

# The Catholic Register

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**PILGRIMS:** Arriving in Rome Saturday, September 3, the pilgrims from the Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown, and their fellow pilgrims from the Archdiocese of Washington DC and the Diocese of El Paso TX, gathered for a group photo on the steps of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major. The local pilgrims included (left to right) First row: Janet Hammond, Patti Jo Emigh, (fourth and fifth from left) Thien and Ngoan Tran, (seventh and eighth from left) Mary Grove, Jennifer O'Dea. Second row (fourth and fifth from left) Mary Beth Schmidhamer, Patricia Serotkin. Third row: (Second and third from left) James and Frances Logrando, (fourth from left) Beverly Buterbaugh. Fourth row: Monsignor Timothy P. Stein, (third from left) Sallie Schreengost, (fifth from left) John Buterbaugh, (seventh and eighth from left) Deborah and Raymond Hipp.

## Pilgrims Feel Blessed By 'Amazing' Experience

By Msgr. Timothy P. Stein

At noon on Monday, August 29, I had the privilege of greeting 15 pilgrims, drawn from throughout the Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown, and helping

them board the bus that would take us to Dulles International Airport in Virginia, as we set out on our Year Of Mercy Pilgrimage to Italy.

There were husbands and wives in our group; there were

a mother and a daughter. There were friends traveling together, and there were single people setting out on an adventure on their own. One of the pilgrims was a co - worker of mine for the past 30 years; another was a parishio-

ner. For the most part, we were strangers to one another as we gathered. But by the time we returned to the parking lot of the Diocesan Administration Center in Hollidaysburg at 10:50 p.m. on Thursday, September 8, we

were friends -- family -- bound together by an experience that all agreed was spiritually uplifting, and amazing.

*(Continued On Page 10.)*

## High Schools

### Crystal Gala

**Boalsburg:** It started with a vision shared by a few families who cherished their kids' experiences in Catholic grade school. Now, Saint Joseph's Catholic Academy is 150 students-strong and projected to grow to its capacity of 200 in the next two to three years. On Saturday, November 12, the Saint Joe's family will gather for its fifth formal celebration of Centre County's first Catholic high school.

The Crystal Gala will be held at the Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel in State College. Cocktails will be served at 6:00 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m. Black tie is optional. Valet Parking is provided.

"It's very exciting," said Principal Chris Chirieleison. "Many people have tirelessly contributed their time, talent and treasure to providing our

students with the opportunity to continue their Catholic education through high school. Our Crystal Gala, while a celebration, is another example of the commitment that so many families and friends have made to the sustainability of Saint Joe's, which we view as a vital educational option for this region."

While families, faculty, sponsor businesses and friends of the school enjoy attending this event, it is open to the entire community. Highlights include a live band, a vacation raffle, and a live and silent auction. The event is Saint Joe's largest fundraiser of the year and helps provide funding for tuition assistance, classroom materials and resources, as well as improvements to the buildings and grounds.

Tickets for the event are \$175.00 per person or \$350.00 per couple.

Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Visit [www.stjoeacad.org/crystal-gala](http://www.stjoeacad.org/crystal-gala) for



**STUDENT COUNCIL:** Student council members have been elected at Saint Benedict School, Carrolltown. They were installed in office at a school Mass celebrated by Benedictine Father Jude Brady, pastor. Pictured are (left to right) First row: Christopher Lydick, Drew Kordish, Seth Cunningham. Second row: Kimberly Lallemand (advisor), Abigail Baker (secretary), Gabriel Yahner (president), Luke Lamb (vice president), Jade Snedden (treasurer) and Jeffrey Maucieri (principal).

more information.

Tickets must be purchased by October 30. Please RSVP to [sjcagala@gmail.com](mailto:sjcagala@gmail.com).

### College Credits Offered

**Ebensburg:** The opportunity for Bishop Carroll Catholic High School students to enroll in college-level courses continues to grow. Known as the Professor in Residence Program, there are currently three courses offered, which are taught by college professors from Saint Francis Uni-

versity, and all are available as part of the normal school day.

These courses allow students to earn three credits toward their degree. However, the benefits of the program extend far beyond the curriculum and the credits. Students are exposed to their first taste of what life will be like in college. With classes two days a week, students are responsible for managing their own time and completing projects independently.

"The Professor in Residence (PIR) program between Bishop Carroll Catholic High School and Saint Francis University is a mutually-beneficial partnership between the two Catholic educational organiza-

tions that have similar missions, philosophies of education, and value systems," said Pete Skoner, Associate Provost/Professor of Physics at Saint Francis.

Dr. Skoner teaches Statistics. The two other courses offered include a business course, Wall Street 101: Business in a Global Society, and Fine Arts: Culture and Values, which includes a 10-day trip to France.

Students also gain exposure to Blackboard, a learning management system that has become the standard

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## Garvey Manor Nursing Home & Our Lady of the Alleghenies Residence

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Pilgrimage includes: Fatima (3 days), (including the 100th anniversary of the first apparition), Burgos (1 day), Lourdes (2 days), Carcassone (1 day), & Barcelona (2 days)

Price includes: round trip from Altoona & Pittsburgh International Airport, air Taxes and fees/surcharges; ten days & 16 meals.

**For Information contact:**  
814-942-4479  
[sttheresealtoona@atlanticbb.net](mailto:sttheresealtoona@atlanticbb.net)

## Saint Michael Home School Association

**Presents The:**  
**37th Annual Arts & Craft Show & Sale**

**Saturday, Oct. 15th**  
**Sunday, Oct. 16th**  
**10 AM - 4 PM**

At Our Lady of Loretto Community Hall  
(Next to The School)

Both Days Will Feature Many Artists And Craft Persons.  
Beautiful Handcrafted Items On Display

Refreshments Will Be Offered, Including Homemade Pies, Cookies  
Apple Dumplings, Homemade Soup & Sandwiches

Free Admission - Free Parking

# In The Alleghenies



**RIBBON CUTTING:** On Friday, September 16, the newly - renovated Schwab Hall at Saint Francis University, Loretto, celebrated its opening with a ribbon - cutting ceremony. The grand unveiling of the new home for the Shields School of Business recognized the future of the school while remembering its illustrious past. Constructed of “red fire-proof” brick, Schwab Hall’s ground was first broken on October 1, 1930, the work overseen by its namesake Charles M. Schwab. Originally constructed as the home for the science programs, Schwab Hall has housed many different academic disciplines over the last 80 years. Now home to the School of Business after a year - long multi - million-dollar renovation, Schwab Hall is poised to be a treasured academic facility for generations to come. The Schwab Hall renovation project was completed in less than a year, and every task was undertaken with students in mind. No debt or student tuition dollars were used to finance the project. The funding for the approximately \$7.6 million project came exclusively from the generous donations from Saint Francis University alumni and friends. The dedication of Schwab Hall also gave way to a new name for the School of Business - - the Shields School of Business - - honoring the generosity, loyalty and friendship of Peter and Suzy Shields and their support of Saint Francis University. Peter, an Ebensburg native, and Suzy chose to honor Peter’s parents, Ferdinand and Frances, who shared the University’s constant values of faith and family, by supporting the Schwab Hall project. Peter is chairman of the board of Flat Rock Metal, a family owned and operated high - quality, niche steel processor specializing in critical surface sheet and coil processing. Located in Flat Rock, MI, and incorporated in 1981, it has grown to become the largest sheet polisher of carbon steel in North America. Peter’s father, Ferdinand, graduated from Saint Francis in 1928 and is one of only four alumni to have been named a member of the SFU Athletics Hall of Fame and a Distinguished Alumnus. Peter’s mother, Frances (Little) Shields, was an assistant professor of education at Saint Francis from 1961 - 70.



Photo By Tony DeGol

**COMMISSIONING:** Bishop Mark L. Bartchak commissioned campus ministers during Mass on Wednesday, September 21 at Immaculate Conception Chapel at Saint Francis University. The Diocese sponsors campus ministry at all seven colleges and universities in the Diocese. Pictured (front row, left to right): Erin Koehle, Saint Francis; Christine Stewart, Saint Francis; Amy Kanich, Mount Aloysius College; Denise Farabaugh, Saint Francis; Danielle Link, Saint Francis; Andre McCarville, Penn State Altoona; and Paul Girardi, Saint Francis. (Second Row): Brother Vincent Yeager, Saint Francis; and Monsignor Michael Becker, Diocesan coordinator of Campus Ministry. (Back Row): Benedictine Father David Griffin, Penn State University; Third Order Regular Franciscan Father Christopher Dobson, Saint Francis; Bishop Mark; Benedictine Father Matthew Laffey, Penn State University; and Deacon Laszlo Ivanits, Penn State University.

