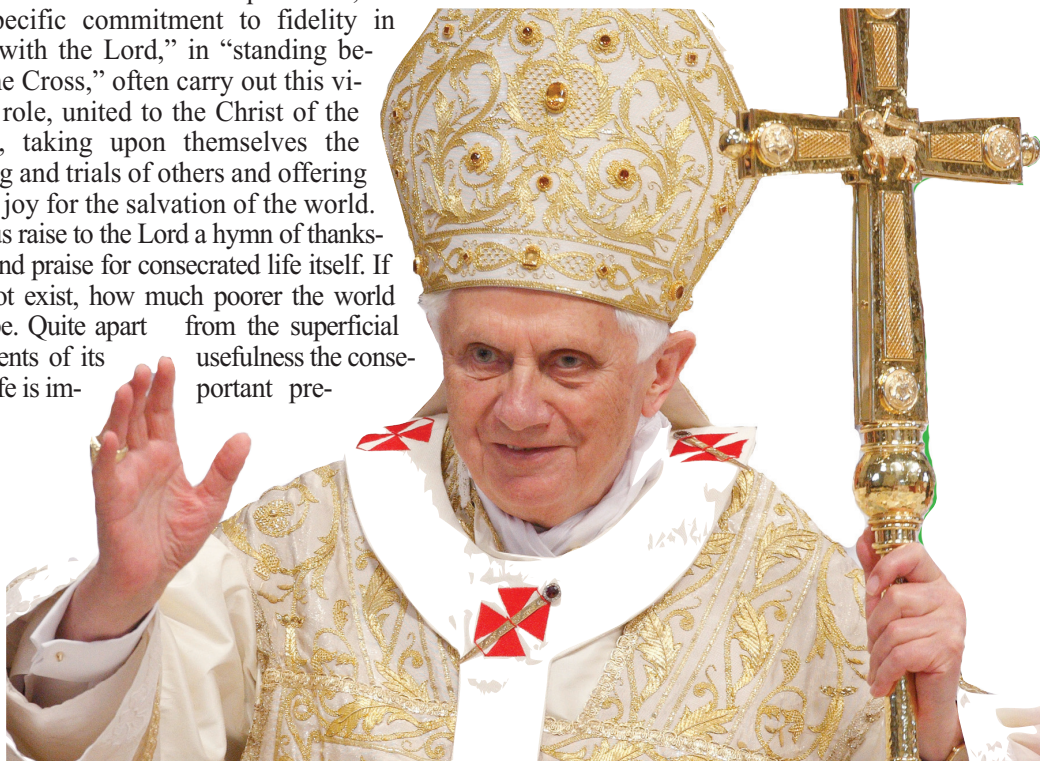
The closer we become to God, the closer we are to Him, the more helpful we are to others. Consecrated people experience God’s grace, mercy and forgiveness not only for themselves but also for their brothers and sisters since they are called to carry in their hearts and prayers the anxieties and expectations of human beings, especially those who are far from God.

Cloistered communities in particular, with their specific commitment to fidelity in “being with the Lord,” in “standing beneath the Cross,” often carry out this vicarious role, united to the Christ of the Passion, taking upon themselves the suffering and trials of others and offering all with joy for the salvation of the world.

Let us raise to the Lord a hymn of thanksgiving and praise for consecrated life itself. If it did not exist, how much poorer the world would be. Quite apart from the superficial assessments of its usefulness the consecrated life is im-

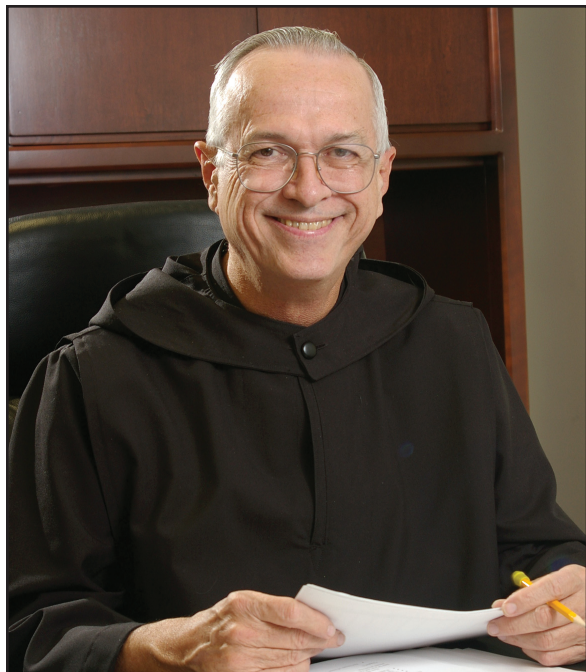
cisely because it is a sign of unbounded generosity and love, and this all the more so in a world that risks being suffocated in the vortex of the ephemeral and the “useful.” Instead the consecrated life witnesses to the superabundance of love that is an incentive to “lose” one’s life in response to the superabundance of the love of the Lord who first “lost” His life for us.

I am thinking of the consecrated people who feel the burden of their daily effort in which there is little human gratification. I am thinking of elderly men and women religious, religious who are sick and all who find their apostolate arduous. None of them is useless, for the Lord associates them with His “throne of grace.” On the contrary, they are a precious gift for the Church and the world that is thirsting for God and for His word.



CNS photo

Last year, in his address at the Vatican to mark the annual World Day of Consecrated Life, Pope Benedict said consecrated men and women are called in a special way to be witnesses of the mercy of the Lord in which human beings find their salvation. The pope said those called to Religious life “have a vivid experience of God’s forgiveness.”



Father Albert Holtz

Fr. Albert Holtz beckons readers on a journey to overcome sorrows

NEWARK—Father Albert Holtz, O.S.B., a Benedictine monk of Newark Abbey and a teacher at Saint Benedict's Prep, has written his sixth book of meditations, released earlier this month by Morehouse Publishing.

In "Walking in Valleys of Darkness: A Benedictine Journey Through Troubled Times," Fr. Holtz invites readers to walk with him through five periods of pain and difficulty in his own life, including, for example, the closing of Saint Benedict's Prep in 1972 and the death of his brother a few years later.

