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Incorrupt Heart Of Saint John Vianney Viewed By Large Crowds

Photos And Text By
Tony DeGol

The thermometer was in the single digits and road conditions were not stellar, yet Shannon Jones – with four of her children in tow – found it important to travel from State College to the Cathedral in Altoona.

Her heart, one could say, was feeling the pull of another heart.

The Jones family visited the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament for veneration of the incorrupt heart of Saint John Vianney – a first class relic – on Thursday, January 31.

“We thought it would be appropriate to come and pay homage to the sacred heart of (Saint John Vianney) and to pray for our intentions and the intentions of our family,” Jones admitted. “He was an amazing priest – so beloved. I can’t imagine spending a day doing anything more appropriate.”

Well over 2,000 people agreed with Jones and chose to stop by the Cathedral at some point in the day for veneration, one of four Masses, quiet prayer, and/or the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The story of Saint John Vianney is inspiring. He grew up during the French Revolution – a time when the Catholic faith was under attack. As a semi-



THE INCORRUPT HEART OF SAINT JOHN VIANNEY

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narian, he struggled academically, but was ultimately ordained to the priesthood thanks to his devout prayer life.

As a young priest, he was assigned to a small parish in Ars, France, where religious indifference was the norm. The young

Father Vianney spent hours hearing confessions and quickly turned people away from sin and closer to God. He was also committed to helping the less fortunate.

Saint John Vianney is the patron saint of priests.

For Jones, a mother of seven who is affiliated with the Penn State Catholic Community, she hoped her children would take away devotion to the true faith.

“The faith is hard, and Saint John Vianney showed how hard it was,” she said. “He sat in a confessional for hours a day listening to the sins of the penitents. Life is hard. We need confession. We need the faith, and we need to be devoted to not just the simple version, but the difficult stuff.”

She continued: “We need to be pro-life. We need to be against contraception. We need to do all of the things that the Church teaches that are hard to do, that no one wants to say because (Saint John Vianney) would say it. He did do it, and he’s a model for that for the rest of us.”

The incorrupt heart of Saint John Vianney is usually housed at a shrine in Ars. The Knights of Columbus was given custody of the relic for a pilgrimage around the United States. The tour began this past fall and will conclude in late spring or early summer.

Peter Sonski of the Knights is the custodian of the relic. By the time he reached our diocese, he had already traveled through 19 states.

“It’s been an incredible
(Continued On Page 8.)

Catholic Charities USA Leaders Outline Immediate Goals

By Mark Pattison
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- Two top Catholic Charities USA leaders outlined some of the short-term and long-term goals for the organization and its affiliates throughout the country Feb. 3 during the Catholic Social Ministry Gathering in Washington.

Catholic Charities is in the midst of a five-year strategic plan to more sharply identify areas where it believes it can make a difference, said Brian Corbin, executive vice president of member services.

One of those areas is refugee resettlement and immigration policy. Corbin said it has worked with Migration and Refugees Services of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops to place 16,000 refugees across the country in collaboration with local Catholic Charities affiliates that have located sponsor families to help resettle those refugees.

It also has partnered with the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Corbin said, on issues surrounding the continued migration of Latin Americans to the United States.

Affordable housing is another of Catholic Charities USA's strategic priorities. "In your own town, you probably know there are housing issues," Corbin said.

"Catholic Charities as an institution is the largest non-public provider of housing after the government. We are there. We will continue to be there,"

he said to applause. Catholic Charities' commitment extends to shelters, domestic-violence shelters, transitional housing and permanent housing, he said.

Health care is a key priority for Catholic Charities, according to Corbin. "Forty percent of health care is about biology and genetics," he said. "Sixty percent is social determinants -- what happens when you leave the hospital." The question, he said, is "How do we help people stay out of acute-care need?"

He told the story of one man who had been largely homeless. "In one year he had 62 ER (emergency room) visits. Sixty-two!" Corbin said. That man was placed in transitional housing furnished by Catholic Charities, he added, "and you know how many ER visits he had the next year? One." That alone saved the hospital \$5 million in emergency room costs, Corbin said.

Lucas Swanepoel, Catholic Charities USA's vice president for social policy, cautioned against complacency setting in due to what he called a "booming" economy.

"We're not done addressing poverty," Swanepoel said, noting that 12.3 percent of Americans still live in poverty in the United States, or 39.7 million people. Moreover, 27.4 million live without health insurance.

"Forty percent can't cover

a \$400 emergency expense," Swanepoel said. "Thirty-five percent have nothing saved for retirement. Seventy-eight percent say they live paycheck to paycheck. And there are zero places -- zero -- where a minimum-wage worker can afford a two-bedroom apartment."

He added, "Having a car that needs repair is enough to drive a family into poverty today."

As the economy changes, Swanepoel said, the people who seek assistance from Catholic Charities changes. More than half make their first visit, he added, "because they're hungry."

In the early part of 2019, those making their first visit seeking such help were more likely than not to be federal government employees who had been furloughed due to the five-week government shutdown, according to Swanepoel. And these were "people with dream middle-class jobs," he said.

The furloughed-employee phenomenon was not the first time Catholic Charities had to react to federal policy, just the latest. "We also saw it with the family separation last summer," Swanepoel said. "We have a government policy that leads to dramatic consequences."

Catholic Charities "stepped into the fray with the help of the (Catholic) bishops' conference,"



(CNS photo/Bob Roller)

SETS GOALS: Ashenafi Anota of Catholic Charities USA in Alexandria, Va., and Joe DiGeloromo of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Raleigh, N.C., stand outside a mobile response unit September 25, 2018, in New Bern, N.C. Leaders of Catholic Charities USA outlined their immediate and long-term goals February 3, 2019, to people gathered at the 2019 Catholic Social Ministry Gathering in Washington. (CNS photo/Bob Roller)

he added. "We took on that cost ourselves."

He cautioned, "Even when we think things are going well, it's those people left behind that we have to remember."

Catholic Charities USA, which has 166 diocesan affiliates, was one of several Catholic organizations co-sponsoring the Feb. 2-5 Catholic Social Ministry Gathering.

The annual gathering is organized by the USCCB's De-

partment of Justice, Peace and Human Development in collaboration with seven other USCCB departments and 15 national Catholic organizations.

The event brings together hundreds of Catholic social ministry leaders in the U.S. to address to current domestic and global challenges relating to poverty, war, injustice and the promotion of human life and dignity.

Saint Vincent DePaul Coordinates Re-Entry Program For Former Prisoners

By Mark Pattison
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- As the Society of St. Vincent de Paul continues to evolve into an organization that asks why the people it serves are poor, one unavoidable answer is imprisonment.

The organization learned that "30 percent of those going to food pantries in our service area are formerly incarcerated individuals, or families of formerly incarcerated individuals," said Jim Wachuta of Des Moines, Iowa, the chair of the society's national prison re-entry task force. That number, he added, is in line with national statistics.

One more stark example Wachuta gave: "The Boys

& Girls Clubs in Atlanta report that 50 percent of the single mothers of the children in their program have an incarcerated spouse."

It is because of those kinds of figures that group is about to debut its Immersion re-entry program for former prisoners. Wachuta, speaking after a St. Vincent de Paul open meeting Feb. 2 as part of the Catholic Social Ministry Gathering in Washington, told Catholic News Service his task force had become aware of about five chapters that had a "returning-citizen" ministry. Then, while in Washington, they learned of a sixth, in Denver.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul was one of the co-sponsors of the Feb. 2-5 Catholic

Social Ministry Gathering, as were 15 other Catholic organizations and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development and seven other USCCB departments.

The Immersion program has eight principles:

-- Supporting healthy relationships at home and work; and providing a program with "a true national presence."

-- Increasing the organization's capacity to build a larger team.

-- Focusing on dignity, work, service, faith; and helping returning citizens "reach their God-given potential at their own pace."

-- Walking with former prisoners "as they break the cycle

of poverty and reintegrate into their communities."

-- Adhering to measurements to detail the success of the program; and supporting partnerships with other local agencies that support the same aims.

"Advocacy is on our list. Advocacy is pretty much everything we do," Wachuta said during the meeting. "It's important for us to advocate in all these areas to improve the conditions of retuning citizens."

According to Wachuta, the federal Bureau of Justice Statistics puts the three-year recidivism rate at 69 percent. But among those helped by the Vincentian programs already in place, the recidivism rate is just 12 percent.

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In The Alleghenies

Bishop Mark L. Bartchak Has Announced Flu Directives



Bishop Mark L. Bartchak has directed parishes in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown to not distribute the Precious Blood in any form during this flu season. It is the belief of the Catholic Church that the whole Body of Christ is present under either form of consecrated bread and wine.

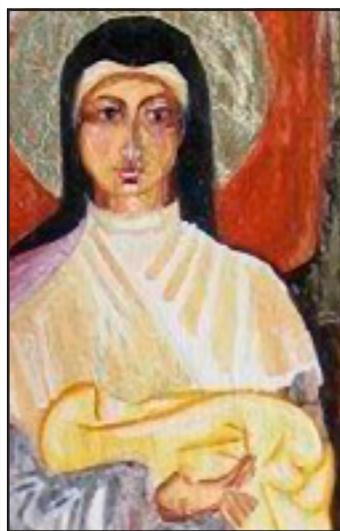
The Bishop has also directed that the faithful should avoid bodily contact, such as shaking hands, during the Sign of Peace. A genuine nod of the head with eye contact with others at Mass will be the temporary practice.

Bishop Mark's directives,

which were effective the week-end of February 9-10, are the result of an advisory from public health officials that cases of the flu and similar contagious viruses remain a serious health concern at this time.

During this flu season, reception of Holy Communion on the hand is encouraged; however, reception on the tongue may not be denied.

The Bishop's directives will be followed throughout the winter months or until the flu season ends. The Diocese will announce when parishes may return to their regular practices.



Colette of Corbie

1381-1447

FEAST February 7

Born Nicolette Boellet in France, this reforming saint preferred Colette, her nickname. She entered and left several religious orders, then lived as an anchoress, or hermit, for three years. Eventually, she discerned that God wanted her to return Franciscan religious to their original rule of strict poverty. She was empowered in her reforms by the schismatic Benedict XIII, recognized in France as pope. Considered the founder of the Colettine Poor Clares, Colette also helped inaugurate reforms among Franciscan friars. She spent every Friday fasting and meditating on Christ's Passion. After reportedly saving the life of a woman dying in childbirth, Colette was considered a patron of expectant mothers.



EAGLE SCOUTS: Zebulen Smoyer and Peter Van Cise of Saint John the Evangelist Parish in Bellefonte were awarded Eagle Scout status at an award ceremony held at the church. Pictured (left to right) are: Dana Van Cise, father; Peter Van Cise, Ann Van Cise, mother; Kathrine Smoyer, mother; Zeb Smoyer and Ed Smoyer, father.

Bellefonte Scouts Attain Eagle Status

Zebulen Smoyer and Peter Van Cise attained Eagle Scout and received their awards at a ceremony held in November at Saint John The Evangelist Parish in Bellefonte. Both young men are seniors at Bellefonte Area High School and are members of Saint John the Evangelist Catholic Church.

Zeb sought advice from Father George I. Jakopac, his pastor at the parish. And, Father George had just the project for him – renovating three rooms on the third floor of the rectory which was built in the 1800's and desperately needed to be

repaired.

The plaster walls and ceiling needed to be removed and replaced with dry wall and painted. The woodwork needed to be sanded and painted, and the carpeting needed to be removed so the wooden floors underneath could be sanded and refinished.

Under Zeb's leadership and guidance, his group of scouts, along with some help and advice from his uncle and father, was able to transform those three unusable rooms into a bright, cheerful gallery that now houses and displays church artifacts such as vestments, portraits of

previous priests, and many other religious memorabilia, which will be preserved in a safe, clean environment for years to come.

For his Eagle Scout project, Pastor Mike Fisher of the Brookside Wesleyan Church in Pete's neighborhood requested him to build a new playground for the kids. Being a builder and woodworker, Pete was excited to accept the challenge. The old playground equipment was in such sad shape it had to be disposed.

Pete designed new playground equipment to replace the antiquated equipment from a design program he found online. He led and directed the project, with some help from two other Boy Scout Troops plus some non-scouting friends from school. Pete worked several days per week to get it done and the project took approximately 208 hours to complete.

The children at Brookside Wesleyan church now have new playground equipment. Pastor Mike was very pleased and proud of Pete's accomplishment.

Both young men were commended for their dedication, leadership, and their accomplishments..

Coming Up On Proclaim

February 24 -- Two members of the Little Sisters of Jesus residing in Gallitzin share details about their community's history and ministry in our diocese.

March 3 -- Andre McCarville discusses his vision for his new responsibilities as Director of the Missions and Family Life ministries for the diocese while continuing as campus minister at Penn State Altoona.

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Living Well



By Maureen Pratt

Arcbishop Urges Senate Pass Bill To Protect Babies That Survive Abortion

By Julie Asher
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) --

It is "unconscionable" that the U.S. Senate failed to "unanimously declare to the nation that infanticide is objectively wrong," said the chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities.

"No newborn should be left to suffer or die without medical care. It is barbaric and merciless to leave these vulnerable infants without any care or rights," Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City, Kansas, said in a February 5 statement.

The previous evening, Sen. Ben Sasse, R-Nebraska, called for unanimous consent on his Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act. Sen. Patty Murray, D-Washington, blocked unanimous consent by objecting to the bill. According to her, current federal law protects a child that survives an abortion.

"Congress must take up and pass this (Sasse) bill and ensure that the legacy of Roe v. Wade does not extend itself from killing unborn children to killing newborn babies," Archbishop Naumann said.

He also sent a letter to the U.S. Senate urging the body to bring the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act to the floor for a vote and pass it before the end of the week. He called it "common-sense legislation." Under Sasse's bill, doctors could face up to five years in prison for not assisting infants born alive after an abortion. It also would require that an infant born alive in an abortion clinic be transferred to a hospital.

"This place fancies itself the world's greatest deliberative body, but we would be de-



(CNS photo/Doug Mills, pool via Reuters)

STATE OF THE UNION: U.S. Supreme Court justices Neil Gorsuch, an Episcopalian, and Brett Kavanaugh, a Catholic, are pictured prior to President Donald Trump delivering his second State of the Union address February 5, 2019, at the Capitol in Washington. During his speech, President Trump urged Congress to pass legislation that bans late-term abortion.

ceiving ourselves if we ignored the biggest debate that's been happening in America over the last 36 hours," Sasse said on the floor of the Senate about his Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act.

He was referring to the broad reaction to a radio interview Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam gave about late-term abortion, in which Northam said: "So, if a mother is in labor, the infant would be delivered, the infant would be kept comfortable, the infant would be resuscitated if the mother and the family desired, and then a discussion would ensue between the physicians and mother."

Sasse said the governor has been "defending a practice that is morally repugnant ... that is repugnant to civilized people across the entire world."

Northam, a Democrat, had been asked about a bill sponsored by state Democratic Del. Kathy Tran to expand Virginia's current abortion law. Specifi-

cally, Northam was responding to Tran's remarks about her bill in a hearing. She said it would allow abortion even at delivery if a woman requested it.

Tran's bill, which has been tabled for now, would have expanded the state's abortion law by loosening restrictions on third-trimester abortions that are currently allowed in order to take into account the risk of the pregnancy to the mother's "physical or mental safety." Tran wanted to remove existing language that says third-trimester abortions are allowed only if the risk to the mother's life is "substantial and irremediable."

"Let's be really clear about what we're talking about here. We're talking about fourth-trimester abortion -- or what anyone in the normal world calls infanticide," Sasse said on the Senate floor. "We're talking about killing a baby that's been born. ... This should be so far beyond any political consideration."

"Throughout my life, I wanted to be a mom, no question in my mind," said Maria Cataldo, a Catholic speaker and writer who has cerebral palsy. "But I was afraid for a very long time. I wondered, 'How am I going to take care of a baby? Carry a baby?' I was afraid I'd drop my baby!"

With a noticeably different gait and her balance and lower body strength also affected by cerebral palsy, Cataldo's concerns were not unfounded. But the strength of her faith and hope in God's guidance provided pivotal support.

"At the times of my deepest, darkest depression," said Cataldo, "there's a little spark in my heart that says, 'God does not abandon you.' When I revealed to my now-husband Gary about my fear, I had a moment, a revelation that said, 'This is going to be OK. You don't have to know how.' Now, my children are 10 and 8 and a half, and we do it all!"

As a child, Cataldo set her sights on a career as a performer.

"Growing up, I wanted to be the next Mr. Rogers," she said. "He was the only person I saw who had persons with disabilities on his show. I thought, rather naively perhaps, that with that kind of show, it won't matter that I have (cerebral palsy)."

Yet, Cataldo did everything she could to not acknowledge her disability. Her parents encouraged her to be self-sufficient, and she sang and lectured in church. But studying drama at The Catholic University of America, she encountered the starker realities of the entertainment industry.

"I had finished my freshman year when someone teaching a summer workshop said, 'You have to keep your disability out of the picture,'" said Cataldo. "Part of me was grateful that someone was talking with me as an adult. But it was still very painful."

After graduating, Cataldo earned a master's degree in liturgy at the University of Notre Dame, where she also encountered resistance.

"I wanted to join a group that sang in the chapel," she said. "But they stood up to sing. I couldn't stand with nothing to lean on. I asked if I could have a podium to lean on. The music director said, 'No, I think they like the way it looks now.'"

The rebuff, added to others, prompted Cataldo to reflect deeply about the reality of disability and faith in her life. Gradually, she sought ways to communicate her insight and experience in the realm of disability and faith. She earned a master's degree in theological studies at the Weston Jesuit School of Theology at Boston College, began to craft homilies and served as a chaplain at Boston Children's Hospital.

Then came motherhood.

"I've brought up my children to be honest," said Cataldo. "For example, I was walking my children to school, and I have to use the rollator ('rolling walker'). My son said, 'Do you have to walk me to school, Mom?' I asked him if he was embarrassed, and he said, 'Yeah, a little.'"

"I told him, 'I'm willing to listen to everything you're feeling about this,'" said Cataldo, "but I really want to walk you to school."

She hopes the exchange will help other parents.

"The idea that this 'disability' is something that will lessen the quality of life of your baby or your own as a parent is completely false," said Cataldo. "I believe in the power of every human life to make a difference. My son now looks at professional sports and asks, 'Why aren't there any professional basketball players with a disability?' My children are advocates."

"Living with a disability is not easy," said Cataldo. "But it's totally worth it."



Before You Drop Your Child Off At A Birthday Party...

By Erika Tyner Allen, J.D., Ph.D.

The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown utilizes the Virtus® platform for youth protection awareness training. Supplemental articles and training tools are provided by Virtus® to support efforts in creating safe environments throughout the diocese and for family strengthening strategies.

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Before you drop your child off at a birthday party...

At seven and eight, my sons are getting to the ages where many parents do not hang around during birthday parties. Indeed, my kids have received a few invitations that suggested—and some quite explicitly—that parents are simply not invited! How do I size up when it is okay to simply drop off my young children at a party? Perhaps even more important, how should parents prepare kids before we leave them? Take a few moments to review the several guidelines I am putting to work in my own household.