(Continued From Page 2.)

The courses chosen are based on where there is a need. Introduction to Statistics was chosen to provide an alternative to the traditional calculus path.

Wall Street 101: Business on a Global Scale is offered because business is not traditionally emphasized in high school curricula; however, business continues to be the most popular college major and the one with the greatest salary growth potential.

Tricia Giannone McFadden, Visiting Instructor of Marketing at Saint Francis University, teaches the Business 101 course.

Completing college credits while in high school encourages students to continue their education. It can also lighten some of the burden of having to take a full course -load once they are full - time college students. This can open the door for additional minors, double majors, or other high-impact learning opportunities.

Through the PIR program, Saint Francis University fulfills

part of its mission through community service and part of its 2020 Strategic Plan to collaborate with a community partner.

The number of participating Bishop Carroll students has grown since last year, and continued growth is expected in the coming years. Last year was the first year that Statistics was offered and 15 students enrolled. For the 2016 – 2017 year, there are 21 students taking advantage of this valuable opportunity. This is the first year for the business course and a total of 10 students are enrolled.

## Prayer

### 186th Anniversary Mass

**Hart’s Sleeping Place:** Bishop Mark L. Bartchak will be the principal celebrant of a Mass marking the 186th anniversary of historic Saint Joseph’s Mission Church on Saturday, October 8, at 4:00 p.m.

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**How can you be a part of SHYCON 2016?**  
 Senior High Youth Conference (SHYCON) sponsored by the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown  
**The First Corporal Work of Mercy : Feed the Hungry!!**  
*Please—Help us help others!!*

Your monetary donation will help purchase kits for our high school youth that are attending SHYCON to pack meals for those who might otherwise go hungry!

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**This is a great opportunity for individuals, groups and businesses to participate in this Corporal Work of Mercy and help our youth to live it!!**

Anyone “lending a helping hand” by making a donation will be recognized on a banner At SHYCON and in the program for the day.

For more information, or to make a donation, contact Francine Swope, Diocesan Youth Ministry Office at (814)327-2646 or by email at [fswope@dioceseaj.org](mailto:fswope@dioceseaj.org)

**HELPING HANDS STOP HUNGER NOW!!!**

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## Point Of View

Car manuals say the dashboard's oil light may stay on for a few seconds after you start the engine. But mine had been lit up for longer than that as I sat in the driveway.

Not a lot longer. Just a little.

So I shut off the car, popped the hood and checked the dipstick.

Low.

I added a quart of oil, got back in -- now the light was on for only a short time -- and headed off.

It was a lesson I'd learned the hard way when I was a lot younger. The oil light? Yeah, what about it? Oh, may need to top up the oil. Right. I'll get to it. Later.

Before I did, the engine went bye-bye.

A few minutes and couple of dollars to add a little oil, or a big hassle and a lot of dollars for a major repair or new (used!) car.

My little choice had made a big difference.

Family life is filled with similar options. Raising children has its share of big decisions, but it's absolutely crammed with little choices. Most times a little one isn't going to tip the scale in a massive way but, over



## Your Family

By Bill Dodds

### Little Choices Make A Big Difference

time, when little piles on little ... watch out! Or, thank God.

Some examples:

-- Rules. It's easier for children to learn what "no" means when they're 3, 4 or 5 than when they're in their early teens. And it's a lot easier for a parent to teach it when the kids are younger, too.

Hearing "no," learning to accept "no" and -- most important of all -- coming to say "no" on one's own (learning self-control and self-respect) are three ways parents help their children weather those teen years and safely reach adulthood.

-- Anger. Sometimes having a family means patience can be in short supply. That's because on occasion members are, simply put, really annoying.

It would be nice if we each had a personal dashboard with a light that glowed bright red to indicate "patience is low." Nice

for us and nice for those around us. It would warn them to back off -- back off! -- and encourage us to take a deep breath, slow down and step away.

-- Kindness. We're only kidding ourselves if we think a kind temperament depends solely on how each of us is made. There may be some truth to that, but it's not the whole truth.

We can choose to be kind. To make small decisions based on kindness, day in and day out.

Then it becomes a habit that is nothing more, or less, than an ingrained and almost automatic response or attitude based on countless choices over a long period of time. Most often, the choice is about a small matter, but good builds on good. Virtue builds on virtue. And grace builds on grace.

So, as a parent, how do we get better at doing, and teaching, what leads to what's best?

Three small suggestions:

-- Say "no" to yourself when what you want to do (or feel like doing) isn't what you really want to do. It's not in the big picture.

-- Be patient with yourself as you learn to choose what's better for you and others.

-- Be kind to yourself when you make a bad choice. Odds are you'll get another opportunity, very soon.



## Another Perspective

By Monsignor Timothy P. Stein  
 Living A Martyr's Life

The Catacombs of San Callisto was one of the holy places our pilgrimage group visited during our early September trip to Rome.

This is a place I've visited many times, though I'm increasingly reluctant to go underground and to walk through the long corridors of burial vaults. I like to sit up above, in the fresh air, enjoying the beautiful grounds. I am fond, too, of the simple little chapel of Saint Tarcisus - - dedicated to the patron saint of altar servers and First Communicants - - where our group celebrated Mass.

On this particular visit, Monday, September 5, I was privileged to serve as principal celebrant and homilist at Mass. I celebrated the Mass for the Feast of the First Martyrs of the Church of Rome, and in my homily shared some thoughts about the meaning of martyrdom. I share those thoughts with you, now.

Our group had gone to Rome for the canonization of Saint Teresa of Kolkata. I explained that in order for someone to be canonized, there must be proof of two miracles having been wrought through their intercession; one miracle leads to beatification and the title "Blessed," while the other leads to canonization and the title "Saint." But in the case of a martyr, only one miracle is needed; a martyr may be beatified without proof of a miracle, though one is still required for canonization.

Martyr, we all know, is a word that means "witness." Martyrs give witness to their faith in Jesus by the manner of their death. But, I conjectured, is it really so very hard to die a martyr's death? After all, the choice, though a stark one, is a plain and simple one, made in the heat of the moment. Choose - - boom - - you're dead. Maybe martyrdom, so considered, is a form of cheap grace - - an easy pass to sanctification and the honors of the altar. But, there is much more to consider.

Martyrs - - men and women who die for their faith - - don't come to that moment in a vacuum. They are prepared to die a martyr's death because they have lived a martyr's life. They have given witness to Jesus and their faith in Him by all that they have said and done over the course of their life. They died for Jesus because they lived for Jesus. One simply follows from the other.

And if it's relatively easy to die a martyr's death, how hard it is to live a martyr's life! To live a life of witness means to consciously choose to walk in the footsteps of a man who gave His life in service to others; someone who had no place to call His own; someone who was willing to suffer and die so as to spare the pain of others. It means to choose as lover, partner, companion, friend, a man who will often seem to be indifferent, a God who will seem to be distant, someone who leaves you in darkness, someone who will embrace you only in the guise of the very poorest of the poor.

By all of that criteria, Mother Teresa - - Saint Teresa of Kolkata - - was truly a martyr. She may not have died a martyr's heroic death, choosing to die for Jesus rather than reject Him, but she most surely lived a martyr's life - - a life of faithfully following Jesus in a life that mirrored His own. No cheap grace, no easy pass for her; only an epic struggle to be faithful to what God had called her to do.

And that, friends, is the martyrdom God invites you and me to embrace: to live with Jesus, to walk with Jesus, to make His presence known and felt in our world.

The call to a living martyrdom is a call to be for others what Jesus has been for us.

**Good builds on good.**  
**Virtue builds on virtue.**  
**And grace builds on grace.**



# Coming Forward As A Survivor Of Sexual Abuse

By Beth Birch, Of The Abuse Network, Inc.  
Of Huntington, Juniata, And Mifflin Counties

Sharing ones experience of sexual abuse is about more than simply reporting a crime. There's often a stigma of shame, guilt, and humiliation that may lead one to remain silent. Negative public perception and the fear of being blamed or not believed by law enforcement also may make someone who has been victimized think twice before coming forward.