In a series of 24 meditations, he shows how during those difficult times

he often drew practical help and spiritual strength from reflecting on certain New Testament words such as courage, compassion and trust.

The unique aspect of the book is that many of his insights come from studying the words in the original New Testament Greek. He presents his insights in the form of down-to-earth reflections that can be of help to anyone trying to cope with and even profit from life's inevitable struggles and sufferings.

Each meditation is followed by questions for reflection, further examples from Scripture, and a quote from the Rule of Saint Benedict to

aid the reader.

Newark Abbey is a monastery of 20 Benedictine monks living at 528 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. Founded in 1857 as Saint Mary's Priory and later Saint Mary's Abbey, the monastery has sponsored and staffed Saint Benedict's Preparatory School on its grounds since 1868.

In addition to ministering to Saint Mary's Parish, the monks also provide pastoral assistance to several neighboring parishes.

(Editor's note: for more information on the book, contact Fr. Holtz by phone at 973-792-643-4800, ext. 2204, or via e-mail at aholtz@sbp.org.)

Transfiguration 'engineers' imagine innovative designs of a future city

BERGENFIELD—Transfiguration Academy students continue to display their talents and vision in the "Future City" competition sponsored by American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE).

Competing against 80 schools from throughout the metropolitan area, Transfiguration Academy was among the top-10 project selections in the Garden State and won the Best Transportation System award. Since entering the competition five years ago, the academy has won eight awards including three top-10 placements.

Transfiguration students Uma Jalloh, Chinchu Jacob, Chidinma Nnadi and KilyAnne Rosete captured the ASCE's "Best Transportation System" award with a designed they called "Vindecare."

The ASCE Future City competition focuses on students working as a group, collaborating to utilize academic skills as math, science, art, writing, oral presentation and problem solving.

Last summer the school constructed an engineering and technology lab "En-Tech" to help provide students with practical applications for their math, science, computer and technology classes (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Aug. 25, 2010). Sal Tralongo is the principal of Transfiguration Academy.

Founded in 1852, the ASCE is based in Reston, VA, and has 140,000 members worldwide.



Submitted photo

Taking home honors for Transfiguration Academy in the "Future City" competition were (left to right) Yashaar Hafizka, Nick Adams, Roy Nathan Menguito and Nick Ramirez with their "Valetudo Quod Guadium" project.



Submitted photo

Sister Marilyn Minter (center), quite literally, is in the thick of things as young adults participated in the "Day of Service," reaching out to those in need.

Young volunteers see power of compassion

NEWARK—More than 20 young adults from around the Archdiocese of Newark joined together in "Service Day" outreach projects on Jan. 29.

Father Timothy Graff, director of the Office of Human Concerns and the CYO pastoral moderator, and Sister Marilyn Minter, director of parish and outreach training for the Kearny-based Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, served as coordinators for the program. They said their hope was not only to be of service to those in need, but also to have young adults gain insights into poverty and how it affects people in the archdiocese.

One group of young adults went to Ladies' Rest, a day shelter for homeless women based at Saint Patrick's Pro-Cathedral. The volunteers spent time helping to sort clothing donations and interacted with women who stay at the shelter.

Another group went to Magnificat Home located at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Jersey City. This is a transitional home for women who need supervision for daily living. As one of the women shared how she is preparing for baptism because of the love that she found at Magnificat Home, the young adults saw the profound impact of community service and compassionate outreach.

Fr. Graff and Sr. Marilyn indicated the young adults, based on their experiences, voted to have another Day of Service in the coming months. The archdiocesan offices already are making plans for the next projects.

Spring/Summer Programs 2011

February 25-27, 2011- *All A Women- A New Freedom and Happiness*-Betsy English

March 4-6, 2011- *Prayer from the Heart: A Call to Renew My Prayer Experience*-Maureen Steeley, SU

March 25-27, 2011- *Lenten Retreat*, Don Bisson, FMS

April 1-3, 2011- *You are God's Work of Art: Art Journaling*-Marianne Heib, RSM and Helen Owens, OSF

April 21-24, 2011- *Holy Week Retreat*-Edward F. Salmon SJ and the Linwood Staff

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Faith Quest

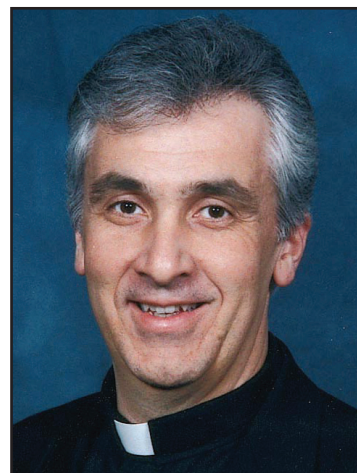
Continued from page 1

Yale Divinity School and a former Wall Street stock broker; and Rev. Msgr. Edward J. Ciuba, a former pastor of Notre Dame Parish now at Seton Hall University.

Very Reverend Anthony J. Randazzo, pastor of Notre Dame Parish, said the success of the Faith Quest lecture series is a credit to passionate lay leadership. "I am in the background (during Faith Quest). The series is an affirmation of the excellent lay ministers we have in our community. Post-Vatican II churches should be about fullness of spirit and engaging all our unique gifts and talents," he said.

With diverse ideas discussed during the four-week period, faithful are given many options to explore their spirituality. Fr. Randazzo hopes people introduced to these various topics will delve further into their faith, bringing them closer to God. "This experience is about information, formation and transformation. The Catholic Church is very involved in education and Faith Quest is our little part in helping people along their sacred journey."

The reflective period of Lent is conducive to deepening the relationship Catholics have with God. "Lent grants us the opportunity to be still," he said. "It is a bracketed period of time to be more aware of our sacred journey. I hope Faith Quest helps people to understand that we walk in



Father Anthony J. Randazzo

Christ through spiritual growth."

Fr. Randazzo described Msgr. Ciuba as the "backbone" of Faith Quest. Now retired, Msgr. Ciuba helped spearhead the lecture series and this year will be presenting his topic "The Universe Story." The four-part discussion is centered on scientific developments and their impact on faith.

