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ARISE Season Two Hopes To Capitalize On Season One Success

Photos And Text By
Tony DeGol

Mention the word “survey,” and some people might yawn.

The heartfelt responses to an appraisal of season one of ARISE Together in Christ, however, are anything but sleepy.

“I get a lump in my throat reading them,” admitted Chris Ringkamp, a member of the diocesan ARISE team.

The overwhelmingly positive reaction from participants of that inaugural season last fall is propelling hopes for an even stronger season two this Lent.

The theme for the new season is “Change Our Hearts.” ARISE is a series of small group faith sharing that aims to spiritually renew the faithful of Altoona-Johnstown by drawing them closer to God and strengthening relationships among fellow parishioners.

Most parishes in the diocese are embracing the opportunity. Catholic schools, religious education programs, college campus ministry programs, pastoral care facilities, and prison ministry programs are also engaging in ARISE.

According to Ringkamp, an estimated 8,000 people experienced the renewal initiative in season one. He volunteered to compile the responses from the participant surveys.

Based on the feedback,

he stated, those who partook in ARISE are more engaged in the sacraments, participating in parish ministries, talking openly about their faith, and reconciling with relatives with whom they had not spoken in years.

To read participants’ comments, please visit the diocesan website and Facebook page.

ARISE is not an adult faith formation class, Ringkamp stressed.

“It’s an opportunity to share personal reflections of what the scriptures of that particular week mean to that individual,” explained Ringkamp, a member of Saint John the Evangelist Parish in Altoona, where he is also an ARISE small group leader. “Those personal reflections are helping others in those small groups strengthen their faith because there are a lot of marvelous testimonials. People have such a deep faith life that we don’t realize until we’re in these small, intimate settings. It really has motivated a lot of folks to put their faith into action.”

One would get no argument on that point from Lonnie Rietscha, a parishioner at Saint John Gualbert Cathedral in Johnstown.

Rietscha was so impacted as an ARISE participant in season one, that he decided to be a small group leader in season two.

“During the fall sessions, the group I attended shared many



SISTER LINDA
LAMAGNA C.C.W.

wonderful experiences together that resulted in a sense of family bonding – parish family bonding to be precise,” he recalled. “The personal reflections we shared helped each other to realize our lives may cross different paths, and the personal life experiences may differ slightly, but for the most part, we all have similar struggles, hopes, dreams, and joys in this life and are here for one another.”

Rietscha views ARISE as a way of getting back to the roots of our faith.

He said spiritual growth arose when he and his fellow group members each had the opportunity to reflect upon the readings for the week which led to the invitation to act.

Diocesan ARISE Coordinator Sister Linda LaMagna, CCW, will offer weekly reflections throughout season two of ARISE Together in Christ. Please watch her segments beginning Sunday, March 3 on Proclaim! TV at 10:30 a.m. on WATM ABC 23. They will also be available on the diocesan website and Facebook page.



“This personally for me was the most awesome part of the whole experience because you never knew where the Holy Spirit was going to take you, but you knew you had a sense of awareness that He was working in your life and bringing you closer to Him,” Rietscha surmised.

Season two of ARISE Together in Christ begins in most parishes the week of March 3 and will continue for six weeks. It is not too late to register for this renewal opportunity during the upcoming Lenten journey.

“God really does work through us even though we may not notice,” reflected Rietscha. “ARISE helped me to understand just that.”

Lenten Season Begins March 6

Beginning on Ash Wednesday, the season of Lent is a 40-day period of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving leading to the Triduum and Easter.

Catholics 18 years and older must abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and the Fridays of Lent. Those between the ages of 18 and 59 must also fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday (one full meal and two smaller meals that are not equal to a full meal).

Lent is also a time to seek God’s healing and forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Many parishes are offering Communal Penance Services and other special opportunities for Reconciliation.

As the Church of Altoona-Johnstown observes the season of Lent, parishes were invited to provide their schedules for Ash Wednesday Masses, Stations of the Cross, and Communal Penance Services. Faith Communities were also invited to share information about their always-popular fish lunches or dinners.

Inside this edition of *The Catholic Register* are schedules for Communal Penance Services on page 4, Ash Wednesday observances on page 14, Stations of the Cross on Page 15, and fish dinner options on Page 16.

The information is also available on the diocesan website and Facebook page.

Trivia Night Scores Big For Our Lady Of Victory Athletics

Photo And Text By
Tony DeGol

Master of Ceremonies Mark Griffin felt compelled to get some important business out of the way early at Trivia Night at Our Lady of Victory Catholic School in State College.

“What time are Confessions?,” he posed at the start of the festivities. “I’m asking because if any of you cheat tonight, you’re going to have to go to Confession tomorrow.”

Despite some challenging questions, the approximately 250 adults who attended, of course, did not cheat. Rather, they enjoyed plenty of fun and friendly competition that seemed to mirror the very essence of what they were gathering to support.

The third annual Trivia Night on Friday, February



TRIVIA TIME: More than 250 people gathered for the annual Trivia Night at Our Lady of Victory Catholic School in State College including (left to right): Lynne Karish, John Karish, Joe Kolarik, Cindy Kolarik, Alane Haney, Harold Haney, Tom Venturino, and Jo Anne Venturino. All of the money raised benefits the OLVCS athletic program.

15 benefited the OLVCS athletic program. It was also a time to celebrate the rich tradition of sportsmanship at the school and

the valuable lessons the programs offer student athletes.

“The kids are taught to win with grace and lose with grace,” said Jeff Peters, chair of the Athletic Council. “They learn how to play right, and they learn that if you win, it’s great, but if you don’t, it’s part of life.”

Athletic programs, continued Peters, enhance students’ spiritual development and competitive nature.

“It’s a way to round out their education here at OLV School,” he added. “It’s special here at OLV, and I really value it, and that’s why I’ve been involved with the Athletic Council for so

long.”

Peters and his wife, Kathy, who served as co-chair of Trivia Night, are the parents of five children who are current Catholic school students or alums. Their older children thrived in athletics at OLV, and their younger children are already embracing the tradition.

“Athletics promote teamwork and sportsmanship,” emphasized Principal Samantha Weakland. “We can think about how we care about others and how we compete with one another.”

Added OLV Pastor, Father Neil Dadey: “Here at Our Lady of Victory, we try to supply the spiritual, the educational, and also the athletic concept as well – a well-rounded education in all areas.”

According to Athletic Director Ruthie Straub, the school offers sports including boys and girls basketball, co-ed soccer, and track and field. More than half of the middle school students participate in athletics.

“It brings school spirit and camaraderie,” she noted. “Our teachers have coached, our parents have coached, our alumni are coming back to coach. Everyone can come together for the same passion and love of our sports.”

The programs, of course, come with a price tag for uniforms, transportation, coaching stipends, and other expenses.

That is why the Trivia Night fundraiser, which included raffles and live auctions, is critical.

“We raise about \$20,000 with this one event, which is a good portion of the athletic budget,” mentioned Weakland.

After a night of vigorous trivia competition, a group representing Saint Joseph’s Catholic Academy in Boalsburg walked away as champions.

The real winners, of course, are the student athletes who, as the school insists, can always claim victory by winning and losing with grace.

Go to Saint Joseph with your needs.