Offenders often capitalize on these feelings by the things they say and do to victims. They use shame and fear to isolate them from others who might help them. The victim is left feeling alone; isolated from everyone around them.

Victims often describe this as a surreal feeling—to see others leading normal lives all around them, but to feel so detached due to the abuse they have endured. This shame and silence can last for decades.

Moreover, it is estimated that 90 - 93 percent of all incidences of sexual abuse are committed by someone known to the victim.

This can add an additional layer of confusion and fear to the situation. In many respects, it can be difficult to think about making a report of sexual assault or abuse against someone you know and, perhaps, even someone you have trusted.

Most instances of sexual abuse—approximately 70 percent—are never reported. You or someone you know and love may be among those holding this trauma inside. They are certainly not alone.

It is common for survivors of childhood sexual abuse to attempt to put the experience behind them without making a report or seeking assistance of any kind.

However, victims may recognize along their journey that sharing their story can be helpful in their healing process. Some may make formal reports to law enforcement while others will share their experience with friends, family members, or in the context of their spiritual affiliations. The victimization often feels very fresh for the victim when they share their experience. The reactions of those victimized by sexual abuse or assault may mirror those reactions experienced at the onset of the victimization. These reactions are very unique and there is no right or wrong way for a victim to respond. Belief, acceptance, and respect for the victim and for their reaction can be crucial to long-term healing.

If someone shares their experience of sexual abuse with you, let them know that it was not their fault and that you believe them. Avoid making any judgement or offering advice. The response of the listener is critical to the victim, no matter when they elect to make their victimization known to others. Victims need to be believed and supported as they will often cite their fear of not being believed as a reason they hesitated to come forward immediately after the event. Delays in reporting can be attributed to a number of factors but they are not an indication of the authenticity of the report. False reports of sexual abuse and assault are extraordinarily rare.

The survivor may wish to seek resources for assistance. Reassure them that it is never too late to reach out for support. This may be a good time to involve your county's local sexual assault and rape crisis center in the discussion.

PCAR-supported rape crisis centers provide services to each of the 67 counties in the Commonwealth to meet the needs of survivors and their family members and friends. Services offered at these centers include crisis and options counseling, information about the available resources, and criminal and civil justice education, advocacy, and accompaniment.

All services from your local center are free and confidential and many of these services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. A full list of rape crisis centers in Pennsylvania can be found at [www.pcar.org](http://www.pcar.org) or you can access them by calling the agency's toll-free hotline, 1-888-772-PCAR.

## Support For Survivors

Support for survivors of sexual abuse is available throughout the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown. Survivors are encouraged to seek help through any of the following agencies.

### Bedford County

Your Safe Haven Inc.

<http://www.yoursafehaven.org/>  
(800) 555-5671

We are a comprehensive crime victims center and respond to victims of all crime whether it be through our office, the court system, the hospital, or police agency.

### Blair County

Family Services Inc.

<https://www.familyservicesinc.net/>  
(814) 944-3585

Crisis intervention and counseling, therapeutic counseling, legal and medical advocacy and accompaniment, information and referrals, safety planning, transportation, other supportive services.

### Cambria/Somerset Counties

Victim Services Inc.

<http://victimservicesinc.org/>  
(814)288-4961 and (800) 755-1983

24-Hour Hotline (1-800-755-1983) and Crisis Intervention; Counseling (Bachelors level, highly trained and experienced staff); Therapy (Master's level/licensed, highly trained and experienced staff, EMDR); Support Groups for Survivors of Sexual Abuse, Families of Homicide Victims, and others as requested/needed in the community; "Safe and Unsafe Touches" Individual Education Program for Children; Accompaniment to Medical, Police, and Justice System Proceedings; Court Preparation / Orientation to the Criminal Justice System; Assistance with Victims Compensation Claims; Victim Notification; Referrals to Other Resources; Prevention Education

Programs for schools/colleges; Professional Trainings on trauma, sexual abuse, victim-centered response, etc. (can be developed to meet your needs); Certified Mandated Reporter training (2 certified trainers on staff).

### Centre County

Centre County Women's Resource Center, Inc.

<http://ccwrc.org/>  
(814) 234-5050

Crisis counseling, 24 hour hotline, legal & medical advocacy, information and referral, civil legal representation, emergency shelter, transitional housing, primary prevention programs, safe custody exchange/supervised visitation, support groups.

### Clinton County

Clinton County Women's Center

<http://www.ccwcsafe.org/>  
(570) 748-9509

24 hour hotline service; Sexual Assault Protection Orders; advocacy and options counseling, support groups; medical advocacy; Prevention and outreach education; Safe shelter for victims of domestic violence, legal advocacy; PFA assistance; screening for TBI; referrals for community services; and children's advocacy.

### Franklin/Fulton Counties

Women In Need/Victim Services

<http://www.winservices.org/home.aspx>  
(717) 264-4444

Direct services for dv/sa victims-ind. counseling, group counseling, legal advocacy including accompaniment, medical advocacy, hotline, prevention education, shelter, VCAP assistance, Sexual assault response team.

### Huntingdon/Mifflin/Juniata Counties

The Abuse Network

<http://www.abusenetwork.org/>  
(717) 242-2444

Trauma-informed Empowerment Counseling, Support Groups, 24-Hour Hotline Counseling, Legal Advocacy and Accompaniment, Medical Advocacy and Accompaniment, Prevention and Awareness Educational Programs, Services are Free and Confidential.

## Reporting Child Abuse

Bishop Mark L. Barchak 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.

# Vatican Revises Norms On Examining Alleged Miracles

By Junno Arocho Esteves  
Catholic News Service

**VATICAN CITY (CNS)** -- In an effort to ensure transparency as well as historical and scientific accuracy, Pope Francis has approved revised norms for the Congregation for Saints' Causes regarding medical con-

sultations on healings alleged to be miracles.

Among the regulations published by the Vatican Sept. 23 was the requirement that the medical panel have a quorum of six experts and that a two-thirds majority is needed to approve a statement declaring a healing has no natural or scientific explanation.

Previously, the declaration -- a key step in a pope's recognition of a miracle attributed to the intercession of a candidate for sainthood -- required the approval of a simple majority of the consultation team members present.

"The purpose of the regulation is for the good of the (saints') causes, which can never be separated from the historical and scientific truth of the alleged miracles," Archbishop Marcello Bartolucci, secretary of the congregation, said in a Sept. 23 statement.

Archbishop Bartolucci presided over a seven-member commission that began revising the regulations in September 2015 to update the norms established by St. John Paul II in 1983. Except in the case of martyrs, in general two miracles are needed for a person to be declared a saint -- one for beatification and the second for canonization.

The new regulations, which were approved with the pope's mandate Aug. 24 by Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, also state that an alleged miracle "cannot



CNS Photo/L'Osservatore Romano

**MIRACLE:** Pope Francis accepts offertory gifts from Marcilio Haddad Andrino, whose cure from a severe brain infection was accepted as the second miracle for the sainthood cause of Saint Teresa of Kolkata, during the canonization Mass of Mother Teresa in Saint Peter's Square at the Vatican Sunday, September 4.

be re-examined more than three times."

For each alleged miracle, the Medical Consultation team is comprised of a maximum of seven experts; when the promoter of a cause appeals a negative judgment, a new team of physicians and medical experts must be appointed, the new norms say. The members of each consultation will remain unknown to the postulator, as the promoter of the specific cause called.

A presumed miracle is first reviewed by two medical experts within the congregation, and with their recommendation is then sent to the Medical Consultation team.

While the medical experts

receive compensation for their work, the new regulations state that they will only be paid through wire transfer. Prior to the approval of the new norms, experts were given the option to receive cash payments for their work.

Archbishop Bartolucci said the regulations will further ensure that the consultations will be carried out with "serenity, objectivity and complete security" by the medical experts.

"This regulation obviously concerns only the proper functioning of the Medical Consultation, whose task is always more delicate, demanding and, thank God, appreciated inside and outside the church," he said.

→ **IMPORTANT NOTICE** ←

★ **THANK YOU!** ★

The Carmelite Community of the Word will **not** hold our annual Spaghetti Dinner and Pre-Christmas Fair in November.

All of the Sisters express their deep gratitude to our many volunteers and benefactors for your tremendous support.

We look forward to a continued sharing of our ministerial efforts with you and promise our prayers on your behalf.