"Scientists are making enormous strides in cosmology, astronomy and astrophysics. The relationship between science and spirituality has not been the best, but now is an opportune time to come together and draw upon the richness of one another," Msgr. Ciuba explained. "Certain areas in science can broaden our understanding of God and the Holy Spirit. How do we deal with the origin or the cosmos? What is the nature of God? We can expand our traditional faith beliefs by looking to science."

The pastor of Notre Dame for 22 years, Msgr. Ciuba has seen

Faith Quest grow through positive response from the community. "Lent is an opportune time for people to slow down and focus on our minds and hearts. The topics are intended for ongoing spiritual development. Faith Quest provides spiritual, prayerful and theological reflection for deeper understanding of faith."

Maureen Bezer, parishioner at Notre Dame Parish, was one of the founding lay organizers of the series along with Msgr. Ciuba. Before launching Faith Quest, a survey asked community parishioners what they were interested in. The most in-demand topics were prayer and spirituality, Scripture and morality. Today, leaders in area parishes anecdotally gather new ideas from the faithful.

"We have had 20-25 different speakers over five years; everyone from mini-celebrities to local parishioners. It is terrific to have that kind of range and we really offer something for everyone. There are 16 opportunities during Faith Quest for someone to find something that attracts them to enrich their faith development," Bezer explained.

The lecture series attracts 150-160 people per session every week and around 300 people attend at least one of the lectures during the four weeks. "Faith Quest provides opportunities for parishioners to engage in dialogue during Lent. The series does not proselytize, but allows parishioners to pick and choose ways to get closer to God," she noted.

Mariandale Retreat Conference CENTER

Summer Retreats 2011

JUNE

Artists' Contemplative Retreat

Coordinator: Lucianne Siers, OP
Thursday, June 9 - Thursday, June 16;
\$450 - \$475 As You Are Able*

Praying With the Mystics: Our Holy Women and Men

Presenter: Michael Laritonda, FMS
Friday, June 17 - Thursday, June 23;
\$425 - \$450*

Directed Retreat

Directors: Nancy Ertz, OP; Rose Marie Harkins, OP; Ron Henery, OP; Judy Schiavo; Bob Vaughn, OP
Wednesday, June 29 - Wednesday, July 6;
\$450 - \$475*

JULY

Quilters and Crafters Retreat Bonding with Bugs, Bees, Birds, Blossoms, and Berries!

Presenters: Donna Brunell, OP; Judy Brunell, OP; Nancy Ertz, OP; Patricia Werner
Wednesday, July 6 - Sunday, July 10;
\$325 - \$350; Commuters: \$225 - \$250*

Parables: Stories to Change Ourselves and Our World

Presenter: Mary Schneiders, OP
Wednesday, July 6 - Sunday, July 10;
\$325 - \$350*

Healing Our Spiritual Grief

Presenter: Vivianne LaRiviere
Sunday, July 10 - Friday, July 15;
\$375 - \$400*

O Nurturing God: A Directed Retreat With Feminine Imagery

Directors: Janet E. Corso; Gail DeMaria, CSJ; Carol Otto
Sunday, July 10 - Friday, July 15;
\$375 - \$400*

Rediscovering God in Our Human Story

Presenter: Diarmuid O'Murchu, MSC
Friday, July 15 - Sunday, July 17;
\$225 - \$250; Commuters \$150 - \$175*

Directed Retreat

Directors: Ron Henery, OP; Theresa Lardner, OP; Mary Naughton; Judy Schiavo; Bob Vaughn, OP
Tuesday, July 19 - Tuesday, July 26;
\$450 - \$475*

Praying in Accord with Your Personality

Director: Nancy Ertz, OP
Wednesday, July 27 - Saturday, July 30;
\$275 - \$300; Commuters \$125 - \$150*

AUGUST

Directed Retreat

Directors: Dianne Carlson, RSM; Mary Kay Flannery, SSJ; Francis Gargani, CSSR; Justine Lyons, RSCJ; Julia Massee; Beverly Musgrave, Ph.D.; Nancy Pluta; Anne L. Simmonds, D.Min.
Sunday, July 31 - Sunday, August 7;
\$450 - \$475*

Embracing Jesus as the Christ of Our Today and Our Tomorrow

Presenter: Barbara Fland, SND
Sunday, August 7 - Saturday, August 13;
\$425 - \$475; Commuters \$250 - \$275*

Re-Experiencing the Depth of Discipleship

Presenters: John Burchill, OP; Barbara Metz, SNDdeN
Sunday, August 14 - Sunday, August 21;
\$450 - \$475*

Attuning, Attending, Atoning and Advocating in Our Relationship with Sacred Earth

Presenters: Carol DeAngelo, SC; Nancy Ertz, OP
Sunday, August 21 - Friday, August 26;
\$375 - \$400*

*As You Are Able: We have chosen not to raise our fees, but to offer you a range that allows you the freedom to choose what is appropriate to your situation while being as generous as possible.

For online information & registration: www.mariandale.org; or contact Linda Rivers, OP, 914-941-4455, lrivers@ophope.org for inquiries or to arrange private retreats.



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Pope's method for rosary prayer offers nourishment for the soul

BY ROBERT FEENEY

Special to The Catholic Advocate

The late Pope John Paul II was convinced the rosary remains a prayer of great significance at the dawn of the third millennium and is destined to bring forth a harvest of holiness. He strongly believed the rosary, if revitalized and properly prayed, has the potential of bringing forth the springtime of human spirit and a new Pentecost.

From his youth, the rosary held an important place in John Paul the Great's spiritual life. To the rosary he entrusted any number of concerns and as he said: "in the rosary I have always found comfort."

Pope John Paul II admitted early in his papacy the rosary was his favorite prayer. The rosary is a "Christocentric" prayer, which as all the depths of the Gospel message in its entirety, the pope said. He described the rosary as "the school of Mary," where we sit and contemplate with Mary the beauty of the face of Christ—the beauty of His mystery: joyful, luminous, sorrowful and glorious. He believed that the mysteries of the rosary put us in living communion with Jesus through the heart of His Mother.