TRIDUUM IN HONOR OF SAINT JOSEPH

Sunday, March 17, 5pm
Monday, March 18, 7pm
Tuesday, March 20, 7pm

Saint John Gualbert Cathedral
117 Clinton Street, Johnstown PA



Confession after evening Mass on March 17 & 18.
Saint Joseph Table Reception at SJGC Activity Center immediately following the closing Mass on March 19.

Mark the petition; fill in name (optional); place in petitions basket.
Please place my petition before Saint Joseph during the Triduum.

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thanksgiving | <input type="checkbox"/> Employment | <input type="checkbox"/> Holy Father | <input type="checkbox"/> Recovery from Illness |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Happy Death | <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Help | <input type="checkbox"/> Priests/Religious | <input type="checkbox"/> Recovery from Addiction |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Poor Souls | <input type="checkbox"/> Happy Marriage | <input type="checkbox"/> Parish Family | <input type="checkbox"/> Return to Sacraments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Peace of Mind | <input type="checkbox"/> Safe Pregnancy | <input type="checkbox"/> Vocations | <input type="checkbox"/> World Peace |
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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.

4th Lenten Mission In Loretto

The Basilica of Saint Michael The Archangel in Loretto will conduct the Fourth Annual Lenten Mission in honor of Our Lady of Loretto beginning on Sunday, March 31 and ending on Friday, April 5.

The mission director will be Father Michael Caridi, STL, pastor of Saint Anne Parish in

the Diocese of Pittsburgh.

Father John D. Byrnes, Rector of the Basilica, said those attending the mission are invited to place their petitions before the Blessed Mother. Those unable to attend are invited to send their petitions to the Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel, PO Box 10 Loretto, PA 15940.



ALYSON COREY

Mount Aloysius College sophomore Alyson Corey has received notification from Delta Epsilon Sigma (DES), the National Catholic Honor Society, that her short fiction story has earned a second place nomination in their national writing contest.

Corey, of Williamsport,

Mount Student Receives National Honor

Pa., studies Ultrasound Technology at Mount Aloysius College in Cresson and enjoys writing in her spare time. "I'd say Mount Aloysius helped prepare me for this by inspiring me to share my writings with others. Before, I rarely even told people I wrote at all, but I mentioned it to a friend and they convinced me to let them read my story and other things I have written," Corey said. "They encouraged me to keep writing and I got the confidence to show others my stories. It is because of the amazing people here at MAC that I entered the writing contest at all. I can't thank them enough."

The honor society represents 71 colleges and universities across the country. The Mount Aloysius College DES chapter is Delta Chi. Over the

last four years, about 20 Mount Aloysius students have submitted their work for the Contest. Two students in the last three years have received Honorable Mentions for their written submissions; Alyson is the first Mountie student to be honored with a Second Place.

Healing Mass

Franciscan Father Jonathan St. Andre will celebrate a Mass of blessings and prayers for healing in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 8.

Father Jonathan is director of novices at Saint Francis Friary in Loretto.

All in need of physical, emotional, or spiritual healing—as well as those who support them—are very welcome. Music will be led by the Cathedral Prayer Group Music Ministry.



SOUPER BOWL: Religious Education students from Transfiguration Parish in Conemaugh collected 363 cans of soup and 88 boxes of crackers to benefit the Saint Vincent DePaul Food Pantry. The collection was part of the students' annual "Souper Bowl!" service project during the weekend of the NFL's Super Bowl. Transfiguration's "Souper Bowl IX" winner was the Food Pantry! A few of the participants pictured (left to right) are: Logan Heinlein, Barbara Kusher, and Amelia Calpin."



Chad
died 672

FEAST March 2

An English Northumbrian, Chad was a disciple of St. Aidan at Lindisfarne, and served with St. Egbert in Ireland. In 664, he succeeded his brother, St. Cedd, as abbot at Lastingham, England. While still young, he was consecrated bishop of York by order of King Oswiu, but this was overturned by Archbishop Theodore of Canterbury, who found the consecrating bishops unorthodox. Chad resigned, and Theodore, touched by his humility, reconsecrated him as bishop of Mercia. Establishing his see at Lichfield, Chad was a good shepherd, preaching the Gospel in his far-flung diocese, often traveling on foot. Much of Chad's story comes from monks at Lastingham via Bede's church history.

Coming Up On Proclaim

March 10 -- As the diocese observes the Rite of Election ritual, Dane Van Horn, a parishioner at the Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel in Loretto, recalls his Christian Initiation journey last year while Basilica RCIA Director Cindy McMullen explains the initiation process.

March 17 -- On this Saint Patrick's Day, representatives of the Irish Catholic fraternal organization the Ancient Order of Hibernians share the group's history and contributions.

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Junior High Youth Day Set For March 17



LOOKING UP: Bishop Mark L. Bartchak joins a group of students from Good Shepherd Parish in Port Matilda pointing to their sign during Junior High Youth Day 2018.

LENTEN FISH DINNERS

Queen Of Peace Parish Center in Patton (Upper Level) Fridays of Lent (including **Good Friday**), beginning **Friday, March 8 - April 19, 4-7 PM**



MENU Includes:
Choice of (6 oz. cod loin) baked, fried fish or 2 Salmon patties; choice of baked potato or french fries. In addition, fresh baked rolls, stewed tomatoes, macaroni & cheese, haluski, cole slaw, dessert & beverage. Pierogies A La Carte. Baked goods available for sale.

For your convenience, please park in the Parish Center parking lot above the hall.

4-7 PM Adults, \$10/Children (5-12), \$5/Children (under 5),
Takeout's available in the lower level of Parish Center

Annual Men's Turkey Dinner Sunday, March 17th 11 AM-3PM



The Men are Cooking!

**BASILICA OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL
LORETTO, PA**

ADULTS \$10.00 CHILDREN 10 & under \$6.00

TAKEOUTS \$11.00

BASKET RAFFLE

Garvey Manor

BASKET BINGO

Sunday March 31, 2019

2:00 - 5:00 PM

Proceeds benefit Residents of Garvey Manor &
Our Lady of the Alleghenies

Space limited pre-registration recommended required.

Call 695-5571 for information

Students in grades six, seven, and eight are invited to one of the most inspirational youth events in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown.

The annual Junior High Youth Day is scheduled for Sunday, March 17 beginning at 11:30 a.m. at Bishop Carroll Catholic High School in Ebensburg.

Sponsored by the diocesan Office of Youth Ministry, the theme for the 2019 celebration will be "Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God."

Young people sometimes get caught up in a pop culture that often does not prioritize living a life that God wants us to live, explained Youth Ministry Coordinator Francine Swope.

"Our youth need to turn to God for support with a clean heart and be the loving and caring disciples they are supposed to be," she added.

Chris Rodgers, director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry in the Diocese of La Crosse, Wisconsin, will be the keynote presenter.

"Chris is a very interactive presenter," assured Swope. "He's not someone who will just stand there and talk. Using a guitar, he intends on teaching the students through showing and sharing what it means to ask God for a clean heart."

Priests will be available to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and, as always, Bishop Mark L. Bartchak will celebrate Mass to close out the event.

The deadline to register is Wednesday, March 6. Those interested must contact their pastor, parish Director of Religious Education/Youth Ministry, or Catholic elementary school principal.

COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICES

March 17

4:00 p.m. – Saint John the Evangelist, Altoona

March 19

6:30 p.m. – Saint Stephen, McConnellsburg

7:00 p.m. – Saint Clement, Johnstown

March 21

7:00 p.m. – Immaculate Conception, Dudley

March 24

3:00 p.m. – Holy Spirit, Lock Haven (Saint Agnes worship site)

4:30 p.m. --Saint Mark, Altoona

March 27

6:30 p.m. – Saint Joseph, Renovo

April 1

6:30 p.m. – Holy Name, Ebensburg

April 3

6:30 p.m. – Church of the Transfiguration, Conemaugh

7:00 p.m. – Saint Augustine, St. Augustine

April 4

6:00 p.m. – Saint Anthony of Padua, Windber

7:00 p.m. – Our Lady of the Alleghenies, Lilly

7:00 p.m. – Saint Patrick, Johnstown

April 6

10:00 a.m. – Saint Therese of the Child Jesus, Altoona

April 7

5:00 p.m. – Saint Joseph, Bellwood

5:00 p.m. – Saint Rose of Lima, Altoona

7:00 p.m. – Saint John the Baptist, New Baltimore

April 8

6:00 p.m. – Our Mother of Sorrows, Johnstown

7:00 p.m. – Holy Family, Portage

7:00 p.m. – Immaculate Conception, New Germany

7:00 p.m. – Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Altoona

7:00 p.m. – Saint Matthew, Tyrone

7:00 p.m. – Saint Monica, Chest Springs

April 9

6:30 p.m. – Saint Mary, Nanty Glo

7:00 p.m. – Good Shepherd, Port Matilda

April 10

5:30 p.m. – Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Johnstown

6:30 p.m. – Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Altoona

7:00 p.m. – Queen of Archangels, Clarence

7:00 p.m. – Saint Nicholas, Nicktown

April 11

5:30 p.m. – Our Lady of Lourdes, Altoona

6:00 p.m. – Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Windber

6:30 p.m. – Saint John Gualbert Cathedral, Johnstown

7:00 p.m. – Saint Benedict, Carrolltown

April 14

4:00 p.m. – Saint Mary, Hollidaysburg

April 17

7:00 p.m. – Saint Andrew, Johnstown



Bullying Prevention Starts At Home



By The VIRTUS Programs

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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The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has published a report based on an anonymous Massachusetts Youth Health Survey of almost 6,000 public middle school and high school students. These are the findings:

- 43.9% of middle school respondents and 30.5% of high school respondents were affected by bullying.
- Based on responses, respondents were divided into four groups: bullies (perpetrators only); bully-victims (those who inflicted and received abuse); victims; and, "neither" (kids who weren't involved with bullying at all)
 - Risk factors such as drinking and mental health problems were significantly elevated for bullies, victims, and bully/victims.
 - Bully/victims in middle school and high school were three times more likely to report seriously considering suicide, intentionally injuring themselves, physical abuse by a family member, and witnessing violence in their families.
 - Bully/victims were more likely to

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**.

have been exposed to family violence than bullies

- Bullies were more likely to have been exposed to family violence than victims
- Victims were more likely to have been exposed to family violence than kids who were neither bullies nor victims. Eryn Brown "Bullying: Massachusetts study links bullying, family violence," www.latimes.com (Apr. 22, 2011).

David Finkelhor, Ph.D., Director of the University of New Hampshire Crimes Against Children Research Center, shared his hypothesis about higher levels of family violence for both bullies and kids who are bullied in an interview with Psychiatric News. Dr. Finkelhor explains, "One obvious reason is that when one grows up in violence and aggression, the individual comes to see coercion in relationships as standard behavior."

According to Finkelhor, the individual internalizing the bullying behavior has difficulty avoiding similar situations. The cycle is what he refers to as "polyvictimization" or, the multiple victimizations of one person. Finkelhor adds that the report puts emphasis on the need to assess different kinds of victimization in order to develop methods for treating and equipping victims to avoid future victimization.

Bullying should never be accepted as a "normal" part of childhood. Watch out for signs that your child may be bullying others. Addressing the problem early may help prevent a bigger problem later on.

How do you know if a child is a bully? According to the Parent Advocacy Coalition for Educational Rights Center, one or more of the following traits may indicate a child is bullying:

- The child does not want to accept responsibility for his or her actions and is quick

to blame others

- The child lacks compassion, empathy for other people's feelings
- The child has immature social and interpersonal skills
- The child always wants to be in control
- The child is constantly anxious and gets frustrated easily
- The child is trying to fit in with a peer group that encourages bullying
- The child is also a victim of a bully or a group of bullies
- The child comes from families where his or her parents and/or siblings bully
- The child's parents are unable to set limits, are not consistent with discipline, and they do not provide supervision or are not interested in what goes on in their child's life

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For inquiries 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.

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.

Good Shepherd Parish Opens Doors To The Homeless



COTS ARE PREPARED TO HOUSE THE HOMELESS ON COLD NIGHTS



PICTURED ARE THE VOLUNTEERS FROM THE GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH

The Good Shepherd Parish in Port Matilda is one of many local churches to open its door to The Out of the Cold program of Centre County (OOTC3). This is a grass roots effort that is a registered, non-profit organization established in 2011 by the Community Safety Net (CSN) to serve homeless residents.

Their mission is to provide homeless residents in the community with warm, safe accommodations in a welcoming atmosphere. Good

Shepherd opened its doors for two weeks in January.

In 2017-2018, 14 congregations provided overnight shelter for 118 guests, filling 2,473 cots and serving almost 5,000 meals. The host site rotates every two weeks and operates from 9:00 pm-7:00 am each night from mid-October to early May.

Each evening, guests are welcomed by staff volunteers, served a warm meal, given a cot and blanket and a warm place to sleep. Breakfast is served in the morning, and before de-

parting, guests may register to return for the evening. Good Shepherd Church of Port Matilda is marking its Fifth year of involvement with the organization. Nearly 70 volunteers provide 1,000 service hours of time during the two weeks guests are welcomed here. A leadership team of parishioners organizes volunteers who cook and serve meals. Faith Formation classes provided and assembled Blessing bags to be placed on each cot as guests arrived. The bags had plenty of goodies including candy, food and bus vouchers, hand warmers and gloves, personal hygiene items and special prayer cards created by the parish children.

The Out of the Cold program is supported by donations of food, clothing and gift cards by parishioners and various community organizations. The Interfaith Human Services group provides the van that is loaded up with the cots, blankets and other supplies and driven to the next site for setup while Penn State launders the blanket between sites.

Good Shepherd is one piece of this community puzzle that is working to serve as Christ in Centre County.



TALENT SHOW: Saint Benedict School in Carrolltown hosted the 7th Annual Catholic Schools Week Talent Show. Winners of the show were Madelyn Goss, Olivia Deckard, and Taylor Marsh. Benedictine Brother Michael Miller, was the show coordinator.



“SOUPER” STRUCTURES: Our Lady of Victory Catholic School in State College celebrated Catholic Schools Week by donating cans of soup, with which they created art work. In the above photo the fourth grade class made a church with 112 soup cans, a cereal box, and construction paper. In the photo below, Dana Smith’s seventh grade homeroom created a version of the United States Flag. The school students raised over 1,500 cans of soup that was donated to a local food bank.



THE INDEPENDENT CATHOLIC FOUNDATION

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Endowment Distribution Exceeds \$1 Million



We welcome you to the (early) spring edition of our newsletter. We love sharing stories of our good works and the positive impact the Foundation continues to have because of our generous benefactors. A perfect example of that is on page three; it is an account of a wonderful example of a family caring about their faith.