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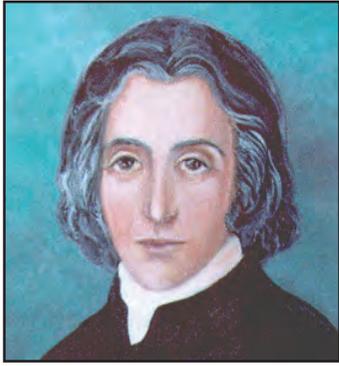
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## A Prince In The Service Of The Great King

The Servant Of God  
Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin  
1770 - 1840

## Cardinal Beatifies Polish Priest Deported To Central Asia

By Catholic News Service

**KARAGANDA, Kazakhstan (CNS)** -- A Vatican official beatified a Polish-born priest deported to Soviet-ruled Central Asia who volunteered to stay on and minister to Catholics.

Cardinal Angelo Amato, prefect of the Vatican's Congregation for Saints' Causes, said Father Wladyslaw Bukowinski, who died in 1974, prayed to overcome "fear, hunger and violence, continuing his service at risk of being arrested and sent back to the gulag."

"His trials before Soviet courts and his time in labor camps gave him a pulpit for wit-

ness and evangelization, from which he taught love of God and neighbor, showing how faith could bring down walls," Cardinal Amato said during the Sept. 11 beatification Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Cathedral.

He said the priest had been a "courageous missionary of Christ in distant lands of Eastern Europe" and found "safety through faith in God and divine providence" at a time of religious persecution and "physical and moral suffering."

Born in 1904 at Berdychiv, now in Ukraine, Blessed Bukowinski studied law and theology in Krakow, Poland, where he was ordained in 1931. He was arrested by the Soviet secret police as a "Vatican agent" in 1940.

After a decade ministering to prisoners and forced laborers in Ukraine, Russia and Kazakhstan, he voluntarily sought Soviet citizenship in 1954 to continue his work and became the first Catholic priest for two decades to visit German-speaking Catholics in neighboring Tajikistan.

Rearrested in 1958 for running "illegal Catholic assemblies," he spent three years in Siberia before returning to Karaganda, where he continued ministering until his death.

The beatification Mass, concelebrated by bishops from Russia and Poland, was attended by Father Mariusz Kowalski, whose unexplained cure from a brain hemorrhage at Karaganda in 2008 was attributed to the intercession of Blessed Bukowinski.



CNS Photo/Courtesy Diocese Of Karaganda

**BEATIFIED:** Father Wladyslaw Bukowinski, a Polish priest who was imprisoned for years in a Soviet gulag and later ministered in several East European countries, was beatified Sept. 11 in Karaganda, Kazakhstan. He is pictured in an undated photo.

Cardinal Amato said the priest had always been convinced "Russia would return to Christ" and had viewed his own arrest and deportation as providential events enabling him to reach "places of suffering."

In a Sept. 11 Angelus message in Rome, Pope Francis said Blessed Bukowinski "always showed great love for the weakest and neediest," despite being "persecuted for his faith."

## 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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# Word of Life



## The Pope Teaches

By Pope Francis  
Christians Aren't Greater Than God

**VATICAN CITY (CNS)** -- God wants people to be merciful, which means forgiving others and giving freely with love, Pope Francis said.

"We don't have the power to condemn our brother who makes a mistake, we are not above him. Rather we have a duty to return him to the dignity of a son of the father and to accompany him on his path of conversion," the pope said Sept. 21 at his weekly general audience.

In his talk, the pope focused on a reading from the Gospel of Luke (6:36-38) in which Jesus tells the disciples to stop judging others and be merciful just as God is.

The motto for the Year of Mercy, "Merciful Like the Father," comes from this biblical verse, the pope said.

But more than a pithy catchphrase, the motto is a lifelong commitment to give to others the love one has received -- without merit -- from God, he said. It is a call to reflect upon all that God does for humanity so as to be inspired "to be like him, full of love, compassion and mercy," he said.

But what does it mean to be merciful, the pope asked his audience. Jesus said it means to forgive and to give, he said.

Mercy is shown by forgiving and not judging and condemning, the pope said.

"A Christian must forgive," he said. "Why? Because he was forgiven! All of us here in the square have been forgiven, not one of us never needed God's forgiveness in life."

"If God has forgiven me, why shouldn't I forgive others? Am I greater than God?" the pope said, underlining that "judging and condemning one's brother who sins is wrong."

"Not because one doesn't want to recognize the sin, but because to condemn the sinner breaks the bond of fraternity with him and ignores the mercy of God, who does not want to give up on any of his children."

By asking his disciples not to condemn, "Jesus does not mean to undermine the course of human justice," Pope Francis said, rather he shows that suspending judgment is needed to hold together a Christian community and maintain fraternal ties.

The other essential element of mercy, he said, is that it is freely giving to others because it flows from having received such abundant gifts from God.

Also, by giving to others, God will return that measure once again, showing "it is we ourselves who decide how we will be judged" after death, the pope said.

For a Christian, he said, merciful love is the only path to follow.

"We all need to be a little more merciful, to not badmouth others, not judge, not rip people apart with criticism, envy, jealousy," he said.

By giving and forgiving, he said, one's heart will expand with love, while selfishness and hatred will turn the heart into a hard, tiny stone.

"Which do you want?" he asked.

When people in the audience shouted "no" to having "a heart of stone" and "yes" to a heart filled with love, the pope said, "then be merciful."



**ONE MORE TIME:** In October, 1965, Monsignor Paul D. Panza, pastor of Saints Peter and Paul Parish in Philipsburg met with members of the parish's executive committee to discuss a newly - inaugurated expansion program for increased weekly income. The present parish church was built during Monsignor Panza's pastorate. Aged 90, Monsignor Panza died Wednesday, September 14 at Our Lady of the Alleghenies Residence at Garvey Manor, Hollidaysburg.

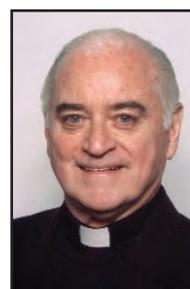
Of all the aspects of Mary, her motherhood is the one that takes hold of the average Catholic. We can easily imagine the indescribable intimacy that exists between a mother and son. For this reason, there are a variety of ways in which Catholics apply this awareness to their own lives.

Here's one example. During the years I was hosting "The Christophers" TV show, I interviewed Joe Garagiola, the baseball player who turned to broadcasting. In the middle of the conversation, he said, "Father, let's not talk about baseball anymore, let's talk about Jesus, Mary and Joseph."

I was caught off guard -- this had never happened before. "OK Joe, what do you say to non-Catholics who say that Catholics make too much of Mary?"

I'll never forget his reply, "I feel sorry for them. Look, Father, I'm Italian, and we know that if you want to get to the Man, you get to the Mother." We both laughed. It was funny, but it had a ring of truth to it.

Catholics see Mary as the one who gives them easy access to her Son. They think of her as their spiritual mother in heaven. She offers love, consolation and mercy. Her many titles reflect



## Spirituality For Today

By Father John Catoir  
How To Relate To Mary

this: Our Lady of Good Counsel, Our Lady of Consolation, Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Elizabet, the mother of John the Baptist, put it best when she said, "Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb" (Lk 1:42).

Mary was chosen for the most privileged position in human history: to be the mother of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Catholics continually ask Mary to pray for them. To understand why, let's turn to the Bible to see how Jesus might relate to Mary in heaven.

We read that King Solomon had his mother sit to the right of his throne. She often interceded on behalf of his subjects saying, "There is one small favor I would ask of you. Do not refuse me. " Solomon would answer, "Ask it, my mother, for I will not refuse you" (1 Kgs 2:20).

When Catholics recite the line from the Hail Mary: "Pray

for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death," they do not think of Mary as a goddess with independent power. They know that power comes from her Son. They simply ask her to intercede for them, knowing well that Jesus will honor her request.

Elizabeth is recorded in Scripture as saying, "Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled" (Lk 1:45). Mary believed and then surrendered herself to the Lord, "May it be done to me according to your word" (Lk 1:38), and the miracle of the Incarnation took place in her womb. Jesus became flesh of her flesh and bone of her bone.

The commandment to honor one's mother and father is found in Exodus 20:12. Jesus honors his mother, just as any good son would. His love for her flows through his children, as we honor the holy Mother of God, in him and with him.