The rosary provides the perfect form of contemplative prayer for pilgrims on retreats or visiting shrines. The most important reason for encouraging the rosary today, John Paul II said, is that it offers people a means of contemplating the mystery of Christ, which He proposed as a genuine "training in holiness." This training, as He taught, calls for a Christian life distinguished above all in the "art of prayer" and that praying the rosary will help one train like an athlete for holiness. The pope was convinced the rosary can be a simple and accessible way for all to grow in holiness.

The pope called for a revival of the rosary for two reasons. First, to implore from God the gift of peace; second, a rediscovery and return to the rosary in Christian families so that it will aid them in countering the devastating effects of the crisis in the family typical of our age. John Paul II proclaimed the year October 2002 to October 2003 as "the Year of the Rosary." To help revive the rosary, the late pope wrote an apostolic letter: "The Rosary of the Virgin Mary."

If the rosary was not properly

prayed, there is a risk it would fail to produce the intended spiritual effects," John Paul II said. It is interesting to note that John Paul II believed that perhaps the reason that the young people of today are not attracted to the rosary is the impoverished way it is presented and prayed. He was convinced that if the rosary was well presented to the young, they would be attracted to it and make it their own.

When I taught the JP II Method to young people, they were not only attracted to it and prayed the rosary with enthusiasm, but taught the method to friends and parents. In the case of the JP II Method, when my students were introduced to it, they knew it was the real deal. They instinctively knew it would help them pray in an authentic way, not superficially or mechanically. It is my sense that they are hungry, restlessly searching (consciously or unconsciously) for a way of contemplating the mystery of God.

I would like to mention some major points in praying the rosary using the JP II Method:

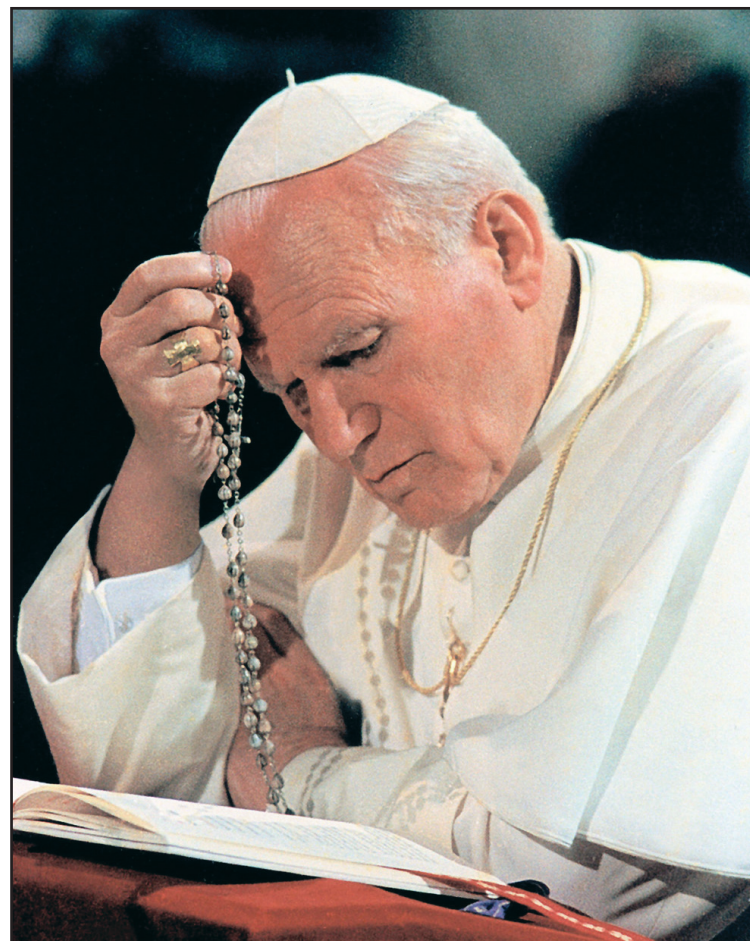
- Use Gospel passages that pertain

to each mystery and meditate on them before praying the vocal prayers. Use a picture through which you can use your imagination to visualize yourself as an onlooker in each mystery.

- After meditation on Gospel passages, pause and take moments of silence to focus on the content of the mystery.
- Pray for the virtue specific to each mystery, on that shines forth in the life of Jesus and Mary.
- Pray the vocal prayers reverently. At each "Hail Mary," after the name of Jesus, insert a clause referring to the mystery being contemplated—for example, Jesus, risen from the dead. These clauses aid in the concentration of the mystery and help us enter more deeply into the mystery of Christ.

The JP II Method of praying the rosary helps us to take time and contemplate the mystery of Christ.

(Editor's note: Robert Feeney, a lay Dominican, is the author of "The Rosary: The John Paul II Method." Call 800-651-1531 or visit www.ignatius.com for more information on the publication.)



CNS photo

Pope John Paul II

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"Learning to See Christ in
Everyone: Caryl Householder's
Vision of the Mystical Body"
March 24, 2011
7:00–8:30pm

A LENTEN DAY OF PRAYER
"Isaiah and Zechariah on
the Suffering Servant"
April 12, 2011
9:30am–3:30pm

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SMA African museum to host exhibit on artwork from Ghana

BY MICHAEL C. GABRIELE
Editor

TENAFLY—The African Art Museum of the SMA (Society of African Missions) Fathers, 23 Bliss Ave., will host a six-month exhibit of sculpture, textiles, graphics and artifacts titled "Symbolism In Ghana." The exhibit opens with a reception on Sunday, Feb. 20, 1 to 3 p.m.

The exhibit explores different aspects of Ghanaian culture. SMA lay missionary Sean Hogan, who hails from St. Louis, spent four years in Ghana and gathered the artwork for the exhibit to convey his love for this West African country. Hogan worked with Bob Koenig, SMA museum director, and installation/photography ex-

pert Peter H. Cade, to assemble the display and will be available to meet with visitors on Feb. 20.

According to information on the SMA museum's Web site, abstract carvings, known as "akua' ba," which will be featured in the exhibit. These "fertility dolls," recognized by their distinctive large, round heads, are carved for women who are having difficulty conceiving children or for women who are pregnant.

The akua' ba statues embody the ideal of beauty with a disc-shaped head and rings of fat around the neck indicating a prosperous and healthy condition. According to tradition, mothers seek to induce the desired head shape in their infants by gently massaging the soft



Submitted photo

Statues known as "akua' ba," pictured above, will be featured in "Symbolism In Ghana," the new exhibit at the SMA's African Art Museum, which will open Feb. 20. The akua' ba fertility doll is displayed with a decorative African shirt and jewelry.



*Our prayerful salute
during
Black History Month*

ST. MARY, STAR OF THE SEA
Bayonne

cranial bones of the newborns.

In 1957, the Republic of Ghana

became the first sub-Saharan

country in colonial Africa to gain

its independence. It celebrates its independence day on March 6.

Located in western Africa, bordering the Gulf of Guinea, it has a population of more than 24 million people and is about the size of the state of Oregon, according to information from various Web sites. John Evans Atta Mills, elected Jan. 7, 2009, serves as president of the country.

Regular museum hours are 8 a.m.-5 p.m. seven days a week. Admission is free and donations are welcome. Established in 1980, the Tenaflly museum is one of only a few facilities in the United States dedicated solely to the arts of



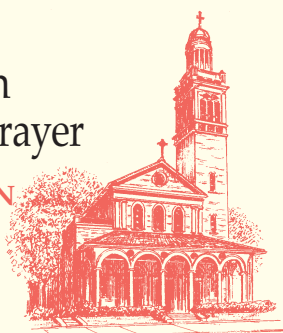
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support our brothers
& sisters in prayer
during this special
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Holy Redeemer Parish
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Africa. Its permanent collections, exhibited on a rotating basis, offer a unique advantage in the study and research of sub-Saharan sculpture and painting, costumes, textiles and decorative arts, religion and folklore.

The SMA's African Art Museum chronicles the organization's missionary presence in Africa, which dates back more than 150 years. Fr. Michael Moran is the SMA's provincial superior. Last September the group hosted its eighth annual African festival (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Sept. 22, 2010). Dignitaries at the event included Bishop John W. Flesey; Dr. Josephine OJiambo, Kenya's ambassador to the United Nations; and Peter Rustin, the mayor of Tenafly.

The SMA is a community of Catholic missionaries who come from around the world with a

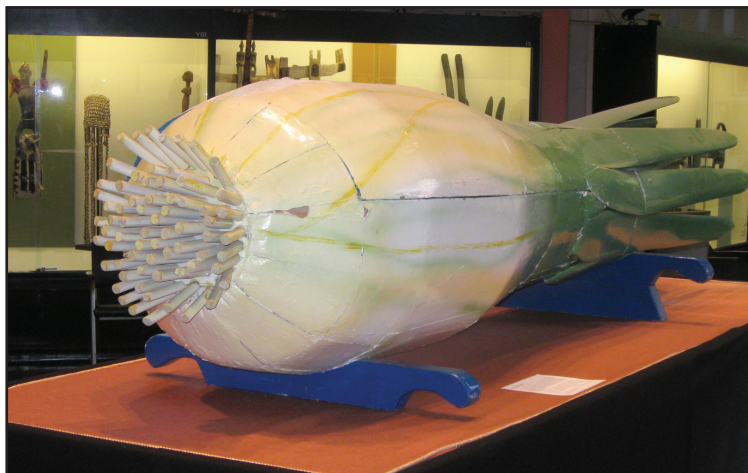
commitment to serve the people of Africa. The museum continues the vision of SMA's founder, Bishop Melchior de Marion Brésillac (1813-1859).

The French-born clergyman urged his society to respect and preserve the culture of the peoples they serve, the unique vision among missionaries of his time. The group was founded on Dec. 8, 1856, in Lyon, France. The letters "SMA" represent the group's name in Latin (*Societas Missionum ad Afros*).

The first SMA missionaries ar-

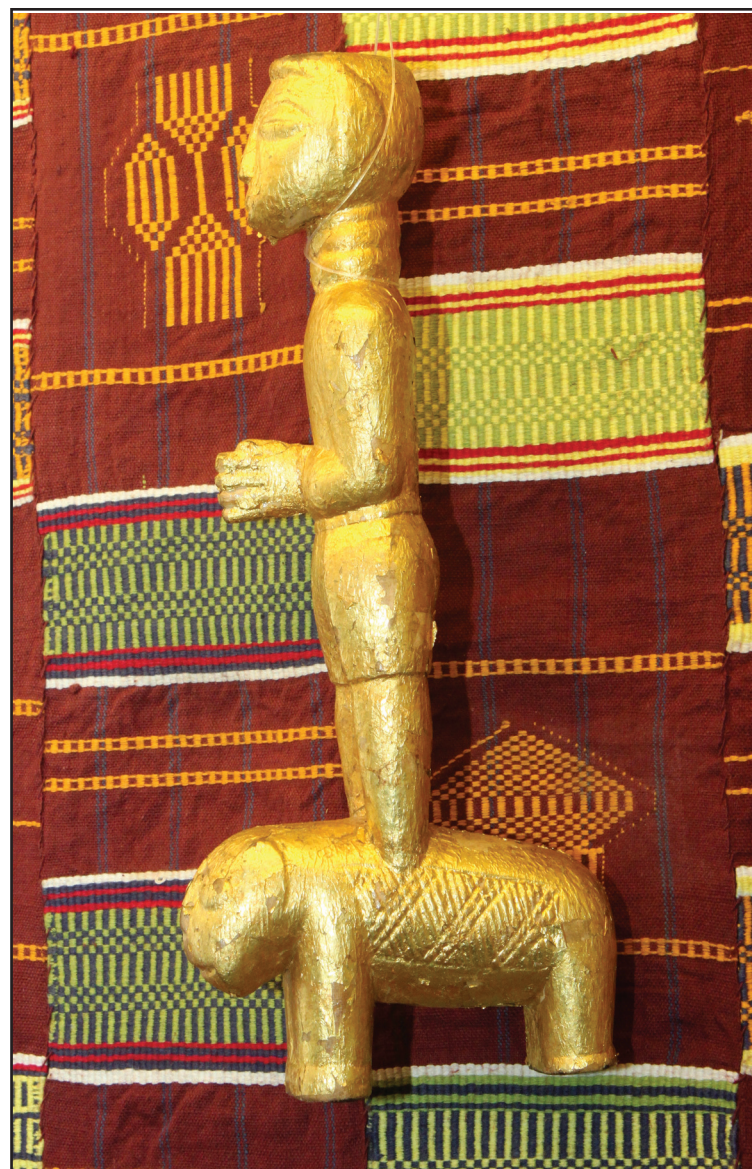
rived in Freetown, Sierra Leone (West Africa) in the spring of 1859. However, they were struck by yellow fever and most died, including Bishop Brésillac.