Make sure you know what the activities are going to be—Are the kids staying at the same location or moving, going from, say, a pizza place to a movie theater? Is there any activity that presents a particular concern? For example, I have a hard and fast rule that I always, always, always stay with them if there is swimming involved. Does my child need any practical

support at the party (i.e., my younger son can't put on his own roller-blades at a skate party)? Could there be any emotional support necessary? For example, are the kids going to a complicated movie that might require some real-time explanation? Or, differently, is the class bully going to be in attendance and I worry about my child's self-esteem?

How many chaperones—Before you leave, know how many adults will stay. While there is no magic number, a general rule of thumb is that there should be no less than one adult per the average age of the kids. For example, with five year-olds, there should be no less than one adult for every five kids; at least one adult for every six year-olds, etc.; even this is a pretty liberal calculus for some activities.

Determine your child's readiness—Does your child want to go alone? While I am usually confident that my seven year-old would be quite safe at a party without me, he would always tell you a different story. At every event, he wants me there for emotional support as well as to “watch him” skate or play laser tag. While sometimes I do wish I had that hour for errands, it is more important to help him have positive experiences with his friends.

Discuss the rules with your child—Before leaving your child at any party, make sure you have reviewed the relevant safety and social rules. Does your child know not to leave the confines of the party? Have you reviewed what he will need to do to participate in the party (“Here is where you will rent your skates, and you'll return them to the same place.”)? Have you brainstormed the good behavior at the party that is expected?

Identify the responsible adult to your child—Your child should have a specific person he or she can go to for help during the party. It may be the host-parent or

another adult who is staying. Whoever it is, make sure that you explicitly explain to your child to whom they are to go, and that your child has introduced himself or herself to the adult. Also, let the adult know that he or she has been identified as the temporary care-giver.

Be reachable—Slip a note in your child's pocket that has your name and the cell phone that will reach you. Let the responsible adult know that your child has the number. Given how many phones parents have these days, even older kids may need to know the number where you can be reached. Praise your child for a successful time—Successfully navigating a birthday party without Mommy waiting in the wings is a watershed event for younger kids. If your child follows the rules and has fun, make sure he or she knows how proud you are. This is an excellent opportunity for positive reinforcement.

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For inquires on youth protection and safe environment efforts within the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown please contact Cindy O'Connor at (814) 695-5579, extension 2621 or via email at coconnor@dioceseaj.org.

Reporting Child Abuse

Bishop Mark L. Bartchak and the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown are firmly committed to protecting children and young people. If you have any information concerning suspected sexual or other abuse of minors, you are urged to report it immediately to

- - PA Child Line **1 - 800- 932 - 0313** (intake is available 24/7)

- - Pennsylvania Attorney General Hotline **(888) 538 - 8541**

- - Pennsylvania State Police Headquarters **(717) 783 - 5599** or your local Pennsylvania State Police Station

- - Your local police department

If there is an indication of imminent danger, you should call 911 immediately.

The Diocese reports all information regarding sexual abuse of minors to law enforcement. You are urged to do the same. Anyone may and should report suspected child sexual abuse.

To report to the Diocese any suspected abuse of a minor, please call Jean Johnstone at **(814) 944 - 9388**.

Assistance And Resources For Victims And Survivors

The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown is committed to the safety and protection of children and youth, and to supporting the victims and survivors of sexual abuse. The Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape (PCAR) and trained professionals serving local agencies greatly assist with the needs of victims of sexual assault and their loved ones in the healing process.

In an effort to educate the public and raise awareness of the support available in our community, the diocese continues to refer victims and survivors to the resources provided by PCAR and the local centers to help spread the word. The diocese's collaboration with these agencies is limited to our mutual desire to help those who are suffering and is not an endorsement of other policies or positions the agencies may hold.

No one should suffer alone. If you need of help, please take advantage of the contact information on this page. Please join the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown in praying for all those who have been affected by sexual abuse in our society. May God grant them healing and peace.

PCAR partners with a network of rape crisis center programs to bring help, hope and healing around issues of sexual violence to all 67 counties in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. To find services

within Pennsylvania call **PCAR at 1-888-772-7227**.

For information on Sexual Abuse Victim Assistance and Service Agencies within the eight counties of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown (Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Centre, Clinton, Fulton, Huntingdon and Somerset) please refer to:

Bedford County: Your Safe Haven Inc. (800) 555-5671 or (814) 623-7664

Blair County: Family Services, Inc. (800) 500-2849 or (814) 944-3585

Cambria/Somerset Counties: Victim Services, Inc. (800) 755-1983 or (814) 288-4691

Centre County: Centre County Women's Resource Center (877) 234-5050 or (814) 234-5050

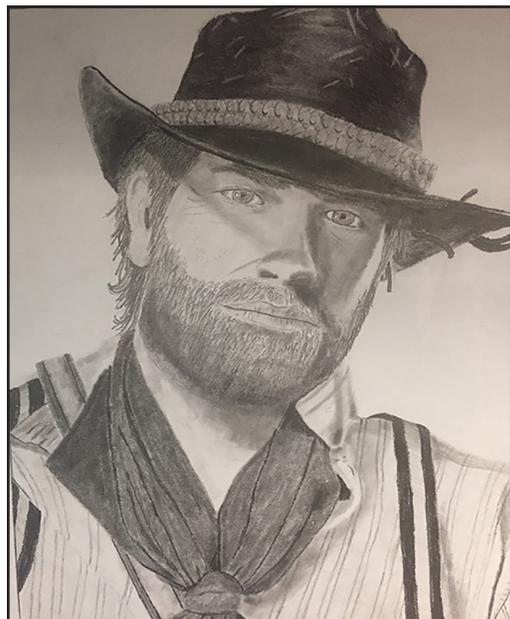
Clinton County: Clinton County Women's Center (570) 748-9509

Franklin/Fulton Counties: Women in Need/ Victim Services (800) 621-6660 or (717) 264-4444

Huntingdon/Mifflin/Juniata Counties: The Abuse Network 24-Hour Hotline (717) 242-2444. Toll-Free PA Hotline (888) 810-2444; Mifflin County Office (717) 242-0715; Juniata County Office (717) 447-1885 and Huntingdon County Office (814) 506-8237 or (717) 242-2444

Catholic Charities Inc. of The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown: Victim Assistance Coordinator (814) 944-9388, extension 204.

Diocesan Catholic School Students Participating in The First Annual Divinely Inspired Art Show



ON DISPLAY: Various drawings are among the art currently featured at the Divinely Inspired Art Show. Other works include paintings and sculptures.

By Tony DeGol

There is a saying that the “earth” without “art” is just “eh.”

Students from Catholic schools in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown are doing their part to brighten our little corner of the earth, and we all have the opportunity to appreciate it.

The first annual *Divinely Inspired Art Show* is being held now through February 25 at the Bottle Works in the Cambria City neighborhood of Johnstown.

The show features more than 400 pieces of art from students in grades Kindergarten through 12.

Paintings, drawings, sculptures, and other works will be on display showcasing the remarkable talent and creativity of the youth.

Bev Struble, Art teacher at Divine Mercy Catholic Academy in Johnstown, and Karen Blaisdell, Art and Religion

teacher at Bishop Carroll Catholic High School in Ebensburg, are chairing this inaugural show.

Coordinating the exhibit has been an exciting undertaking, according to Struble.

“There has been such an easy, caring support system from members of the business community and school families to help put this show in place and an honor for the Art teachers to promote the cultural strength of our Catholic school system,” she added.

In fact, Art education is a focal point of the curriculum in diocesan schools.

While other schools offer STEM-based learning opportunities (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math), the STREAM model for Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown schools includes Religion, of course, and Art.

The *Divinely Inspired Art Show* offers a terrific venue to highlight all of those compo-

nents.

“Art is a great synthesizer,” noted Blaisdell. “It makes connections between Science, Math, Reading, and Technology, helping students look at the world in a unique way. Our students are creating art with their God-given talents and inspiring us all along the way.”

Bridges designed and tested in the STREAM lab at Divine Mercy Catholic Academy are also on display at the art show.

“The arts are so important to a student’s education,” emphasized Diocesan Director of Education Jo-Ann Semko. “At a time when these programs are being slashed around the country, it is great to see that Art education is thriving in our diocesan schools.”

Judging of the art occurred on Thursday, February 14, and an awards ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, February 24 from 1:00-4:00 p.m.

All are invited to visit the *Divinely Inspired Art Show* throughout its 10-day run during normal business hours at the Bottle Works. There is no charge.

See for yourself how the Catholic school students of Altoona-Johnstown are celebrating “art” in the “earth.”

McCarville To Lead Ministries

By Tony DeGol

A team is in place to maintain the excellent tradition of two valued diocesan ministries and take the outreach to new levels.

The diocese has appointed Andre McCarville as the director of the Office of Missions and Family Life.

McCarville will continue in his diocesan role as campus minister at Penn State Altoona – a position he has held for nine years.

Born in Wisconsin and raised in Virginia, McCarville worked in youth ministry at a parish in Monroeville for eight years before moving to Altoona.

He is excited for the additional responsibilities of leading the Missions and Family Life ministries.

“The family is at the heart of both the Church and our society, and we need to recognize that the challenges facing families today are real and serious,” stated McCarville, a husband and father of four. “I really appreciate the opportunity to continue the good work that has already been done to strengthen families, and I look forward to helping them continue to grow and thrive through Christ centered relationships.”

Donna Cook, who will celebrate her 43rd anniversary with the Family Life Office later this year, is continuing in her role as Office Manager.

“All of the Family Life programs in place will remain, and I look forward to working with Andre in adding more program opportunities to enrich families in the diocese,” Cook said.

