



The Catholic Register

Official Publication Of
The Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown

Volume 91, No. 7 Published Bi - Weekly (USPS 094 - 280)

www.dioceseaj.org August 8, 2016

Institute Will Bring RCIA Leaders From Throughout The Country To Altoona - Johnstown Diocese

By Bruce A. Tomaselli

After a year of preparation, Jeanne Thompson, ministerial coordinator for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA), is excited for the TeamRCIA "Making Disciples Institute," to be held Friday and Saturday, August 12 and 13 at the Ramada Conference and Golf Hotel, 1450 South Atherton Street, State College.

The national gathering will include Rite of Christian Initiation leaders from around the country. "As registrations continue to come in, it is very encouraging to see that nearly half of the registrants are from the Altoona - Johnstown Diocese," said Thompson.

The facilitators for the event are Nick Wagner and Diana Macalintal of TeamRCIA. They come from the Diocese of San Jose CA. Wagner is the founder of Team RCIA, and Macalintal is one of the members of the national team that was formed with members of the National Forum on the Catechumenate.

In addition, there are people from nine additional Dioceses from across the country including: Dubuque IA; the Archdiocese of Baltimore MD; Wilmington DE, Columbus OH; and



NICK WAGNER

the Allentown, Altoona - Johnstown, Greensburg, and Harrisburg Dioceses in Pennsylvania.

The event is sponsored by

the Altoona - Johnstown Diocese; The Ramada Inn Conference Center and Joseph Thomas, general manager of the Inn, and a member of Our Lady of Victory Parish; and a grant from Our Sunday Visitor.

Thompson said as she worked on the pre - planning, and began to assemble the committee last June, she was buoyed by the Spirit - filled RCIA leaders who continue to inspire others as they work to answer God's call to build up the Body of Christ, the Church.

She said the committee has worked hard and done a great job preparing for the institute.

Members of the committee are: Anne Burkholder, Saint Mary Parish, Hollidaysburg;



DIANA MACALINTAL

Mary Anne Hanelly, William Hanelly and Mary Ann Spychalski of Our Lady of Victory Parish in State College; Mark

Krepich, Saint John The Evangelist Parish in Altoona; Kathleen Saller, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Altoona, and William Zerke, Good Shepherd Parish in State College.

RCIA parish directors, team members, clergy and laity will have the opportunity to develop their evangelizing skills to minister to the people of God in the Catholic Church through the life - giving conversion process of the RCIA.

The group is taking to heart the words of Pope Francis written in the encyclical *The Joy of the Gospel*: "The Church which 'goes forth' is a community of missionary disciples, who take their first step, who are involved and supported, who bear fruit and rejoice." (Pope Francis, *The Joy of the Gospel*, 24).

Thompson said it's not too late to invite a colleague or friend to the institute. Registrations are being accepted until noon, today, Monday, August 8. Thompson may be contacted at (814) 317 - 2672 or jthompson@dioceseaj.org.

"This will be a great time for people to get to know each other, share stories of serving the Church in this life-giving ministry, and bring insight and shared wisdom of the institute back to their faith communities," said Thompson.

The planning committee for the Institute is taking to heart the words of Pope Francis written in the encyclical *The Joy of the Gospel*: "The Church which 'goes forth' is a community of missionary disciples, who take their first step, who are involved and supported, who bear fruit and rejoice." (Pope Francis, *The Joy of the Gospel*, 24).

Community

Brother Shamus Shuffle

Loretto: The Saint Francis University Social Committee will sponsor the 4th annual Brother Shamus Shuffle on Saturday, August 27 at the Memorial Field Pavilion in Ebensburg. Cyclers, runners and walkers are invited to join Bro. Shamus for a day of cycling along the Ghost Town Trail as he works toward his goal of raising \$40,000 for the Dorothy Day Outreach Center.

Registration begins at 8:00 a.m., and the first bikers will depart at 9:00 a.m., followed by runners at 9:15 a.m. and walkers at 9:30 a.m. Refreshments will follow. The event is open to all ages, and the distance is determined by each individual participant.

Brother Shamus McGrenra is a 69 – year - old Third Order Regular Franciscan friar who is

well - known in the Saint Francis community for his smiling, positive attitude.

In 2011, Brother Shamus decided to use his love of cycling as a way to raise money for the Dorothy Day Outreach Center on campus, and he started his annual charity ride. The first year, he cycled 375 miles, and was able to raise over \$12,000. Since then, he has raised over \$140,000 for the Center to assist local families in need.

While making initial plans for his third charity ride in 2013, Brother Shamus was diagnosed with colon cancer. Undergoing treatment and unable to ride, but knowing how much the Dorothy Day Outreach Center relies on his fundraising efforts, he reached out to the community for help. To show its support, the University organized the first Brother Shamus Shuffle, an event aimed to get others moving, and to help Brother Shamus reach his fundraising goal.

Now in its fourth year, the



SERVERS INSTALLED: In a ceremony conducted by the Serra Club of Cambria County, new altar servers were installed at the Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel in Loretto. Pictured are (left to right) First row: Josh Corcoran, Trevor Fahr, Mark Mento, Kayden McMullen, Dominic Walk, Sam Wirfel. Second Row: Father John Byrnes (pastor) and Deacon Richard Golden.



PETS UNLEASHED: “Pets Unleashed” was the theme of the Vacation Bible School conducted by Most Holy Trinity Parish, South Fork, and Saint Bartholomew Parish, Wilmore. The program took place June 28 - 30, in Wilmore.

Brother Shamus Shuffle remains a fun community event that allows others to join Brother Shamus as he cycles for charity.

The cost to register is \$20.00 for adults and \$10.00 for children ages 12 and under. Participants will receive a Shamus Shuffle water bottle, refreshments and a drink. All the proceeds from the event directly benefit the Dorothy Day Outreach Center.

To learn more or to register for the event visit francis.edu/brother-shamus-shuffle.

If you’re unable to participate in the Shuffle, but would still like to make a donation to Brother Shamus’ charity ride visit francis.edu/charity-ride-donations.

Foundation

Scholarships Awarded

Altoona: The Independent Catholic Foundation announced the winners for the 2016 Welge scholarship. This year’s winners are:

Veronica Compton, a member of Sacred Heart Parish in Altoona who will continue her studies at Penn State Altoona; Ben Kasun, a member of Saint Therese of the Child Jesus Parish, Altoona who also attends Penn State Altoona and Lynnea Burr a member of Saint Joseph Parish, Bellwood who attends Lock Haven University.

(Continued On Page 3.)

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In The Alleghenies



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: Saint Francis of Assisi Parish, Johnstown, held Vacation Bible School July 11 - 15. This year's program concentrated on the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy, as part of the celebration of the Jubilee Year of Mercy.

(Continued From Page 2.)

The Welge Endowment Scholarship was established in 1995 to honor Adelaide G. (Heverly) Welge. This annual scholarship provides financial assistance to worthy parishioners of churches in Blair County. The applicant must be entering their junior or senior year at any accredited college. The Foundation trustees are responsible for the awarding of the Welge Scholarships each year. Trustees who live in Blair County are asked to serve as a sub-committee for the review and selection process. The committee was impressed with both the quantity and quality of this year's applicants.

A \$500.00 check will be sent to the respective colleges on behalf of the winners to aid in their tuition.

An additional eight endowments are held by the Foundation that benefit worthy students from parishes throughout the Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown. The application process for these varies, with most being administered by the individual parish or high-school. During the

last school year, the Foundation distributed over \$50,000 under the guidelines of these additional endowments. Information on how to establish a college or high school scholarship is available at the Foundation office or at www.icfdaj.org

Funds Distributed

Altoona: The Independent Catholic Foundation announced the annual distribution of funds after their June meeting. With the recommendation of the Finance and Distribution Committee, the Board of Trustees approved a 4.0 percent distribution for this year's funds. The Foundation's policy calls for an annual distribution of a percentage of the average value from each separate endowment account. The total amount available for distribution this year is over \$1 million, a record which represents an increase of almost 7% over last fiscal year's availability.

These amounts do not reflect almost three-quarters of a million dollars in contributions to new and existing endowments since July 1 of last year. With

this year's distribution, total support offered for the various ministries of the Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown exceeds \$5 million dollars for the past 6 years. This Foundation was created 26 years ago as an independent non-profit corporation to support the various ministries of the Diocese. It currently manages over 240 permanently restricted endowments valued at over \$25 million.