Today, SMA has locations around the world and more than 1,000 priests, brothers, and laypeople serving throughout Africa. The international administrative headquarters of SMA is in Rome. The group is composed of priests, deacons, seminarians and lay men and women, teachers, carpenters, healthcare professionals, artists and musicians.



Submitted photos

A brightly painted burial casket in the shape of a green onion (pictured above) is a highlight of the "Symbolism In Ghana" exhibit. Also on display is a staff used by a king's speechwriter (at right), composed of carved wood and gold leaf. The staff is displayed against the backdrop of a hand-woven textile. The exhibit opens on Feb. 20.



Academy marks black history

UPPER MONTCLAIR—To celebrate Black History Month, Lacordaire Academy, 155 Lorraine Ave., will present a special program of song, dance and theatre highlighting the many contributions of African-Americans to the arts.

"Celebration," an original production featuring a collage of voices, song and dance weaved into an expression of courage by African-Americans and others during the Civil Rights movement will be presented Feb. 11 at 1:15 p.m., and Feb. 25 at 7 p.m.

The program is free and open to the public. For additional information contact Debby Irwin at dirwin@lacordaire.net or call her (973) 744-1156.

*A Tribute
to
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February 10

GEORGIAN COURT UNIVERSITY, Lakewood, Graduate Info Session, 6 p.m., (732) 987-2770.

QUELLEN SPIRITUAL CENTER, Mendham, "You are God's Work of Art," 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., cost: \$35, (973) 543-6528 ext. 217.

February 11

OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH, Mountainside, Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and 11th anniversary of the Perpetual Adoration Chapel, 7:30 p.m., (908) 232-1162.

February 12

Archdiocese of Newark, OFFICE OF FAMILY LIFE MINISTRIES, support group for fathers whose children have died, at Notre Dame Parish, North Caldwell, 10 a.m., (973) 497-4327.

February 13

QUEEN OF PEACE PARISH, North Arlington, Mothers of Priests, Chapter 6 Holy Hour, 1:15 p.m., call Rosalie D'Andrea at (973) 667-5674.

Archdiocese of Newark, RESPECT LIFE OFFICE, Pro-Life Holy Hour, at Queen of Peace Parish, North Arlington, 7:30 p.m., (732) 388-8211.

ST. JAMES THE APOSTLE PARISH, Springfield, organ recital to benefit the National Breast Cancer Foundation, 3 p.m., (973) 376-3044.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH, West Orange, Fair Trade sale, following 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. masses, raffle tickets available at three for \$5, call Stephanie at (973) 731-7617.

February 14

THE FELICIAN READING CENTER, Lodi, reading improvement courses, for grades three and four, through May 11, call Sister Mary Delphine, C.S.S.F. at (973) 473-7447, Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. -4 p.m.

St. John the Evangelist Parish, Bergenfield, St. Joseph the Worker Ministry, "Developing Your Job Search Strategy," 2-9 p.m., sessions every Monday through March 14, call Jack Weldin, Jr. at (201) 385-8360.

February 17

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH, Bloomfield, "Don't Just Think Outside the Box—Think Out of This World," job search strategies, 7:30-9 p.m., RSVP by Feb. 14, (973) 338-9190 or email workministry@stachurchbloomfield.com.

February 18

BENEDICTINE SISTERS, Elizabeth, vocation discernment retreat, through Feb. 20, call Sister Mariette Therese Bernier, O.S.B., at (908) 352-4278 ext. 274 or email SrMariette@aol.com.

February 22

LITTLE FLOWER PARISH, Berkeley Heights, Catholic forum, 7:30 p.m., (908) 464-1585.

February 24

XAVIER RETREAT AND CONFERENCE CENTER, Convent Station, "Lunch and Learn," noon-1:30 p.m., cost: \$15, (973) 290-5100.

February 26

QUEEN OF PEACE HIGH SCHOOL,

North Arlington, "The Harlem Rockets Showtime Basketball Game," 7 p.m., advanced tickets: \$10 for adults/\$8 for students, at the door: \$12 for adults/\$10 for students, call Cheryl Riley at (201) 998-8227 ext. 39.

MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS PARISH, Wallington, White Elephant (Rummage) Sale, 9 a.m. - 6:30 p.m., call Ginny Topolski at (201) 715-2087 or MaryJane Kowalczyk at (201) 939-8576.

February 27

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL PARISH, Career Resources Ministry, four part workshop series, 1 p.m., call Carol Shea at (201) 447-4215 or Tom Lewis at (201) 445-1864.

Other

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH, Union, Divorced and Separated Ministry, Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., call John at (908) 964-1683 or the rectory at (908) 687-3327.

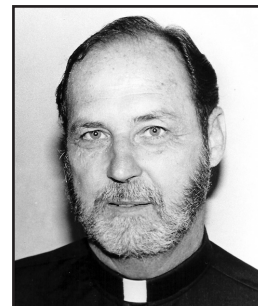
Obituaries

Father Saporito, S.S.J.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Dec. 27, 2010 at Saint Stephen Parish, Kearny, for Father Louis Saporito, S.S.J., 81, who died Dec. 21.

Raised in Kearny, Fr. Saporito entered the Josephite Minor Seminary, Epiphany Apostolic College in Newburgh, NY. After a year's novitiate he continued at Saint Joseph's Seminary in Washington and was ordained in the National Shrine on June 4, 1960.

His first assignment was parochial vicar at Saint Benedict the Moor Parish in Washington, and from he served many parishes in Baton Rouge, LA, the Bahamas, Washington, D.C., New Orleans and Texas.



Father Louis Saporito

Sister Anne Marita, S.C., teacher

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Dec. 28, 2010 at Saint Anne Villa, Convent Station, for Sister Anne Marita Haggerty, S.C., 89, who died Dec. 20.