Several new endowments have been created this fiscal year with several more pending; these will benefit a parish cemetery or forever provide masses for family members. As this letter is written, since July 1, we have distributed over \$1 million to various Catholic causes. Except for college scholarships all of this benefited ministries located within the eight counties of the Diocese. We continue to be proud of Christian Brothers Investment Services for managing our portfolio and their dedication to Catholic Responsible Investing. Their philosophy is detailed in the “What We Do” section of our web site, www.icfdaj.org.

We continue to work with pastors and parish committees on ways the Foundation can provide service. Additionally, we’ve been having private conversations with parishioners on how they can include their parish or favorite Catholic cause in estate planning. We hope you enjoy this edition of FOCUS and trust it provides thoughts on how you may create your Catholic legacy. Please pray for our continued success. And remember...we make house calls!

JOE KELLER, PRESIDENT
BILL HIERGEIST, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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THE MISSION OF THE INDEPENDENT CATHOLIC FOUNDATION IS TO BE A VEHICLE FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE BODY OF CHRIST TO PROVIDE FINANCIALLY FOR THE MINISTRIES OF HIS CHURCH AND ENSURE THE PERPETUATION OF HIS MINISTRY FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS.

Visit
www.icfdaj.org
(Give Later) to learn how to donate through a Last Will.

The Independent Catholic Foundation

What Exactly Is An Endowment?



The Independent Catholic Foundation exists to provide for the long-term financial needs of Catholic parishes, schools, cemeteries, ministries, etc. in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown. We do this primarily through 258 permanent endowments. In its most basic form, a permanent endowment is nothing more than a savings account that can never be spent.

Expanding upon this definition: A permanent endowment is a type of investment fund where the principal, or corpus, remains invested in perpetuity (forever). The principal consists of cash or other donated assets contributed by one or more donors to initiate, or add to, an endowment. Many of our endowments were created by individuals and families who pooled their resources in honor or memory of loved ones.

How Does An Endowment Help if the Principal cannot be spent?

While it is true that the principal can never be spent, a percentage of the investment earnings is made available each year to the parish, school, or cemetery, etc. as a distribution. The annual percentage is determined by the Independent Catholic Foundation's lay board of trustees once it has reviewed a recommendation by the finance committee. Each endowment agreement contains language that restricts annual distributions to one or more designated beneficiaries.

What Types of Assets Can Create an Endowment?

An individual or family can create a permanent endowment with a variety of assets. Some of the more popular types include cash; stocks, bonds and other securities; Certificates of Deposit (CDs); qualified distributions from IRA accounts; life insurance policies; annuities, personal property and real estate. These gifts can be made at any time during one's life, or they may be donated through a Last Will (as a bequest).

When creating a permanent endowment through one's Will, it is important to direct the bequest to the Independent Catholic Foundation along with the specific name of the endowment to be funded. We encourage anyone who is interested in establishing an endowment through a Will to contact us first to ensure that the primary and contingency beneficiary designations can be honored now and for many generations in the future.

What if I do not have a Last Will?

Contrary to what you may believe, every single person – regardless of the value of your possessions – should have a Last Will, otherwise the courts will use a pre-determined formula for distributing your estate without regard to wishes known only to you. It is important to engage an attorney who focuses on estate planning. If you don't know where to begin, ask fellow parishioners for leads.

Why the Independent Catholic Foundation?

As fellow Catholics, our trustees and staff believe it is our obligation to invest our permanent endowments in a manner that is consistent with Catholic Church teachings. This is what makes us unique among charitable foundations in our region. Christian Brothers Investment Services applies a Catholic responsible investment strategy to our portfolio that avoids companies that promote abortion, contraceptives, pornography, violence and tobacco. Even with these Catholic screenings, our earnings are comparable to secular investment benchmarks, meaning our investment growth has maintained a respectable pace compared to institutions who do not use Catholic guidelines.

Kohlbecker-Mulfinger Family Honors Ancestors & Future Generations

What Alois Kohlbecker began almost two centuries ago has been perpetually secured by his great-grandchildren for centuries to come. Alois was one of the early parishioners of Saint John the Evangelist Parish in Bellefonte, Centre County, in the 1800s. His son, Aloysius, a glassmaker by trade, was the first of four generations in the family to attend St. John School, or "SJS" as many fondly call it. In April, 1905, at just nine years old, he addressed to his father in an Easter letter "that our risen Lord gives us all those graces which we need most."

As Alois' granddaughter, Patricia, approached her 90th birthday in 2017, she advised her six adult children that she "didn't need any birthday presents to put on a shelf." They decided the best way to celebrate the special occasion was to pool their funds and create the "Patricia Kohlbecker-Mulfinger Permanent Endowment for St. John the Evangelist School" through the Independent Catholic Foundation.

They agreed the gift was perfect so Patricia could witness the impact of annual endowment distributions that provide tuition relief to current and future students. St. John's School was the obvious choice for the family because of their appreciation for the priests, Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, lay administrators and teachers who cared about each student as an individual. They want others to receive a Catholic educational experience with similar blessings.



Aloysius concludes his letter to his father with "I shall not forget to pray to (the Lord) for you but I shall ask Him to bless you in every way." Fred and Kim, Ed, Dave and Lorraine, Don and Pam, Mary Ann and Ron, and Tom and Marianne have blessed their mother with a special legacy, and have blessed SJS students for generations to come because of their generosity.

The Independent Catholic Foundation has been helping create Catholic legacies in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown since 1990. We would enjoy a confidential conversation with you so you too can honor your family with a Catholic legacy that will give witness to your faith for generations to come.



Young, Oakes, Brown & Co., Certified Public Accountants, Altoona, has produced a financial report of our activity for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018. Highlights include an endowment distribution total that exceeded \$1 million for the first time in our history, and \$1.5 million in contributions and bequests received for new or existing endowments. You can find the audit and our most recent IRS 990 on our web site, www.icfdaj.org, on the "What We Do - Financials" page.

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Follow Us!

Because we are truly independent from the diocese, we do not have access to the diocese's parishioner mailing list. Neither of us shares our mailing lists with each other in order to protect the privacy of contributors and their separate contribution histories.

If you would like to stay current with news about, and events sponsored by, the Independent Catholic Foundation, please let us know. You have several options: sign up online by visiting us on the web at www.icfdaj.org; mail us a note to the address shown below; like and follow us on Facebook; or give us a call at (814) 201-2080.



Separate from, but committed to, *the Diocesan Church*

The Foundation is an independent entity – legally separate from the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown – committed to the long-term strength and viability of Catholic institutions within the eight-county diocese. The Foundation is overseen by a board of trustees comprised of lay men and women. The Diocese (as a legal entity) and the Diocesan Bishop have no role in the management of the Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization [a public charity]. Endowment funds are owned by the Foundation and can not be attached for Diocesan operating funds or any needs of the Diocese.

Please Note

In all instances it is advisable to speak with legal counsel, a Financial advisor and/or a tax consultant. No information contained in this newsletter or on the Foundation website should be considered legal advice.

Independent Catholic Foundation
3618 5th Avenue, Suite I, Altoona, PA 16602
(814) 201-2080 • WWW.ICFDAJ.ORG

BILL HIERGEIST
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
BILL@ICFDAJ.ORG

CHRIS RINGKAMP
MISSION ADVANCEMENT
CHRIS@ICFDAJ.ORG

Helping create Catholic legacies since 1990



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Facebook!