The marriage preparation program is among the most recognized programs offered through Family Life, she noted.

All engaged couples who seek to be married in the Catholic Church are required to go through the process through two Saturday sessions or three evening sessions – both amounting to the same overall time commitment.

Through marriage prep, husbands and wives give engaged couples real-life examples of how Christ can be at the center of their marriage through topics such as communication, decision-making, and finances.

Also required is an on-line inventory that helps identify the



ANDRE MCCARVILLE

strengths and weaknesses of engaged couples and tools for improvement.

Popular events offered through the Family Life ministry include the annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgies every September at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona and Saint John Gualbert Cathedral in Johnstown, the annual outdoor Mass for married couples every July at the Our Lady of the Alleghenies Shrine in Loretto, and an annual Liturgy and luncheon for widows and widowers.

Family Life will continue its sponsorship of Faith and Light – a ministry for families with an individual with intellectual disabilities.

Dotty Caminiti, a 13 year veteran of the diocesan team, rounds out the Missions and Family Life Office.

Caminiti has worked in the Education and Parish Life Offices, as well as the Missions Office. As part of her new responsibilities, she will continue her focus on the diocese’s missionary outreach, which includes the Pontifical Faith Society (caring for the poor around the world), Catholic Relief Services, and Altoona-Johnstown’s partnership with the Diocese of Mandeville, Jamaica.

“I am excited about working with Andre,” Caminiti mentioned. “I’ve known him for many years, and I look forward to working with him to strengthen the diocese’s rich history with the missions.”

Added McCarville: “The heart of the Church is missionary, and so I’m looking forward to a chance to open more opportunities for Christians to delve into the mission fields themselves, both in giving and in serving.”

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Faith At Home

By Laura Kelly Fanucci

Wanting What Jesus Is Doing



I want some of that -- what Jesus is doing.

My young son tugged at my elbow, pointing to our pastor who stood at the front of the church, praying with each person who came forward for the sacrament, anointing their heads and hands with the oil of the sick.

I want some of that, he insisted. What Jesus is doing!

I could have chuckled at his request, a classic kids say the cutest things comment during Mass. He was only 2 at the time, young enough to confuse the priest in flowing robes with pictures of Jesus in his children's Bible. But his words kept me wondering, even after I explained what he was seeing.

Could his eyes -- the clearer, childlike eyes of faith -- catch what mine couldn't?

A theology professor of mine used to teach this wise maxim to his Scripture classes: If it happened back then, it's happening now. Meaning that we should keep our eyes open wide to see God at work in the world today. We need to remember that the Bible tells not ancient history but ever-present reality.

What was Jesus doing in Scripture? Healing the sick. Forgiving sinners. Teaching the crowds. Comforting the grieving. Preaching good news.

Everything God continues to do in our world today.

What if we approached each Mass, each Scripture story and each moment of prayer with this same longing and eagerness? I want some of that -- what Jesus is doing. My son's words have remained with me over the years, a refrain for seeing the world with eyes of faith. His recognition of the holy and his desire for Jesus remind me to look from his level.

God works through our ordinary lives in moments so small we can miss them. Cooking breakfast for the ones we love. Baking bread. Washing feet. Sweeping the floor. Sit-

ting with a sick child. Holding a baby.

Jesus did (or taught about) these ordinary actions, weaving them into his parables and preaching. The same moments that fill my days as a parent. The same tasks I've watched my friends do over and over, in small or heroic ways in their own homes.

Washing children's feet at bath time after long days as a nurse and raising money to give other children access to clean water.

Cooking hot breakfasts for their family on a tight budget and baking a year's worth of pastries as a gift for a parish fundraiser.

Sweeping floors three times a day with toddlers underfoot and launching letter-writing campaigns to sweep the church clean from abuse scandals and cover-ups.

Sitting up long nights with kids with special needs and sitting down to dinner with other mothers to help them know they aren't alone.

Waiting to hold a baby after multiple miscarriages and welcoming foster children into an already full home.

When I look at my friends' lives, I want some of all of this -- what Jesus is doing, in and through them. Picture the friends you know who nudge you closer to God. Friends whose ordinary love and service for neighbors and strangers has changed you. Friends whose faithful prayer or prophetic witness made you dig deeper into discipleship.

How do they spur you on toward a life that could make a toddler tug at a parent's sleeve, point and say, I want some of that -- what Jesus is doing?

Over the years, I have come to marvel at the mysteries of God at work in the world, but only because others taught me to see. They believe in the abundant presence of God. They model the Christian life in quiet, common ways.

But it took a child to lead me. To see God in the work of their hands.



By Greg Erlandson

What Everybody Didn't Know

This ugly, indiscriminate and inflammatory charge, unsubstantiated by the report's own evidence, to say nothing of the evidence the report ignores, is truly unworthy of a judicial body responsible for impartial justice, Steinfels wrote.

Steinfels' original article can be found at <https://www.commonwealmagazine.org/pa-grand-jury-report-not-what-it-seems> and a summary of his findings as well as an interview with the author can be found at <https://cnstopstories.com>.

For Steinfels, as for the church itself, the goal is not to acquit the Catholic hierarchy of all sins, past or present. His goal, he wrote, is to restore some fact-based reality to the instant mythology that the Pennsylvania report has created.

I call attention to Steinfels' report not because it exonerates the church. He takes a nuanced and critical view of both abusers and those who had authority over them, and his heart is first and foremost with the victims of these crimes.

I call attention to it because Steinfels' investigation of the investigation is a model of what good journalism can do and what good Catholic journalism can do. A well-educated, well-trained Catholic journalist writing for a Catholic magazine exposed the serious flaws in a report that everybody knew to be true.

Some people want Catholic journalism to simply be propaganda for the defense. Some people don't see any value in Catholic journalism. They want church communication efforts to be inspirational or provide social media sound bites. But there is still a need, a crying need, for professional journalism that allows the voices of the church to be heard, that models both a love for the church and a dedication to truth.

Only journalism of honesty and substance will be trusted in these dark times. And in an age when trust -- of institutions and of authorities of any sort -- is in short supply, Catholic journalism can play an indispensable role in recovering this trust.

This month is Catholic Press Month. Subscribe. Read. Share.

Alive In The Spirit

Looking for a spiritual lift? There will be a Night of Praise and Worship with Eucharistic Adoration at Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School on Thursday, February 21, 2019, at 7 pm. The evening of prayer is a ministry of "Alive in the Spirit," a BG student group, and will include a student witness talk. For more information, please contact Bob Sutton, Campus Minister, at 505-8817. The Cathedral Prayer Group will be leading the music. All in the community are most welcome to attend.

2nd Novena Planned

The second novena of 2019 to Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Saint Therese (The Little Flower) offered by the Discalced Carmelite Nuns of Loretto will open on Friday, February 22 and end on Saturday, March 2.

All intentions submitted to the nuns will be remembered with the special novena prayers following the daily Holy Sacrifice of the Mass in the chapel.

Those who desire to share in the grace and blessings of these nine days of prayer, and in the private prayers of the Carmelite Nuns, should send their petitions to: Mother Prioress, Discalced Carmelite Monastery, Post Office Box 57, Loretto, PA 15940.

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Incorrupt Heart Of Saint John Vianney

(Continued From Page 1.)

privilege,” he stressed. “It’s been very edifying to see people come and pray with Saint John Vianney. His spirit is alive today. People know of his life, they know of his ministry, they know of his devotion to the faithful, and they want to pray with him. They want to pray for renewal – renewal for priests and renewal for the Church in general.”

The large and devout crowd in Altoona-Johnstown left an impression on Sonski, yet he is not surprised by the faithful’s desire for a closer relationship with the Lord.

“They want an opportunity to see a reformed Church, a changed Church, and they want an opportunity to change themselves,” he suggested. “They know they have not always lived up to the fullness of what Christ calls them to. Coming here, they not only have the opportunity to ask John Vianney to pray for them, but they can also renew themselves through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.”

And, indeed, they did.

In the spirit of Saint John Vianney’s yearning to help people experience God’s healing forgiveness, priests were scheduled to hear confessions throughout the day at the Cathedral. Lines were so long at various times that other priests were recruited to assist.

The Vatican granted Bishop Mark L. Bartchak’s request that all who attended the pilgrimage, received Holy Communion, and celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation would receive a plenary indulgence, which removes the temporal punishment for sins.

There were also periods when lines for veneration of the relic stretched from one end of the Cathedral to the other, but no one seemed to mind.

“It’s a once in a lifetime opportunity to see the relic,” reminded Chris Keagy, a member of Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Altoona.

“Living in a climate of political turbulence and religious skepticism, it was very im-

portant for me to visit the Saint John Vianney Relic Pilgrimage,” noted Diane Campagna of Saint Aloysius Parish in Cresson. “Saint John’s incorruptible heart is a relic associated with the saint. It is a great sign of his holiness. It is meant to draw a person closer to God.”

Dana Tornatore, a member of Saint Joseph Parish in Bellwood, noted how fortunate it was to have the relic in our diocese.

“I couldn’t pass up the chance for this experience,” she commented. “My family and I went to see the Saint John Vianney relic because we had never seen a first class relic and wanted to learn more. It was moving to see all of the people there to venerate Saint John Vianney’s incorrupt heart and partake in the Sacrament of confession.”

Mary Jo Fiore also felt it was important to brave the elements and be present for the unique opportunity.

“It inspires me because, as Catholics, we need to look out for our fellow man,” stated the parishioner of Our Lady of Lourdes in Altoona. “He’s just very inspiring. All of the saints, they all have a story, and we can learn from them.”

Nick Gueguen of Saint Bernard Parish in Hastings sought Saint John Vianney’s intercession with the Lord.

“Having only read up on him in recent months and coming to understand how he played a huge role in building the faith of his parish in Ars, when I heard his incorruptible heart was coming to the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese, I knew I had to be there.”

Melvin McConnell, district deputy of the area Knights of Columbus, was among the local Knights assisting with ushering and other duties.

“The heart can be used as a sign of hope that we, as Catholics, can continue on our journey towards being closer to Christ and deeper in our faith.”

Priests Embrace Pilgrimage Opportunity



PILGRIMS WAIT IN LINE TO VENERATE RELIC

Photos And Text By
By Tony DeGol

For the Very Reverend Joseph Fleming, VF, the Saint John Vianney Relic Pilgrimage was a return to his roots.

Father Fleming’s seminary formation began at Saint Francis College (now Saint Francis University) in Loretto in 1966. His residence at the time was named Saint John Vianney Hall.

“The invitation to come to the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament for a special Mass was for me a time to recall the many interesting times we had during those first two years of college seminary, which opened the way to my ordination some six years later,” said Father Fleming, Pastor of Saint Catherine of Siena Parish in Mount Union and Saint Mary Parish in Shade Gap. He is also Dean of the Northern Deanery. “It provided an opportunity to mentally re-connect with the past in regard to a vocation, and provided time to consider how far the journey of faith embarked on so long ago has come.”

The pilgrimage on Thursday, January 31 at the Altoona Cathedral drew more than 2,000 faithful. While the opportunity clearly touched all those present, it undoubtedly meant so much to Father Fleming and the many other priests who attended.

Saint John Vianney is the patron saint of priests and certainly a role model to priests as they carry out their pastoral ministry. He is an example of humil-

ity and holiness, explained Peter Sonski, the Knights of Columbus custodian of the relic on the nationwide pilgrimage.

“He was a very simple priest who had a devotion to the people of God,” added Sonski. “He wanted them to grow in holiness and achieve Heaven. People appreciate that simplicity. They appreciate that devotion to helping them to grow in faith, to grow in holiness.”

The outstanding turnout for the Altoona-Johnstown pilgrimage thrilled Father Fleming, who, like many other priests of the diocese, made himself available to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

“That time of God’s love, present through the forgiveness of sin, was also quite edifying,” he remarked. “The number of faithful seeking the sacrament was very high, and it gave us priests the opportunity to minister and forgive in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.”

Father George Jakopac, Pastor of Saint John the Evangelist Parish in Bellefonte and Saint Kateri Tekakwitha Parish in Spring Mills, valued his time at the pilgrimage.

“In our days of skepticism, it’s important to have something to see with our eyes,” he stated. “The fact that people could visibly see the heart muscle – that it is still intact after hundreds of years – that’s an incredible witness to the miracles of God.

We need these spiritual events. It boosts our faith and lifts our spirits and reminds us that God is still present in our modern world.”

Among other intentions, the faithful who came to venerate the relic had the opportunity to pray for the sanctification of priests and for more priests in our diocese.

Father Matthew Reese, Pastor of Saint Andrew Parish in Johnstown and Diocesan Director of Vocations, hopes that the pilgrimage does not become just a happy memory, but rather inspiration for the future.

He was struck by the power of people coming together to pray.

“Imagine gathering a community together for one specific intention,” he proposed. “Could we do that in our parishes? Could our parishes gather together specifically to say, ‘Lord, send us more priests?’”

The heart of Saint John Vianney also teaches us how to love, Father Reese continued, which inspires more people to give their lives to God.

“Let’s carry the fruits of this day into our future,” he encouraged. “Take the benefits that were given to us – all of the graces – and make something of them. That’s when we know that this day was truly worth every moment, every grace, every special gift that God has given to us.”

Our Most Important Direction Is Heaven, Says Bishop Mark In Homily

Photos And Text By
By Tony DeGol

As he was walking along a country road in France in 1818, the young Father Vianney asked a shepherd for directions to the town of Ars to begin his first parish assignment.

The shepherd, Anthony Givre, happily accommodated.

“Anthony, you have shown me the way to Ars,” Father Vianney said to him. “I will show you the way to Heaven.”

More than two centuries later, that story is relevant to the faithful of Altoona-Johnstown, explained Bishop Mark L. Bartchak.

“I invite you to be another Anthony Givre,” the Bishop urged those who made the pilgrimage to venerate the incorrupt heart of Saint John Vianney. “Remind us, gently, that you have some ideas of the direction to follow. Remind us, gently, that we need to be strong and clear and faithful in announcing the most important direction for all persons: the way to Heaven.”

Bishop Mark delivered that plea during his homily at a special Mass closing out the Saint John Vianney Relic Pilgrimage



VENERATION: Diane Campagna, a member of Saint Aloysius Parish in Cresson, venerates the incorrupt heart of Saint John Vianney.

on Thursday, January 31 at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona.

Sponsored by Knights of Columbus, more than 2,000 people poured into the Cathedral throughout the day while the saint’s heart – a first class relic – was present.

Three earlier Liturgies were

celebrated, and priests were on hand all day to hear confessions – an opportunity that many seized.

The challenging times that Saint John Vianney faced in France in the 18th century are not unlike many of the difficulties we face today, the Bishop conceded.

The model of Saint John Vianney, patron saint of priests,

can teach us a few things about pastoral renewal.

In fact, his mission statement is reflected in that simple and beautiful statement to Anthony Givre about showing the way to Heaven.

“Those words are just as important today for all of us who are here in this Cathedral,” mentioned the Bishop.

He reminded all priests present during the Mass to follow the example of John Vianney by paying attention to and listening to the people for whom they are ordained to minister.

He encouraged his brother priests to be in a constant state of pastoral mission of exhorting, catechizing, and strengthening the faithful through the Word of God and the sacraments.

Clearly, the Saint John Vianney Relic Pilgrimage was a day of great joy for Bishop Mark as he greeted so many priests, religious, and lay individuals who chose to be part of this special event in our Diocesan Church.

“Today, with the presence of this holy relic, the uncorrupted heart of Saint John Vianney, the

fire of the love of God has been rekindled by prayers,” offered Bishop Mark. “Today, the fire of God’s love and our love for God has been rekindled by those who came in search of healing through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Above all, the fire of the love of God is rekindled for us in this celebration of the Holy Eucharist.”

We must never cease to remind Saint John Vianney to intercede for us, the Bishop suggested, especially in our longing for good and holy priests.

“The more that we all do our part in seeking the kingdom of Heaven, the more we should be sure that the Lord Jesus will send us more who have the heart of a priest like John Vianney,” promised Bishop Mark.



SOLEMN AND JOYFUL DAY: At left, Joseph and Connie Masciangelo, members of Most Holy Trinity Parish in Huntingdon, reflect before Saint John Vianney’s incorrupt heart as Ron Harella of the Knights of Columbus holds a prayer card to the first class relic. Above, Father Brian Warchola, (left) Administrator of Saint Michael Parish in St. Michael and the Very Reverend John Byrnes, JCL, JV, Rector of the Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel in Loretto, prepare to concelebrate the evening Mass closing the pilgrimage. They were among many priests who participated in the event.

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LOCAL PARISHIONERS VISIT HOLY LAND: Conventual Franciscan Father Anthony Francis Spilka, pastor of Saint Francis Assisi Parish in Johnstown, and several of the parishioners made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in January. Members of the group pictured (left to right) are: Deacon Bruce Becker, James and Donna Mertes of Canton, OH; Cecilia Neiderer, Rosalie Donahue of Robinson, PA; Carol and George Pisula; Deacon Ronald Kolonich; Father Spilka. Absent from the photo are David and Mary Frances King. The visit included the holy sites in Bethlehem, Capernaum, Tiberias, Cana, where three couples renewed their marriage vows; and the Jordan River, where all renewed their Baptismal vows. The pilgrims visited many other sites during their walk in the footsteps of Jesus.

Opioids Continue To Claim Lives In Large Numbers

By Mark Pattison
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) --

Statistics tell the grim story of the opioid crisis that has beset the United States. But the personal stories can be even more grim.

Many of those attending a February 3 workshop on

the opioid crisis at the Catholic Social Ministry Gathering in Washington told personal stories of pain and loss as opioids collided with their lives.

Those stories came from parents, professional staff and prison chaplains. One chaplain said the women at the prison where she visits will tell her, "I love drugs more than I love my

children." "They're weeping when they say it," the chaplain said -- an indication, she added, of the powerful hold drugs have on their life.

Kate Kosydar, parish social ministry coordinator for Catholic Charities of West Virginia -- who asked attendees if they had any stories to share -- shared her own story.

"My sister suffers with substance use disorder. She's, like, 14 years older than me, so we didn't grow up in the same house. Really," Kosydar said.

"Nobody told me anything, but by the time she was 18, she was already off and she was put in jail at some point during my childhood," she added. "My mom was talking to me on Friday, and I'd never heard this before, but when they put Jennifer in prison, it was the hugest relief for her. ... It was the first time that she felt that my sister was safe."

Kosydar continued: "My sister had a daughter, and my sister was not able to take care of said daughter. When she was 2, she came to live with us. She's five years younger than me, I was 7, she was 2, we still were raised as sisters. The kinship care that my family experienced is something that is even more and more and more frequent in West Virginia, and I'm sure that's nationwide as well. There's kids that are left behind by addiction, and if they can't take care of them, they go into the foster system."

"West Virginia is home to a lot of bad news," according to Kosydar.

"We have very bad health in general in our state, and we have the capital of overdose in Huntington, West Virginia," she continued, uttering a rueful "Yaaaaaayyy." Kosydar added, "We have not one but two Netflix documentaries that take place

in West Virginia. It really does put a human face on the crisis."

Despite the cascades of pain and grief, there are efforts to at least stem the tide of the opioid crisis fallout. One is adverse childhood experiences, or ACEs, such as divorce that underlie some of the pain that many who are addicted to opioids have struggled with for much of their lives.

Foster care is welcome as more parents are jailed for crimes related to their abuse. Kosydar said she and her husband have taken in a 7-year-old girl. "It's hard," she said. "We already have four kids."

But finding effective treatment is difficult. There are frequently Alcoholics Anonymous groups that meet in jails, but far fewer Narcotics Anonymous groups. Kosydar said too many people in prison get no treatment



(CNS photo/Bryan Woolston, Reuters)

OPIOIDS: Bottles of opioid-based medication are seen at a pharmacy in Portsmouth, Ohio, June 21, 2017. Participants at the 2019 Catholic Social Ministry Gathering were told that opioids are claiming lives and affecting many others.

Jesuit Father Arrupe Cause For Sainthood Officially Opens

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

ROME (CNS) -- The sainthood cause of Jesuit Father Pedro Arrupe was formally opened in Rome at the Basilica of St. John Lateran February 5, the 28th anniversary of Father Arrupe's death.

The cause of Father Arrupe, superior general of the Jesuits from 1965 to 1983, was set in motion by the Diocese of Rome, the diocese where the former superior general died in 1991.

The formal process of beatification and canonization includes compiling the priest's writings and gathering sworn testimonies about his life and holiness. Once the Jesuit postulator had the list of potential witnesses and had collected the writings, the formal opening of Father Arrupe's sainthood cause -- the diocesan inquiry -- could begin.

The documentation from

the diocesan inquiry will be sent to the Vatican Congregation for Saints' Causes, which reviews the gathered information. If he is found to have led a heroic life of Christian virtues, the church bestows the title "venerable."

The next steps would be beatification and canonization. In general, two miracles determined to have occurred through the candidate's intercession are needed for sainthood -- one for beatification and the second for canonization.

Cardinal Angelo de Donatis, vicar of Rome, presided at the ceremony February 5, formally opening the diocesan inquiry.

He said Father Arrupe was firmly "rooted in Christ, whom he passionately loved and, with courageous faith, he let himself be guided in his journey by the wisdom and freedom that comes from the Holy Spirit."

"He was a true man of God" and of the church by seeking "to integrate the best values from tradition with those neces-



(CNS photo/courtesy Jesuits Global)

SAINTHOOD CAUSE: Saint Teresa of Kolkata is pictured in 1982 with Jesuit Father Pedro Arrupe in Rome. The sainthood cause for Father Arrupe was formally opened in Rome at the Basilica of Saint John Lateran February 5, 2019, the 28th anniversary of his death. He was superior general of the Jesuits from 1965 to 1983.

Prayer For Father Gallitzin's Intercession

O God, light of the faithful and shepherd of souls, who sent Servant of God Demetrius Gallitzin to serve God's people in the Allegheny Mountains, feeding your sheep by his words and forming them by his example, pour out your Spirit to sow seeds of truth in people's hearts and to awaken in them obedience to the faith.

May the Gospel continue to be preached and the Sacraments bring power and grace to the faithful. By the example of this man of faith, Demetrius Gallitzin, may your people advance in the path of salvation and love.

Confident of your faithfulness to us, we humbly ask you, our God, to grant us the favor of (name your intention).

May Christ's saving work continue to the end of the ages, and may we feel a more urgent call to work for the salvation of every creature. We pray this, as did your priest Demetrius Gallitzin, through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

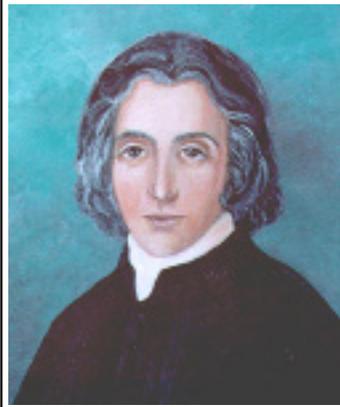
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the teachings of the Second Vatican Council, Cardinal de Donatis said.

He was also "rich" in such treasured qualities as the ability to listen, understand, respect, help and trust others, teaching many how to become "men and women for others," said the cardinal.

Born in Spain in 1907, Father Arrupe entered the Society of Jesus in 1927. Following the expulsion of the Jesuits from Spain in 1932, he continued his studies in Belgium, the Netherlands and the United States. After ordination, he was sent to Japan in 1938.

According to the U.S. website of the Jesuits, Father Arrupe was serving in a Japanese mission outside of Hiroshima when the United States dropped the atomic bomb there in 1945. The Jesuit priest, who studied medicine before entering the society, and several companions "were able to give aid to 150 victims."

In 1965, Father Arrupe was elected superior general of the Society of Jesus.

Father Arrupe worked to help Jesuits rediscover the Spirit-

ual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola, and the method of personal discernment and discernment in common helped the Jesuits renew their life, vows, community and mission.

He also established the Jesuit Refugee Service, which today serves refugees and other forcibly displaced persons in 52 countries.

Upon returning to Rome from a trip in Asia in 1981, he suffered a stroke. He resigned in 1983 and died in Rome February 5, 1991.

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Lock Haven Catholic Builds On Tradition, Excellence

For over 50 years, Lock Haven Catholic School has been “Building on Tradition and Excellence”. In 1967, the parishes in Lock Haven, St. Agnes and Immaculate Conception, consolidated their schools into what is now known as Lock Haven Catholic School (LHCS). For many years, LHCS educated students in kindergarten through 6th grades. In 2014, LHCS began an expansion project, adding 7th grade, and when the project was finished in 2015, 8th grade was added, making LHCS a K – 8 educational facility supported by the now consolidated parish, Holy Spirit Parish.

Since 1967, LHCS has completed two expansion projects. The first project was in the 1990’s and added a library room, computer room, small group room, and extra storage. The most recent expansion enabled LHCS to add two additional classrooms needed for the middle school grades. One of the classrooms includes science lab tables for middle school science. A café-gym-atorium, kitchen, and two bathrooms were also included in the expansion.

LHCS is the only Catholic school in Clinton County on the most northern end of the diocese. As the only Catholic school in the area, community outreach as a way to evangelize is important. The incorporation of the “Change for Change” program that was started over ten years ago has helped countless people in the surrounding community, nationally, and internationally. “Change for Change” happens once a month, and it gives students a chance to bring in “change” in order to “change” their clothes (dress down day) to help “change” the world. Since the time of inception, items such as food, clothing, cleaning supplies, and over \$35,000 has been sent to help people and organizations in need.

This year, with the incorporation of Faith Families,



DISSECT FROG: Jack Hanna and Mitch Spicer, eighth grade students, dissect a frog after studying the human body. The class compared the two body systems.

students are taking the ideas of evangelization and service to others to the next level. Using the RICH and ARISE programs to help guide the Faith Families program, LHCS students are learning and working together to become better disciples. Different activities throughout this year have allowed the students the opportunity to dive deeper into the topics of mercy, Beatitudes, the saints, respect, and integrity. This month, LHCS will also be adding a new component of our Faith Families, the “Do Good. Be Kind” campaign in honor of a good friend to LHCS, Mr. Charlie Mogish. Mr. Mogish has been a proponent of Catholic education and very supportive of LHCS. His modeling of doing good and being kind has been the inspiration behind continuing that legacy through Faith Families within LHCS...spreading kindness can change the world. LHCS also provides a well-

rounded educational experience. Teachers create hands-on learning opportunities in all content areas. A balance has been found with integrating technology within the classroom to enhance learning, with other tasks using paper, pencil, manipulatives, and group discussions.

Students are often asked what subject is their favorite, and the majority often say Science. Starting in kindergarten, students participate in hands-on, inquiry-based science. They also associate STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) activities with the science curriculum as well. Classrooms have days dedicated to STEM activities (often also incorporating Art and Religion making it STREAM). At the middle school level, students have an opportunity to join Technology Student Association, TSA, where they can apply their STEM skills in regional and state competitions.

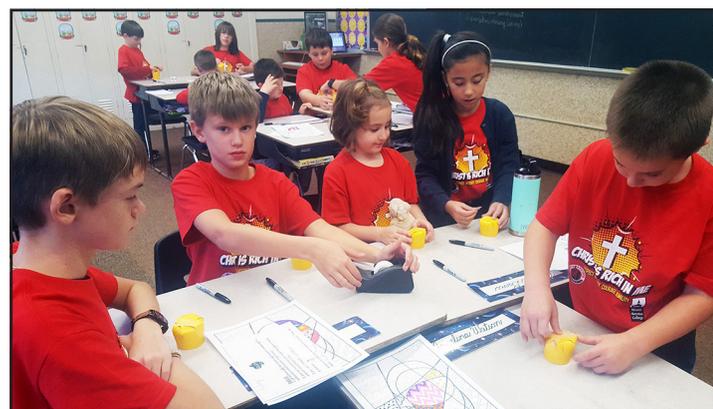
LHCS has had a TSA Chapter and participated in competitions for six years.

Other noteworthy events happening at LHCS include “Christmas Around the World” hosted by the middle school social studies classes, coding ac-

tivities starting in kindergarten, 3-D animation creation in middle school, reading competition in the intermediate grades, participation in the Celebrate Diversity program, and so much more making Lock Haven Catholic School a “Great Place to Grow”.



CELEBRATING CULTURE: Josie Benoit, and Jake Winkleman design shields during the kindergarten celebration of Native American Day. The children studied Native American customs including types of food, fishing, hunting, songs and dances, artwork, etc. They also choose a Native American name that was written on a headband, which adults used to address them throughout the day.



CREATE MERCY BEES: During the October Faith Family meeting, students gathered and discussed the Beatitudes, using information from ARISE as well as other supplementary materials. After a lesson on being merciful, students created a “Mercy Bee” that was filled with three Hershey Kisses. The students then were tasked with giving the Mercy Bee to someone that might need some mercy...a family member, neighbor, friend, community member, etc. One second grader drew a heart on his bee and told his Faith Family leader that he did that because “if somebody needs mercy, they also need extra love”.

Question Corner

By Father Kenneth Doyle

Properties Of The Eucharist/Miscarriage And Heaven



Q. I firmly believe that at Mass the Eucharist becomes Christ's body and blood. But here's what I don't understand: Why then do the properties of the bread and wine still affect people --- for example, those with wheat allergies or alcoholics? (Danville, Indiana)

A. Not surprisingly, this is a bit difficult to explain: It is, after all, a mystery of our faith -- a miracle of Christ's doing -- and there is nothing else to which it can be compared.

But it is nevertheless a core belief of the Catholic faith that the bread and wine are changed at Mass into the body and blood of Christ, something celebrated and proclaimed by hundreds of millions throughout the world since the evening of the Last Supper when Jesus said, "This is my body. ... This is my blood."

A bit of Thomistic philosophy might help: What the church believes is that the "substance" (deepest reality) of the bread and wine is changed but the "accidents" (physical attributes) are not. In other words, with the priest's words of consecration, what continues to look, taste and feel like bread and wine have actually become instead the glorified presence of Christ.

So committed was Jesus to this central truth that in the sixth chapter of John's Gospel, even when some of his followers abandoned Christ because of this teaching, Jesus let them walk away and did not say, "Wait, we're only talking about symbols."

For those with wheat allergies or for alcoholics, the church does make provision for the use of low-gluten hosts and for "mustum" (grape juice in which fermentation has begun but has been suspended). Still there are those for whom even trace amounts of gluten or alcohol can be harmful. They may opt to receive under only one species, and the church teaches that Jesus is wholly present under either one.

Q. I know that life begins at conception. So I want to believe that when a woman has a miscarriage, no matter how early in the pregnancy, her unborn baby goes to heaven -- but I am wondering what the church's view is on this. (As a woman who has experienced a miscarriage, I would find great comfort in knowing that I will be reunited someday with my baby in heaven.) (State College, Pennsylvania)

A. I suppose that a theological purist might say that there is no definitive church position on the ultimate fate of a miscarried child.

But from many things that the church has, in fact, taught in its official documents, it seems reasonable to assume that the child is in heaven. The Catechism of the Catholic Church says, "Baptism is necessary for salvation for those to whom the Gospel has been proclaimed and who have had the possibility of asking for this sacrament" (No. 1257).

But the miscarried child has had, of course, no chance to ask for the sacrament. A few paragraphs later, the catechism says, "Indeed, the great mercy of God who desires that all men should be saved, and Jesus' tenderness toward children which caused him to say: 'Let the children come to me, do not hinder them,' allow us to hope that there is a way of salvation for children who have died without baptism" (No. 1261).

When an infant is baptized, the infant makes no personal profession of faith; instead it is left to the parents and godparents to voice their desire to have the child christened. Why wouldn't the same logic prevail in the case of a miscarriage? Had the child been carried to term, the parents would certainly have had the child baptized, so why wouldn't a merciful God who reads hearts consider that intention sufficient?

Be comforted and at peace: I think it's quite likely that you will meet your child in heaven.



For The Journey

By Effie Caldarola

Why I send My Children To Catholic School

When the ground shifts beneath your feet, you fall back on faith.

Sometimes, it's a small earthquake that jolts you from deep slumber. Your spouse may not even stir unless it's a really good slammer.

Other times, you're hauling the laundry up the stairs and it rolls in slowly. Or a desk lurches slightly and your co-workers ask the familiar question, "Was that an earthquake?"

That's life in Alaska. Part of the Ring of Fire that stretches through Japan and up the west coast of the U.S., Alaska is one of the most seismically active places in the world. Consider this: By December 27, 52,146 earthquakes had been recorded in Alaska in 2018, according to the Alaska Earthquake Center at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Of course, Alaska is huge, most of those quakes were relatively small, many in unpopulated areas. But during the over 30 years I lived in Alaska, I can't begin to count the number of tremand those in need.

Pope Francis urged the religious order to stay committed to "the service of tenderness" and be attentive to "victims of the throwaway society."

"I ask you to create networks of 'Samaritans' helping the weakest, with particular attention to the poor who are ill." He asked that they also make sure their institutions are always open and welcoming in order to "globalize compassionate solidarity."ors I experienced.

So I felt fortunate to miss the magnitude 7.0 quake that hit on the morning of November 30, 2018. Infrastructure was damaged, a few fires broke out, one public school may remain closed for the year, but the damage was minimized by stringent building codes.

So when I called the little Catholic elementary school, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, that my children had attended in Anchorage, I was curious to see how everyone had weathered the quake. Ostensibly, I was doing a story

for the archdiocese's Catholic Anchor newspaper on Catholic Schools Week activities, sponsored nationally by the National Catholic Education Association January 27 to February 2.

But I quickly found out that if you wanted to boast about Catholic education, my kids' alma mater's response to the earthquake was the best advertisement.

The quake began just as school was about to open for the day. The before-care students were lined up. Their supervisor quickly had them gather by an inside wall. Aside from broken glass, there was no damage.

After the rolling stopped, frightened little kids regrouped in the hallway.

Staff offered calm. Then, from the church upstairs appeared three priests: the pastor, his assistant and a visiting priest. Along with them was the parish deacon, himself a dad. Four or-

ained ministers to console 169 terrified kids: a good ratio.

My friend Lisa has taught first grade at Saint Elizabeth for years. In the interview, she told me that when school resumed a few days later, she had a lot of very anxious students. One little girl wore her mom's school sweatshirt, the note from home explaining, "She wants to have a part of me with her."

To assuage fears, Lisa went to the church and brought holy water for a bowl on her desk.

"If you feel frightened or worried," she told her class, "just come up and put your fingers in the holy water, bless yourself, and thank God that you are safe and that God is in control."

Some children made several trips to the holy water. Catholic sacramentals can be powerful, consoling.

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Now Showing

“Serenity” (Aviron)



(CNS photo/Aviron Pictures)

Romantic thriller in which an emotionally scarred Iraq War vet (Matthew McConaughey) working as a fishing boat captain on a tropical island finds his isolated lifestyle interrupted when his ex-wife (Anne Hathaway) unexpectedly appears and offers to pay him millions to dispose of her alcoholic and abusive second spouse (Jason Clarke) by taking him out on an excursion and feeding him to the local sharks. Concerned for the welfare of his son (Rafael Sayegh), who lives with the new couple, but distracted by his Capt. Ahab-like obsession with catching an elusive giant tuna, he wavers over whether to accept, receiving sound moral guidance from his Catholic first mate (Djimon Hounsou). Viewers' artistic evaluation of writer-director Steven Knight's film will largely depend on their reaction to a weird plot twist meant to upend expectations, though there can be no question that his dialogue is laughably bad at times. As for morality, the story moves through some very dicey portrayals of sexuality and relentless vulgar talk toward a conclusion wholly at variance with the weightiest scriptural norms. Skewed values, strong sexual content, including graphic casual activity, mild and distant full nudity, a half-dozen uses of profanity, several mild oaths, pervasive rough and occasional crude language. The Catholic News Service classification is O -- morally offensive. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R -- restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.

Sunday Mass

**Broadcast Live From
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10:00 a.m. WFBG radio, 1290 AM

Sunday Mass Telecast

**Live from Saint John Gualbert Cathedral
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11 a. m. - noon WATM - TV ABC Channel 23**

**Proclaim
10:30 a. m.**

A half - hour of local Church news and features

Cardinal Dolan Criticizes Cuomo's Evaluation Of Catholic Church

By Catholic News Service

NEW YORK (CNS) -- New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan in a Sirius XM broadcast January 29 criticized Gov. Andrew Cuomo for his “stinging criticism of the Catholic Church” in singling out Catholics over the crisis surrounding the sexual abuse of minors.

“He really caricatured the church and only the church, singling it out for the sexual abuse of minors and contesting that we were the ones that had blocked the Child Victims Act,” Cardinal Dolan told Father Dave Dwyer, co-host of “Conversation With Cardinal Dolan,” which airs every Tuesday afternoon on Sirius XM’s The Catholic Channel.

“And then misquoting, taking out of context, Pope Francis, and to flaunt his dissent from established church teaching and to use all that as an applause line,” the cardinal said of the governor.

He was referring to Cuomo’s State of the State address in which he cited his own Catholic faith and Pope Francis and at the same time emphasized his full backing of a bill -- now signed in to law -- to radically expand abortion access in the state. Cuomo also criticized the state’s Catholic bishops for their earlier opposition to the Child Victims Act, also now a law.

The new law makes it easier for abuse victim-survivors to sue. The bishops did support the final measure because it included both private and public institutions. Earlier versions only targeted the church.

Cuomo also criticized the Catholic bishops in a news conference and radio interview Jan. 28 claiming that despite the teachings of Christ about “truth and justice,” the bishops resisted justice for victims and had worked to protect the church over doing justice.

“I found that very hurtful, I found that very disappointing and most of all I found it terribly inaccurate,” Cardinal Dolan told Father Dwyer according to a transcript of the show provided by Sirius XM.

He said he had not watched Cuomo’s address live and when he watched a videotape of it, he thought someone was imitat-

ing the governor, because he couldn’t believe his “stinging criticism.”

“Now we know and he knows that if you want to talk about sexual abuse of minors, you’re talking about families, foster care programs, public schools,” Cardinal Dolan said. “You’re talking about organizations, every religion, you’re talking about public schools, it is a societal, cultural problem. There is no occupation that is freed from it.”

The U.S. Catholic Church “is no greater (an) offender than

Act, signed into law by Cuomo Jan. 22. “It’s not an issue of the catechism, (abortion is) an issue of civil rights.”

“To talk about the fact that a baby born alive who survives an abortion, the doctor’s under no legal ... expectation to save that baby’s life,” Cardinal Dolan said. “Now, a doctor isn’t even necessary. I thought this was supposed to be about women’s health. Conscience rights of people who oppose it, that it can be done right up to the moment of birth. This is hideous. All right? And, this



(CNS photo/Mike Segar, Reuters and Greg Shemitz)

CARDINAL DOLAN TAKES ISSUE: New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan and New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo are seen in a 2017 and 2016 combination photo. On SiriusXM radio January 29, 2019, Cardinal Dolan took issue with Cuomo on several fronts, including the governor’s claim he is more in tune with Pope Francis than the bishops are when it comes to advocating for victims of sex abuse.

anybody else. In fact, some of the statistics would say that priestly abuse among minors is less than other professions,” the cardinal said. “Now he knows that, he knows that, and yet he singled out the Catholic Church and continues to do so for negligence in this terribly important area.”

He explained that bishops of the state had first been against the Child Victims Act because it exclusively focused on the church, but that the bishops and their policy people worked with the lawmakers to get an acceptable bill.

It raises the statutes of limitations and creates a one-year “look-back window” to allow adults abused as children to file claims no matter how long ago they said the abuse occurred.

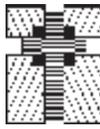
Cardinal Dolan also expanded on the Catholic Church’s opposition to what he called the “ghoulish” Reproductive Health

isn’t a Catholic issue.”

He added that not only was such a “ghoulish law” passed, but “then to celebrate it. ... to have parties, to light up the Twin Towers here. Twin Towers, by the way, have you heard? Twin Towers is right at the site of 9/11.”

He was referring to Cuomo ordering that the needle atop the One World Trade Center -- the tallest building in the United States -- be lit pink in celebration of the new law. New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan and New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo are seen in a 2017 and 2016 combination photo. On SiriusXM radio January 29, 2019, Cardinal Dolan took issue with Cuomo on several fronts, including the governor’s claim he is more in tune with Pope Francis than the bishops are when it comes to advocating for victims of sex abuse.

May They Rest In Peace



Senior Diocesan Priest Passes



MONSIGNOR ROY F. KLINE

Monsignor Roy F. Kline, 93, a resident of Garvey Manor Nursing Home in Hollidaysburg, died on Tuesday, January 29 at the Manor.

He was born in Spangler the son of the late Otto and Helen (Lehmier) Kline. He was preceded in death by a brother, Paul; and a cousin, Helen O'Leary.

He is survived by two nephews: Andrew (Jackie) Kline of Camp Hill; and Paul (Gail) Kline of Amelia, VA; two great nephews, Joshua and Caleb Kline of Amelia, VA; and two cousins: Rosemary Kline of New Cumberland, and Darlene Fritz of Chardon, Ohio.

He was first assigned as assistant pastor to Father Jeremiah P. Flynn at Saint Patrick Parish in Newry, with the mission church of Saint Anne in Claysburg. After five years in Newry, Monsignor Kline was named Assistant Principal at Altoona Catholic High School, which is now Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School.

He was named Episcopal Master of Ceremonies at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona, a position he held for 40 years.

In 1962, he was named Monsignor with the title of Papal Chamberlain. In December of 1986, he was raised to Prelate of Papal of Honor to His Holiness.

In 1968, Monsignor was named pastor of Saint Therese The Child Jesus Parish in Altoona, where he remained for 27 years. In 1995, He was appointed pastor of Saint Catherine of Siena Parish in Duncansville.

Monsignor Kline began his studies at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio, the only seminary in the United States directly under the supervision of the pope. He completed his high school, college, and theological studies, and was ordained at the seminary by the Apostolic Delegate to the United States on May 26, 1951.

As a seminarian during the summers of 1946-1949, he at-

tended the Pope Pius X School of Liturgical Ministry in New York City. He served on the diocesan Liturgical Commission for 34 years and was its chairman for 17 years.

Bishop Mark L. Bartchak celebrated the funeral Mass on Monday, February 4 at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. Committal rights were held at Saint Nicholas Cemetery in Nicktown.



SISTER BARBARA LORRAINE D'AURIA, IHM

Sister Barbara Lorraine D'Auria, IHM, (formerly known as Sister M. Darius) of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary died on Sunday, February 3, 2019, at Our Lady of Peace Residence in Scranton.

She was born on October 4, 1933, in Nyack, NY. She was the daughter of the late Samuel Michael and Florence Josephine Natale D'Auria. She entered the IHM Congregation on September 8, 1951, and made her temporary profession of vows on August 2, 1954, and her final profession of vows on August 2, 1957.

Sister Barbara served as minister at the former Saint Joseph Parish, now the Holy Family Parish in Portage from 1991 to 1992.

Parent Vigilance Equals Internet Safety

By Eleanor Kennelly Gaetan
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- In his internet safety presentations at schools, Justin Gaertner emphasizes that safety "comes back to parents and kids being vigilant."

"If you see something, say something," he tells his audiences.

Wounded in war while serving in Afghanistan as a Marine veteran, Gaertner works with the Department of Homeland Security, pursuing predators who collect and trade child pornography -- more accurately termed, child sexual abuse imagery -- on the internet.

"We all have to be very careful," Gaertner told Catholic News Service.

One resource for guidance on internet safety is the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, or NCMEC, runs the website netsmartz.org with tip sheets and guidance tailored for various audiences. The site is

one of more than a dozen sites with child safety resources the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Secretariat for Child and Youth Protection lists at <https://bit.ly/1DIKIJR>.

For parents, NCMEC suggests the best way to protect your children is to actually engage with them in accessing things online: offer to play the games they like, ask them to show you what platforms they use, discuss being respectful online and never responding to sexual questions or requests for pictures.

"Your kids might not tell you everything but ask anyway," the center says. "Regular conversations about safety can go a long way in increasing trust and communication."

The site www.faihand-safety.org tells parents: "No technology, no piece of software, no parental control is ever a substitute for active and involved parenting. The most effecting internet safety tool is you!"

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Catholic Charities Inaugural Wine Tasting Benefit Sells Out

Photos And Text
By Tony DeGol

Louisa Lobre Riley was partial to the tortellini with Bolognese sauce, but her eyes really lit up when she talked about the tiramisu.

And don't even get her started about the spectacular wines that were paired with those dishes and the other scrumptious morsels.

The next words out of her mouth, however, were of even better taste.

"We have a wonderful Catholic community here in Altoona, and Catholic Charities supports people in need," she remarked.

Jonathan Grier offered more food for thought.

"Not everyone has the benefit of going to wine tastings and food pairings," he admitted. "Some people are more worried about heat in the winter, and food, and hot water, and really basic things. Whatever we can do to help is worthwhile. It's what being Catholic is all about."

That spirit seemed to summarize the inaugural wine sampling of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown.

Grier and Riley were among the sell-out crowd at the Wednesday, February 6 event at the Blairmont Club in Hollidaysburg.

Friends of Catholic Charities were presented with six Italian wines – three white and three red – each accompanied by delicious hors d'oeuvres. Among the pairings were an Orvieto coupled with Arancini (stuffed rice balls), a Sauvignon Blanc



CHEERS: Jan Andrews, center, greets Richard and Cynthia Karcher at the inaugural Catholic Charities wine sampling. At right is a Tortellini Bolognese served with an Urlo Red Blend, one of six wine and food pairings at the event. All of the money raised benefits the Emergency Financial Assistance program at Catholic Charities.

alongside ricotta gnocchi, and a Montepulciano matched with fried ravioli.

"As soon as you had the wine and tasted the pairing, everything just kind of blended together," critiqued Joanie Sweeda. "It was very nice. Well done!"

Catholic Charities Advisory Board Chair Jan Andrews steered the wine sampling planning and festivities.

"You had something for everybody," she stated at the end of the successful evening. "You had some very good food that paired really well with the wines."

Even more appetizing to Andrews was the opportunity to increase awareness and support of the mission of Catholic Charities.

All of the money raised at the wine sampling is benefiting the agency's Emergency Financial Assistance program, which helps individuals and families throughout the year, but especially during these harsh winter months.

"Your money goes to help people in need, and that's something we're very proud of," admitted Andrews. "People can feel good about giving to Catholic Charities."

Despite a healthier economy than roughly a decade ago, the needs are still great in our community.

Donations to Catholic Charities directly support neighbors of all faith traditions struggling with basic expenses like utilities



and food.

"Things we take for granted, our families worry about every single day," added Catholic Charities Executive Director Jean Johnstone.

"I've supported Catholic Charities for years," said Doug Stoehr, who also attended the wine sampling. "I think their mission is terrific. There are so many people who cannot meet their bills. I really feel for these people, and I think particularly during these winter months, it's important to help people in need like this."

Besides emergency financial assistance, Catholic Charities also offers counseling services, an annual Christmas outreach

to families, and, most recently, the All Soles program, which provides new shoes and winter boots to children.

Catholic Charities plans to build on the success of the wine sampling.

"We're looking to take this to all parts of the diocese such as Johnstown, Northern Cambria County, and Centre County — other places where we can take the word of Catholic Charities and share this fellowship," noted Johnstone.

Future samplings, she said, would feature wines from other parts of the world with a menu to complement those wines.

PERIODICAL RATE MAIL

The Catholic Register

ARISE
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Official Publication of the
Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown