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Vocation Awareness

Leaders in the Archdiocese of Newark discuss the importance of National Vocation Awareness Week, Jan. 13-19.

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Annual 'March' slated for Jan. 25

Long road for life now stretches 40 years

BY MELISSA MCNALLY
Staff Writer

www.marchforlife.org

AREA—Pro-life supporters from around the Archdiocese of Newark and throughout the United States will travel to Washington D.C. on Friday, Jan. 25 to raise their voices at the 40th annual "March for Life."

The March for Life Youth Rally will be held on Thursday, Jan. 24, in the Regency Ballroom of the Hyatt Regency Hotel, located just north of the National Mall in Washington, from 2-5 p.m.

On Jan. 25, the actual March for Life begins with a rally on the National Mall at noon, followed immediately by the customary procession—with banners and

placards—up Constitution Avenue to the Supreme Court building on Capitol Hill. For more information on the annual event, visit the Web site posted above.

"This is the largest annual pro-life event in the world," Jeanne F. Monahan, president of the Washington-based March for Life Education and Defense Fund, said. "This is a commemorative year. No one expected abortion to still be legal in this country. Over the past 40 years, an estimated 55 million lives have been lost to abortion."

Monahan was appointed president of the organization last November, following the passing

of founder and president Nellie J. Gray in August. Gray made the annual march her life's work and was still involved with planning the event even in her later years. It's estimated that each year over 100,000 people from all corners of the United States and beyond take part in the pro-life event.

This year, even larger numbers are expected to descend on the nation's capital, in part to mark the 40-year milestone. "We expect a record-breaking crowd, probably due to the result of the last election. The hotel blocks we reserved have already been sold out and I have received more

media inquiries than ever about the event," Monahan explained.

Catholic teenagers and young adults are a vibrant, well-represented group at the march, providing a boost of energy for the annual demonstration. "There is so much hope for the future," Monahan continued. "Polls have shown that more young people are pro-life. The average person in America is pro-life; it is the 'new normal.' Young people are great ambassadors for this human rights issue."

Separately, a pro-life rally sponsored by New Jersey Right to Life will be held Tuesday, Jan. 22, at the State House in Trenton from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Call the group,

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Hurricane Sandy tops list of 2012 stories

BY WARD MIELE
Managing Editor

Looking back, 2012 was a time of the expected and unexpected. It was a year of milestones as Archbishop Emeritus Peter L. Gerety celebrated his 100th birthday and Archbishop John J. Myers marked the 25th year of his episcopal ordination. It was also a year when the Archdiocese of Newark took a pounding from Hurricane Sandy.

Along with these developments, 2012 saw the archdiocese launch a groundbreaking Grief Support Group for the Deaf, and welcome the global celebration of the "Year of Faith," as proclaimed by Pope Benedict XVI. Two of its schools, Our Lady of Mount Carmel School in Tenafly and Visitation Academy Interparochial of Paramus, received national kudos as recipients of the U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon Award.

Once again the Archdiocese of Newark was among the national leaders when 16 men were ordained to the priesthood at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Other events included a pastoral letter from Archbishop Myers, "When Two Become One: A Pastoral Teaching on the Definition, Purpose and Sanctity of Marriage" and the sad news that Rev. Msgr. Kevin Hanbury, 66, vicar general for education and superintendent of schools had passed away.

The following is a month-by-month recap of 2012 stories.

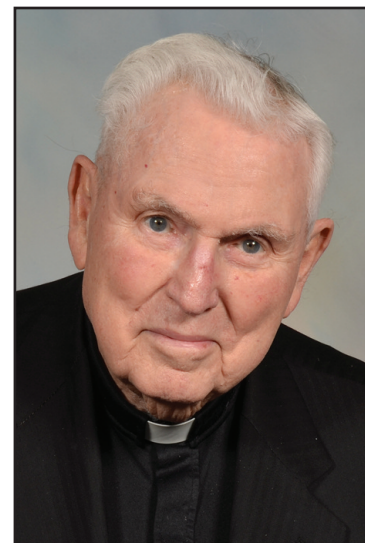
January

The Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration Chapel at Saint John the Apostle Parish in Linden celebrates its 15th anniversary. A large contingent of faithful from throughout the Archdiocese of Newark travels to the nation's capital for the 39th annual March for Life,

Continued on page 2



Archbishop Myers



Archbishop Gerety



E-EDITION ICON—Looking to connect with on-the-go users of smartphones and tablets, *The Catholic Advocate* unveils its first e-edition with the Jan. 9 issue. The link for the feature can be found on the newspaper's Web site. Readers will have the opportunity to view the entire publication electronically, see additional content not found in the newspaper's print edition, and access live links in articles and advertisements. See story on page 3.

2012 stories

Continued from page 1

protesting the Supreme Court's January 1973 decision legalizing abortion.

Three archdiocesan bishops, Most Rev. David Arias, O.A.R.; Most Rev. Edgar M. da Cunha, S.D.V.; and Most Rev. Manuel A. Cruz, are among 33 Hispanic/Latino Bishops of the United States who sign "Mananitas," a letter to immigrants from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. "Pledge Week" kicks off the Archbishop's Annual Appeal.

Archbishop Myers issues a statement of support in the wake of several attacks earlier in the month against Jewish synagogues in Bergen County, calling the violent acts "an abomination against all good people."

February

The 16th annual World Day for Consecrated Life is celebrated during a Sunday, Feb. 5 Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart. The Catholic Bishops of New Jersey issue a definitive statement "Marriage as a Union of One Man and One Woman" as a prelude to World Marriage Day on Feb. 12.

March

The Archdiocese of Newark announces it will close six elementary schools and one high school at the end of the current school year. To large, enthusiastic crowds, the annual Men's Conference and Women's Day of Reflection are held on consecutive Saturdays on the South Orange campus of Seton Hall University.

Writing to members of the New Jersey Senate, Deacon Patrick R. Brannigan, executive director of the New Jersey Catholic Conference, spells out the organization's strong objections to a bill that would express support for a controversial mandate issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Over 200 people from various backgrounds and faiths gathered in prayer during the 40 Days for Life campaign, part of pro-life efforts of the Archdiocese of Newark

April

The joy of Easter is celebrated throughout the Church of Newark. Rev. Msgr. Joseph R. Reilly, following a decade as rector of Saint Andrew Hall, the college seminary of the Immaculate Conception at Seton Hall University, is tapped as the new rector of Immaculate Conception Seminary, the major seminary of the Archdiocese of Newark on the campus of Seton Hall University. Father Mark O'Malley, assistant professor of Church History at Immaculate Conception, is named rector of Saint Andrew Hall while continuing to teach courses at the seminary. Father Duverney Bermudez, a parochial vicar at Saint Luke Parish in Ho-Ho-Kus is named vice rector of Saint Andrew Hall.

Saint Peter's College in Jersey City, which received its original charter in 1872, announces it will become a university with the new academic year.

May

Archbishop Myers ordains 16 new priests before an overflow crowd of clergy, Religious, family and friends in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

Archbishop Myers calls attendance by some 70 young men at a Vocations Awareness Evening Prayer Service the "answer to a prayer."

Felician College names Anne M. Prisco, Ph.D., as its first lay president.

June

High schools and colleges throughout the Archdiocese of Newark award diplomas to the Class of 2012. The local Church salutes its jubilarians for dedicated service in the vineyard of the Lord.

The Archdiocese of Newark throws its full support behind the Fortnight for Freedom efforts of the U.S. Bishops as Archbishop Myers calls for parishes throughout the local Church to ring their bells for a period of five minutes on June 21, the first day of the fortnight, and July 4, the end of the fortnight.



Advocate photo M. Gabriele

SUPPORT NETWORK—As part of Gov. Christie's "season of service" campaign for those in need, NJ Health Commissioner Mary E. O'Dowd, on Dec. 18, 2012, visited Saint Bridget's AIDS Support Network, an emergency shelter, operated by Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark. The shelter, located in Newark, provides support services for homeless men living with HIV/AIDS. Commissioner O'Dowd used the occasion to announce a state grant of \$94,000, which will be used by Catholic Charities to improve fire safety and security at Hope House, an emergency shelter in Jersey City for homeless women and children. O'Dowd (second from right) is pictured with (left to right) Gary Drake, a clinician from Mount Carmel Guild at Saint Bridget's shelter; Dr. Phillip Frese, chief executive officer of Catholic Charities; and Ernie McCullough, director of the Newark shelter. Saint Bridget's AIDS support network was founded in 1997. Overall, Catholic Charities maintains eight facilities for the homeless.