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.

+ + +

Kindly send information about favors granted to:

**The Cause for the Servant of God
Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin
Diocese Of Altoona - Johnstown
927 South Logan Boulevard
Hollidaysburg PA 16648**

BMCHs Will Host Catholic Boys Tourney

The Divine Mercy Catholic Academy (DMCA) and Bishop McCort Catholic High School community will welcome hundreds of visitors from across the state when the schools host the 2019 Pennsylvania State 2019 Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) Boys Grade School Bas-

ketball Tournament. The tournament will be held **Friday, March 15 through Sunday, March 17** at Bishop McCort, 25 Osborne Street, Johnstown.

"It's an honor to host the tournament and to welcome more than 100 players and their families to Johnstown," said Steve Cotchen, assistant principal, Bishop McCort. "This is the first time the tournament has come to Johnstown since 2011. It's a great opportunity to showcase our schools and the region to out-of-town visitors."

The tournament will provide a nice boost to the region's economy during the winter months. Families from every corner of the state representing Pennsylvania's eight Catholic dioceses have reserved more than 100 hotel rooms at the Holiday Inn Downtown and the Holiday Inn Express & Suites in Richland for the weekend. Supplemental spending at area restaurants, gas stations, stores and other sites will also pump tourism-related dollars into the area.

"We are excited to be the host hotels for the CYO basketball championship," said Melissa Radovanic, director, marketing and community relations, Crown American Associates. "When athletic tournaments come to town, the impact to the local economy is substantial. It also instills a sense of pride in our community as being the host site."

Cotchen has also worked closely with the Johnstown/Cambria County Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) to ensure that families have plenty to see

and do when their teams aren't competing on the hardwood.

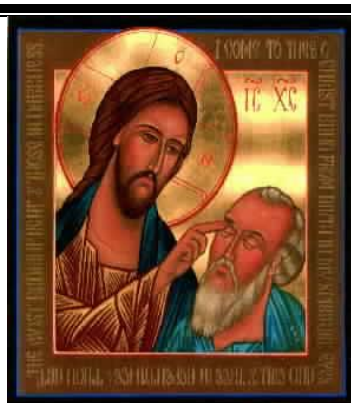
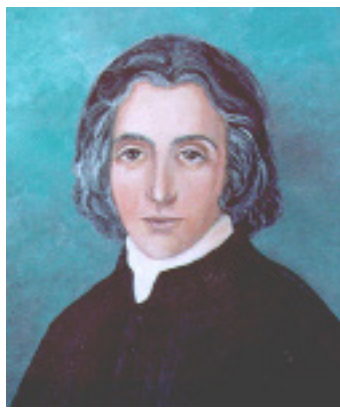
"The CVB has been great to work with," he said. "They've provided us with an array of resources and information that we'll be sharing with tournament families."

Reflecting the schools' community spirit, DMCA and Bishop McCort students will be volunteering their time to staff the concession stands, collect tickets, serve as gym ushers, and work with tournament families as needed.

Tournament highlights include:

- Friday, 3/15, 3 pm, Bishop McCort Bach Center: Opening ceremonies with all teams and coaches in uniform
- Friday, 3/15, 4 pm – 8:30 pm, Games: Bishop McCort Bach Center and School Gym
- Saturday, 3/16, 10 am – 2:30, Games: Bishop McCort Bach Center and School Gym
- Saturday, 3/16, 5:30 pm: All teams Mass, Bishop McCort
- Saturday, 3/16, 6:30 pm: All teams Banquet, Bishop McCort cafeteria
- Sunday, 3/17, 10 am – 1:00 pm, Games: Bishop McCort Bach Center and School Gym
- Sunday, 3/17, 2:30 PM - Bishop McCort School Gym: Championship game

A Prince In The Service Of The Great King



HEALING MASS

**Monday
April 8, 2019
7:00 pm
Fr. Jonathan
St. André, TOR
CELEBRANT**

CATHEDRAL OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
For all in need of physical, emotional or spiritual healing and those who support them.

"I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly." John 10:10

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Baked **or** Fried Fish
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Stewed Tomatoes **or** Cole Slaw
Roll, Butter, Drink,
"Free" Dessert



Mark your calendar!

Dates and Time for 2019

March 4, March 18

4:00-6:30 p.m.

While supplies last

Historic Carrolltown School Established By Benedictine Order in 1857

Saint Benedict School builds upon Benedictine Hallmarks.

At Saint Benedict School, the lessons taught go far beyond what is taught in the textbook. Lessons in tradition, morality, faith, hope, and love reinforce those values that parents have already established in their children. These values stay with our students forever.

Saint Benedict School was the first elementary school established by the Benedictine order in 1857. The school building was recently renovated to include a modern state of the art science lab and media center. We are located in Carrolltown in the scenic Laurel Highlands of west-central Pennsylvania. The school is affiliated with Saint Benedict Roman Catholic Parish, which is staffed by Benedictine monks.

At Saint Benedict School, we teach the Benedictine Hallmarks to help students become good Christians and citizens:

Love of Christ and neighbor: Saint Benedict students learn to live life with compassion and love for others.

Prayer: Students develop a faith that God is present and at work in the world now. **Stability:** Students learn the value of stability in their daily interactions with one another, in good times and in bad.

Conversation: Students commit to striving to live in the likeness of Christ.

Obedience: Students learn the true meaning of obedience - to be good listeners and to value the wisdom that others have to offer them.

Discipline: Students benefit from learning to focus their energy through the fundamental disciplines of prayer, work, and finding God's presence in the community, the world and within oneself.

Humility: Students are held accountable and are encouraged to recognize their own talents and those of others.

Stewardship: Students practice good stewardship- the use of materials wisely for the good of all.

Hospitality: Through humility and the practice of listening, students became

compassionate individuals who extend a helping hand and gracious welcome to all people.

Community: Students learn the value of community service and their role in providing for others.

We offer an academically enriched preschool program for three and four year-olds. All of our students in grades K-8 enjoy art, music, physical education, computer class and STREAM classes each week. Students in grades 4-8 have the opportunity to take instrumental music lessons each week. Seventy-five percent of our students participate in our sports programs and this year, will participate in the new Diocesan Soccer Program. Our students have the opportunity to join the new robotics teams that have formed, along with Reading Team, Multi-Media, and Forensics. Each week our Choir performs at our weekly Masses.

At Saint Benedict Catholic School we are committed to fostering our students in a strong faith based education. This year we joined all the Diocesan Elementary Schools in the "Christ is R.I.C.H. In Me" initiative. This initiative focuses on Respect, Integrity, Courage, and Humility. This program enhances our Catholic Religious Identity Program and supports our Benedictine Hallmarks. On January 23rd we gathered again in our Faith Family groups to be inspired in the second part of our focus of Integrity. Our Faith Family Groups combine all students and staff from all grade levels in twelve groups with each group having a representative from all grade levels from preschool thru grade eight. On February 26th we they gathered again to learn about "Courage". Courage features activities evolving around Saint Joan of Arc.

At Saint Benedict Catholic School, we foster an environment of spiritual and academic intellectual growth by integrating Gospel Values in everything we do. Each month a class is selected to assist with Mass at Saint Benedict Manor in Saint Benedict. The students have the opportunity to show their strong faith during the Mass and then



FAITH FAMILY ACTIVITIES: In January the students gathered with their faith families to study integrity and how it applies in their everyday lives. They discussed what they learned in reading from a chosen list of books that dealt with the topic. The the students read about the armor of God, then made a belt of truth; discussed how Jesus speaks truth, and Satan tells lies. Through discussion the students learn how to incorporate integrity into their lives. Faith Family Groups combine all students and staff from each grade level.

share special time with the residences of Saint Benedict Manor. Time spent with the elderly is always a unique experience for all of our students.

At Saint Benedict Catholic School we are proud of our STREAM Program. Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics. The students are able to enhance their critical thinking skills by being innovative, creative and thinking outside the box. Our students are becoming problem solvers and are definitely prepared as 21st Century Learners.

Our Mission:

Saint Benedict is a Catholic elementary school presenting the three-fold mission of the Catholic Church:

To witness the message of Jesus.

To build a community with Jesus Christ as the center

To serve God's people through love, support and prayer.

We strive through the use of Catholic Academic Standards, and the Diocesan curriculum to teach students the truths and values of the Catholic faith rooted in Benedictine spirituality and the practical applications of learning. The school aims to develop within the students a sense of positive self-awareness and mutual respect by providing a friendly, supportive, and secure environment.

Administration, faculty, and parents work collaboratively to provide each child with an individual opportunity to continue to grow and apply their knowledge. Realizing that parents are the primary educators of their children, we understand that what we teach at school will be nurtured at home, utilized throughout their educational careers and displayed throughout life.

Current Enrollment : 99 students in grades PreK3-Grade 8

Leadership: Mr. Jeffrey F. Maucieri, Principal SBS 119 South Church Street, Carrolltown, PA. 15722. 814-34-6512. www.benedictpride.org

Question Corner

By Father Kenneth Doyle

Excommunication

Q. From what we are seeing on social media here in New York state, there seems to be some misunderstanding about what excommunication is and how it happens. Does the pope excommunicate someone, or can a bishop? Is there a process? What is the pastoral approach to something like this? What are the consequences for someone who is excommunicated? (Syracuse, New York)

A. Excommunication is the church's most severe penalty, imposed for particularly grave sins. Its purpose is not punitive but medicinal, with the hope of awakening an individual's conscience and bringing a person to repentance. It has its origins in the earliest days of the church; St. Paul (1 Cor 5:1-5) urged that a man who practiced incest be expelled from the Christian community "so that his spirit may be saved on the day of the Lord."

Excommunication can be imposed by competent authority (usually a bishop) or it may be incurred automatically for certain sins (e.g., a person who desecrates the Eucharist, someone who procures an abortion, a priest who violates the seal of confession). A person who is excommunicated is forbidden from participating in the church's sacraments, from exercising any ministry in the church (lector, for example, or extraordinary minister of holy Communion) or from serving as a Catholic godparent or confirmation sponsor.

I am guessing that your question is prompted by Gov. Andrew Cuomo's support for the Reproductive Health Act recently passed by the New York state legislature. That act, among other things, permits abortions to be performed by nondoctors, allows abortion for virtually any reason throughout the entire course of a woman's pregnancy and removes any protection for an infant accidentally born alive during the course of an abortion.

Some (including Protestant evangelist Franklin Graham) have called for the Catholic Church to excommunicate Cuomo for his part in

this. Many, including Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan, were particularly galled by the fact that Cuomo directed that the lights of New York City's Freedom Tower should sparkle in pink to celebrate the act's passage.

A statement issued from Cardinal Dolan's office, though, has indicated that excommunication might not be the correct response canonically nor the most effective one. The statement suggested that, from a pastoral point of view, the issue should be addressed personally and directly with the offending individual and that, from a strategic perspective, "many politicians would welcome it (a public excommunication) as a sign of their refusal to be 'bullied by the church,' thinking it would therefore give them a political advantage."

Q. Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, has called upon priests to limit their homilies at Mass to between eight and 10 minutes. I fully support this, because that seems to be the attention span for most of us. (Also, few priests are good orators, and some are unprepared and speak extemporaneously.) Why don't more priests observe this call of the pope? (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)

A. In February 2018, at a weekly general audience attended by some 8,000 people, Pope Francis spoke about homilies, saying that they should be short and well-prepared. Be brief, he said, "it must not go longer than 10 minutes, please." (Not incidentally, he also said, "Those listening have to do their part, too," by giving the homilist "the appropriate attention.")

Honestly, I'm not sure why more priests don't follow this advice; what you say about people's attention span seems right on the mark. My sense is that these comments by the pope were not reported very widely. (I say this because I heard little discussion of them among either priests or laity.) If your concern is with your own parish, you may want to target the rectory with a copy of this column. (Anonymously might be best!)

Historic Abuse Summit Pleases And Disappoints

By Greg Erlandson Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- The long-awaited "Meeting on the Protection of Minors in the Church," nicknamed the abuse summit, was an extraordinary and historic gathering that surpassed many expectations while perhaps disappointing others.

Historic in that it brought together the heads of 114 bishops' conferences from the entire world, as well as the leaders of religious congregations, curial officials and even a few laypeople to discuss in a semi-public forum the sins of the church and to hear the powerful words of the victims themselves. Extraordinary in that it featured a drumbeat of eloquent and at times blunt criticisms by speakers regarding the way that the church has handled abuse crises to date.

It also may have become a prototype of sorts for what synodal gatherings may come to look like in the future in terms of both a diversity of voices and an honesty of opinion.

From the start, Pope Francis had four chief audiences to reach, each with its own suspicions and concerns.

The first was the broad leadership of the church, the bishops of the world represented by the heads of their episcopal conferences as well as the leadership of religious congregations.

The second consisted of the victims of clerical sexual abuse who so often had been ignored, excused or even attacked for having the courage to tell what was done to them. Numerous organizations of survivors came to Rome to be heard, and many made their dissatisfaction with the proceedings known, judging them too little and too unsubstantial. Within the hall, however, other victims were heard

in person and by audio. Their statements were read as reflections for prayer, and every session was reminded of what they are suffering.

The third audience was both the larger Catholic community as well as the general public, both of whom increasingly look on the church as guilty until proven innocent and doubt that the church is able to police itself.

The fourth audience was those members of the Roman Curia who have been cautious about some proposals and changes, for example those proposed by the U.S. bishops last year.

It appears that the actual proceedings over the course of four days had a powerful impact on the vast majority of the attendees. From prayerful meditations on the words of victim survivors to presentations by victims themselves, the bishops came face to face with the impact of clergy sexual abuse. While some of the attendees

had previous experience meeting with those who had been abused, for others coming from regions where the crisis has not been directly acknowledged, it was revelatory. The cry of the victims was made flesh before their eyes, the tears and the trauma unavoidable and undeniable.

The pope's final speech at the summit's end disappointed some. He emphasized that the abuse of minors was a "universal problem, tragically present almost everywhere and affecting everyone," a rationale often heard from some church men angry or defensive about the criticism the church has endured.

But the pope made clear that the church is not just any institution: "The brutality of this worldwide phenomenon becomes all the more grave and scandalous in the church, for it is utterly incompatible with her moral authority and ethical credibility."

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Parishes Announce Ash Wednesday Masses And Services

BEDFORD COUNTY

Saint John the Evangelist, Everett – Mass at 8:30 a.m.

Seven Dolours of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Beans Cove – Mass at 7:00 p.m.