Born in Jersey City, she entered the Sisters of Charity March 24, 1941, and was a member for 69 years.

Sr. Anne Marita served as a teacher at the following schools: Saint Rose of Lima School, Newark (1943-1946); Saint Bernard School, Plainfield (1946-1947); Saint Paul of the Cross School, Jersey City (1947-1955); and Saint Mary Elementary School, Elizabeth (1955-1964).

She also served at Trinitas Hospital, Elizabeth, as admitting registrar (1979-1989), receptionist (1989-1996) and clerk (1996-2004). Sr. Anne Marita moved to Saint Anne Villa, Convent Station in 2004 where she resided until her death.

Sister Bernadette, F.M.S.C., librarian

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Jan. 3 at Mount Saint Francis, Peekskill, NY, for Sister Bernadette Stives, F.M.S.C., 80, who died Dec. 31.

Born in Linden, she professed her First Vows July 7, 1951 and her Final Vows July 7, 1956. Sr. Bernadette ministered in many areas, mainly as a librarian and food service manager throughout New York and New Jersey.

Sr. Bernadette ministered at Saint Joseph of the Palisades School, West New York, before relocating to Mount Saint Francis as a member of the Sister staff as sacristan, librarian and bursar for the motherhouse.

Sister Concetta, M.P.F., educator

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Jan. 4 at Villa Walsh, Morristown, for Sister Concetta Notarianni, M.P.F., who died Dec. 29.

Born in Hoboken, Sr. Concetta entered the Religious Teachers Filippini in October 1930. She received the habit a year later and made her religious profession in 1934.

Sr. Concetta taught middle school students at: Our Lady of Mount Carmel School, Newark; Our Lady of the Assumption School, Bayonne; Holy Rosary School, Jersey City; and Our Lady of Libera School, West New York. She also worked in catechetical ministry at Saint Francis Parish, Hackensack, and Holy Rosary Parish, Jersey City.



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Mindless ‘reality’ glorifies amoral values

I read recently in the obituaries of the death of David Nelson. My contemporaries know that he was the last surviving member of the Nelson family whom we watched for many years on TV in “The Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet.” His brother Ricky died in a plane crash some time ago. This local family gave us a wholesome example of family life in a time when values in the

world around us were just beginning to experience some significant changes, as mentioned by Rev. Msgr. John Gilchrist in the previous issue of *The Catholic Advocate*. Although most people realized that things were not quite as ideal in real life as the Nelsons portrayed on the screen, we also knew deep down inside us that they ought to be. Good example

encouraged better behavior. Unfortunately, many of today’s situation comedies and “reality” TV shows portray immoral and amoral values, almost exalting teenage pregnancy and one-night-stands without any sense of the responsibility for one’s actions or the sacredness of God’s gifts of sexuality and life. Without question, the multiplicity of broadcasting influences through cable and satellite TV and YouTube and the millions of questionable online Web sites can readily confuse many young, and not so young, and subtly erode both personal and family holistic values. The variety of expressions of what constitutes a family today is itself often a challenge to what we would consider the traditional family unit.

World Marriage Day, often observed in our country on the second Sunday of February, near Valentine’s Day, seeks to reaffirm those in sacred marital unions as it also reinforces the positive values of love, sacrifice, and commitment which should be expressed in every household.

Almost all of us know people in all types of family configurations trying to do their level best to raise children to reflect Gospel values of selfless love and endless forgiveness. There will likely be long lines at candy shops and florists on Feb. 14. As long as the purchases reflect an everyday care and concern, they will be well received. If they are simply an annual expression, not mirrored on a daily basis, they will have little significance.

Last week we also observed an “Evening Prayer for Consecrated Religious” at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark. As Sr. Joanne Bednar, S.C.C., delegate for religious, noted in her invitation to the evening prayer service, “consecrated Religious (Sisters, Brothers, Priests, Seminarians and Virgins) by their lives of total surrender to God and through Him, to others, render the hope of future blessings for the Church and for the world, enslaved by so many false promises.” Their dedicated practice of

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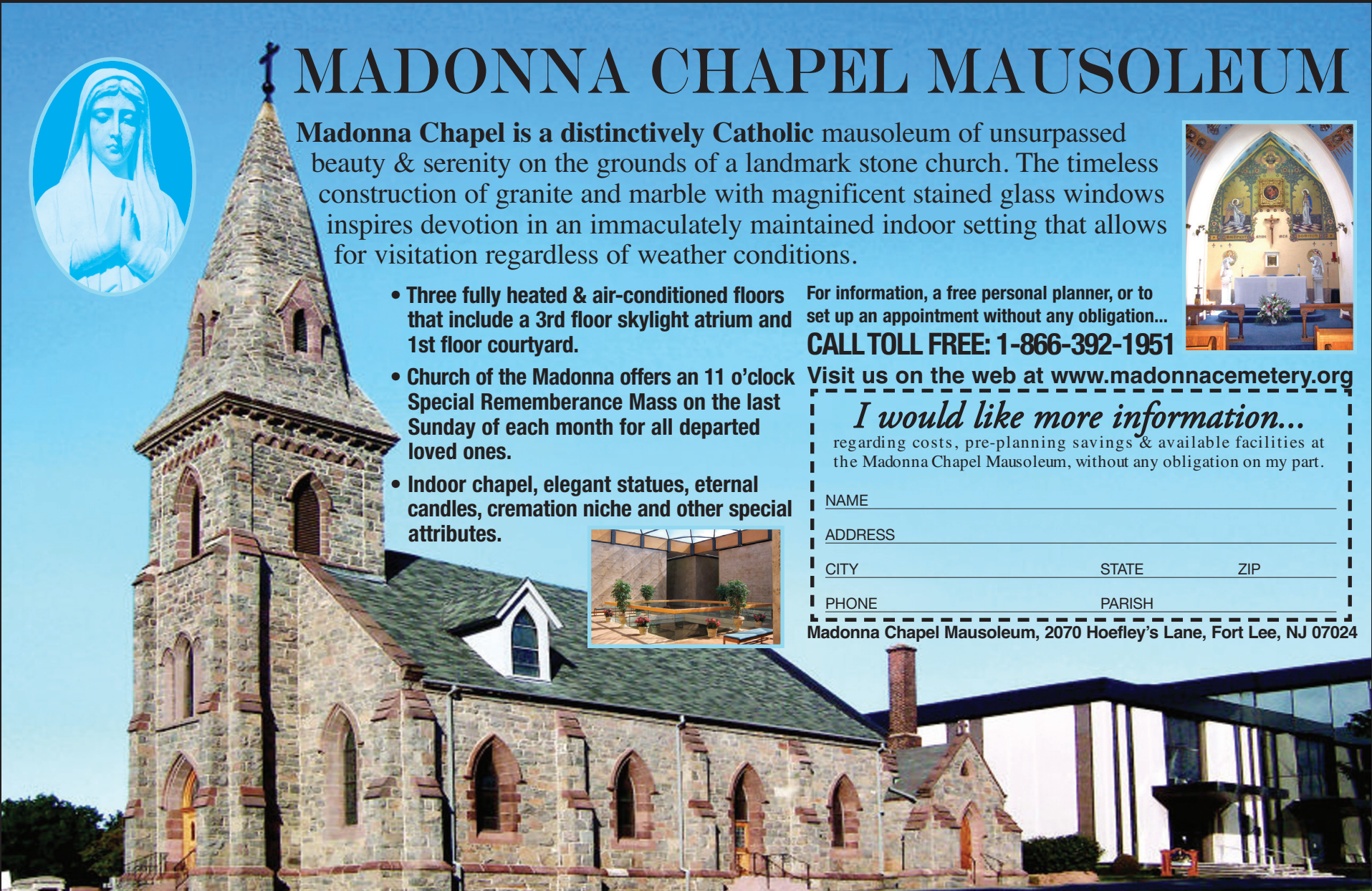
By Rev. Msgr. Richard J. Arnolds

charity and chastity in the midst of a selfish and hedonistic society calls us all to live more faithfully Christ’s way of life, which leads to life everlasting. Hopefully, their witness also encourages single people to live lovingly and chastely in today’s world. The more each of us and all of us can support one another in the Christian life, the more will God’s love shine through us to others and through others to us, thereby calling everyone to greater holiness and Christ-like love!



Submitted photo

MARCH FOR LIFE—Caldwell College students, faculty and alumni attended the annual March for Life in Washington D.C. on Jan. 24. Melissa Brady, Lindsay Hulin, Rosie Burke, Elizabeth Hooban and Courtney Privett (left to right) were among the students who attended the event. The Caldwell group marched along Constitution Avenue to the steps of the Supreme Court building to witness for the unborn.



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Progress

Continued from page 1

It's understood the legislation, once signed into law, would create a funding mechanism for low-income families living near failing public schools. According to previous reports, the bill would provide scholarships to students for private schools: estimated amounts of \$6,000-\$8,000 for elementary school pupils; and \$9,000-\$11,000 for high school students. Some reports say as many as 40,000 low-income students could be aided by the program.

The funds would give parents the means to send their children to a religious or private school of their choice. It would be financed through a tax credit for corporations subject to the NJ Corporate Business Tax. Schools accepting scholarship-recipient students would agree to accept the scholarship as payment in full for tuition and fees.

Bishop da Cunha testified on the bill's importance for helping children "trapped in failing public

Archbishop Myers has been a strong advocate for the bill as it has evolved in various iterations during the last five years. Bishop da Cunha said the bill would help children "trapped in failing public schools," allowing students to reach for a better alternative.

schools," allowing students to reach for a better alternative.

McElroy said Catholic school families are well aware of the quality of education at Catholic schools, choosing them for their academic and moral value, while teachers and principals accountable for the educational progress of their children. She said the bill "is not a bailout for Catholic and other parochial schools, but is about the education of all children, something Catholic school families are no less vested in because their children attend a Catholic school."

The legislation also has the support of the Catholic Bishops of New Jersey. In previous state-

ments, the bishops said the Opportunity Scholarship Act would "help to ensure the continued viability of nonpublic schools in New Jersey. It will help strengthen public schools. It will empower parents and, for students who might otherwise face futures of economic despair, diminished expectations and unrealized dreams, it offers real hope."

The NJ bishops explained the pilot program would not take money out of the existing education budget—"therefore it is not a voucher bill. It is not an added burden to taxpayers; rather, it is funded through the corporate tax revenues that would be used for purposes other than education."



Submitted photo

SOS SMILE—Success marked the first project of the new Shepherds of Service (SOS) ministry at Saint Catherine of Siena Parish in Cedar Grove. Annabella St. Jacques was among some 40 parishioners who sorted and boxed food for distribution to area soup kitchens and food pantries.

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SHOULDER WOUND OF JESUS CHRIST PRAYER

O loving Jesus, meek lamb of God, I a miserable sinner, salute and worship the most sacred wound of Thy Shoulder, On which Thou didst bear Thy heavy cross, which so tore Thy flesh and laid Thy bones as to inflict an anguish greater than any other wound of Thy most Blessed Body. I adore Thee, Oh Jesus most sorrowful, I praise and glorify Thee, and give thanks fully to thee for this most Holy and sacred and painful wound, beseeching Thee by that exceeding pain, and by the crushing burden of Thy heavy Cross to be merciful to me a most miserable sinner, to forgive me of all my mortal and venial sins and to lead me on towards Heaven along the way of Thy Cross. In Jesus' name (mention request) Amen to all. Thank you for your help.

This most powerful prayer must be said for requests and most urgent help. After you have said and asked for your requests- This prayer **MUST** be published immediately after being said. **A.M.**

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S PROTECTION

Dear Saint Christopher. protect me today in all my travel along the road's way. Give your warning sign if danger is near so that I may stop while the path is clear. Be at my window and direct me through when the vision blurs from out of the blue. Carry me safely to my destined place, like you carried Christ in your close embrace. Amen. **R.C.**

PRAYER TO ST. CLAIRE

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

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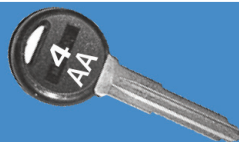
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