July

Archbishop Emeritus Peter L. Gerety marks his 100th birthday at a Mass in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz, Archbishop of Krakow, Poland, celebrates Mass at Saint Therese of the Child Jesus Parish in Linden as part of a pastoral visit to the Garden State.

August

The Archdiocese of Newark is in the vanguard of a groundbreaking Grief Support Group for the Deaf to provide bereavement counseling and assistance for those with hearing loss.

Saint Peter's College officially becomes Saint Peter's University.

September

Archbishop Myers celebrates the 25th anniversary of his Episcopal Ordination during a special Mass full of family, friends and fellow clergy at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

Seton Hall University School of Law celebrates the 28th annual Red Mass at the Cathedral Basilica

honoring Kevin M. O'Dowd, Esq., chief of staff to Gov. Chris Christie, with the Saint Thomas More Medal. The Archdiocese of Newark lays out plans to join the Church worldwide in celebrating the "Year of Faith."

Archdiocesan schools again receive national recognition as Academy of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Tenaflly and Paramus' Visitation Academy Interparochial are among 50 schools in the United States named National Blue Ribbon Schools for 2012.

Archbishop Myers issues a Pastoral Letter "When Two Become One: A Pastoral Teaching on the Definition, Purpose and Sanctity of Marriage"

October

Rev. Msgr. Kevin M. Hanbury, 66, vicar general for education and superintendent of schools, succumbs after a two-month battle with non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma.

In acknowledgement of his consistent encouragement and support of missionary outreach, the New York-based Pontifical Mission Societies designates

Archbishop Myers a "Pontifical Ambassador for Mission," the organization's highest honor.

November

For the first time in more than a half century of publishing, *The Catholic Advocate* is forced to cancel an edition (Nov. 7) when Hurricane Sandy slams into the metropolitan area Oct. 29. Due to a loss of power, the Archdiocesan Center is closed for over a week. It's estimated that damage throughout the local Church is more than \$10 million (and climbing). In the days that followed, parishes and schools mobilize to help victims of the monster storm.

The annual Nourishing Your Faith dinner raises over \$220,000 in support of a spectrum of programs in the archdiocese.

December

A highlight of the Christmas season, the 42nd annual Candlelight Carol Sing draws crowds to the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Archbishop Myers celebrates Christmas Midnight Mass at the Cathedral.

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FREQUENCY FOR 2013:

January 23, February 6 & 20, March 6 & 20, April 10 & 24, May 8 & 22, June 5 & 19, July 17, August 14 & 28, September 11 & 25, October 9 & 23, November 6 & 20, December 4 & 18

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NJPA
New Jersey Press Association

Eyeing online eyes, newspaper rolls out new e-edition

BY MELISSA MCNALLY
Staff Writer

www.rcan.org/advocate

With publication of the Jan. 9 issue, *The Catholic Advocate* launches its first e-edition prior to February's Catholic Press Month. The link for the feature is located on the newspaper's Web site (posted above), which was redesigned three years ago.

All e-editions will be available online the same day each newsprint issue is published. Readers will have the opportunity to view the entire publication electronically, get additional content and access live links in articles and advertisements.

In a world increasingly de-

pendent on smartphones, tablets and other electronic devices, the e-edition provides greater accessibility to subscribers on-the-go.

Marge Pearson-McCue, director of advertising and operations for Advocate Publishing Corp., said the e-edition will broaden the newspaper's audience while encouraging interaction between subscribers and *The Catholic Advocate*.

"We are equipping our Catholic readers for the digital age. The world is changing and we need to adapt and learn from it. Our printer (Philadelphia-based Bartash Printing Inc.) is fully on board and we have many new features avail-

able online. We hope to specifically enhance and broaden our digital audience. All e-editions will be archived and we hope to launch an app by the end of the year," Pearson-McCue explained.

Within the e-edition, links to schools, parishes and other Catholic organizations' Web sites will be immediately accessible. Advertisers will be able to expand their reach by including links to video feeds, photos and music within their ads. The new feature also will allow the publication to be more readily available to readers outside of New Jersey.

Michael C. Gabriele, the editor and associate publisher of *The*

Catholic Advocate, said the new e-edition is designed to complement—not replace—*The Catholic Advocate's* newsprint edition, as well as extend the flagship brand to a wider audience. Despite rising printing costs, Gabriele said the existing newspaper format will continue as is. Paid subscribers will still be sought to support the publishing group.

Although readers of the print publication will continue to be valued, the new electronic edition will extend the newspaper's audience to readers of online news. "We are grateful to our

core readership base that has been with us for over 60 years; they are always our top priority and our printed publication is standard," Pearson-McCue said. "However, readers who look for their news online, including young people, will be able to discover *The Catholic Advocate*. Colleges, religious communities and parishes will gain access to a younger audience."

For more information about the e-edition of *The Catholic Advocate*, contact Pearson-McCue at (973) 497-4201 or e-mail (pearsoma@rcan.org).

Long road

Continued from page 1

based in Piscataway, at (732) 562-0562 for details.

Michelle Krystofik, associate director of the Respect Life Office of the Archdiocese of Newark, agrees that young adults have embraced the pro-life movement. "You see a lot of 'gray-heads' at many pro-life gatherings, so it is encouraging to see young people committed to the cause. It gives us old-timers a shot in the arm to see the youth involved; we are passing the baton and it is not being dropped."

Jim Sondey, chairman of the archdiocesan Pro-life Commission, has attended the March for Life for over 20 years. "I've noticed more young people and young families, some with strollers, marching. There are bus-

loads of students from as far away as Missouri who travel for days to get there. It may seem dark right now, but there is hope for the future. Young people realize they could have been aborted and see the affects of abortion in their generation."

Sondey believes the March for Life offers solidarity for like-minded advocates. "Sometimes you believe that you're by yourself. The march shows that we are all in this fight together. We all make sacrifices to be there and it as an opportunity to recharge my batteries and renew my commitment. I have to make a statement and stand up for what I believe in, or the other side wins."

After four decades, the march is an example of the "patience and perseverance" he feels are necessary to the pro-life cause. "By going to Washington D.C., we are

showing that we're not giving up. Eventually, there will be change," Sondey said.

Daniel Kraft, a member of the archdiocesan Pro-Life Commission, is in disbelief that abortion can still be offered "on demand" in this country. He has attended the March for Life for over 30 years. "I expected that we would have put an end to this by now. I have been pro-life since the 1960s. I was in high school during Roe v. Wade. I thought it was going to be an easy matter to convince people that life begins at conception. Many people are totally illogical and can't see the facts. I'm hopeful; we just have to trust in God."

(Editor's note: Anyone seeking information on bus rides to attend the March for Life should contact individual parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Newark.)



Patricia Brady-Danzig

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USCCB, Archbishop Myers underline Migration Week

WASHINGTON—National Migration Week is being observed in dioceses around the United States Jan. 6-12. This year's theme is: "We are Strangers No Longer: Our Journey of Hope Continues." The celebration includes a postcard campaign by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) that calls for comprehensive immigration reform.

The theme also celebrates the 10th anniversary of the joint pastoral letter, "Strangers No Longer: Together on a Journey of Hope," issued in 2003 by the USCCB and the Conferencia del Episcopado Mexicano. In the pastoral letter, the bishops reflected on migration between Mexico and the United States as a "sign of the times" that is necessary and beneficial, with promises and challenges.

"Catholics have a responsibility to welcome newcomers into our communities and parishes, help them integrate and provide material and spiritual support that will allow them to flourish," Archbishop José Gomez of Los Angeles, chairman of the USCCB Committee on Migration, said. "National Migration Week is an opportunity for the Church to remember and reflect on these obligations."

As part of this year's National Migration Week celebration the USCCB Migration and Refugee Services will launch a postcard campaign that calls on Congress to pass fair and comprehensive immigration reform that would: provide a path to citizenship for un-

www.justiceforimmigrants.org

documented persons in the country; preserve family unity as a cornerstone of our national immigration system; provide legal paths for low-skilled immigrant workers to come and work in the United States; restore due process protections to immigration enforcement policies; and address the root causes of migration caused by persecution and economic disparity.

"The Obama Administration and Congress should work together to secure legislation that will provide a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants, provide legal means for migrants to enter our nation to work, and reform the system to allow family reunification," Archbishop Gomez said, urging Catholics to support the campaign.

Observance of National Migration Week began over a quarter century ago by the U.S. bishops to give Catholics an opportunity to take stock of the wide diversity of peoples in the Church and the ministries serving them.

Details on the USCCB's postcard campaign can be found in the Web site posted above.

(Editor's note: In support of the USCCB efforts, Archbishop John J. Myers, through the archdiocesan Office of Communications and Public Relations, issued the following letter on Dec. 28, 2012 to priests throughout the Archdiocese of Newark.)

On Sunday, Jan. 13 the Church will celebrate World Day for

Migrants and Families. This year's theme—Migrations: Pilgrimage of Faith and Hope—is a very tangible expression of the Year of Faith that we are now celebrating.

The celebration this year also marks the 10th anniversary of the pastoral letter of the United States and Mexican Bishops, "Strangers No Longer: Together on the Journey of Hope." This pastoral reminds us of our responsibility as Catholics to help newcomers integrate in ways that are respectful, culturally sensitive and responsive

to social needs, and of the ongoing need for comprehensive and compassionate immigration reform.

In his annual message for World Day of Migrants and Refugees, Our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, writes: "Faith and hope are inseparable in the hearts of many migrants, who deeply desire a better life and not infrequently try to leave behind the 'hopelessness' of an unpromising future. During their journey many of them are sustained by the deep trust that God never abandons his children."

I share with each of you today

a copy of the pope's message. I encourage each of you to make it available to your parish community and to speak during the week-end of Jan. 12 and 13 on the need to welcome the stranger into our society, our civic communities and our faith community.

I encourage you to visit the Web sites for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Justice for Immigrants (posted above) for additional resources and tools that you can use to make this year's celebration of World Day for Migrants and Refugees relevant to the people of your parish.

Bishops ponder sources of violence in wake of Newtown school tragedy

WASHINGTON—In the aftermath of the tragedy Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, CT, the chairmen of three committees of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) issued a joint statement to decry violence in society.

On Dec. 14, a lone gunman brutally killed 20 students and six teachers at the school.

The bishops repeated the call from Cardinal Timothy Dolan of New York, president of USCCB, who expressed deepest sorrow for all the victims and issued as call to work for peace in our homes, streets and world. U.S. bishops urged all Americans, especially legislators, to address national policies that will strengthen regulations of firearms and improve access to healthcare for those with mental health needs.

"As Catholic Bishops, we join together with the president of our conference, Cardinal Dolan, who on the day of the horrible tragedy expressed his profound solidarity with and prayers for the families, friends, neighbors, and communities whose hearts have been

rent by the loss of a child or loved one," Bishop Stephen E. Blaize of Stockton, CA; Bishop John C. Wester of Salt Lake City; and Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades of Fort Wayne-South Bend, IN, wrote in a statement ("Call for Action in Response to Newtown Tragedy") dated Dec. 21, 2012. The above-mentioned bishops are chairmen of the USCCB's Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development; Committee on Communications; and the Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth, respectively.

"Sacred Scripture reminds us time and again to 'be not afraid.' Indeed, we must find within ourselves the faith-filled courage to address the challenges our nation faces, both in our homes and in our national policies," the three bishops said. They also addressed the need for healthcare policies that provide support to people with mental health needs, and called on the entertainment industry to address the proliferation of violence and evaluate its impact in society.

Keyword search: new meanings for 'Sandy'

Looking back on 2012, one of the key words is "Sandy." Superstorm Sandy carried sandy beaches from shore points like Sandy Hook and south, creating sandy streets, and also flooded homes and powerless communities both south and north. About six weeks later, Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, CT, saw 26 children and adults gunned down by a mentally troubled individual with a semi-automatic assault weapon.

Amidst these and other tragedies, we look with hope to New Year 2013. The future is always colored by the events of the past. Those who have suffered the loss of lives of loved ones or living quarters will continue to deal with the results of these circumstances. Nonetheless, there is the potential for change and growth as

each day of the New Year unfolds.

Be it by natural disasters or man-made means, the threat to human life is ever existent. The culture of our country, indeed our world, often fails to treasure human life, finding means to prevent it, shorten it, or disregard it, rather than support it. Whether the issue is global warming, gun control, mental health, human trafficking, immigration, abortion or euthanasia, doing nothing most certainly is not the appropriate response.

Later this month, thousands of people will once again March for Life in our nation's capitol (see story on page 1). At the same time, we must not cease praying for a greater openness to life and get involved in tangible ways to support it, through contacting legislators or cooperating in initia-

tives in defense of life, like 40 Days for Life or other faithful vigils that put prayer into action.

When I was 15, the great March storm of 1962 devastated parts of Long Beach Island. While I was somewhat in awe of the destruction, I had little sense of the implications it had on the homeowners' and business owners' lives. Being a more seasoned adult as well as a homeowner there myself now, I have a greater awareness of the challenges such catastrophes present to people, both immediate and long-term.

After the Roe v Wade decision of 1973, I struggled pastorally as a young priest with people who confessed an abortion, which at the time was designated a "reserved sin" with recourse to the archbishop for absolution. Now, having been involved with Project

Rachel and Rachel's Vineyard Retreat weekends, I have come to appreciate the depths of ongoing devastation wreaked in the lives of the parents, especially but not only the mothers, of those aborted children. Through this effective means of healing and reconciliation, new hope springs forth in severely shattered lives.

Although the triskaidekaphobes among us may not be too eager to live in 2013, I see great potential for new life and new growth in this New Year. Shore communities will rebuild. Newtown residents will become even more demonstrative of how we all should be supporting one another both in remembrance and in making our nation a safer place in which to live.

May each of us decide that this is the year that we will get

SEEING & BELIEVING



By Rev. Msgr. Richard J. Arnolds

personally involved in some way to make the life of at least one person in any type of need a little better because of our care and concern!

(Rev. Msgr. Richard J. Arnolds is pastor of Saint John the Evangelist Parish, Bergenfield, and archdiocesan Vicar for Pastoral Life.)



Archbishop John J. Myers has announced the following appointments:

ARCHDIOCESAN AGENCY/MINISTRY

Reverend Justino Cornejo, Formator at Redemptoris Mater House of Formation, Kearny, has also been appointed to the Presbyteral Council of the Archdiocese of Newark, for a three year term, ending Aug. 31, 2015.

Reverend Michael J. German, Parochial Vicar of Saint Peter the Apostle Parish, River Edge, has been appointed director of Saint John Vianney Residence, Rutherford, effective Feb. 1, the date of his retirement from active ministry.

DEANS

Reverend Dominic G. Ciriaco, Pastor of Saint Mary Parish, Dumont, has also been appointed Dean of the Central Bergen Deanery, Deanery 3, for a term of five years, effective Feb. 1 and ending Feb. 1, 2018.

Reverend James M. Manos, Pastor of Saint Thomas More Parish, Fairfield, has also been appointed Dean of the Essex West Deanery, Deanery 15, for a term of five years, ending Dec. 11, 2017.

PASTORS

Reverend Monsignor

Venantius Fernando, Pastor of Christ the King Parish, Hillside, has been granted an extension of his pastorate for one year, ending July 1.

Reverend Kevin E. Carter, Pastor of Saint Nicholas Parish, Jersey City, has been appointed Pastor of Saint Margaret of Cortona Parish, Little Ferry, effective Feb. 1.

Reverend Bruce E. Harger has been appointed Pastor of Saint Nicholas Parish, Jersey City, effective Feb. 1.

Reverend Edgardo P. Jocson, Parochial Vicar of Saint Michael Parish, Cranford, has been appointed Pastor of Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Parish, Linden, effective Feb. 1.

ADMINISTRATORS

Reverend Eric W. Fuchs, Parochial Vicar of Saint Vincent de Paul Parish, Bayonne, has been appointed Administrator effective Jan. 16.