## Question Corner

### By Father Kenneth Doyle Reverence For The Name Of Jesus

**Q.** When is it appropriate to call out verbally the word “Jesus”? If his name is not being used in a disrespectful way but to implore his help, certainly this would not be considered swearing, right? Some people seem to have a fear of uttering his name, lest they appear to be swearing. (Timberville, Virginia)

**A.** What you intend when you say something may not be what hearers understand. Although you mean to implore Christ’s help by calling out spontaneously the word “Jesus,” someone listening might well think instead that you are expressing surprise or dismay -- which would contribute to the growing disrespect for the Lord’s name.

Why not instead say, “Help me, Jesus” and remove any doubt? Reverence for the divine name, in addition to being mandated by the Second Commandment, has a rich scriptural basis. It was the first point made by Jesus when he taught us how

to pray. (“Hallowed be your name,” Mt 6:9.)

Given the fact that the holy name is so often and so casually abused in today’s world, perhaps all of us have a duty to ask the Lord’s forgiveness and seek to make reparation. We need to stand in awe of God’s mystery and majesty, realizing that even the opportunity to approach him in prayer is a gift of his mercy.

**Q.** We have been members of one parish for more than 20 years, but now we have a priest who reminds me of why Jesus was critical of the Pharisees: This priest has no spiritual depth, and he emphasizes external flourishes, like “ad orientem” Masses.

My husband thinks that this priest is just young, arrogant and naive and that we should simply wait it out until he is reassigned. Right now my husband and I have reached an agreement: We have cut our financial contributions to the parish in half, and I attend our parish church once a

month but go to other parishes on the other Sundays.

Our teenage children prefer one particular parish nearby, but I hesitate because it seems so informal and not in keeping with church guidelines.

For us, attending Sunday Mass as a family is now a thing of the past, which is very sad. Do you have any suggestions? (Name of city and state withheld)

**A.** First, to explain a phrase that might puzzle some readers: “ad orientem” Masses. Literally, it means “toward the East,” indicating that the priest and the people both face in the same direction, following an ancient custom.

More commonly today, the phrase is used when the priest and the congregation both face toward the front of church, as opposed to Masses where the celebrant faces the people.

A bit of a flap ensued in July 2016 when the Vatican’s top liturgical official, Cardinal Robert Sarah of Guinea, suggested that priests begin to celebrate Mass facing away from the congregation.

Quickly, though, the Vatican’s official spokesman -- Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi -- noted that there was no new directive and that the General Instruction of the Roman Missal (the church’s official “guidebook”) indicates in No. 299 that, wherever possible, the priest should face the congregation.

Now, to the substance of your question. I attach a high priority to a family’s celebrating Sunday Mass together as a family unit. I do recognize the argument that people profit most from a eucharistic setting that matches their individual taste and best helps them sense the divine, but I feel that is outweighed by the lasting value of worshipping God as a family.

Sit down with your family, discuss the value of being with each other on Sundays and reach an accommodation -- whether it be choosing a “neutral site” (a nearby parish where everyone would feel comfortable) or, perhaps, rotating as a family each Sunday among three or four different parishes.



## For The Journey

### By Effie Caldarola ‘Mercy Fridays’

It was all over Facebook when I checked my posts the other day.

There was Pope Francis, clad in the typical hospital green scrubs, with a mask as well, visiting the newborn section of an Italian hospital, including the intensive care unit where five little ones struggled for survival due to early births or other complications.

Facebook loves stories about babies, dogs and cats. If you can get all three in one story, Facebook really eats it up. But if instead you bring in a smiling pope dressed in hospital scrubs holding a baby, that’s a winner as well.

What I loved about the Pope Francis story was that it was just one more chapter in the pontiff’s “Mercy Friday” visits. I wish all of his monthly Fridays had attracted as much attention.

On a recent Friday, he visited 20 former prostitutes at a charity that assists women who have been trafficked. These particular women were from Africa, Italy and Eastern Europe, and the pope’s visit not only comforted them on their difficult journey, it also called attention to one of the great problems of our age: human trafficking.

We are still in the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, which Pope Francis proclaimed from Dec. 8, 2015, until Nov. 20, 2016. This Year of Mercy is called “extraordinary” because it fell out of the normal 25-year rotation for jubilee years. It’s a bonus year, one might say, and when it was announced, it garnered all kinds of attention in church bulletins and in the Catholic press.

But you know how it goes with the news cycle. Something else comes along and our attention is diverted. Before you know it, Nov. 20 will be here and we’ll ask ourselves, Just what did I do in the Year of Mercy?

Sometimes, I think our efforts are stymied by the thought that we have to do something big to make it count. So then we procrastinate and do nothing.

During the Year of Mercy, the U.S. Catholic bishops’ website has suggestions for performing acts of mercy, and here’s one of them: Eat lunch with someone who may be lonesome. Now, really, how tough is that?

Do you work in an office or in a school where, at lunchtime, some people seem always to be alone? How much effort does it take to join them?

Or do you have an elderly relative who might love a chatty phone call today? Hey, that’s mercy, too.

A good place to start would be to reread the corporal and spiritual works of mercy, our Christian road map to compassionate action.

Kerry Weber actually beat Pope Francis to the punch on mercy by writing a great little book a few years ago called **Mercy In The City**. It recounts her efforts during Lent to perform each corporal work of mercy. It’s entertaining and inspiring to see her moving around New York City endeavoring to visit a prison or spend the night in a homeless shelter.

Weber’s book would make a great text for a faith formation class, and it’s a great idea as well.

What if we kept a mercy journal as we try to delve into practices of mercy? Just a simple little notebook in which we chronicle each effort, and its outcome might focus our attention on mercy.

Some of Pope Francis’ other ventures included a Friday visit to sick children during a trip to Poland and a visit to elderly priests. He spent one Friday with developmentally disabled patients at a L’Arche community.

Great leaders lead by example. Pope Francis has set the course. What will we do?

## Our Lady Of The Rosary 16th Century Feast - October 7



Dominicans and local rosary confraternities began celebrating a feast honoring Our Lady of the Rosary in the 15th century. As Christian and Turkish forces met in battle in the Gulf of Lepanto (near Greece) on Oct. 7, 1571, Pope Pius V asked Mary to protect Catholic lands and Catholics to pray the rosary. The ensuing Christian victory was attributed to Our Lady of the Rosary. In 1572 the pope allowed some celebrations of Our Lady of Victory on the first Sunday in October; in 1573 the feast was changed to Our Lady of the Rosary, and in 1716 the feast became universal. The Oct. 7 date was fixed in 1913.

# Pilgrims Forged Friendships During Shared Journey

(Continued From Page 1.)

Our group of 16 pilgrims joined two smaller groups: 10 pilgrims from the Archdiocese of Washington DC, sponsored by **The Catholic Standard** newspaper, led by managing editor Richard Szczepanowski, and accompanied by Monsignor Raymond East, and eight pilgrims from the Diocese of El Paso TX, led by Fathers Trinidad Fuentez and Mariano Lopez. We were under the guidance of Belinda Lewis Held, associate director of religious and cultural tours for UniTours, ably assisted by local Italian guides.

## “All Are Welcome”

The blending of three pilgrim groups was one of the blessings of the journey, providing a chance to forge friendships with people from a variety of backgrounds.

Pilgrim Patricia Serotkin, from Ebensburg, offered this reflection on the experience:

*“All are welcome,” is the melody that keeps running through my head and heart as I look back on the journey which 35 pilgrims (16 from our Diocese) made in late August/early September. Throughout our time together, the various members of our group became one as we talked together, walked together, ate, drank wine, laughed and cried together.*

(Continued On Page 11.)