BLAIR COUNTY

ALTOONA

Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament – Masses at 6:45 a.m., 8:00 a.m., Noon, and 5:30 p.m.

Holy Rosary – Mass at 5:30 p.m.

Our Lady of Lourdes – Masses at 8:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel – Masses at 7:00 a.m. and 12:05 p.m.; Service of the Word with Distribution of Ashes at 7:00 p.m. Service of the Word with Distribution of Ashes at 5:30 p.m. at Assumption Chapel

Sacred Heart – Masses at 7:45 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and 5:30 p.m.

Saint John the Evangelist – Masses at 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Saint Mark – Mass at 8:00 a.m.

Saint Mary – Masses at 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Saint Rose of Lima – Masses at 7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m., and 7:00 p.m.

Saint Therese of the Child Jesus – Masses at 7:45 a.m. and Noon; Distribution of Ashes at 9:00 a.m.

ELSEWHERE IN BLAIR COUNTY

Saint Catherine of Siena, Duncansville – Masses at 7:45 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Saint Joseph, Bellwood – Mass at 6:30 p.m.

Saint Mary, Hollidaysburg – Masses at 8:00 a.m., 12:15 p.m., and 6:30 p.m.

Saint Matthew, Tyrone – Masses at 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.; Liturgy of the Word with Distribution of Ashes at Noon

Saint Michael, Hollidaysburg – Masses at 7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Prayer Services with Distribution of Ashes at Noon and 3:00 p.m.

CAMBRIA COUNTY

JOHNSTOWN

Our Mother of Sorrows – Scripture Service with Ashes at 7:00 a.m.; Masses at 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Resurrection – Masses at 8:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Saint Andrew – Mass at 7:00 p.m.

Saint Clare of Assisi – Masses at 8:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Saint Clement – Masses at 8:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Scripture Service with Distribution of Ashes at Noon

Saint Francis of Assisi – Masses at 9:00 a.m., Noon, and 6:30 p.m.

Saints Gregory and Barnabas – Masses at 8:00 a.m. and Noon at Saint Gregory Church worship site; Mass at 6:30 p.m. at Saint Barnabas Chapel worship site

Saint John Gualbert Cathedral – Masses at 7:00 a.m., 12:05 p.m., and 6:00 p.m.

Saint Michael – Mass at Noon

Saint Patrick – Masses at 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Masses at 12:05 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

ELSEWHERE IN CAMBRIA COUNTY

Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel, Loretto – Masses at 8:45 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Church of the Transfiguration, Conemaugh – Mass at 9:00 a.m.

Holy Family, Portage – Masses at 8:00 a.m., 4:00 p.m., and 7:00 p.m.

Holy Name, Ebensburg – Masses at 6:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m., and 7:00 p.m.; Services with Ashes at 10:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Immaculate Conception, New Germany – Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Our Lady of the Alleghenies, Lilly – Masses at 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.; Distribution of Ashes at Noon

Saint Augustine, St. Augustine – Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Saint Benedict, Carrolltown – Masses at 8:15 a.m., Noon, and 7:00 p.m.

Saint John the Baptist, Summerhill – Masses at Noon and 7:00 p.m.



ASHES: Bishop Mark L. Bartchak places ashes on the forehead of a woman during an Ash Wednesday Liturgy in 2017. Bishop Mark will celebrate the Noon Mass on Ash Wednesday, March 6 at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona.

Saint Mary, Nanty Glo – Masses at 8:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Scripture Service with Distribution of Ashes at Noon

Saint Michael, St. Michael – 8:00 a.m., Noon, and 6:00 p.m.

Saint Monica, Chest Springs – Mass at 9:00 a.m.

Saint Nicholas, Nicktown – Masses at 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and 7:00 p.m.

CENTRE COUNTY

Good Shepherd, Port Matilda – Masses at 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.; Liturgy of the Word with Distribution of Ashes at Noon

Queen of Archangels, Clarence – Masses at 7:00 a.m., Noon, and 7:00 p.m.

Saint John the Evangelist, Bellefonte – Masses at 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, Spring Mills – Mass at 11:00 a.m.

CLINTON COUNTY

Holy Spirit, Lock Haven – Mass at 9:00 a.m. at Immaculate Conception worship site; Scripture and ashes at Noon at Saint Agnes worship site; Stations of the Cross and ashes at 7:00 p.m. at Immaculate Conception worship site

Saint Joseph, Renovo – Stations of the Cross and ashes at 6:30 p.m.

FULTON COUNTY

Saint Stephen, McConnellsburg – Service of the Word with Distribution of Ashes at 8:00 a.m.; Mass at 6:30 p.m.

HUNTINGDON COUNTY

Immaculate Conception, Dudley – Masses at 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Most Holy Trinity, Huntingdon – Masses at 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Saint Catherine of Siena, Mount Union – Masses at 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Saint Mary, Shade Gap – Mass at 7:00 p.m.

SOMERSET COUNTY

Holy Family, Hooversville – Masses at 8:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Saint Anne, Davidsville – Mass at 6:30 p.m.

Saint Anthony of Padua, Windber – Masses at Noon and 6:00 p.m.

Saints Cyril and Methodius, Windber – Masses at 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Windber – Masses at Noon and 4:00 p.m.

Saint John the Baptist, New Baltimore – Masses at 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Saint Peter, Somerset – Masses at 7:00 a.m., 11:15 a.m., 4:15 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Parishes Announce Stations Of The Cross Schedule

BEDFORD COUNTY

Saint John the Evangelist, Everett – Fridays (Except Good Friday) at 4:30 p.m.

Seven Dolours of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Beans Cove – Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

BLAIR COUNTY

ALTOONA

Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament – Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

Holy Rosary – March 15, March 29, April 12 at 6:30 p.m.

Our Lady of Lourdes – Sundays at 6:30 p.m.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel – Fridays at 2:00 p.m.; Fridays at 5:30 p.m. at Assumption Chapel

Sacred Heart – Fridays at 5:30 p.m.

Saint John the Evangelist – Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

Saint Mark – March 8, March 22, April 5, April 19 at 6:30 p.m.

Saint Mary – Fridays at 7:00 p.m. followed by Mass

Saint Rose of Lima – Fridays at 1:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Saint Therese of the Child Jesus – Fridays at 7:30 p.m.

ELSEWHERE IN BLAIR COUNTY

Saint Catherine of Siena, Duncansville – Fridays at 5:30 p.m.

Saint Joseph, Bellwood – Fridays at 6:30 p.m.

Saint Mary, Hollidaysburg – Fridays at 6:30 p.m.

Saint Matthew, Tyrone – Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

Saint Michael, Hollidaysburg – Fridays at 5:30 p.m.

CAMBRIA COUNTY

JOHNSTOWN

Our Mother of Sorrows – March 15, March 29, April 12 at 6:00 p.m.

Resurrection – Fridays at 6:30 p.m.

Saint Andrew – Fridays at 7:00 p.m. followed by Mass and Confessions

Saint Clare of Assisi – Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

Saint Clement – Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

Saint Francis of Assisi – Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

Saint John Gualbert Cathedral – Fridays at 3:00 p.m.

Saint Michael – March 8, March 22, April 19 at 6:00 p.m.; April 5 at 6:45 p.m.

Saint Patrick – Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Fridays at 6:00 p.m.

ELSEWHERE IN CAMBRIA COUNTY

Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel, Loretto – Fridays at 2:00 p.m. and Fridays at 7:00 p.m. (except April 5)

Church of the Transfiguration – Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

Holy Family, Portage – Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

Holy Name, Ebensburg – Fridays at 6:30 p.m.

Immaculate Conception, New Germany – Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

Our Lady of the Alleghenies, Lilly – Fridays at 6:00 p.m.

Saint Augustine, St. Augustine – March 15, March 29, and April 12 at 7:00 p.m.

Saint Benedict, Carrolltown – Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

Saint John the Baptist, Summerhill – Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

Saint Mary, Nanty Glo – Fridays at 6:30 p.m.

Saint Michael, St. Michael – Fridays at 6:00 p.m.

Saint Monica, Chest Springs – March 8, March 22, and April 15 at 7:00 p.m.

Saint Nicholas, Nicktown – Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

CENTRE COUNTY

Good Shepherd, Port Matilda – Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

Queen of Archangels, Clarence – Fridays at 7:00 p.m. at Clarence Church; Good Friday at 7:00 p.m. at Snow Shoe Chapel

Saint John the Evangelist, Bellefonte – Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

CLINTON COUNTY

Holy Spirit, Lock Haven – Tuesdays at 9:15 a.m. at Immaculate Conception worship site; Fridays at 7:00 p.m. at Saint Agnes worship site

Saint Joseph, Renovo – Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. (Parish Center Chapel)

FULTON COUNTY

Saint Stephen, McConnellsburg – Fridays at 5:00 p.m.

HUNTINGDON COUNTY

Saint Catherine of Siena, Mount Union – Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

Saint Mary, Shade Gap – March 8, March 22, and April 5 at 7:00 p.m. (Stations only); March 15, March 29, and April 12 at 6:30 p.m. (Mass and Stations)

SOMERSET COUNTY

Holy Family, Hooversville – Fridays at 6:30 p.m.

Saint Anne, Davidsville --Fridays at 6:30 p.m. followed by Confessions

Saint Anthony of Padua, Windber – Wednesdays (except Ash Wednesday) and March 8 and April 19 at 6:00 p.m.

Saints Cyril and Methodius, Windber – Fridays at 6:00 p.m.

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Windber – Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.

Saint John the Baptist, New Baltimore – Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

Saint Peter, Somerset – Sundays at 7:00 p.m. and Mondays at Noon

4th Annual Lenten Mission In Honor Of Our Lady Of Loretto

MARCH 31 - April 5, 2019

Rev. Michael Caridi, STL Diocese of Pittsburgh - Homilist



**7:00 PM (Sunday) Mission Prayers with
Homily/Benediction**

**Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, JCD
Bishop of Altoona-Johnstown**

presiding

Confessions at 8:00 PM

7:00 PM Mass with

Mission Prayers each night (Mon - Fri)

Eucharistic Adoration at 6:00 PM

each night (Mon-Fri)

Reconciliation/Confessions at

6:00 PM each night (Mon-Fri)

Prayer Intentions May Be sent to:

Very Reverend John D. Byrnes, JCL, JV, Rector

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Italian Fest

Queen Of Peace Parish Center
in Patton (upper level) 4-7 PM

Tuesday, March 5--PRICES: Adults
\$10/Children (5-12), \$5.00
Children under 5), **FREE.**

Menu includes: Wedding Soup,
Salad, Italian Bread, Lasagna,
Meatballs, Dessert & Beverage.
Wedding Soup \$4.00/quart.

Takeouts available

Diocese Is Hooked On Annual Fish Dinners

Yearly Lenten Meal Tradition Continues...



BLAIR COUNTY

CATHEDRAL OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT, ALTOONA

Fish Lunches on Ash Wednesday and Fridays of Lent (except Good Friday)

11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Cathedral Hall

Cost is \$8; Includes fish sandwich with choice of macaroni & cheese or pierogie or french fries or haluski; drink included

OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH, ALTOONA

Fridays (including Good Friday)

Eat in from 4:30-7:00 p.m.; Take out begins at 3:30 p.m.

Cost is \$10.50 for adults, \$7.50 for children

SAINT MARK PARISH, ALTOONA

March 8, 22, and April 5

4:00 p.m.

SAINT MATTHEW PARISH, TYRONE

March 15 and 29, April 5 and 12

Parish Hall

Cost is \$10; Served by Knights of Columbus

CAMBRIA COUNTY

CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION, CONEMAUGH

March 8, March 15, March 22, March 29, April 5, April 12

3:30-6:30 p.m.

Church Hall, 201 Third Street, Conemaugh

Cost is \$10 per meal; take outs are available by calling the church hall at (814) 535-2698

HOLY FAMILY PARISH, PORTAGE

March 15, March 29, April 12

4:00-6:00 p.m.

Parish Hall at 509 Caldwell Avenue

Take out available

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION ROSARY/ALTAR SOCIETY, NEW GERMANY

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5 and 12

4:00-7:00 p.m.

New Germany Grove Hall

Cost is \$10 for adults; \$5 for children; no charge for children age three and under. Take out available until 6:00 p.m. – call (814)495-4298

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH, JOHNSTOWN

Ash Wednesday 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Fridays of Lent (except Good Friday)

Visit stfrancisofassisijohnstown.com for more information

SAINTS GREGORY AND BARNABAS PARISH, JOHNSTOWN

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5, 12, 19th

4:00-7:00 p.m.

Saint Gregory Church Site, 120 Boltz Street

Cost is \$10; Includes choice of Icelandic haddock (fried or baked), fried shrimp, or crab cakes; french fries, mac & cheese, coleslaw, and applesauce. Take out available – order at the door

Also:

March 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5, 12

4:00-7:00 p.m.

Saint Barnabas Chapel Site, 408 Luzon Avenue

Cost is \$10-\$12; Includes choice of Icelandic haddock (fried or baked), fried shrimp; Pierogi's halushki, french fries, coleslaw and applesauce. Take out available – please call 539-6213

SAINT MARY PARISH, NANTY GLO

Fridays of Lent (excluding Good Friday)

4:00-6:30 p.m.

Featuring fried and baked haddock with a variety of side dishes and desserts

VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY PARISH, JOHNSTOWN

Fridays

11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

Fish Sandwich, two sides, and a drink; Take out and delivery

CENTRE COUNTY

GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH, PORT MATILDA

March 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5, 12

Beginning at 4:30 p.m.

Agape Hall at Good Shepherd

SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISH, BELLEFONTE

Fridays during Lent

4:00-6:30 p.m.

School Gym

HUNTINGDON COUNTY

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH, DUDLEY

Fridays during Lent (excluding Good Friday)

4:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.; Takeout begins at 3:30 p.m.

Cost is \$10

MOST HOLY TRINITY PARISH, HUNTINGDON

Fridays beginning March 8

SOMERSET COUNTY

SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON

Fridays of Lent

11:00 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

Fish Fry/Homemade Baked Goods; Eat in or Take out

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH, NEW BALTIMORE

Fridays of Lent (except Good Friday)

3:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

All you can eat; Includes fried and baked fish, fried shrimp, fried clams, soup, baked potato, vegetables, beverage, salad, and dessert bar

SAINT PETER PARISH, SOMERSET

March 6, March 22, April 12

4:00-6:30 p.m.

Parish Hall

Baked fish, fried fish, fried shrimp, homemade macaroni and cheese, stewed tomatoes, coleslaw, beverage and dessert for \$10; Take out available

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