Reverend Charles M. Kelly, Special Assistant to Archbishop John J. Myers, has also been appointed Administrator of Saint Mary of the Assumption Parish, Elizabeth, with continued residence at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark, effective Jan. 3 and ending June 30.

PAROCHIAL VICARS

Reverend John R. Barno, Parochial Vicar of Saint Andrew Parish, Bayonne, has been appointed Parochial Vicar of Saint Mary of the Assumption Parish, Elizabeth, effective Jan. 16.

Reverend Marek Chachlowski, part-time Parochial Vicar of Little Flower Parish, Berkeley Heights, and part-time Parochial Vicar of Saint Joseph Parish, West Orange, has been appointed Parochial Vicar of Saint Joseph Parish, effective Jan. 16.

Reverend Esterminio Chica, Parochial Vicar of Saint Mary of the Assumption Parish, Elizabeth, has been appointed Parochial Vicar of Most Holy Name Parish, Garfield, effective Jan. 16.

Reverend Robert J. Cormier has been appointed Parochial Vicar of Saint Patrick & Assumption/All Saints Parish, Jersey City, effective Jan. 16.

Reverend Alexander Cruz, Parochial Vicar of Saint Joseph of the Palisades Parish, West New York, has been appointed Parochial Vicar of Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Parish, Linden, effective Feb. 1.

Reverend Paul Houlis has been appointed Parochial Vicar of Saint Elizabeth Parish, Wyckoff, effective Jan. 16.

Reverend Marco Hurtado, Parochial Vicar of Holy Spirit Parish, Union, has been appointed Parochial Vicar of Saint Catherine of Siena Parish, Hillside, effective Jan. 16.

Reverend Bruce G. Janiga has been appointed Parochial Vicar of Holy Spirit Parish, Union, effective Jan. 16.

Reverend Vinh Q. Nguyen, Pastor of Saint Vincent de Paul Parish, Bayonne, has been appointed Parochial Vicar of Little Flower Parish, Berkeley Heights, effective Jan. 16.

Reverend John J. Prada, has been appointed Parochial Vicar of Saint Mary, Star of the Sea Parish, Bayonne, effective Jan. 16.

Reverend Roy B. Regaspi, Parochial Vicar of Saint Joseph Parish, New Milford, has been appointed Parochial Vicar of Saint Vincent de Paul Parish, Bayonne, effective Jan. 16.

Reverend Juan Carlos Vargas, Parochial Vicar of Saint Aloysius Parish, Caldwell, has been appointed Parochial Vicar of Saint Mary of the Assumption Parish, Elizabeth, effective Jan. 16.

Reverend Jose H. Victoria, Parochial Vicar of Saint Mary, Star of the Sea Parish, Bayonne, has been appointed Parochial Vicar of

Our Lady of the Lake Parish, Verona, effective Jan. 16.

CHAPLAIN

Reverend William J. Halbing, Pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Scotch Plains, was also appointed Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus Father John S. Nelligan Council No. 5730, Scotch Plains, effective Nov. 28, 2012.

RELEASED

Reverend Attilio Morelli, has been released from pastoral service within the Archdiocese of Newark to begin pastoral service within the Diocese of Hamilton in Bermuda, for a period of three years, beginning Jan. 15.

RETIREMENT

Reverend Patrick W. Donohue, Parochial Vicar of Saint Mary of the Assumption Parish, Elizabeth, has been granted retirement, effective Jan. 15.

Reverend William T. Morris, Chaplain at Saint Michael Villa, Englewood, has been granted retirement, effective Feb. 1.

Reverend Francis E. Schiller, member of Team Ministry at Saint Patrick & Assumption/All Saints Parish, Jersey City, has been granted retirement, effective Feb. 1.



On December 27-28th, 2012 at the Archdiocesan Youth Retreat Center in Kearny, the Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry hosted the "2nd annual CYO Holiday Classic Grammar School Basketball Tournament."

Seven Parishes and Schools from throughout the Archdiocese participated in this event and great time was had by all!

"It was great to see our newly redone gym filled with these great teams and their families during the Christmas Holiday!" stated Tom Conboy, Director of the Youth Ministry Office and the Retreat Center Facility. "We were fortunate enough to have every county in the Archdiocese represented here this year at our event." he added.

Congratulations to all involved in this years Tournament!

St. Joseph, Roselle, St. Joseph, Maplewood,
All Saints Academy, Bayonne, St. Leo Boys, Elmwood Park
St. Leo Lady Lions, Elmwood Park, St. Theresa, Kenilworth and Assumption, Emerson

You can learn more about the Youth & Young Adult Ministry Office and the Retreat Center at www.newarkoym.com



Special to the Catholic Advocate

January 9, 2013

Catholic Schools Week Preview

January 27 - February 2, 2013



National standards serve as 'compass' for policies

(Editor's note: The following article originally appeared in the February/March 2012 edition of Momentum Magazine, published by the National Catholic Education Association, Arlington, VA.)

BY LORRAINE A. OZAR

Special to The Catholic Advocate

Throughout almost four decades of working in and with Catholic schools, I have repeatedly made this claim: "It is unconscionable to ask parents to make a choice between high quality academics and faith-based education. The stakes are simply too high." This means that Catholic school leaders have a fundamental responsibility to ensure that their school is absolutely, irresistibly excellent and deeply, authentically Catholic.

To do so, all of us invested in Catholic schools must be able to define excellent and Catholic as these apply universally, and at the

same time be able to describe what both will look like within the practices and culture of the local school community.

The National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools (NSBECS), published in 2012, provides school leaders and governing bodies with the necessary framework—credible, consistent, agreed-upon criteria—confidently to lead truly excellent Catholic schools.

(The Archdiocese of Newark has demonstrated its commitment to excellence in education as nine schools in 2011 and 2012 were recognized with National Blue Ribbon awards from the U.S.

Continued on page 8



Submitted photo

BLUE RIBBON CEREMONIES— Our Lady of Mount Carmel School in Tenafly and Visitation Academy Interparochial in Paramus, the two archdiocesan schools recognized as 2012 National Blue Ribbon Schools by the U.S. Department of Education, recently took part in Blue Ribbon award ceremonies. Pictured at Our Lady of Mount Carmel School were (left to right) Brother Ralph Darmento, F.S.C., acting archdiocesan superintendent of schools; Father Leonard J. Gilman, O. Carm, pastor, Our Lady of Mount Carmel; Sylvia Cosentino, principal; and Sister Marie Gagliano, M.P.F., associate superintendent for Bergen County. The student body, faculty, parents and local dignitaries attended the ceremony. Brother Ralph noted that the award was not only a tribute to the efforts of the principal and faculty, but also to the dedication of supportive parents and a hard-working student body. The two schools were tapped last September for the Blue Ribbon recognition (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Sept. 26, 2012).

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School Tours	Wednesday, March 20, 2013	10:00-2:00 p.m. 7:00-8:30 p.m.



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Pontifical Mission officials visit Newark school

Chinese archbishop thanks students for generosity

NEWARK—"Word has gotten all the way to Rome about Saint Michael's School," Archbishop Savio Hon Tai-Fai, S.D.B., told 300 students gathered for a morning assembly last November at the Catholic elementary school, located at 27 Crittenden St.

The word that reached Rome was "generosity" as Archbishop Hon, who serves as the secretary for the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, acknowledged students, teachers and administrators at Saint Michael's School for their strong support of the Missionary Childhood Association (MCA).

To honor this generosity, Archbishop Hon presented the Pauline Jaricot Award to Dr. Linda Cerino, Saint Michael's principal, and noted that students have contributed more than \$60,000 to MCA programs during the last 10 years.

Archbishop Hon explained that Pauline Jaricot, who founded the Society for the Propagation of the Faith—a Pontifical Mission Society like MCA—had generous friends who helped her. "Since we cannot do things alone, God created friendship," he said.

Father Andrew Small, O.M.I., national director of the Pontifical Mission Societies, which coordinated Archbishop Hon's visit to New Jersey in November, extended his prayerful congratulations and thanks to students at Saint Michael's. Sister Arline Zurich, O.S.B., MCA coordinator in the Archdiocese of Newark, spoke briefly, affirming the missionary spirit of the school and emphasizing that each child at Saint Michael's is a missionary right now, in prayer and sacrifice.

Last November Archbishop Hon visited Saint Michael's during his six-day journey to New York,

New Jersey, Baltimore and Washington, DC. While in the Garden State, he received an honorary degree from Seton Hall University, South Orange (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Nov. 21, 2012). The first Chinese to hold a senior post at the Vatican, Archbishop Hon is part of the congregation that oversees missionary work worldwide, including the efforts of the Pontifical Mission Societies. He has been at the forefront is trying to establish a dialogue between the Vatican and government officials in China.

Archbishop Hon offered Saint Michael's students another "word" during his visit—one he said they already understood based on their generous help to the Missions. The word was "patch."

"A patch is something you place on a hole, to close it up, to make it whole," he said. "And you are doing that for the Missions—

putting a 'PATCH' in the Mission world where faith is needed, where faith in Jesus helps make lives complete, filled with love and hope."

He explained that each letter in "patch" stood for a significant word: "P" for prayer, which ac-

companies the sacrifices for the Missions; "A" for affection for Pope Benedict XVI, chief missionary; "T" for trust in God; "C" for charity, love of neighbor, even those far away; and "H" for humility, humbly offering help out of love for and trust in God.



Submitted photo

Last November students at Saint Michael's School, Newark, hosted visitors from the Pontifical Mission Societies (back row, left to right): Father Andrew Small, O.M.I., national director; Archbishop Savio Hon Tai-Fai; and Rev. Msgr. Robert Fuhrman, assistant national director. Msgr. Fuhrman is the former pastor of Saint Gabriel the Archangel Parish, Saddle River. Dr. Linda Cerino is the principal of Saint Michael's School, while Father Antonio L. da Silva, S.D.V., serves as the pastor of Saint Michael's Parish. Other dignitaries attending the event at the Newark school included Father Michael Fugee, director of the archdiocesan Pontifical Mission Societies; Auxiliary Bishop Edgar M. da Cunha, S.D.V.; and Sister Arline Zurich, O.S.B. archdiocesan coordinator for the Missionary Childhood Association.

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Standards

Continued from page 6

Department of Education.)

Publication of NSBECS represents the fruit of two years of drafting and consultation among a wide range of Catholic educators and Catholic school supporters. In October 2009, the Center for Catholic School Effectiveness (CCSE) and the School of Education, Loyola University Chicago, hosted a conference entitled “Developing and Sustaining Leaders for Catholic Schools: How Can Catholic Higher Education Help?” This conference was the second in a series of six conferences sponsored by the Catholic Higher Education Collaborative (CHEC) to explore ways Catholic colleges and universities could collaborate in supporting Pre-K through 12 Catholic schools. The rich conversation among diocesan personnel, school leaders, Catholic educational networks, the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) and Catholic university scholars and leaders at the Loyola

Conference participants overwhelmingly agreed that national standards would serve as a basis for developing and/or validating local school, diocesan or network standards with the added credibility of a broader national vision. More specifically, conference participants reached consensus that collectively endorsed national standards offered the opportunity to:

- clarify the brand of Catholic school
- provide a framework to enhance public policy and advocacy efforts on behalf of Catholic schools
- provide universal characteristics and criteria that could serve as a basis of Catholic school accreditation
- provide a link to Catholic higher education professional development and leadership programs;
- increase funders’ confidence in local school capacity for sustainable improvement.

CHEC conference created a single, foundational statement of standards of excellence for Pre-K through 12 Catholic schools.

In February 2010, work on drafting NSBECS began. The Center for Catholic School Effectiveness convened an eight-member, volunteer national taskforce of Catholic school educators and supporters, chaired by Lorraine A. Ozar, Ph.D., in communication with the NCEA.

The NSBECS describes how the most mission-driven, pro-

gram-effective and well-managed Catholic schools operate. They are “school-effectiveness” standards rather than “curriculum-content” standards, although they support curriculum development consistent with national standards and the Common Core State Standards.

In itself, the NSBECS does not constitute an accreditation protocol; instead, it provides a sound set of criteria that Catholic school sponsors can use confidently as the basis of authentic Catholic



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PROUD MOMENT—Sister Philomena McCartney, O.P., left, principal of Visitation Academy Interparochial, Paramus, and teacher Laura Flager traveled to Washington, D.C. in November to formally accept the Blue Ribbon Award from the U.S. Department of Education. Visitation Academy is affiliated with Sacred Heart Parish, Rochelle Park; Annunciation Parish and Parish of the Visitation both in Paramus. U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan announced the 2012 Blue Ribbon winners during a press conference on Sept. 7, 2012. In 2011 seven archdiocesan schools were honored for their scholastic achievements with Blue Ribbon recognition.

school accreditation and/or evaluation. In itself, the NSBECS does not constitute a set of policies or procedures for operating effective Catholic schools; instead, it lays out the full range of school-related practices that must be included in comprehensive, effective policies and procedures. The NSBECS is a compass, not a how-to-manual.

The NSBECS provides a roadmap for arriving at the 21st century, for Catholic schools we want and need. As the NSBECS becomes widely implemented, a national “menu” of professional development around the standards and benchmarks can result in accessible and efficiently targeted programs and resources for Catholic school improvement. Similarly, corporations and not-for-profits interested in providing services and materials for Catholic schools can use the NSBECS to focus their work in support of

Catholic schools. Foundations and donors can use the NSBECS to gauge school capacity for improvement based on widely accepted criteria and to measure the soundness of proposed improvement plans.

The NSBECS is a future-looking document. We want Catholic schools to be irresistible and excellent. The NSBECS present Catholic school leaders with an invaluable tool—a landmark starting point and end point—to engage the entire school community (faculty, staff, parents, students, alumni, corporate sponsors, funders, diocesan Catholic school offices, the wider community) in meaningful and well-directed school improvement efforts.

(Lorraine A. Ozar, Ph.D. is founding director of the Center for Catholic School Effectiveness in the School of Education, Loyola University, Chicago.)

For more information on the National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools, visit the Web site for Loyola University’s Center for Catholic School Effectiveness:
www.luc.edu/ccse/standards.shtml



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



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

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'Spotlight' series begins Jan. 19

AREA — The Catechetical Office of the Archdiocese of Newark has scheduled a series of courses intended to introduce adult Catholics to key teachings of the faith.

"Spotlight on the Catechism" offers a course on each of the four parts of the Catechism while

"Spotlight on the Scriptures" consists of two courses: introductions to the Old Testament and the New Testament.

Spotlight courses will be held on Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and are open to the public. The 2013 series starts Jan. 19 with "Our Moral Life: Restrictions

or Possibilities," presented by Father Michael A. Saporito at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Scotch Plains. Spotlight on the New Testament: "The Word Enlightens our Faith, Fortifies our Hope, Inflames our Love," is slated for March 2 at Saint Henry Parish, Bayonne. Father John D.

Gabriel, archdiocesan director of vocations, will be the presenter.

For additional information or to register, contact Dr. Eugene Tozzi at the archdiocesan Catechetical Office by phone (973) 497-4288, or e-mail (tozzieug@rcan.org).

The Catechetical Office also will offer courses for Spirituality Certification and Methodology Certification for catechists.

Courses will be held 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on Saturdays. Each is a single-day session. Elizabeth Foer of the Catechetical Office is the presenter. Methodology Certification is scheduled for Feb. 2 at Saint Theresa of Avila Parish in Summit and a week later at Saint Aloysius Parish in Jersey City. For additional information, contact Foer, (973) 497-4297 or (foereliz@rcan.org).

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Understanding mission of servant, teacher

Readings: Is 42:1-7; Ps 29; Acts 10:34-38; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22.

As the liturgy moves from the festive season to “ordinary time,” the Church commemorates the Baptism of Jesus as the sign that His public ministry begins as an act of solidarity with human beings in their need for repentance and divine forgiveness.

In the midst of the humdrum of life, ordinary people may be so concerned about themselves and their families that they forget about their obligations to society at large. “My vote won’t make any difference” they say and thus they disenfranchise themselves from the right and responsibility of citizenship. “Yes, someone must speak for the unborn child, the handicapped and the disoriented” they acknowledge, but allow occasions for compassion to pass by unnoticed. Even the faithful need to be reminded that their

baptism challenges them to reach out in Christ’s name to a world in need.

At various points in the collection of instructions from the Babylonian Exile known as “Second Isaiah” (chapters 40-55), the prophet presented God’s call to a teacher addressed as his “servant.” Moses and other prophets had been given this title in earlier centuries, showing that guiding the people into obedience was a mission analogous to the sublime and dramatic service of God constituted by public worship.

The promised servant would be chosen, as Moses was, and endowed with the Spirit of God so that he could bring justice in accord with divine judgment to the nations. Is this to be achieved through authoritarian measures and terrifying decrees? No, but by calm and persistent instruction, with a special care for the limitations of those needing guidance. Thus will they be cured of their blindness and led from the dun-

geon of their enslavement to oppressors and to sin into the light of God’s truth. Indeed, the call “to open the eyes of the blind, to bring out prisoners from confinement” (Is 42:7) may be taken literally, as an aspect of God’s transformation of the situation endured by those in exile (see Is 29:18; 35:1-6; 61:1). Yet those marvels would be ordered to the greater gift of divine illumination on the level of faith.

Saint Luke’s description of John the Baptist points clearly to the understanding that Isaiah’s consoling message is being fulfilled (Lk 3:4-6 quotes Is 40:3-5; Lk 4:18-19 quotes Is 61:1-2). No doubt he intended his report of the Father’s approving words, “You are my beloved Son; on you my favor rests” (Lk 3:22) to refer back to Isaiah 42:1.

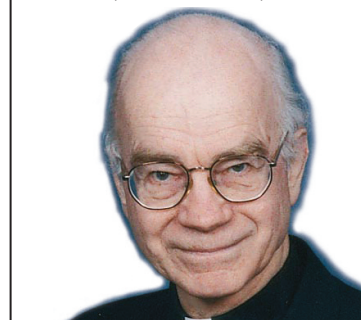
While each Gospel emphasizes the importance of prayer in the life of Jesus, Luke makes a special point of stating that Jesus prayed on several occasions of

great significance. Of course prayer would prepare for and accompany the manifestation of the Holy Spirit and the approbation of the heavenly Father. At precisely the time when John’s baptism of repentance linked Jesus with humanity in this desperate need, the presence of God is manifested to Jesus in a new way. Although Luke hints at Jesus’ intimacy with the Father’s will when He is found in the Temple (2:49), the Master is now called to embark on the teaching and healing mission of the Servant of God. “This is the message that God has sent to the children of Israel, the good news of peace proclaimed through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all” (Acts 10:36).

In His Baptism Jesus identified Himself with those seeking forgiveness and reconciliation with his Father. He humbled Himself to share in our humanity with its frailties so that His baptism (or plunge) into death would

SUNDAY READINGS

The Baptism of the Lord
(Jan. 13, 2013)



By Rev. Lawrence Frizzell

be the foundation for a life of peace.

In our baptism, we become recipients of the call to become children of God. This elevates us above the hopeless, alienated situation of humankind—but precisely to enable us to exercise a role of service in union with the healing, peace-making ministry of Jesus. This imitation of Christ the Servant is integral to every development of our Christian vocation.

Around the Archdiocese

January 13

RESURRECTION PARISH, Jersey City, St. Michael Singers and friends concert, “This Hallowed Season: Celebrating Christ’s Birth in Word and Music,” 4 p.m., (201) 653-7328.

January 15

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH, Mahwah, “Evening of Reflection with LectioDivina,” 7:30 p.m., call Jennifer Edwards at (201) 327-1276 or e-mail Jennifer.Edwards-ICC@gmail.com.

January 17

MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS PARISH, Wallington, bus trip to Sands Casino, Bethlehem, PA, bus departs from parish at 9 a.m., returns at 6 p.m., cost: \$32, call Ginny Topolski at (201) 715-2087.

January 18

ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK, RESPECT LIFE OFFICE, Rachel’s Vineyard Retreat, for post-abortion healing, through Jan. 20, Friday 6:30 p.m. - Sunday 5 p.m., cost: \$100, (732) 388-8211 or e-mail arnewrespect@sjanj.net.

PARAMUS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, fall drama production of “Stage

Door,” 7:30 p.m., also on Jan. 19 and Jan. 20, (201) 445-4466.

NJ BLOOD SERVICES, blood drive, at Holy Family Parish, Nutley, 2:30-8:30 p.m., call Marie Forrester at (732) 616-0798.

January 19

ST. MARGARET OF CORTONA PARISH, Little Ferry, fund-raising dinner to benefit parish, sponsored by parishes of Deanery 5, at The Redmond Center, St. Anastasia Parish, Teaneck, 7 p.m., cost: \$40, call Father Lawrence J. Fama at (201) 845-9566 or e-mail frlfama@yahoo.com.

January 20

ST. JOHN THE APOSTLE PARISH, Linden, Holy Hour for Vocations, (908) 486-6363.

CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF THE SACRED HEART, Newark, Pro-Life Mass and Holy Hour, noon, Eucharistic Holy Hour for Life will be held at St. Lucy Parish, call (973) 484-4600 or visit www.rcan.org/life for more information.

January 26

ST. CATHERINE PARISH, Glen Rock, 60th Anniversary Jubilee Mass, 5 p.m., Anniversary Gala to follow



Advocate photo – Ward Miele

THINKING OF OTHERS—Last month members of the First Neocatecumenal Community at Saint Aloysius Parish, Newark, visited Archbishop John J. Myers in his residence at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart to make a donation for the poor. Seated next to Archbishop Myers—who is holding one-year-old Laura Maria Ibarra—is Father Paulo Dos Santos Frade, Saint Aloysius pastor. Also pictured are Jocelyn and Mauricio Ibarra, Carlos Guevara and Sebastian Ibarra.

at The Tides, North Haledon, call Annette Gallagher at (201) 612-4600.

January 27

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH, Mahwah, spiritual book discussion of “Meeting Jesus in the Gospels” by George Martin, at Panera Bread, Ramsey, 5 p.m.,

call Jennifer Edwards at (201) 327-1276 or e-mail Jennifer.EdwardsICC@gmail.com.

January 30

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE PARISH, Maywood, showing the major motion picture “For Greater Glory,” 7 p.m., snow date Feb. 6 at 7 p.m., call Deacon Joe Manti-

neo at (201) 845-9566 or e-mail dcnjmantaneo@gmail.com.

Other

SAINT MARY BY-THE-SEA RETREAT HOUSE, Cape May, the brochure for the 2013 Season is now available online at www.stmary-bythesea.org, call (609) 884-8708 for more information.

January 9, 2013



National Vocation Awareness Week • January 13-19, 2013

Hearts hold key to hear, foster call for vocations

BY BR. PATRICK A. WINBUSH
Special to The Catholic Advocate

Saint Benedict says in his rule for monks: "Listen with the ear of your heart." Thirteen years ago I listened with my heart and said "yes" to the Lord. Today, when I contemplate the Church's celebration of National Vocations Awareness Week (Jan. 13-19), I look back on my years as a monk and know that God has been good to me. My dream growing up was to become a priest or Religious, and that dream came true.

My attraction to the priesthood and religious life began when I was in Catholic school. I was fortunate back then that there were a number of priests and religious in the schools that I attended. I was attracted to them by the way they carried themselves. They were kind, respectful and tough when they needed to be. The Religious were always around when you needed help. I am blessed that I am able to follow in the footsteps of these holy men and women who educated and mentored me.

Now, fast forward to the present. When I was appointed the

director of vocations for my Benedictine community in June 2007, I made it my mission to foster vocations from amongst the student body at Saint Benedict's Preparatory School, which is located at 528 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd., Newark. In the spring of 2007, I met with three students who I thought would make good Religious in the future. We started talking about priestly and religious vocations. The students seemed to be interested in what I was saying. I found an online vocation survey for the teenagers to take. Once they completed the survey they received a score. All of them received high scores which they shared with their parents. The students were amazed that they received a high score. When I met with them to discuss their scores, they immediately thought that the possibility of becoming a priest or religious would be a part of their future plans. As a result, it was suggested by one of the students that I start a group in the school to speak about vocations.

In September 2007, a vocations club at Saint Benedict's, known as "Fishers of Men," was born. I took the name "Fishers of Men" from



Br. Patrick Winbush

the Gospel passage, when Jesus told Peter and Paul to come follow Him and He would make them Fishers of Men. The three students were the first leaders of this new vocations club.

The mission of Fishers of Men is to help students discern a call to the religious life and priesthood. During the early days I ran the meetings primarily looking at scripture, group reflection and the media. The group grew to 10 students by the end of the first year. Since then, the Fishers of Men program has evolved with more students interested in learning more about a Catholic vocation.

A few years ago I welcomed

non-Catholic students to join the club. Saint Benedict's has a number of non-Catholic students who have expressed interest in becoming a minister within their own churches. I think that's wonderful.

My original leaders are now juniors and seniors in college. We keep in touch through Facebook. I know that one of them wanted to start a vocation group on his college campus.

My current leaders have been running the group, with my guidance in the background. They are seniors now looking forward to attending college. One of my leaders, Peter Santiago a senior at Saint Benedict's Prep offers his thoughts on his faith journey. "My childhood focused around my local parish, Saint Genevieve, which is two blocks away from my house," Santiago said. "I learned a lot about my faith through my religious education classes and being involved in the youth group. My faith grew stronger during my years at Saint Benedict's. I have reflected in the past of being called to something bigger than myself; I felt that I had a vocation. During my freshman year I heard about the Fishers of Men group, so I im-

mediately joined. Being in Fishers of Men helped me learn more about the priesthood and religious life. I am happy that I was made one of the leaders to help guide the younger students in the group."

Brandon Ocampo, another leader in the group, shared his thoughts about his faith journey. "I was born into a family where Catholicism was the center of our life," Ocampo recalled. "From a young age, I always loved the faith. It was something my heart thirsted for. As I grew older, I had the idea that I wanted to study medicine and work at Saint Jude's to help kids with cancer. But it wasn't until the summer before my junior year that I began to take my faith more seriously. I told myself: 'It makes no sense to call myself a Catholic if I don't act Catholic.' I began learning more about my faith. By learning about my faith, I began not only to mature, but I began to live my faith in a deeper way. I told myself I should share my faith with others. I felt a need to evangelize, especially to young people like myself. I created a page on one of the well-known social websites. I took on the identi-

Continued on page 15

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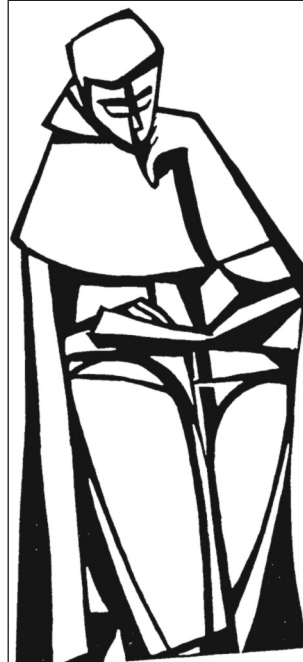
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Metuchen Bishop Edward Hughes succumbs; defender of the unborn

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Jan. 4 at the Cathedral of Saint Francis of Assisi, Metuchen, for Most Rev. Edward Thomas Hughes, Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Metuchen, 92, who died Christmas Day. His Eminence Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick, former Archbishop of Newark, was the celebrant.

Bishop Hughes was the second bishop of the Diocese of Metuchen, appointed by His Holiness Pope John Paul II. Bishop Hughes was born Nov. 13, 1920 in Lansdowne, PA. His priestly formation took place at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia. He was ordained to the priesthood May 31, 1947 by the Most Reverend Hugh Lamb, at the Cathedral of Ss. Peter and Paul.

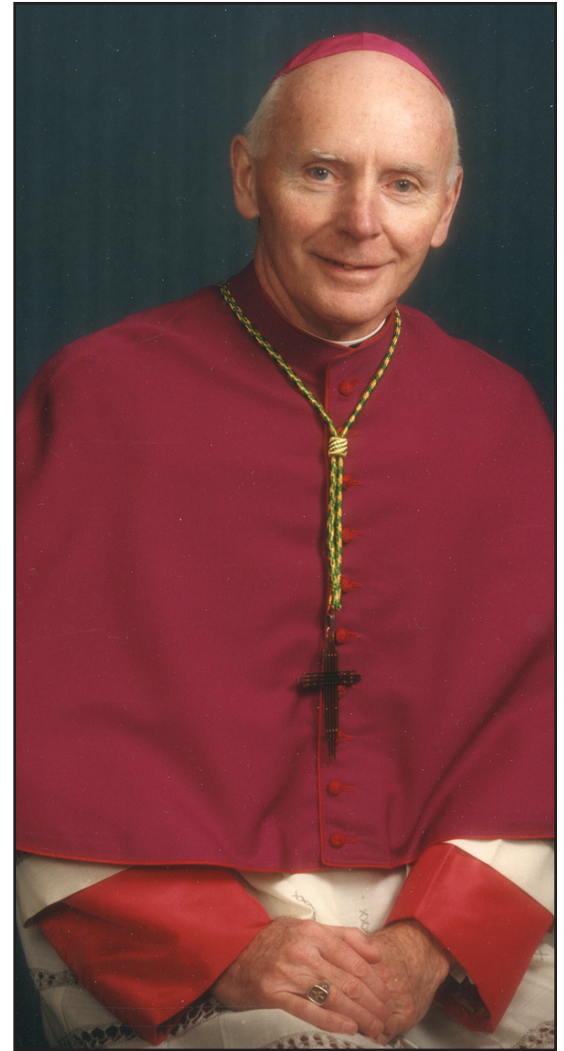
During his 10 years as bishop of Metuchen, and then in his retirement, Bishop Hughes was an untiring and outspoken defender of the unborn and implacable foe of racism and bigotry. His legacy to the people of Metuchen will remain this uncompromising witness, given with gentleness but never wavering. His love of the Lord, evident in his preaching, pastoring of his priests and people and good sense of humor, truly exemplified his Episcopal motto: "Rejoice in the Lord Always."

"The Church of Metuchen deeply mourns the loss of a faithful and humble servant and spiritual leader in the death of Bishop Emeritus Edward Thomas Hughes," Bishop Paul G. Bootkoski, bishop of the Diocese of Metuchen, said. "While our hearts are heavy, we are consoled in the knowledge that he is now at peace in the embrace of our Lord and Savior. The whole thrust of Bishop Hughes' ministry was building up the faith in the people of God. He felt driven to

Bishop Hughes' love of the Lord, evident in his preaching and good sense of humor, truly exemplified his Episcopal motto: "Rejoice in the Lord Always."

preach the Word of God and, like Blessed John Paul II, he showed us all how to endure suffering. He always appreciated and cherished the gift of life, given to him by God. Bishop Hughes will be greatly missed by all who knew and respected him. He was a man of deep faith who brought countless people closer to Our Lord."

Cardinal McCarrick called Bishop Hughes a "holy man" who brought a new dimension to the Church of Metuchen. "During the 11 years that he served as the second Bishop of Metuchen, Bishop Hughes gave the people a real sense of holiness and an ideal to strive for, the ideal of service and the ideal of living in the presence of God," Cardinal McCarrick said. "I was always so proud of Bishop Hughes when even close to his 90s, he continued to administer the sacrament of Confirmation throughout the diocese. He knew that he was called to bring the Holy Spirit to the lives of people and he did it as long as he was physically able to do so. Perhaps Bishop Hughes' greatest gift was the gift of himself. He gave himself totally and absolutely. There was nothing more important in his life than to serve the people of Metuchen."



Bishop Edward Hughes

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ST. MARY'S ABBEY
At **DELBARTON**

Contemplative women Religious dedicate lives to prayer, service

BY SISTER JOANNE BEDNAR
Special to The Catholic Advocate

A life of prayer! This is what each of us is called to but there are some persons chosen by God to make prayer their ministry, the entire work of their life. It's good for the rest of us to know that these people do exist and that they are always praying for us and for all the intentions of the world.

Here in the Archdiocese of Newark, we are privileged to house two communities of con-

Hearts

Continued from page 13

ty of Catholic Geek on Tumblr. Through Catholic Geek, I could evangelize to other people, especially where Christ is needed the most: the Internet."

I am proud of Peter and Brandon because, through their faith, they are "on fire" for Christ. I am certain whatever God has in stored for these young men—whether it's the priesthood, religious life or marriage—they will have an impact on the future of the Church.

As for fostering vocations among our students, I feel our school is on the right track, with the annual vocations awareness day program, Fishers of Men, and the new Christian Lifestyles course that I am teaching to juniors. Last October Saint Benedict's Prep held its sixth annual vocation awareness day assembly (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Nov. 21, 2012). At the end of the program, Father Edwin Leahy, headmaster of Saint Benedict's, issued a "vocation call" and 25 students stood up and received a blessing from the priests.

I encourage all parishes and Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Newark to start a vocation club. Based on my experience, I know there are children, teenagers and young adults who are thinking of a vocation. Personal invitation is the way to foster vocations. God may be speaking to someone's heart today. It's up to that person to listen with the "ear of their heart." Pax!

(Editor's note: Brother Patrick A. Winbush, O.S.B., is the sub-prior and vocations director of Saint Benedict's Preparatory School, Newark. He can be reached at 973-792-5772.)



Sr. Joanne Bednar

templative Religious: the Dominican Nuns of the Perpetual Rosary; and the house of formation for the contemplative branch of the Missionaries of Charity.

As the delegate for Religious in the archdiocese, during August of last year, I had the honor to spend a day with each of these communities, meeting each nun/sister, praying with them, enjoying conversation with the entire group, sharing a meal with them and learning more about their lives as contemplative women Religious.

I began each of these days celebrating liturgy with them. For the

cloistered Dominican Nuns, liturgy is celebrated in their monastery chapel with a Dominican priest who is assigned as their chaplain. The Missionaries of Charity, though contemplative, are not cloistered. Mother Teresa, their foundress, wished that the sisters be visible in the communities where they reside. So it was here in the parish church that I joined the sisters for morning liturgy.

The Dominican Nuns live at the Monastery of Our Lady of the Rosary or the "Rosary Shrine" in Summit. Seventeen Sisters live at the monastery. This includes two novices, a postulant, four temporary professed sisters and 10 perpetually professed sisters. Their day is an ebb and flow of prayer and work. In addition to the daily tasks of cooking and cleaning, the main source of income for the monastery is the production of their unique brand of soap and hand cream—Seignadou. These gift items are available at the monastery but also online (see Web site posted above). The perpetual adoration of the Eucharist



Dominican Nuns

at the monastery is a blessing for anyone who wishes to spend time with our Lord.

The convent in Plainfield, which is a formation house for the contemplative branch of the Missionaries of Charity, housed 17 sisters: four sisters as formators, two finally professed sisters in

probation, two second year novices, seven first year novices and two aspirants. The Plainfield convent is one of two formation houses for the contemplative Missionaries of Charity, the other house being in India.

Unlike the Dominican Nuns,

Continued on page 16

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'What are we doing to support vocations?'

BY WARD MIELE
Managing Editor

NEWARK—As Father John D. Gabriel, director of vocations for the Archdiocese of Newark sees it, "Christ calls when He calls" to invite someone to consider a vocation in the Church. It's a beautiful, profound moment that inspires people of faith.

However, the question then becomes: Is that call acknowledged by the person and nurtured by a faith community?

On the cusp of National Vocations Awareness Week, falling this year on Jan. 13-19, Fr. Gabriel emphasizes that, with the worldwide Year of Faith under way, there exists a unique opportunity to "focus on the vocations of

our young people."

An essential way to do that, the vocations director explains, begins at and should be centered on individual parishes. Fr. Gabriel said National Vocations Awareness Week is a time for everyone in a parish to ask themselves: "What are we doing to support vocations to the priesthood and Religious life?"

In a very real sense, Fr. Gabriel feels vocation awareness at the parish level is where a "culture of vocations" should thrive. Under such circumstances, he points out, the parish becomes a place where young people "turn to when they become aware of God's call in their lives." Accomplishing that is made possible through "good examples of the joy of being a priest

or Religious." Part of that overall process is the "invitation" from members of the parish community, clergy and lay people alike, asking a young person if he or she ever thought about the priesthood or religious life.

Fr. Gabriel cited annual surveys of recently ordained priests. Nearly 80 percent of them responded that the invitation of a priest was a key element in their decision to answer "the call." However, the vocations director lamented the fact that anecdotal evidence suggests only about 30 percent of priests ever extend such an invitation. At the same time, he emphasizes that a young person should never hesitate to approach a priest or Religious about consecrated life.

Expressing frustration that not enough parishes preach about vocations, Fr. Gabriel explained his job is to "foster parishes that foster vocations. Vocations begin at the parish and schools of the Archdiocese of Newark."

According to a press release from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), Archbishop Robert Carlson, chairman of the Bishops' Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations, reflects Fr. Gabriel's sentiments, saying National Vocations Awareness Week is "especially important in this Year of

Faith and as the Church continues to focus on the New Evangelization. Vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and consecrated life are essential in the Church's mission of spreading the joy and love of Jesus Christ."

Bishop Carlson pointed to a recent survey that found "significant interest" among never-married Catholics ages 14-35 in the priesthood and consecrated life (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Oct. 24, 2012). "We estimate that over 600,000 youth and young adults have seriously considered a religious vocation in the Church."

Fr. Gabriel identified six methods for discerning a vocation: prayer; the sacraments; good information; the Blessed Mother; attending retreats; and getting advice. To that end, he is offering a series of monthly discernment evenings on Wednesday beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the Archdiocesan Retreat Center at 499 Belgrove Drive in Kearny. Each session begins with an hour of reflections and questions in the Sacred Heart Room. Eucharistic Adoration and benediction will then take place in the center's chapel.

The schedule includes: Jan. 16—"The Beauty of Following Christ: A Priest's Personal Witness," by Rev. Msgr. Robert Harahan, pastor of Saint Elizabeth Parish, Wyckoff; Feb. 20—



Fr. John Gabriel

"The Call to Consecrated Life" Leaving All Things Behind," by Sister Mariette Bernier of the Benedictine Sisters of Elizabeth; March 20—"Silence as the Fertile Ground of Discernment," by Most Rev. Dominic A. Marconi, D.D., Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of Newark; April 17—"The Holy Spirit and Vocation Discernment," by Father Bill Halbing, pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Scotch Plains; May 15—"Signs of a Priestly Vocation: The Imperative of Service," by Father Charles Kelly, vice chancellor and special assistant to Archbishop John J. Myers; and June 19—"Self-Abandonment into the Hands of Love," by Father Andrew Apostoli of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal. For additional information, contact Fr. Gabriel at (973) 497-4365 or via e-mail (gabriejo@rcan.org).

Contemplative

Continued from page 15

the contemplative Missionaries of Charity are not cloistered. Hence, the Sisters in formation do home visitations focusing principally on the spiritual works of mercy. The Missionaries take a fourth vow, in addition to chastity, poverty and obedience, that of "wholehearted and free service to

the poorest of the poor."

It's a joy for me to call these two groups of sisters "my friends." I know that they are there for me when intercessory prayer is needed for the issues of the Archdiocese of Newark or my own personal needs.

(Editor's note: Sister Joanne Bednar, S.C.C., is the delegate for religious for the Archdiocese of Newark.)



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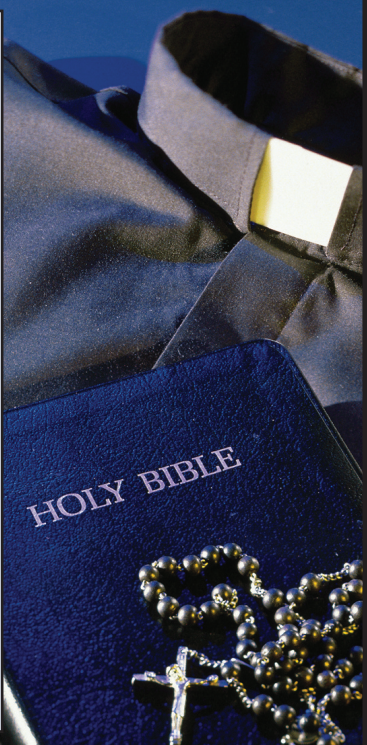
They said to Him, "Rabbi, where do you stay?"


"Come and see,"

He answered.

John 1:38-39

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





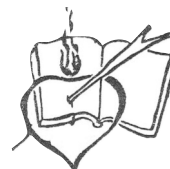
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