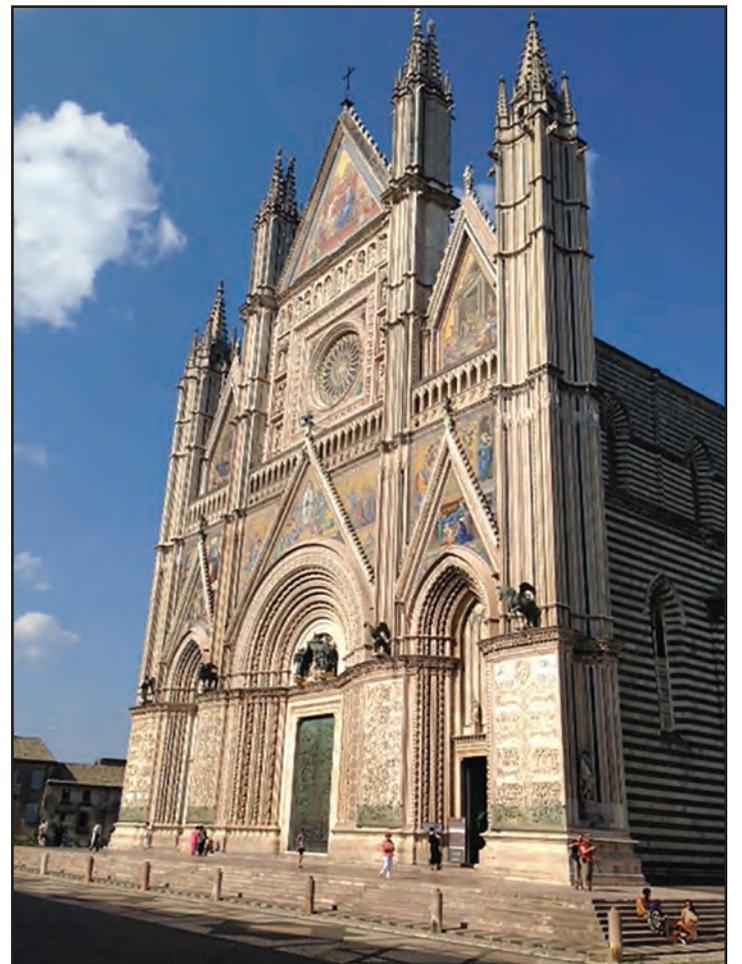
Photo By Monsignor Timothy P. Stein

**PISA:** First stop for the pilgrims on Tuesday, August 30 was Pisa, where they saw the famous “Leaning Tower.”



Photo By Mary Beth Schmidhamer

**FLORENCE:** On Wednesday, August 31, the pilgrims toured the city of Florence, and celebrated Mass in the city’s “Duomo,” the Cathedral of Saint Mary of the Flowers, viewed here from the Piazzale Michelangelo. Their visit to the city also included viewing well known works of art, including Michelangelo’s statue of “David” in the Academia Gallery.



Photos By Monsignor Timothy P. Stein

**HILLTOP CITIES:** The cities of Siena and Orvieto were visited on Thursday, September 1. The hilltop towns were marked by magnificent sites including the Church of Saint Catherine, in Siena (left) and the Cathedral in Orvieto (right). The church in Siena is pictured from the courtyard of Saint Catherine’s home. The Cathedral in Orvieto houses the relics of the Eucharistic Miracle of Bolsena.

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Photos By Monsignor Timothy P. Stein

**ASSISI:** The Year of Mercy Pilgrims arrived in Assisi late on the evening of Thursday, September 1, and spent the next day touring the city hallowed by the footsteps of Saint Francis and Saint Clare. The Piazza in front of Saint Clare’s Basilica offered scenic views of the ancient town (left) and the cloisters of the Grand Convento (right) adjoining the Basilica of Saint Francis, provided a place of peace and quiet reflection.



Photo Courtesy Of Jennifer O’Dea

**ROME:** The pilgrims reached their ultimate destination, Rome, on Saturday, September 3. Jennifer O’Dea (left) and her mother, Mary Grove of Altoona, are pictured before passing through the Holy Door at the Basilica of Saint Mary Major.

*(Continued From Page 3.)*

*Amazingly, despite the intense heat and hours of walking, none of us ever (to my knowledge) lost patience with one another. We welcomed one another to our mutual journey and looked after each other. I felt strongly that all of us were “welcome in this place.” What a truly blessed time it was - - and one I will never forget.*

**A True Pilgrimage**

Arriving in the Italian city of Florence on Tuesday, August 30, the pilgrims immediately left by bus for Pisa and the opportunity to see the famed “Leaning Tower.” It was in Pisa, too, that many of them walked, for the first time, through a “Holy Door” at the city’s Cathedral, fulfilling part of their spiritual agenda for the pilgrimage.

Spending the night in the town of Montecatini, the pilgrims spent the next day, Wednesday, August 31 in Florence. They returned to Montecatini that evening, and the next day, Thursday, September 1, set out for Assisi, via Siena - - home of Saint Catherine - - and Orvieto, where the Cathedral enshrines the relics of the Eucharistic Miracle of Bolsena.

Their first view of Assisi was of a floodlit city on a hill, as they arrived at 9:00 p.m. They were to spend two nights in the town made holy by Saint Francis and Saint Clare, spending Friday, September 2 touring the churches dedicated to the Saints, and walking the streets of a city largely unspoiled by modern life.

Mary Grove, of Altoona, was moved by the blessings she experienced during the pilgrimage.

*The pilgrimage to Italy was a very spiritual time for me.*

*Attending day Mass, celebrated by the four priests in our group, visiting many beautiful Cathedrals and holy sites, and walking through the “Holy Doors” in this Year of Mercy was amazing.*

Mary was joined on the trip by her daughter, Jennifer O’Dea, who left her home in Maryland to travel with her mother. Jennifer also shared a sense of spiritual fulfillment.

*I feel truly blessed to have taken part in such an extraordinary trip throughout Italy; not only to have spiritually grown and to have experienced first-hand the many, many blessings this pilgrimage offered, but also to have forged wonderful friendships along the way.*

Jennifer also shared a very personal reflection about the trip.

*Sharing this experience with my Mom was very special, since we live in different states, and in the hustle of daily life with work and family, I do not see her as often as we would both like.*

*It was a pleasure, and I cannot express how grateful I am for having had this opportunity.*

*(Continued On Page 12.)*



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Photo By Patricia Serotkin

**SWISS GUARD:** Whether they come to Rome as a tourist or a pilgrim, everyone visiting the Eternal City wants to see, and take a picture of, members of the Swiss Guard on duty at the Vatican.

## Rome, Canonization Mass, Papal Audience, Ultimate Goal For Pilgrims

(Continued From Page 11.)

Said Mary Beth Schmidhamer of Altoona, *Even though it was very exhausting, it was so spiritual and uplifting.*

*I am so glad that I went.*

### Rome

The pilgrims were up and out of their Assisi hotel early on Saturday morning, September 3. By 11:30 a.m. they had arrived at their ultimate goal: Rome!

Their five days in the Eternal City began with Mass at the Basilica of Saint Mary Major. Here they walked through their first set of Holy Doors at one of the four major, Papal Basilicas, before embarking on a bus tour of the city, and checking into their hotel, a short twenty - minute walk away from Saint Peter's Square at the Vatican.

Sunday, September 4 was another early morning for the

pilgrims as they walked to the Vatican to attend the canonization Mass of Saint Teresa of Kolkata. It was at the Mass that they would have their first opportunity to see the Holy Father, Pope Francis, who delighted the throngs by traveling around the Square in the "Popemobile."

Patricia Serotkin reflected on the special atmosphere at the Mass.

*In Rome, during the canonization of Mother Teresa, and again during the audience with Pope Francis a few days later, I was struck by the peacefulness of the huge crowds in which we found ourselves.*

*Truly, in spite of the thousands of very diverse pilgrims from all over the world gathered in Saint Peter's Square, I felt that all of us were welcome in this place.*

And the Vatican welcomed our pilgrims again on Monday, September 5, as most of the

group toured the Museums and the Basilica, entering through the Holy Door. In the afternoon, the group continued on to the Basilica of Saint John Lateran, the Holy Stairs, and the Catacombs of San Callisto, and a visit to the Basilica of Saint Paul Outside The Walls.

Tuesday, September 6 was designated a free day. Many of the pilgrims traveled to Naples for the day, while about a dozen remained in Rome. I availed myself of the opportunity to connect with Cindy Wooden, Rome bureau chief of Catholic News Service, for a tour of her office, lunch, and a visit to the Holy See Press Office. I capped the day with an open - top bus tour of Rome, which helped me plot the route I would follow the next afternoon, following the papal audience.

(Continued On Page 13.)



Photo By Patricia Serotkin

**PILGRIMS:** Pilgrims Janet Hammond (left) and Mary Beth Schmidhamer, both of Altoona, want everyone to know that they have arrived in Rome!



Photo By Junno Arocho Esteves

**FRIENDS:** While many new friendships were formed on the pilgrimage, Monsignor Timothy P. Stein had the chance to renew an old friendship, with Cindy Wooden, Rome bureau chief of Catholic News Service.