High Schools

Girls' Soccer Coach

Johnstown: The Bishop McCort Athletic Department has announced the hiring of Meredith Mishler as head girls' soccer coach.

Mishler, a 2012 graduate of Bishop McCort Catholic High School, returns to her alma mater after playing four years of soccer at Westminster College. In addition to lettering all four years, she was named to the PAC Academic Honor Roll on three different occasions during her career as a Titan.

Athletic Director Tim Schultz said, "As an alum, Mer-



AWARD: George Kuhne, a member of Saint John the Evangelist Parish, Everett, was awarded a certificate of appreciation from the Saint Thomas the Apostle Conference of the Saint Vincent DePaul Society. The son of George and Julie Kuhne, George recently celebrated his tenth birthday, and decided to donate a portion of his monetary gifts to the Saint Vincent DePaul Society, to assist those in need. He said his decision was based upon his recent experience of encountering homeless people while attending a Pittsburgh Pirates game. He is pictured with his mother, Julie (left) and Beverly McKenzie, president of the Saint Thomas the Apostle Conference.

Higher Education

College Of Distinction

Loretto: Saint Francis University has been honored as both a "College of Distinction" and a "Catholic College of Distinction" for the 2016 - 17 school year.

Saint Francis is one of a select group of colleges to earn these prestigious designations, based on its excellence in four distinctions—engaged students, great teaching, vibrant campus communities and successful outcomes—as well as the University's focus on weaving its Catholic - Franciscan mission into the fabric of the institution.

"I can't express what an honor it is to be named head coach of the Bishop McCort Catholic High School Girls' Soccer team. This team is full of such wonderful talent, and I'm so excited to share my knowledge, passion, and experience with them in hopes to accomplish the goals they have in mind for this season," said Mishler.

Mishler holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Westminster College and is currently working as an intern at Conemaugh Hospital. She plans on attending medical school in the future. Mishler resides in Westmont.

Nominated by high school college counselors and educators for recognition by Colleges of Distinction, each school is evaluated based on qualitative and quantitative research. The colleges and universities are not ranked; rather, they become members of a consortium of other equally impressive schools.

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<p>THE CATHOLIC REGISTER SERVING THE DIOCESE OF ALTOONA - JOHNSTOWN</p> <p>Published Bi - weekly at 925 South Logan Boulevard Hollidaysburg PA 16648</p> <p>Phone (814) 695 - 7563 FAX (814) 695 - 7517</p>	<p>Subscriptions: \$8.00 Parish Based \$18.00 Individual</p>	<p>Publisher: Most Reverend Bishop Mark L. Bartchak</p>
	<p>Periodical Class Postage Paid At Altoona PA and other mailing offices. Postmaster send change of address to: 925 South Logan Boulevard (USPS 094 - 280)</p>	<p>Editor: Rev. Msgr. Timothy P. Stein</p>
	<p>Member Publication Of The Catholic Press Association</p>	<p>Manager: Bruce A. Tomaselli</p>
		<p>Secretary: Frances M. Logrando</p>

Point Of View

Most new parents go through “baby sticker shock” when they start to realize the cost of raising that dear, sweet, precious little person -- for 18 years.

Eighteen? Are you kidding? Try 22, with college. College! How much will a year at college be more than two decades from now?

The Class of 2038 rules!

Veteran parents calmly assure the rookies that there’s no reason to panic. It’s a little white lie, meant to preserve a newcomer’s endearing innocence, like stories of the tooth fairy. They know the cold, hard fact is there are a lot of reasons to panic ... but panicking doesn’t help.

They tried that. Oh, how they tried.

Raising a child can feel like the economic equivalent of death by a thousand cuts. None of them in itself a mortal wound, but coming one after another, it can seem the household budget is hemorrhaging money.

It seems that way because it is that way. A train carload of diapers, a gazillion-dollar car seat, new clothes, new clothes and more new clothes -- some worn about one day and then, poof, too small. My, how baby is growing!

-- Health insurance, orthodontist, day care.

-- Back-to-school items and school tuition or fees.

-- Team uniforms and athletic shoes.

-- Band instruments and music lessons.

-- Plus, the annual fundraiser for the school, the team and the band.



Your Family

By Bill Dodds

Parenthood And The High Cost Of Loving

And on and on and on. And on.

As the years go by, as hair turns gray and wrinkles deepen, a parent knows that at some point this no-longer-so-little little one will be out and on his or her own. With an education, with a job -- not independently wealthy but not dependent on Mom and Dad either.

To one degree or another that happens.

A sigh of relief, a self-administered pat on the back for a job well done or at least done as well as a parent can.

But what’s this? Amid the euphoria is a tiny, cold trickle of ...

That’s when parents from the senior generation drop the other shoe. They tell the new empty nester that having a child isn’t just about the high cost of living. There’s also the high cost of loving.

And they add -- maybe you better sit down for this -- it never ends.

Never.

Ever.

To love one person includes praying for him or for her. To love more than one, to love multiple generations, means a lot of names, a lot of concerns and a lot of prayers.

I remember when a veteran mom gave me the bad news. She was a generation older than I was and the mother of nine children.

“How do you not worry about your kids all the time?” I asked her after Mass one morning. She smiled. “I do,” she said.

What! Well, that doesn’t seem fair.

Bless her heart, she didn’t mention the added concern of grandchildren. I would find out about that later.

There’s a reason senior moms and dads talk of “prayer lists.” To love one person includes praying for him or for her. To love more than one, to love multiple generations, means a lot of names, a lot of concerns and a lot of prayers.

But it’s less an obligation and burden and more a privilege and blessing because we old-folk parents know: This is something I can do for that dear, sweet, precious little person who is all grown-up now and has his or her own dear, sweet, precious little person.

This is something I never want to stop doing. Not while I’m still on earth.

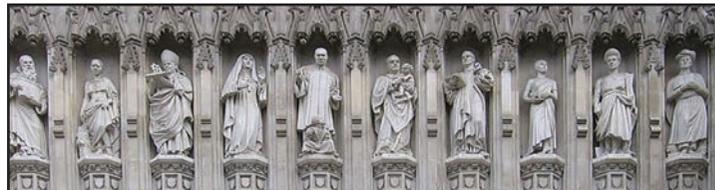
Not when I’m in heaven.

For a prayer for parents, go to: <http://tinyurl.com/PrayerForParents>.



Another Perspective

By Monsignor Timothy P. Stein
Martyrs Died As They Lived



Above the great West Door of London’s Westminster Abbey stand the statues of ten Christian martyrs of the 20th Century. The ten so honored are a truly ecumenical group: Anglican, Evangelical, Presbyterian, Baptist, Lutheran, Russian Orthodox and Roman Catholic. Four of the figures always draw my attention when I prepare to pass through the door: Saint Maximilian Kolbe, Blessed Oscar Romero, Grand Duchess Elizabeth of Russia, and the Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King Jr.

Each of the martyrs honored at Westminster Abbey died for the faith. But more importantly, each of them lived their faith. “Martyr” is a Greek word meaning “witness.” The witness of these men and women in death is simply the culmination of a life – long witness to their faith in Jesus Christ and the power of His gospel message.

The Grand Duchess Elizabeth is one of my favorite martyrs. She was a German – born Princess, a granddaughter of England’s Queen Victoria. She married Russia’s Grand Duke Sergei, and converted to the Russian Orthodox faith. When her husband was assassinated in 1905, the Grand Duchess gave up her life of comfort and riches and founded the Russian Orthodox’s first community of nursing nuns. She was a familiar figure in the most deplorable ghettos of Moscow, nursing the sick and rescuing children. She died in 1918 when she was thrown, alive, into a mineshaft in Siberia, with grenades thrown in after her to finish the job.

Saint Maximilian Kolbe was canonized by Pope Paul VI, who called him a “martyr of charity.” This Conventual Franciscan friar was well – known as a friend of the poor. His friary was a hiding place for many Jewish people during the years of the Holocaust. Imprisoned at Auschwitz, Father Kolbe volunteered to take the place of a young husband and father who had been condemned to death. When questioned by the camp commander about why he wanted to take the man’s place, Saint Maximilian responded “I am a Catholic priest. What else is a priest good for?”

I thought of the heroic witness of Saint Maximilian Kolbe when I heard of the death, in France on July 26, of Father Jacques Hamel, an 84 – year – old priest killed by Isis Terrorists in Northern France, just after he finished celebrating Mass.

Father Jacques was ordained in 1958. He would not retire from ministry, and would not accept a pension from his Diocese. He was not the pastor of the church in which he died; he was there because he was helping out the pastor, who had gone away on vacation. He could well be called a “martyr of generosity.” Father Jacques was remembered by the people of the parish as a simple, quiet, holy man, a man who delighted in teaching that all of us are called to holiness. He died as he lived -- at the altar of God.

I can well imagine that Father Jacques’ last thoughts were the same as Saint Maximilian’s: “I am a Catholic priest. What else is a priest good for?” His life was all about service, of giving generously of himself to God and to the people of God. He died as he lived -- in the midst of the community of believers.

To die as one has lived is the very definition of being a martyr. The witness of one’s life is confirmed by the witness of one’s death -- the witness of being faithful and true to God and God’s people in all times, all places, all circumstances. What else is a Christian for, but to live and die united to God -- to die as one has lived? In life, and in death, we are the Lord’s.



Listening And Learning: A Special Message From Bishop Mark About Sexual Abuse

Last October, Pope Francis pointed out that if the Catholic Church is to be a teaching Church, it must also be equally and at the same time a learning Church. And he said that in order for this teaching and learning to be effective, we must also be a Church that listens, which is more than hearing. In speaking about last year's Synod on the Family, Pope Francis underscored the importance of listening to the joys and hope, the sorrow and anguish of God's people.

After the publication of the 37th Statewide Investigating Grand Jury Report, I was invited to listen to a representative of the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape (PCAR - - which is concerned about safeguarding persons of all ages from any kind of sexual assault), as well as representatives of several agencies that provide counseling, education, and other services in the eight counties of our Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown.

I listened and I am learning. I learned especially that we need to do more to educate as many people as possible about sexual abuse of minors and how to keep young people safe.

Today, I am inviting and urging you to listen and learn with me. Beginning this weekend, **The Catholic Register**, our Proclaim! television ministry, and our Diocesan website will regularly feature information and reflections from representatives of public agencies. They will help all of us learn more about sexual abuse and what we can do to prevent it. And we have plans for them to speak to you in person at various places around the Diocese.

As always, I urge anyone with any information about the sexual abuse of children to report it to the proper authorities. The contact information is provided here in and is always available on our website (www.dioceseaj.org). Please turn to Page 6 to learn about the partnership between PCAR and the Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown.

Thank you for joining me as we listen in order to learn, and learn in order to teach and protect.

+ Mark L. Bartchak

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.

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.

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.



PCAR And Diocese Form Partnership To Help Survivors Of Sexual Abuse

The Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape (PCAR), seven local rape crisis centers, and the Roman Catholic Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown recently formed a partnership to meet the needs of sexual assault victims and bring attention to the services available for survivors of sexual abuse. A grand jury investigation exposed child sexual abuse perpetrated by priests and religious leaders in the Diocese.

A few weeks after the grand jury report was released, Chairman Josh Shapiro of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) announced funds from the Victims of Crime Act to assist the victims of abuse in the Diocese's eight counties. Funds will support direct services for victims, including counseling, therapy, and trauma - focused support for adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse.

In order to identify the needs of centers and determine how to distribute the funds, a meeting was held between PCCD, PCAR, and local rape crisis centers. Leadership at the local rape crisis centers expressed an interest in working with the diocese in their efforts. At a strategic planning meeting, Bishop Mark L. Bartchak met with the centers. It was decided that PCAR and the local centers would be involved in writing articles for **The Catholic Register** and be interviewed for the weekly television program, *Proclaim!* to bring awareness to the issues surrounding sexual abuse and promote the services available for survivors. Jean Johnstone, the Executive Direc-

tor of Catholic Charities for this area, has also worked to connect centers with their local Catholic Charities organization to ensure the needs of sexual assault survivors are met and to strengthen collaboration in the community. The Diocese will continue to provide information to members about training and prevention efforts available in their county.

In May, Bishop Mark led three prayer services for victims and survivors of sexual abuse at the Saint Andrew Parish in Johnstown, the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona, and Our Lady of Victory Parish in State College. Some of the local rape crisis centers attended these services. Local victim services centers are available in the Diocese, including: Your Safe Haven, Inc. in Bedford County; Family Services, Inc. in Blair County; Victim Services, Inc. in Cambria and Somerset Counties; Centre County Women's Resource Center, Inc.; Clinton County Women's Center; Women in Need/ Victim Services in Fulton County; and The Abuse Network in Huntington County. For more information about your local center, call PCAR's toll - free hotline at 1-888-772-7227 or visit www.pcar.org.

The Diocese, PCAR, and local centers are working together to raise awareness of the services available for survivors, and to assist in the healing process of victims and their families.

In The Alleghenies



Bishop's Appointments

(Continued From Page 3.)

The Colleges of Distinction looks beyond rankings and test scores to find colleges that are the ideal places to learn, grow and succeed. The selection process reviews such factors as the school's first year experience, general education program, experiential components of the curriculum, the strategic plan and alumni success and satisfaction.

"We focus on colleges that are deeply dedicated to students' learning," said Tyson Schritter, executive editor of Colleges of Distinction. "Schools designated as 'Colleges of Distinction' offer innovative learning experiences that educate, nurture and transform students."

Receives Grant

Cresson: The Mount Aloysius College School of Nursing has been notified by U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) that the school's performance in nursing education has been recognized

with a \$2.2 million grant. The Mount Aloysius nursing grant will address the regional and state-wide nursing shortage by adding more top - qualified nurses to the work -force. The grant will also extend the College's clinical reach into more medically underserved communities. The four - year grant will fund \$15,000 scholarships for disadvantaged nursing students, helping them establish rewarding nursing careers throughout central and western Pennsylvania.

Mount Aloysius President Tom Foley applauded the senior leadership team at the College and especially the Mount Aloysius Nursing faculty. "Our Nursing faculty delivers on the promise of Mount Aloysius, with one of the highest pass rates in PA on state nursing (NCLEX) exams over the last five years. This is especially remarkable because of the large size of our program. This grant recognized that performance." The NCLEX - RN exam is the state licensing examination. Nursing graduates must pass this examination to achieve registered nurse status

and state licensure.

"With these nursing scholarships, added President Foley, "we can help address the national nursing shortage, critical manpower needs in medically underserved areas, and difficulties faced by first - generation, low - income, and culturally disadvantaged students pursuing a nursing education. Mount Aloysius College is uniquely positioned to help the community in all three areas. Our focused faculty and fully-engaged student support systems enable Mount Aloysius nursing students from a variety of ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds to establish great careers. Through excellent nursing education," added Foley, "the entire community benefits. We can all be very proud."

(Continued On Page 15.)

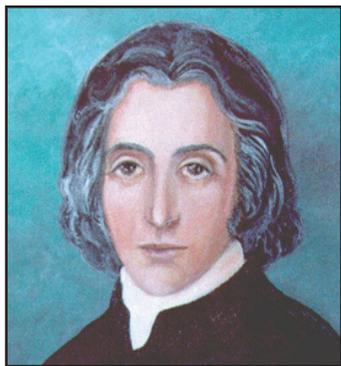
REVEREND ARON M. MAGHSOUDI, has been appointed Pastor of Our Lady Queen of Angels Parish in Central City, effective July 30, 2016.

REVEREND WILLIAM E. ROSENBAUM, has been appointed Chaplain at Bishop McCort Catholic High School in Johnstown, continuing as Pastor of Saint Clement Parish in Johnstown, effective July 30, 2016.

REVEREND STEPHEN SHIN, O.F.M., Cap., has been appointed Pastor of Saints Philip and James Parish in Meyersdale and Saint Gregory Parish in MacDonalton, ., having received the presentation of his Provincial, the Very Reverend Thomas Betz, OFM, Cap. This appointment is effective August 3, 2016.

REVEREND JOHN VOYTEK, OFM, Conv., has been appointed Pastor of Saint Anne Parish in Davidsville and All Saints Parish in Boswell, having received the presentation of his Provincial, the Very Reverend James McCurry, OFM, Conv. This appointment is effective August 14, 2016.

DEACON BROTHER ETIENNE HUARD, OSB, appointed to diaconal service at Saint Benedict Parish in Carrolltown, under the pastorate of Father Jude Brady, OSB, having received the presentation of his Abbot, the Right Reverend Gregory J. Polan, OSB. This appointment is effective for the academic year, 2016-17.



A Prince In The Service Of The Great King

**The Servant Of God
Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin
1770 - 1840**

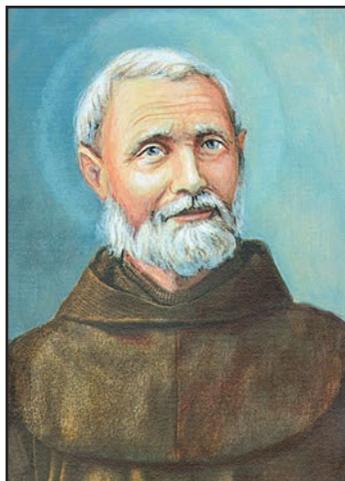
Little - Known Priest May Be Canada's Next Saint

By Philippe Vaillancourt
Catholic News Service

QUEBEC CITY (CNS) -- Canada owes him the return of the Franciscans, the founding of the country's largest Marian sanctuary, and the develop-

ment of strong and lasting ties between the French Canadians and the Holy Land. Yet, 100 years after his death and though he might become Canada's next saint, Blessed Frederic Janssoone still remains largely unknown to many people in Quebec.

Franciscan Father Roland



**BLESSED
FREDERIC JANSSOONE**

Bonenfant awaited 2016 restlessly, knowing it would coincide with the 100th anniversary of the death of Pere Frederic, as he is known. As vice postulator of his sainthood cause, Father Bonenfant plans to celebrate all year long the life and deeds of a fellow Franciscan he already considers to be a saint.

Father Bonenfant said Pere Frederic's "first and foremost heritage is the way he developed strong bonds between the Catholics of Canada and the spiritual roots of their religion -- namely the Middle East places where Jesus, the apostles and the first witnesses of Christ have lived," he said, before even mentioning Our Lady of the Cape Shrine.

Born in 1838 in northern France, Frederic Janssoone joined the Franciscans in 1864 and was ordained in 1870. From 1876 to 1888, he was the custodial vicar of the Holy Land, assisting the custos with care of holy places. These 12 years left a strong imprint on him; he developed a deep attachment to the Holy Land as he got more and more involved in its development and renewal. He re-established the Way of the Cross

processions on Jerusalem's Via Dolorosa -- a first in almost 250 years. He also built ecumenical ties with representatives of other Christian churches.

In 1888, his superiors sent him to Canada to resurrect the Franciscans and establish the Commissariat of the Holy Land.

When he arrived here, he was surrounded by the aura of the Holy Land and the aura of the Recollects, who were deeply loved, back then," said Father Bonenfant. As time went by, Pere Frederic became more and more involved in the spiritual life of the Canadian church. He contributed to the foundation and the development of a Marian shrine in Trois-Rivieres.

One key aspect of his work often overlooked today are his door-to-door visits to the local people.

"He was considerate and had a special connection with the French Canadian families, as well as with poor people," said the vice postulator.

Local historian Rene Beaudoin also stressed the impact of Pere Frederic's visits in the Trois-Rivieres region.

"It gave him the chance to build ties with families and to become a popular figure in the region. This has had a tremendous impact," said Beaudoin, who teaches history at Trois-Rivieres' Lafleche College.

Over the years, however, the church has been faced with a challenge: How is the faith of Pere Frederic still relevant, today? The Franciscan and his austere piety were grounded in the church of his time, but might seem outdated in today's reality.

"We're constantly facing the need to update and renew (Pere Frederic's) religious heritage," said Oblate Father Pierre-Olivier Tremblay, rector of Our Lady of the Cape Shrine. "I don't have the slightest doubt that this man is a saint and an inspiring figure of our church. I sincerely believe that he's still meaningful to us today."

He said Pere Frederic is still in the hearts and minds of many Canadians, even a century after his death.

"We now live in a thoroughly secular world and in a society that has a tormented re-

lationship with its own history and religious heritage. We're not trying to adulterate the spiritual journey of an individual such as Pere Frederic. Yet, we try to put forward the aspects (of his spirituality) that are the most universal," said Father Tremblay.

Brigitte Caulier, who teaches Canadian religious history at Laval University in Quebec City, said there is a tendency to water down and rebrand some key elements of the spiritual life of some church figures. She said this should not happen with Pere Frederic.

"I don't think it would be a good idea to adapt and rebrand his story (so to align it with our current religious sensibilities). By doing so, we adulterate him and his spirituality. The piety he promoted was indeed austere and demanding. Yet, that's precisely how things were back then," Caulier said.

She said the potential saint's heritage mainly rests on the fact that he was a charismatic, popular figure, first and foremost because of his reputation as a miracle-worker. It's mainly because of him, and the miracles associated with him, that the crowds flocked to the Our Lady of the Cape Shrine, thus allowing it to blossom and thrive.

Father Bonenfant said he hopes his fellow Franciscan will be canonized sometime in 2017.

"I'm only sure of one thing: His canonization will happen in due time. (Pere Frederic) isn't like the other Canadian saints or blessed: He's somehow special and has an extraordinary stature, as his own personal story is interwoven with the land of Jesus of Nazareth," the postulator said. "And he's injected that in the bloodstream of the Canadian people."

Prayer For Father Gallitzin's Intercession

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

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

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

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

+ + +

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The Pope Teaches

By Pope Francis

Pope Mourns Death Of Group's Co-Founder

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Francis offered his condolences after the death of Carmen Hernandez, co-founder of the Neocatechumenal Way.

Highlighting her love for Jesus and great missionary zeal, he encouraged members to carry on with her spirit.

In a telegram to Kiko Arguello, who, with Hernandez, founded the Way, the pope expressed his spiritual closeness and affection to Hernandez's family and all those who "appreciated her apostolic zeal."

"I give thanks to the Lord for the witness of this woman, animated by a sincere love for the church, who has spent her life in the announcement of the Good News in every place, as well as those far away, never forgetting the most marginalized people," the pope said in written message July 20.

The pope encouraged "those who are part of the Neocatechumenal Way to keep her evangelizing eagerness alive, in an active communion with the bishops and priests, while exercising patience and mercy with all."

Hernandez died in Madrid July 19 at the age of 85 and her funeral Mass was held July 21 in Madrid's cathedral.

Together with Arguello, they founded the parish-based faith formation program in the 1960s as a way to deepen people's faith and evangelize those normally excluded by society.

Hernandez, Arguello and Father Mario Pezzi served as the leaders of the Way on the international level. There are Neocatechumenal communities in 120 countries across the world.

Born in Olvega, Spain, Nov. 24, 1930, Hernandez received a degree in chemistry and worked for a time at a major food company her family founded and ran. However, she soon left to join the Missionaries of Christ Jesus to do mission work abroad. She also received a degree in theology.

Inspired by the work of the Second Vatican Council, Hernandez then spent two years in Israel deepening her understanding of Scripture and the importance of catechesis.

Back in Spain, she met Arguello and -- both inspired by Blessed Charles de Foucauld -- they sought to be present among the poor, according to Vatican Radio.

Though she normally turned down honorific titles and awards, Hernandez -- together with Arguello -- accepted an honorary degree from the Catholic University of America in Washington D.C., in 2015, in recognition for "their devotion to the poor and the good work they have done for the church," according to the university website.

Pope Francis spoke with Hernandez over the phone to offer encouragement July 1 during a private audience with Arguello and Father Pezzi, according to a press release from the Way.

In an interview with Vatican Radio July 20, Arguello said Hernandez was an important role model for many young women. "They said it was thanks to Carmen they found pride in being a woman," he said.

"She always talked about the importance of women in the church" and how they figured prominently in the Bible, he said. She would personally ask young women to consider monastic life, he said, adding that more than 4,000 young women from the Neocatechumenal Way are now cloistered nuns.



ONE MORE TIME: In 1974, pilgrims from the Altoona - Johnstown Diocese traveled to shrines in New York and Canada, in a pilgrimage directed by the Third Order Regular Franciscan Friars from Loretto. The group is shown at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Cape, founded by Blessed Frederic Jansoone (see related story on Page 7).

The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that "Jesus Christ is true God and true man" (No. 464).

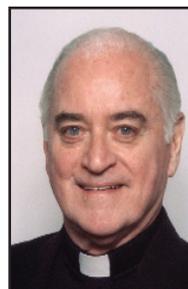
This profound truth is a theological mystery. Christ gave it to us that our joy may be full. Faith enables us to believe the supernatural mysteries given to us by divine revelation.

The age of faith may be fading, but millions of believers cling to their Catholic faith with courage. We are living in a world that exalts individualism and denies the supernatural.

Never be afraid to uphold the truths of revelation. Jesus Christ said, "The Father and I are one" (Jn 10:30) and "If you know me, then you will also know my Father" (Jn 14:7). It may boggle the mind, but we accept it as true.

Holding fast to our faith requires a certain amount of determination and courage. We are constantly challenged to stand up for Jesus Christ. There is no middle ground. Jesus said, "Whoever is not with me is against me" (Mt 12:30).

The church's teaching on Christ's two natures has been under attack for centuries. Pagans ridiculed this belief from the beginning, and others at-



Spirituality For Today

By Father John Catoir

Who Do You Say That I Am?



tempted to turn the meaning of Scripture upside down.

In 325, the council of Nicaea responded to the heresy of Arianism that denied that the Son was coequal to the Father. From the council stemmed forth the Nicene Creed, which professes that the Son is "consubstantial with the Father," that is, of the same substance.

The catechism tells us that the council of Chalcedon in 451 confessed that Christ "is to be acknowledged in two natures without confusion, change, division or separation" and that this "distinction between the natures

was never abolished by their union" (No. 467).

In pondering the divinity and humanity of Christ, we are faced with Jesus' question: "Who do you say that I am?" (Mt 16:15).

In his book, **Mere Christianity**, C.S. Lewis attempts to refute the argument that Christ is simply a great moral teacher using the "trilemma" argument: Christ is either the Son of God, a madman or a liar.

He either is who says he is, or he's not. And if he's not, then he wouldn't exactly be a moral teacher, would he?

So who do we say that Christ is?

May we have the courage like Peter to exclaim, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God!" (Mt 16:16).

May the Lord be your strength and your joy.



Question Corner

By Father Kenneth Doyle
The Confiteor

Q. I have noticed that more often than not, the Confiteor ("I confess") is skipped at Mass, and the priest or deacon goes right into the "Lord, have mercy" prayer (Kyrie). I have inquired as to why they do this but cannot get an answer. In the Tridentine Mass, the Confiteor was important enough to be said twice -- initially by the priest and then repeated by the altar servers. Is this just to save time or are we forgetting the importance of asking for forgiveness before we ask for mercy? (Atlanta)

A. The writer is evidently unaware of the options offered in the current edition of the Roman Missal, which was introduced in 2011. One of three different formulas may be chosen for the penitential rite, recited by the priest or deacon.

The first uses the Confiteor, with a text very close to the one the writer remembers from years gone by. The second involves a short dialogue of psalm verses,

while the third one uses three invocations made to Christ, with the congregation responding by calling out for mercy either in English or in Greek ("Kyrie eleison").

It is important to note, though -- and this, perhaps, answers the writer's concern -- that all three formulas begin with the invitation by the priest for those present to acknowledge their sins in preparation for celebrating the Eucharist and that all three are followed by the priest's words asking for almighty God to "have mercy on us, forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life."

Q. Recently our bishop spoke out about how cold and unwelcoming some parishes can seem. I recall one instance where I called the priest at our church and asked him to meet with three family members and myself (all of us, regular parishioners) to try to resolve some personal matters that we had.

I was shocked when he told

me that family counseling was not a part of his training unless it involved a matter of religion, which it did not. He had no suggestions as to where I could seek help and seemed bothered that I had even brought the matter to his attention.

My husband and I have been so put off by his response that we have not been to church since. Where does the church stand on parish priests counseling their parishioners? (Virginia)

A. I agree with the priest on the matter but not (if your portrayal is accurate) on his manner. Very few parish priests are trained thoroughly in the science or art of counseling as a professional psychiatrist or psychologist might be.

Often in my own 50 years in the priesthood I have declined to take on the role of primary counselor for someone with deep-seated issues, for example acute marital conflict, a long history of family tensions or even suicidal thoughts. I felt that it would have been irresponsible to assume an identity far beyond my skill set.

What I have tried to do, though -- and what I think is always a priest's obligation -- is to show sympathy and a desire to help. I regularly refer parishioners to our diocesan counseling center with its trained staff of professionals.

What I sometimes do, too, when I think an inquirer might find it more comfortable, is to meet with a person initially, try to clarify the issues and offer support, and then make the contact myself with our center to arrange an appointment for the one in need.

I do want to comment on your decision to stop going to church because of the way you were treated. I disagree with the priest, as I have mentioned, and I apologize for his evident lack of concern.

But the only one you are hurting now is yourself -- by depriving yourself of the strength of the sacraments. Why not just pick a different parish?

Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at askfatherdoyle@gmail.com and 40 Hopewell St., Albany, N.Y. 12208.



For The Journey

By Effie Caldarola
Resisting 'Acedia'
With New Beginnings

My neighbor stands smiling in the Saturday morning sunshine, surveying her crop of tomatoes and kale. She lifts her tanned arms in exultation toward the cloudless sky.

"Why can't it be like this all year long?" she asks of the already hot and humid day.

As I sit in the shade of my patio, sipping my morning coffee, I wonder if she's nuts.

Are you kidding? I sulk silently. Who would want to live in this heat all year long? We've had a long stretch of weather in the 90s.

I lived in Alaska for years, relishing Anchorage's relatively cool climate. Almost no homes had air conditioning -- none was needed. At night, with our bedroom windows wide open to let in the chilly evening air, I would burrow under my blankets and wonder, Why can't it be like this all year long?

Despite our obvious difference of opinion on what constitutes good weather, I had to admit my neighbor gave me pause to think about something important: my attitude. Why am I so doggone crabby sometimes? Why wasn't I lifting my arms to the heavens in praise on a sunny morning rather than hunkering over my caffeine?

A few weeks ago, I attended a retreat given by Kathleen Norris, a best-selling spiritual writer whose works include **Dakota, The Cloister Walk** and **Acedia And Me**.

Norris is known as an authority on the desert fathers and mothers, those early Christians who founded monasticism. Although a Protestant, Norris is also a Benedictine oblate, and has spent much time in the reflective confines of Benedictine monasteries.

St. Benedict, who wrote his great rule in the early sixth century, tells us that always we must begin again. It's this message that most resonated with me from Norris' talks.

"You can make a new beginning at every moment," she avers, thus challenging the "I'll start my diet again tomorrow" approach that I bring to many things in life.

The early monastic Christians didn't talk about sin, according to Norris. Rather, they described the temptations that plague us as "bad thoughts" or "demons." They listed eight of these, that correspond today to the seven deadly sins: pride, envy, gluttony, lust, anger, greed and sloth.

So what happened to number eight? A strange word, acedia, fell by the wayside and was somewhat absorbed into sloth. Sloth generally describes laziness.

But that doesn't quite define acedia. Sometimes called "the noonday devil," acedia appears when we let ourselves become lethargic, out-of-sorts, down in the dumps.

I think I was embracing acedia that Saturday morning when I was downright stunned to see my neighbor so pleased with the day. Her outstretched arms dramatically contradicted the closed-in posture I displayed physically and felt spiritually.

An important note about acedia is that it can resemble depression, yet the two are separate things. Depression can be a serious illness requiring medical help or counseling. Depression can't be treated by telling ourselves to "get over it," and it should never be taken lightly.

Acedia, however, puts the ball in my court. Norris put it this way: "Acedia can be resisted -- take your mind off the closed circle of yourself."

So if I'm yielding to acedia, what should I do? Many things help: exercise, laughter, socializing with friends, doing a good deed, prayer or focusing on gratitude. Vanquish the pity party, get my mind off the "closed circle" of myself.

I can begin this at any moment. Any time is the right time to smile and try out a new attitude.

Blessed
Franz Jagerstatter
1907 - 1943
Feast - August 9



This Austrian farmer and parish sexton had done his basic training in Hitler's army in 1940-41, but refused to serve active duty in 1943. A military court in Berlin sentenced him to death as "an enemy of the state," and he was beheaded Aug. 9, 1943. In prison awaiting his fate, he wrote about a dream he'd had in 1938. In it, many people were boarding a new train, but he heard the announcer say, "This train is bound for hell." For him, the train symbolized the evils of Nazism, and he had become a conscientious objector. His wife and three daughters were still living when he was beatified in Austria in 2007.

Muslims Express Sorrow, Outrage Over Murder Of French Priest By Islamic Terrorists

By Carol Zimmermann
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS)

-- Father Jacques Hamel's gruesome murder in northern France July 26 -- by men claiming allegiance to the Islamic State -- prompted sorrow and outrage from Muslim leaders around the world.

"This attack in a place of worship and on innocent worshippers in particular demonstrates that there are no boundaries to the depravity of these murderers," wrote Imam Qari Muhammad Asim, senior imam at the Makkah Mosque in Leeds, England.

The knife-yielding attackers slit the throat of 85-year-old Father Hamel and also injured two others in the church, Eglise St.-Etienne, before they were fatally shot by police.

"In this extremely difficult time for the Catholic community, we stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters of all faiths," the English imam said in a statement. "An attack on any place of worship is an attack on a way of life of faith communities and therefore an attack on all of us."

Solidarity among religious leaders was immediately apparent after news spread about the murder of the beloved priest described as a grandfather figure at the parish in the Normandy working class town of St.-Etienne-du-Rouvray.

That's in part because French President Francois Hollande not only assembled security officials after the church attack but he also gathered representatives of Christian churches and Muslim, Buddhist and Jewish leaders to display interfaith unity.

Mohammed Karabila, president of the Regional Muslim Council of Normandy, told a French newspaper he was "distressed at the death of his friend" Father Hamel and pointed out



CNS Photo/Ian Langsdon, EPA

SLAIN PRIEST: A photo of slain Father Jacques Hamel is seen among flowers at a makeshift memorial in Saint-Etienne-du-Rouvray, near Rouen, France, Wednesday, July 27.

that the two of them had worked together in an interfaith committee for nearly two years since the beginning of Islamic State attacks in France.

He described the priest as "a man of peace, of religion, with a certain charisma. A person who dedicated his life and his ideas to his religion. He sacrificed his life for others."

Ahmad el-Tayeb, grand imam of Egypt's al-Azhar mosque and university, who met with Pope Francis in May after years of suspended dialogue with the Vatican, said in a July 26 statement that the church attackers lacked "any sense of humanity and all the values and principles of Islamic tolerance, which invite us to peace and to avoid the bloodshed of innocents, without any distinction of religion, color, gender or ethnicity."

The imam also called for an "intensification of efforts and joint initiatives to deal with the cancer of terrorism that now threatens the entire world, destroys innocent souls and threatens world peace."

"An attack on any place of worship is an attack on a way of life of faith communities and therefore an attack on all of us."

Imam Suhaib Webb, a Muslim scholar in Washington, told Catholic News Service July 28 that Father Hamel's death is "difficult to come to grips with on so many levels."

He said the priest's death filled him with "absolute astonishment and an incredible sense of horror," not only for the loss of a great human being but because it was "someone walking and living what he professed."

The imam said young Muslims, who are part of his online outreach through Snapchat, Twitter, YouTube videos and Facebook, have been praising the priest because they recognize he was an ally.

Father Hamel's death hit particularly close to home for Imam Webb because it reminds him that he could be threatened, or worse, since this spring he

and four other America Muslim leaders were placed on an ISIS hit list, accused of being apostates for their efforts to promote Islam's coexistence within the Western world.

The priest's death also was a harsh reminder of the deaths so many family members in his community have experienced because of acts of terror.

He also feels the weight that many in the Muslim community feel when terrorism is committed in the name of Islam because then all Muslims can be cloaked with suspicion or hatred. For example, he said he was living in Boston during the Boston Marathon bombing and, although he didn't know the Tsarnaev brothers behind the bombing, he felt he "had to answer for what they did" because they were Muslim.

On July 31, Imam Webb planned to offer a reflection on the life of Father Hamel at a program he coordinates in Washington called City Sundays, which promotes interfaith dialogue.

Kristin Garrity Sekerci, a Muslim who heard the imam speak about Father Hamel at a

July 27 talk, said she came away from the discussion further convinced of the importance of engaging in and understanding Islamic tradition, especially when "others actively misuse it and abuse it."

Sekerci, who works for Georgetown University's Bridge Initiative at the campus' Alwalced Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding, said she also feels more strongly about the importance of interfaith work as a means to build connections and tear down misconceptions.

Finding common ground with people of other faiths is referred to as a "grey zone" by ISIS leaders who oppose the very idea of this, said Craig Considine, a sociology professor at Rice University in Houston, who has recently published a study on previously untranslated writings by the prophet Muhammad.

He said these writings -- long hidden in secluded monasteries -- prove that the persecution of Christians by ISIS was never justified by Mohammed and they also show that Christians living within Muslim communities at the time of Muhammad were protected and defended.

Considine, who has studied how Islam intersects with American life, has been to more than 120 mosques "from Hawaii to Vermont" and points out that as a Catholic he has been only experienced hospitality and welcome there.

And he too is further convinced he should keep writing and giving speeches at mosques in the wake of ongoing terrorist activity.

Father Hamel's murder "gave voice to the extreme," he said, harming Islam as well as Christianity. So for his part he is determined to stick with "little things" that might make some inroads to change.

"It starts with dialogue," he said. "People have to want to talk with each other."

Masses Will Honor Couples Celebrating Wedding Anniversaries

The Family Life Office of the Altoona - Johnstown Diocese has announced the scheduling of the Annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgies honoring couples celebrating their 1, 5, 10, 25, 40, 50, 55, and 60+ anniversaries within the 2016 calendar year.

Couples and their families may attend the special Mass in Altoona on Sunday, September 11 at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament or in Johnstown on Sunday, September 18 at Saint John Gualbert Cathedral.

Bishop Mark L. Barchak will be celebrant and homilist at both Masses which will begin at 2:00 p.m.

This public recognition of those who have faithfully lived the vocation to married life provides an opportunity for all to



recall the value and importance of such commitments in today's world.

A punch and cookies reception will follow the Masses for the celebrating couples and their family members.

Couples who wish to attend one of these celebrations should contact their home parish by Tuesday, August 23 to make the necessary reservations.



SPIRITUAL EXERCISE: Campers rehearse Living Stations of the Cross at Camp Zacchaeus. Living Stations are among the many spiritual exercises in which campers participate during the week - long camp for young people.

Campers Learn How To Share The Good News

(Continued From Page 16.)

Francine Swope, Diocesan coordinator of Youth Ministry, Religious Education, and Sacramental Preparation, serves as director, and is assisted by a team of adult staff, support staff, and counselors.

In celebration of the Year of Mercy, this year's theme focused on the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. Throughout both weeks, campers had the opportunity to learn about and reflect on the various acts of mercy such as feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and visiting the imprisoned.

"Learning about the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy is making me realize there are a lot of people in the world who don't have as much as I do so it's making me realize I need to help them with all they need," Madalyn said.

During his visits each week to Camp Z, Bishop Mark cel-

ebrated Mass. In his homily, he reminded the students that they are not too young to help spread the Lord's mercy.

"Whenever you do these activities here this week and when you go home, it's all about the Word of God being announced to one another, and when you talk about it and do it, you are actually planting seeds," he said.

The Bishop also ate lunch

with the campers, fielded many of their great questions, and even joined in a few games.

Throughout each week, the students also had the opportunity to enjoy many recreational experiences including crafts, concerts, swimming, canoeing, hiking, and zip-lining.

"The activities are really fun, and everything you do here is great," said Kyle.

In celebration of the Year of Mercy, this year's theme focused on the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. Throughout both weeks, campers had the opportunity to learn about and reflect on the various acts of mercy such as feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and visiting the imprisoned.

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CAN YOUR FRUIT BE ABUNDANT**

The Inner Voice, Henri Nouwen



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St. Patrick School Building

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October 27; November 3, 10, 17; December 1, 15, 22; January 5

New Testament

St. Joseph Friary, Hollidaysburg

Thursdays: 6:30-8:30 PM

September 1, 8, 15, 22; October 6, 13, 20 27

St. Patrick School Building

Thursdays: 8:30-9:00 PM (6 weeks)

September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; October 6

Course descriptions, tuition fees and registration forms can be found online at www.dioceseaj.org/lay-ecclesial-ministry or by calling Marybeth at (814) 361-2000 or email mheinze@dioceseaj.org. *All are welcome!*

Don't Tuck Life Away; Take Risks, Pope Tells Young People Celebrating World Youth Day Mass

By Junno Arocho Esteves
Catholic News Service

KRAKOW, Poland (CNS)

-- Take risks and do not let life's obstacles get in the way of encountering the true joy and life that Jesus can give, Pope Francis told more than 1 million young people.

"Don't be afraid to say 'yes' to him with all your heart, to respond generously and to follow him," the pope told pilgrims at the closing Mass July 31 for World Youth Day. "Don't let your soul grow numb, but aim for the goal of a beautiful love which also demands sacrifice."

"When it comes to Jesus, we cannot sit around waiting with arms folded; he offers us life. We can't respond by thinking about it or 'texting' a few words," he told the young people, thousands of whom had spent the night camping at an area dubbed the Field of Mercy.

The lack of sleep and morning heat seemed to have little impact as the young men and women energetically waved their flags and ran as close as possible to the popemobile to greet Pope Francis.

In his homily, the pope reflected on the Gospel story of Zacchaeus, a reviled tax collector who, due to his short height, climbed a sycamore tree to see Jesus.

The obstacles Zacchaeus faced -- including his short stature -- the pope said, can also "say something to us."

"Even today we can risk not getting close to Jesus because we don't feel big enough, because we don't think ourselves worthy. This is a great temptation; it has to do not only with self-esteem, but with faith itself," he said.

By not accepting themselves and their limitations, Christians deny their "real stature" as children of God and see themselves as unworthy of God's love.



CNS Photo/Paul Haring

GREETED BY YOUNG PEOPLE: Pope Francis is greeted by young people, who presented him with materials about World Youth Day, as he celebrated the closing Mass of the event at the Field of Mercy in Krakow, Poland, on Sunday, July 31. At the Mass, the pontiff announced that the next World Youth Day will be held in Panama in 2019. More than 1 million young people joined the Pope on the Field of Mercy for the closing Mass of World Youth Day 2016.

Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group "Aug, Sept, Oct & Nov Schedule"



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Mon, Aug 8th, Praise & Worship, **7PM**, Cathedral.
Amy Kanich—to give witness talk.

Mon, Aug 29th, Praise & Worship, **7PM**, Cathedral.
Cathy Merovich—to give witness talk.

Mon, Sept 12th, Charismatic Mass, **7PM**, Cathedral.
Fr. Bob Hilz, TOR—*main celebrant*.

Mon, Sept 26th, Praise & Worship, **7PM**, Cathedral.
John McIntyre—to give witness talk.

Mon, Oct 10th, Praise & Worship, **7PM**, Cathedral.
Jason Morse—to give witness talk.

Mon, Oct 17th, Healing Mass, **7PM**, Cathedral. **Fr. Bill Kiel**
from the Diocese of Greensburg—*main celebrant*.

Mon, Nov 14th, Praise & Worship, **7PM**, Cathedral.

Mon, Nov 28th, Eucharistic Festival of Praise, **7PM**.
Deacon Kevin Nester, preaching, Cathedral.

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At the same time, he said, people will try to convince Christians that there are others who are unworthy of God's love.

"People will try to block you, to make you think that God is distant, rigid and insensitive, good to the good and bad to the bad," he told the young people. "Instead, our heavenly Father 'makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good.' He demands of us real courage: the courage to be more powerful than evil by loving everyone, even our enemies."

The pope noted that Jesus looks at all people with the same gaze he looked at Zacchaeus, not taking into account his sins, wealth or social standing.

"God counts on you for what you are, not for what you possess. In his eyes the clothes

you wear or the kind of cell phone you use are of absolutely no concern. He doesn't care whether you are stylish or not, he cares about you! In his eyes, you are precious and your value is priceless," the pope said.

Another obstacle, the pope continued, is the "paralysis of shame," one that Zacchaeus overcame by climbing the sycamore tree at "the risk of appearing completely ridiculous."

Pope Francis encouraged the young men and women to not be ashamed in bringing "everything to the Lord in confession, especially your weaknesses, your struggles and your sins."

(Continued On Page 13.)



CNS Photo/Bob Roller

CLOSING MASS: Pope Francis is seen on a large screen before celebrating the World Youth Day closing Mass Sunday, July 31 at the Field of Mercy in Krakow, Poland.



CNS Photo/Bob Roller

PILGRIM: A pilgrim puts on her shoe at sunrise July 31, hours before Pope Francis celebrated the World Youth Day closing Mass.

(Continued From Page 12.)

“Don’t be afraid to say ‘yes’ to him with all your heart, to respond generously and to follow him! Don’t let your soul grow numb, but aim for the goal of a beautiful love which also demands sacrifice,” the pope said.

Zacchaeus’ final obstacle, he noted, did not come from within but from the “grumbling of the crowd” who first blocked him and then criticized him” for being a sinner.

God challenges Christians to be more powerful than evil by loving everyone and to risk being ridiculed for believing “in

the gentle and unassuming power of mercy,” he said.

As he did with Zacchaeus, Jesus looks beyond appearances and faults to the heart -- something young people are called to imitate, the pope said.

“Don’t stop at the surface of things; distrust the worldly cult of appearances, applying makeup on our souls so we seem better than we are,” he said. “Instead, establish the most secure connection, that of the heart that sees and transmits goodness without tiring.”

Although the Mass brought the World Youth Day celebrations to an end, Pope Francis invited the youth to continue along the path that began with their pilgrimage to Krakow and bring the remembrance of God’s love to others.

“Trust the memory of God: his memory is not a ‘hard disk’ that saves and archives all our data, but a tender heart full of compassion that rejoices in definitively erasing every trace of evil,” the pope said.

Before concluding the Mass with the recitation of the Angelus prayer, the pope invited the youths to carry the “spiritual breath of fresh air” back to their countries and communities and “wherever God’s providence leads you.”

That same providence, he concluded, is “one step ahead of us” and “has already determined the next stop in this great pilgrimage begun in 1985 by St. John Paul II!”

“So now I am happy to announce that the next World Youth Day -- after the two that will be held on the diocesan level -- will take place in 2019 in Panama,” Pope Francis told the youths.

The Panama delegation Krakow greeted the announcement with shouts of joy -- dancing, bouncing and high-fiving each other.

Pope Francis invited bishops from Panama to join him at center stage in blessing the crowd.



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'Ice Age' Proves To Be A Natural Disaster

By John Mulderig
Catholic News Service

NEW YORK (CNS) -- Weakly constructed and inappropriate, in some respects, for its target audience, "Ice Age: Collision Course" (Fox) has little to recommend it.

This fifth installment of the animated franchise for children that dates back to 2002 also is tainted by a vaguely anti-religious undertone that seems to exalt science at the expense of faith.

Believing moviegoers will sense that ill-defined vibe from the start, since the narration over the opening scenes purports to

tell the real story of how the universe came into existence. In fact, what follows merely shows us how Scrat, the acorn-obsessed squirrel whose dialogue-free antics have been one of the series' assets, somehow wound up in outer space, where his frantic pursuit of his favorite food item caused various, humorously portrayed changes in our solar system.

Scrat's chase also gets the plot rolling when he inadvertently sets a giant asteroid on a potentially cataclysmic collision course with the Earth. Down on terra firma, that spells trouble for all existing life forms, including Manny (voice of Ray Romano), the good-hearted but gloomy woolly mammoth who has fea-



CNS Photo/20th Century Fox Film

ICE AGE: COLLISION COURSE: This is a scene from the movie "Ice Age: Collision Course." The Catholic News Service classification is A-II -- adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG -- parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.

tured in all the "Ice Age" films.

As an overprotective dad, Manny is already struggling to cope with his sunny daughter Peaches' (voice of Keke Palmer) engagement to her boyfriend, Julian (voiced by Adam Devine). Despite the best efforts of his levelheaded wife, Ellie (voice of Queen Latifah), to foster good relations between them, Manny resents Julian and rebuffs his soon-to-be son-in-law's displays of affection.

Such minor domestic discord is, of course, put in the shade once the cosmic threat becomes apparent. What to do to save the world? The unlikely answer involves a journey to a field of magnetic rocks that Manny and company hope can

be used to divert the asteroid.

This implausible scheme is the brainchild of eccentric, British-accented weasel Buck (voice of Simon Pegg) who goes on to serve as the family's not-always-reliable guide along their quest.

Directed by Michael Thurmeier and Galen Tan Chu, the scattershot proceedings also take in lonely sloth Sid's (voice of John Leguizamo) search for love.

While the slapstick comedy around which the shaky story is built is obviously aimed at kids, some of the vocabulary and humor is unsuitable for them. And the problematic outlook on religion resurfaces when the travelers encounter Shangri Llama (voiced by Jesse Tyler Ferguson), a guru who is reputed to

know everything but turns out to be no help at all.

Science celebrity Neil deGrasse Tyson is also thrown into the mix and given an alter ego, Neil deBuck Weasel. Since Tyson identifies as an agnostic, and is on record as rejecting the idea of a benevolent God, his presence will not be reassuring to parents intent on passing on the faith to their youngsters.

The film contains occasional peril, mildly scatological and anatomical humor and a single crass term. The Catholic News Service classification is A-II -- adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG -- parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.

Coming Up On 'Proclaim!'

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

August 14 - - Principal Keith Kuckenbrod and Vice Principals Rose Batzel and Mary Jo Podratsky of Divine Mercy Catholic Academy in Johnstown look ahead to the opening of the new regional school.

August 21 - - The Lehman family of Saint Michael Parish in Hollidaysburg talk about their commitment to Catholic education and their support of the new Holy Trinity Catholic School in Altoona.

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In The Alleghenies

(Continued From Page 6.)

The HRSA is an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. It is the primary federal agency tasked with improving health and achieving health equity through access to quality services, a skilled health workforce, and innovative programs. HRSA's programs provide health care to people who are geographically isolated, and economically or medically vulnerable.

The Mount Aloysius College School of Nursing is currently one of only three nursing programs in Pennsylvania to receive an HRSA Grant for disadvantaged nursing students. Since 1965, the College's nursing program has helped students achieve rewarding nursing careers at both the associate's and bachelor's degree levels. Both programs are fully accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN).

Distinction Earned

Cresson: Mount Aloysius College has received notification that it has been recognized as a "College of Distinction" for the 2016 - 2017 academic year. College of Distinction recognition is reserved for colleges and universities that excel in "student-focused" education. This citation of excellence allows Mount Aloysius to be featured on CollegesofDistinction.com, a website dedicated to honoring schools nationwide for excellence in higher education. Colleges and universities are nominated for Colleges of Distinction recognition by high school counselor recommendations and quantitative research.

Colleges of Distinction are assessed using four criteria – Engaged Students, the college creates an environment which encourages students to speak up and challenge the status quo, Excellent Teaching—the college's

faculty fosters new ways of thinking Vibrant Community—students are exposed to community- and career-oriented learning experiences and internships and, Successful Outcomes—the college prepares students with a portfolio for a successful career upon graduation. Colleges featured on CollegesofDistinction.com must meet or exceed standards in each of these four categories.

Mount Aloysius President Tom Foley congratulated the College's faculty and staff whose efforts once again this year brought about the College of Distinction designation. "Being named a College of Distinction ratifies a total effort and a commitment to excel," said President Foley. "We are proud of the recognition and mindful that the work of many people must come together to make this happen.

"At Mount Aloysius College we are committed to our Campus Compact—graduat-

The Catholic Register, August 8, 2016

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ing students who are job-ready, community-ready and technology-ready," added Foley. "This outlines a campus-wide effort to graduate men and women who—through a focus on selfless service and giving back, are community-ready; by exposing students to real-life clinical experiences in the health sciences, and quality internships in all other areas, are job-ready; and finally, by our continuous investments in cutting-edge digital infrastructure on campus, and making sure that our students are competent in its use, they graduate technology-ready. These criteria are interdependent and reflect the total culture of Mount Aloysius College," Foley said.

The Mount Aloysius president noted that behind each of the four points of excellence cited by the Colleges of Distinction is a constellation of detail. "The planning involved in keeping our 193-acre campus, safe, secure and well-maintained is significant. Our faculty diligently creates rigorous academic value as they prepare Mount Aloysius College students for tomorrow's workforce. Keeping a diverse student body focused on academics, community service, ath-

letics and wholesome cultural outlets takes passion, energy and care. And finally," added Foley, "we are enormously grateful for the commitment of our all-volunteer board of trustees who devote time, experience, and treasure to this great College. I think the continued recognition of Mount Aloysius College as a "College of Distinction" will keep over 2500 MAC students and nearly 16,000 graduates world-wide very proud of their choice."



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May They Rest In Peace



Sister Melania Polensky C.S.J.

Sister Melania Polensky, 81, died Thursday, July 28, in the 57th year of her religious life as a Sister of Saint Joseph of Baden.

The daughter of the late John and Anna Polensky, Sister Melania entered the Congregation from Saint Joseph Parish, Cokeburg. For nearly 50 years she ministered primarily in education in the dioceses of Altoona – Johnstown, Greensburg and Pittsburgh.

Since 2010, Sister Melania coordinated the Congregation's library where she also engaged retired sisters in making crafts. In the Motherhouse, she created and conducted prayer services

and regularly led a "Morning with God" day of prayer through Saint Joseph Spirituality Center.

Sister Melania is survived by her uncle, Charles (Rose) Sklarski of Seminole FL; cousins and the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Baden.

The Funeral Mass for Sister Melania Polensky C.S.J. was celebrated Monday, August 1 in the chapel of Saint Joseph Convent, Baden. Committal was in the Sisters' Cemetery on the Motherhouse grounds.

Donations in the name of Sister Melania may be sent to the Sisters of Saint Joseph Memorial Fund, Saint Joseph Convent, 1020 State St., Baden, PA 15005.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

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CAMP Z FUN: (Left) Bishop Mark L. Bartchak shares a few laughs with a group of campers during his Wednesday, July 20 visit to Camp Zacchaeus, the Diocesan summer camp for students entering grades four through nine. Camp Z offers a mix of spiritual and recreational opportunities. (Right) Bishop Mark joins in a game of Four Square with a group of boys during his visit to Camp Zacchaeus.

Faith And Fun A Winning Combination At Camp Z

**Photos And Text
By Tony DeGol**

How can young people spread the Good News?

A curious student asked Bishop Mark L. Bartchak that question during the Bishop's visit to Camp Zacchaeus last month.

"First you have to be clear and sure what the Good News is," Bishop Mark answered, commending the young boy and his fellow campers for taking part in the Camp Z experience.

"This is where you can find out what the Good News really is and then you'll be able to talk it over with your friends here

at camp, and then when you go home, talk about it with other people and let them know what you're finding out here," he added. "That will spread the word real fast."

Open to students throughout the Diocese entering grades four through nine, Camp Zacchaeus, indeed, offers plenty of opportunities to experience that Good News of Jesus Christ including daily Mass, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and group evangelization.

Campers Madalyn, Kyle, and Gabriel all said they were spiritually enriched by their time at camp.

"Just spending those moments with Jesus like that gets

you to talk with Jesus and makes you feel good when you're done," said Madalyn about the power of Eucharistic Adoration.

"It just brings me closer and closer to God each day," Gabriel noted about evening devotions.

"You get closer to Jesus and learn about the Christian faith," added Kyle.

The first session of Camp Z 2016 was held the week of July 17. The second session was held the week of July 24.

The camp is housed on the beautiful, wooded grounds of Camp Sequanota in Boswell, Somerset County.

(Continued On Page 11.)



CARD TRICK: A camper shows Bishop Mark a card trick at lunch during the Bishop's visit. Bishop Mark also celebrated Mass and fielded questions from the campers.

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