Photos (Left To Right) By Patricia Serotkin, Jennifer O'Dea , Mary Beth Schimdhamer

**POPE FRANCIS:** To the delight of thousands of pilgrims, Pope Francis toured Saint Peter's Square in his "Popemobile" at the start of his weekly general audience on Wednesday, September 7, affording the pilgrims from the Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown the opportunity to snatch treasured photographs of the genial pontiff.



Courtesy Photographs

**SAINTS:** Two of the Saints canonized by Pope Francis during the Year Of Mercy are Saint Elizabeth Hesselblad (left) and Saint Teresa of Kolkata. Saint Elizabeth was canonized on June 5 and Saint Teresa on Sunday, September 4, during a ceremony at which local pilgrims were present. Monsignor Timothy P. Stein visited Saint Elizabeth's tomb while in Rome with the diocesan pilgrims.

*(Continued From Page 12.)*

**A Visit To A Saint**

And so, we returned, as a group to Saint Peter's Square bright and early the morning of Wednesday, September 7, for Pope Francis' weekly general audience. Our pilgrims heeded the advice to "find a spot as close as you can to the barriers," affording them the chance to take some memorable photographs of the genial pontiff as he passed by.

Following the papal audience, pilgrims were again afforded free.

It was during that free afternoon that I retraced, on foot, part of the route I had traveled by bus the previous afternoon. Making my way across one of the bridges spanning the River Tiber, I headed for the Piazza Farnese, and the Church of Saint Bridget of Sweden.

Earlier this summer I wrote about my devotion to Saint Elizabeth Hesselblad, canonized on June 5. Saint Elizabeth was a Swedish - born immigrant to the United States, and a convert

to Roman Catholicism from the Lutheran communion. She lived and worked in New York City, was received into the Church in Washington DC, and began her religious life at the convent attached to the Church of Saint Bridget of Sweden, in Rome, in 1904. The convent was then occupied by the Discalced Carmelite Nuns, but Elizabeth hoped to restore it to the Bridgettine order founded by Saint Bridget, even if it meant founding a new branch of the order, herself. And that's just what she did!

I first read her story when I was in high school. On previous visits to Rome I had found the church open only once, on a Sunday, afternoon. Knowing that it housed the newly - canonized Saint's tomb, I expected that I would surely find it open to pilgrims on a Wednesday.

Wrong.

The church was locked tight. Iron gates were padlocked covering the front door. I was about to admit defeat when I saw a utility truck pull up to the convent door. A workman got out and pressed the doorbell. After a few minutes the door swung open . . . and stayed open. Seizing my chance, I followed him inside.

Looking to my left I found the church, and went in for a quick visit to the Blessed Sacrament. Coming out quickly,

I hoped I would make it to the door without having to explain myself.

No such luck.

A Sister, dressed just as Saint Elizabeth was dressed in the portrait printed here, came out. Determining that she spoke English, I asked if I could pray at Saint Elizabeth's tomb. My

Roman collar may have helped Sister to decide to trust me. She led me into a small oratory behind the altar, and left me there to pray. The tomb was just as I had read it would be - - a quiet place full of sunshine and bird-song. A little bit of heaven!

*(Continued On Page 16.)*



**HEALING MASS**

**Monday**  
**October 17, 2016**  
**7:00 pm**  
**Fr. Bill Kiel, 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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# Now Showing

## Ho-Hum, It's A Heavy-Handed 'Snowden'

By John Mulderig  
Catholic News Service

**NEW YORK (CNS)** -- Few figures on the contemporary scene are as controversial as Edward Snowden, the former intelligence officer who, in 2013, revealed to the press the existence of a secret National Security Agency program for the collection of mass data that he considered abusive.

Champion of individual rights against an intrusive government or a traitor to his country? Opinions about Snowden vary between these two extremes but also probably occupy every square inch of the wide philosophical and political territory dividing them.

Riding into this ongoing fray at an enthusiastic gallop comes left-wing stalwart Oliver Stone. As director and co-writer (with Kieran Fitzgerald) of "Snowden" (Open Road), Stone

serves up an interesting screen biography, but one that eventually proves both excessively one-sided and overlong.

Holed up in a Hong Kong hotel on the eve of his epochal leak, Snowden (Joseph Gordon-Levitt) recalls the events of his life, beginning with his service in the Army, for the benefit of documentary filmmaker Laura Poitras (Melissa Leo). Between the extensive flashbacks that follow, he also strategizes with the two principal reporters, Glenn Greenwald (Zachary Quinto) and Ewen MacAskill (Tom Wilkinson), working to publish the documents he's stolen.

Drawing on a duo of books, "The Snowden Files" by Luke Harding and "Time of the Octopus" by Anatoly Kucherena, Stone initially presents his protagonist as a conscientious man pulled in different directions by his loyalty to the government, his larger sense of duty and his love for his live-in girlfriend,



CNS Photo/Open Road Films

**SNOWDEN:** Joseph Gordon-Levitt stars in a scene from the movie "Snowden." The Catholic News Service classification is A-III -- adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R -- restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.

Lindsay Mills (Shailene Woodley). Once Snowden determines his eventual course of action, however, a hero-worshipping tone takes hold to a degree that mars the film's effectiveness.

Indeed, the swelling music and coinlike profile pose with which we take leave of the title figure would not be out of place in a movie about George Washington or Abraham Lincoln.

If the script is historically

accurate, the intelligence community does have some life-endangering, morally indefensible actions to answer for, as when Snowden becomes involved in a potentially murderous plot to blackmail Middle Eastern banker Marwan al-Kirmani (Bhasker Patel).

But the larger question "Snowden" raises -- how to strike the proper balance between security and privacy -- remains a prudential judgment about which viewers of faith are free to disagree. Accordingly, adult moviegoers, some of whom may be put off by the picture's brief but explicit portrayal of sexuality, will have to draw

their own conclusions. Those arrived at, and driven home with a heavy hand, by Stone and his collaborators are all too obvious -- to the aesthetic detriment of his project.

The film contains a graphic scene of nonmarital sexual activity, images of upper female nudity as well as partial nudity in a strip club, a few uses of profanity and frequent rough and crude language. The Catholic News Service classification is A-III -- adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R -- restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.

**Sunday Mass**  
Broadcast Live from  
the Cathedral of  
the Blessed Sacrament, Altoona  
10:00 a.m. WFBG Radio, 1290 AM

**Sunday Mass Telecast**  
Live from Saint John Gualbert Cathedral  
Downtown Johnstown  
11 a.m. - Noon WATM - TV ABC Channel 23

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

A half - hour of local Church news and features

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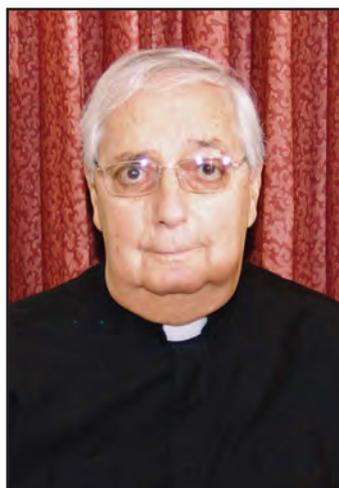
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## Coming Up On 'Proclaim!'

Upcoming guests on "Keeping The Faith," Bishop Mark L. Bartchak's segment of "Proclaim!" will include:

**October 9** - - In this month of the Holy Rosary, Monica Ludwig of Saint Nicholas Parish in Nicktown talks about the good work of the Legion of Mary.

**October 16** - - As we celebrate Our Lady of Victory School in State College as our Proclaim! School of the Month, principal Samantha Weakland and teacher JoAnne Venturino discuss the faith, academics, and service that are cornerstones of the school.



**Monsignor  
Paul D. Panza, P.A.**

Monsignor Paul D. Panza, Prothonotary Apostolic, a senior priest of the Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown, died Wednesday, September 14 at Our Lady of the Alleghenies Residence at Garvey Manor, Hollidaysburg. He was 90.

Monsignor Panza was born June 26, 1926, in Sharpsburg, the son of the late Salvatore and Rose (Lanzino) Panza.

He is survived by nieces and nephews, great - nieces and nephews and great - great - nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by five sisters: Michelena Corrado, Frances Adams, Rita Frollini, Mary Panza and two infant sisters, and two brothers Louis Panza and Saverio Panza.

Monsignor Panza was a 1944 graduate of Sharpsburg High School, 1950 graduate of Saint Francis University and, in 1954, of Saint Francis Seminary, Loretto.

He served in the U.S. Army as a sergeant in World War II, and received the European - African - Middle Eastern Campaign Medal and the WWII Victory Medal.

Monsignor Panza was ordained May 22, 1954 by the late Bishop Richard T. Guilfoyle. He served as parochial vicar at Saint Rose of Lima and Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament Parishes both in Altoona. Before becoming

rector of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in 1987, he was pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish in Dudley, and Saints Peter and Paul Parish in Philipsburg. He retired as rector of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament and from active ministry in the Altoona - Johnstown Diocese with 42 years of service in 1995.

In 1962 he became Notary of the Diocesan Tribunal. He served as Master of Ceremonies from 1964 to 1972 and also as Vice Chancellor, and from 1972 until 1987 he was Chancellor. In 1987 Monsignor was named Vicar General for Administration, a post he held until 1990.

Monsignor was named a Chaplain of His Holiness in 1974 and Prelate of Honor in 1983. In June of 1994 he was invested as a Prothonotary Apostolic.

The funeral Mass for Monsignor Paul D. Panza was celebrated Monday, September 19 at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. Committal was made in the Crypt Chapel of the Cathedral.

## In The Alleghenies

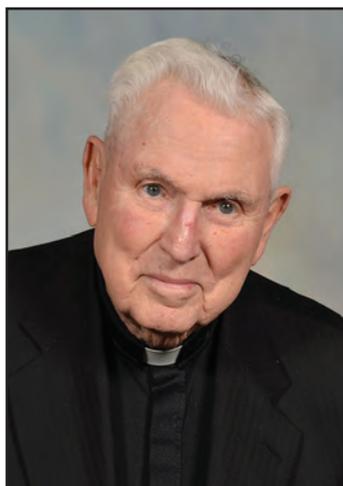
(Continued From Page 3.)

### White Mass

**Johnstown:** A "White Mass" for healthcare workers and anyone who renders care to others, will be celebrated Saturday, October 8 at 4:00 p.m. at Saint Clement Church, 114 Lindberg Avenue.

Father William E. Rosenbaum, pastor, will be the celebrant. Healthcare workers are asked to wear their lab coats, if they traditionally wear one, or some other article of white clothing, such as a sweater.

During the Mass a special collection will be taken up for the benefit of Windber Hospice, and a blessing will be offered to all healthcare workers and caregivers.



**ARCHBISHOP  
PETER L. GERETY**

## World's Oldest Bishop Dies At 104

**TOTOWA, N.J. (CNS)** -- Retired Archbishop Peter L. Gerety of Newark died Sept. 20 while in the care of the Little Sisters of the Poor at the order's elder-care facility in Totowa. He was 104.

According to a remembrance of Archbishop Gerety posted Sept. 21 by the Archdiocese of Newark on its website, Archbishop Gerety was the world's oldest Catholic bishop at the time of his death. By 2007, when he was 95, he was already the oldest living U.S. bishop.

Archbishop John J. Myers in a Sept. 21 statement called Archbishop Gerety "a remarkable churchman whose love for the people of God was always strong and ever-growing."

"He served as shepherd of this great archdiocese during a time of spiritual reawakening in the years after the Second Vatican Council, and a time of deep financial difficulties," he added. "He very carefully led the church, her people and institutions through those challenges."

Archbishop Gerety had been retired as head of the Newark Archdiocese for 30 years at the time of his death. He was Newark's archbishop for 12 years. Before that he spent five years as the bishop of Portland, Maine; he had been coadjutor bishop of the statewide diocese for three years prior.

Born July 19, 1912, in Shelton, Connecticut, Leo -- as his parents called him -- won academic honors at Shelton High School and was captain of the

football team. He was the eldest of nine sons.

His mother and father, Peter L. and Charlotte Daly Gerety, "had a tremendous religious faith, and a tremendously optimistic view of life. They loved life very much. They taught us we could do almost anything," the archbishop once said.

After working for the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the New Jersey Transportation Department, the future archbishop entered St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield, Connecticut, and was chosen for study abroad at St. Sulpice Seminary in Issy, France. He was ordained for the Archdiocese of Hartford, Connecticut, in 1939 at the Cathedral of Notre Dame, Paris.

The eldest of nine brothers, Archbishop Gerety outlived all of them. He is survived by many nephews and nieces, as well as their children.

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**Rev. Mark S. Begley**  
*Pastor - Our Mother of Sorrows*

In these turbulent and troubled times there are so many issues that are competing for our attention: terrorism, immigration, the economy, political candidates and the upcoming Presidential election. But there is one very, very important issue that seems to have been lost in our present day moral and social debate, and that is the important issue of the right to life, especially the life of the unborn. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states: "Human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception. From the first moment of existence, a human being must be recognized as having the rights of a person - among which is the inviolable right of every innocent being to life." (#2270)

I am so grateful for Birthright and their mission because they have not forgotten, they have not ignored, they have not neglected! They continue to care for and respect the right to life, especially for the unborn child. And, they do so by respecting the dignity of mothers. Often times pregnant women will seek an abortion, not because they don't want to give life to their children, but because they feel trapped in situations that offer them no way out. Birthright offers these mothers options, a path where they can find hope. This is where Birthright respects, not only the life of the unborn, but also gives to these mothers in distress the respects and the dignity they deserve.

I will always support Birthright. They do such wonderful work. Birthright works for those who are so often forgotten by society, not just the unborn babies, but also their mothers who want so desperately to give life to their children.

Let me close with a quote from Pope Francis as he spoke on the anniversary of St. Raymond Nonnatus who is the patron saint of expectant mothers. "All of us must care for life, cherish life, with tenderness, warmth...to give life is to open (our) heart, and to care for life is to (give oneself) in tenderness and warmth for others, to have concern in my heart for others. Caring for life from the beginning to the end. What a simple thing, what a beautiful thing. So, go forth and don't be discouraged. Care for life. It's worth it."

Let us never forget!!

*Please remember to be generous in your financial support of Birthright's mission of caring for pregnant women and their babies!*

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# Pilgrims Felt Spiritually Uplifted By Time In Rome

(Continued From Page 13.)

When I got up to go, Sister had returned. She filled my hands with medals and holy cards of Saint Elizabeth, and invited me back into the church, to pray. Sometimes it pays to be daring, and in this case, I'm so very glad that I took the chance!

That evening, the "pilgrims" became "tourists," as they gathered in a restaurant in Rome's Trastevere neighborhood for a festive, farewell dinner.

The next morning, Thursday, September 8, they departed Rome for Atlanta, and thence to Dulles and a bus ride home to the Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown.

## A Pilgrim Reflects

Among the pilgrims from the Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown were Thien Tran of Johnstown, and his wife, Ngoan. Thien's reflections about the pilgrimage strike the same notes as have been shared by others who made the journey.

*We went on the trip of a lifetime to Italy to witness the Canonization of Saint Teresa of Kolkata, who is known for her great efforts to ease the suffering and pain of many people, especially in India.*

*The four priests who traveled with us were a great source of insight during our trip, and did a fantastic job to make this a very spiritually and intellec-*



Photo By Thien Tran

**CHERISHED MOMENT:** For each pilgrim, the opportunity to see Pope Francis and to receive a blessing from him, was a cherished moment of their time in Rome.

*tually fulfilling trip. Naturally, everyone on the trip was very friendly and cordial, and the source of fabulous and enlightening conversations throughout the journey.*

*One specific highlight of this trip occurred in Rome where my wife, Ngoan, and I had the opportunity to be close to our Holy Father and have items (mainly rosaries!) blessed directly by him. This was an incredible experience and very moving considering the lineage of the Holy Father, back to the origins of our faith. Truly, this is the kind of stuff you hear about, and of course one would remark about how lucky someone is - - and then it happens to you!*

*We want to thank everyone involved for making this a spiritual and intellectual trip of a lifetime. We would like to also extend appreciation to our priests and to our remarkable tour guides, Belinda and Isabella, for helping us navigate Italy and for helping to make this a truly remarkable trip.*

*Until next time, Ciao!*

Thien's remarks provide a fitting close to the story of the first - ever **Catholic Register** pilgrimage. They highlight the spiritual nature of the tour, with Mass celebrated daily and priests on hand to offer prayer and support. Friendships were forged and memories to last a lifetime were recorded.

And his remarks end with a hopeful note shared by all who took part: Until next time!

**PERIODICAL RATE MAIL**

# The Catholic Register

**Official Publication of the  
Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown**