



# The Catholic Register

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Christ is Risen:  
The world below  
lies desolate

Christ is Risen:  
The spirits of evil  
are fallen

Christ is Risen:  
The angels of God  
are rejoicing

Christ is Risen:  
The tombs of the  
dead are empty

Christ is Risen  
indeed from  
the dead, the first  
of the sleepers,

Glory and power are  
his forever and ever.

-- Saint Hippolytus  
(AD 190-236)

CNS/Courtesy Of Bridgeman Art Library  
**THE RISEN CHRIST:** The  
glory of Easter is portrayed in  
"The Resurrection of Christ" by  
Italian Renaissance painter Mar-  
riotto di Cristofano. The painting  
is in the collection at the Gallery  
of the Academy of Florence.

**High Schools**

**New Football Coach**

**Johnstown:** Legendary football coach Jerry Davitch is coming out of retirement to coach the Crimson Crushers of Bishop McCort Catholic High School. Davitch is the 21st head football coach in the school history.

Davitch, former head coach of the Conemaugh Township Indians and the Johnstown Trojans before that, succeeds Kevin Sheridan who stepped aside from head-coaching responsibilities last year because of concerns over the health of his infant son, Owen.

"I began my coaching career at a Catholic high school, and it's only fitting that I will end my career at a revered Catholic High School," said Davitch,

73, who began his head coaching career in 1969 at Salpointe Catholic High School in Tucson, Ariz.

"I'm honored and excited to coach the Crushers. The Bishop McCort football program has been highly respected for generations, and I'm proud to continue that winning tradition. This is certainly going to be a labor of love for me."

"We are extremely happy and fortunate to have Coach Davitch join the McCort family," said Dr. D.A. Gardill, acting principal. "Jerry is a proven, top-quality coach. He's a tremendous leader who has devoted much of his life to coaching and mentoring students."

While renowned for his coaching, Davitch has also been a well-known secondary school administrator. He served as superintendent of Richland School District from 2004 until his re-



**MINISTRY OF LECTOR:** Among nine seminarians installed in the Ministry of Lector at Saint Vincent Seminary, Latrobe, on Monday, March 31, was Peter D. Crowe of the Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown. The son of Robert E. Crowe of Boalsburg and the late Susan M. Crowe, he is a 2004 graduate of State College Area High School. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in political science from Hampden Sydney College in Hampden Sydney, Virginia, in 2008. He completed the pre-theology program at Gannon University, Erie, in 2013. Pictured are (left to right): Archabbot Douglas R. Nowicki, seminary chancellor; Bishop Lawrence T. Persico of Erie, who presided at Mass; Peter D. Crowe and Father Timothy F. Whalen, seminary rector.

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**SCHOOL MAKES DONATION:** All Saints Catholic School, Cresson presented a check for over \$2,500.00 to the Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown's Mission Office, for the work of Catholic Relief Services. Pictured (left to right) are: Dotty Caminiti, Mission Office administrative assistant; Sister of Saint Joseph Patti Rossi, associate director of Missions; Jennifer Plummer, second grade teacher; and Kathy Maurer, principal. The school raised the money at a spaghetti dinner.



37th Annual  
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retirement in 2008, and as superintendent of the Conemaugh Township School District from 1996 to 2004, where he was also principal at Conemaugh Township High School from 1994 to 1996.

The son of immigrant grandparents, Davitch, a Johnstown native, played for Greater Johnstown High School's undefeated WPIAL championship football team in 1958. Davitch and his wife, Terry, reside in

Davidsville. They are the proud parents of Jim (married to Mindy) and Jerry (married to Lisa), and grandparents of Sara, Joey, and Ellie.

(Continued On Page 3.)

# In The Alleghenies



**DONATION TO SAINT VINCENT DEPAUL:** Sherry Lokesak, (left), general manager of Red Lobster in Johnstown and restaurant employees (back row) presents Saint Vincent DePaul Society executive director Sonny Consiglio (right) with a \$1,000.00 grant provided by Darden's Restaurant Community Grants Program for the Society's Food For Families program. Funds were divided between SVDP Food For Families in Altoona and Johnstown. This was the third year Saint Vincent DePaul has been awarded a grant from the Darden Corporation.

(Continued From Page 2.)

Jerry and his wife are parishioners of Our Mother of Sorrows.

## Pilot Program

**Altoona:** Three Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School teachers are participating in a pilot program through Penn State University called Quality Talk.

Quality Talk is a program designed to enhance classroom discussion, specifically in physics and chemistry. The program is run through the Penn State Center for Science and Schools.

Suzanne Thoma, Victoria Byrne and Stuart Crocker are the BG science teachers participating in Quality Talk. This is the first year of the four-year program. The teachers participate in video/audio recordings of classroom discussion, in multi-day professional development, and learn about Quality Talk lessons, and then incorporate them into current lesson plans.

The goal of Quality Talk science is:

- Promote higher level thinking in science classroom;
- Ensure that students learn more effectively and are

able to apply what they learn to real life situation.

- Increase student-led interactions inside the classroom;
- Expose students to next generation science standards and related instructional practices.

Byrne believes she can already see promising results at Bishop Guilfoyle.

"With Quality Talk, we are teaching students how to observe, discuss, and understand science in the way that real sci-

ence is done," Byrne said. "By giving the students more control of the learning process we are already seeing some great student conversations using higher level thinking skills. The students are beginning to look less to me for the answer and more to coming up with possible reasons and explanations for the scientific phenomena we are discussing on their own and through peers.

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**Holy Land:** Jun 2-12, Jun 9-19, Jun 16-26, Jun 23-Jul 3, Jul 2-12...

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**Second Sunday of Easter**  
*celebration of the*

## Feast of Divine Mercy

**Sunday, April 27, at 2 p.m.**  
**Saint Catherine of Siena, Duncansville**

**Guest presider and homilist:**  
**Rev. Anthony Petracca**

**The service will include:** a talk on **Divine Mercy**, the recitation of the **Chaplet of Mercy** and **Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.**

A video on Devotion to the Divine Mercy and the life of Saint Maria Faustina will be shown at 12:30 p.m.

**All are welcome!**

Literature on the Devotion to the Divine Mercy and Novena booklets will be available!

The goal is to increase student comprehension and critical thinking skills and the results so far are very promising."

After each video session, the Bishop Guilfoyle teacher will evaluate the session using Talk Assessment Tool for Teacher and label the video with codes. A Penn State Quality Talk representative will then evaluate the same video using codes. Then the two will sit down together and compare codes and notes.

## Food Fast

**Ebensburg:** At 6:00 a.m. on Friday, March 28, 18 juniors and seniors from Bishop Carroll Catholic High School began a 30 Hour Food Fast. They drank only clear liquids until breaking their fast 30 hours later at noon on Saturday, March 29.

The purpose for the fast was to create awareness for the plight of the poor in the world while participating in the traditional Lenten activities of Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving. Each student had to raise \$60.00 in order to participate, and many raised more than that. The money will go to Catholic Relief Services. Included in the 30 Hours was learning about some Catholic Relief Services projects to help the poor.

Students from Saint Francis

University, Loretto, came and shared their experiences working with the poor of Jamaica. Students celebrated Mass together, had Third World-Candlelight Stations of the Cross, and after sleeping overnight in the cafeteria, shared morning prayer. There was also time to hang out and play in the gym.

After reflecting on their 30 Hours of Fasting, everyone cooked breakfast together. Ben Ratchford, a junior and Food Fast participant shared, "This experience made me realize just how lucky I am to have food available any time of the day. It also gave me a glimpse of what some people in less fortunate countries have to go through." This event has become a Lenten tradition at Bishop Carroll since 1998.

## Higher Education

### Named Library Director

**Cresson:** Mount Aloysius College president Tom Foley has announced that Dr. Michael B. Jones has accepted the position as Director of the Library at the Mercy sponsored arts and sciences college.

(Continued On Page 6.)

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## Point Of View

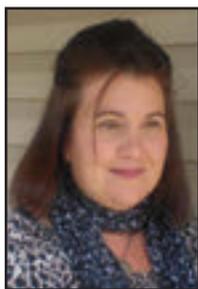
The smell was probably no less than musty. The air no less than chilled. The sound no less than silent. The tomb no less than empty. Completely empty. Thank God!!

Our Holy season of Lent has come to an end and right before our eyes we see God's redemptive power in a glorious display. Easter is here! Death has no power; the grave has no victory for God Himself conquered death. He is risen. Oh, what a Glorious Day!

God Himself shook off the burial clothes which bound him tightly. God Himself took another breath of earthly air. God Himself stood tall and stepped into our world and our lives again. God Himself conquered His grave. Where once stood a barren, cold, dark and musty grave now became a birthing place for new life. A glorious new and eternal life, a life God planned from the very beginning of time.

This Easter season is really eye pleasing as we look at the beautiful lilies, petals formed as a trumpet announcing God's glory. It is wonderfully delightful seeing young girls and boys in bright and colorful clothing announcing the newness of this day. It is a wonderful feeling tasting the sweet flavor of chocolate crosses reminding us of the sweetness of God's saving love. And it is so exciting to take a breath and fill the church with "Alleluias" as we bring rejoicing back to our Sunday Mass celebrations.

But what about the grave? Have we forgotten about it so



## Family Matters

By Amy Kanich  
**But What About The Grave?**

quickly? Or is it something we just really don't want to talk about? Does it in some way take away from the glorious celebration of Easter morning? Yes, I would agree it is more delightful to look at the beautiful flowers, baskets and colorful eggs, but to be honest; it is also okay to take a glance back into the tomb, at least for a second or two. The tomb can't be overlooked, for it held a very significant place on Easter Morning. This once cold, dark, silent and musty place was now sealed with a rock. A final resting place not to be entered again, shut off from the living world. But not this tomb, for in this tomb, the living Christ lay waiting! This place of darkness was no longer dark for Christ's very being produced light, a force strong enough to push through the rock that sealed it. Power enough to transform death into eternal life.

Sometimes in our lives we too are living in tombs. Dark and cold places which seem to trap us. Tombs we wonder if we will ever be able to rise from. Tombs of addictions, depression, anxiety, financial pressures, infidelity and grief. Graves of lost dreams due to infertility, chronic pain, break ups, missed opportunities and so on.... All of us

have tombs we find ourselves dwelling in from time to time. The only difference between our tombs and the Easter tomb is posed in one short question, "Is Christ's power present?" Present enough to push the entrance of the tomb wide open. Present enough to expose the contents of this grave to light. Present enough to raise the dead.

How do we invite Christ to dwell with us in our tombs? First and foremost, we have to want to share the grave. We have to invite Christ into our tomb. This isn't about inviting him for a while and having a short cup of tea. It is about giving Christ an extended invitation to stay. It is about the willingness to allow God to get comfortable, making His home in our tomb. It is about giving Him a bucket of fresh paint (so to speak) and allowing him to redecorate this dwelling as He sees fit. And it is about having the courage to hold God's hand and walk out of the tomb, while fighting the ever looming temptation to run back in, trusting that new life awaits. Arise, my friend and take a new step into the dance of life, the life that God has intended for you to live since the beginning of time. Happy Easter! Alleluia, Alleluia!



## Another Perspective

By Monsignor Timothy P. Stein  
**The Only Way Out, Is Through**

Sister Geraldine Warthling, a Franciscan Sister of Penance and Christian Charity of Stella Niagara NY, was the director of theological field education at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus OH when I was a seminarian there in the early 80s. More than that, she was a mentor and a friend.

Geraldine can best be described by the words "no nonsense." "Intense" and "earnest" also come to mind when I think of her. Her favorite word was "integrity," always reminding us to practice what we preached - - to walk the walk if we were going to talk the talk. Geraldine had a marvelous capacity for being able to take phrases that would have been mere clichés in anyone else's mouth, and turning them into real pearls of wisdom. As we enter into the mystery of the Easter Season, one of those phrases strikes me as being particularly apt: "The only way out, is through."

In this season of grace we celebrate the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. The potent and powerful symbol of this mystery is the empty tomb - - the dark cavern with the stone rolled away. The only way out, is through, seems to be a good shorthand way of explaining what the Easter mystery is all about. We are called - - invited - - to new life; but we only come to that new life by passing through the dark times, the dark places of our hearts, minds and souls. We are called to come out of the tomb and to stand in the light. We cannot bypass the difficult parts of the journey. We know (or at least we hope we know) where we are going. But to get there is a struggle. The only way out to new life, is through the tomb, the grave where broken dreams and hopes and visions are buried away and left behind. The only way out, is through.

It would be a wonderful thing if Easter marked a neat and tidily wrapped up ending to the story of our salvation. If it was a once only event, then it would be. But life isn't about having all of the odds and ends fit together in a perfect pattern of peace and contentment. Life is about striving, going forward, reaching onward and upward and looking for something better and brighter to come. We leave one empty tomb behind, only to find another waiting for us somewhere further along the road. And so we pass through that tomb, too, and rise again to new life, with all of the pitfalls and potholes that keep the journey interesting. The only way out, is through.

The six weeks of the Easter Season, beginning with the glorious celebration of Easter Sunday, reminds us that Easter is an ongoing mystery, something continuing unfolding as we make our pilgrim way to God's Kingdom. Actually, we celebrate three days of Easter mysteries, beginning on Holy Thursday, calling to mind the fact that the reality of our salvation is tied up in passion, death, and only then, in resurrection. Each step is necessary. Each step is an important part of the journey. And as we live and grow older, we will take each of those steps many times, until we are called to take them for the last time. The only way out, is through.



CNS/Courtesy Of Bridgeman Art Library

## Bishop Mark L. Bartchak Easter 2014 Message

“How do you feel about Easter?” I must admit that it’s been awhile since I was asked to think about Easter that way.

In the story of the Resurrection of Christ as told in Matthew’s Gospel (Mt 28:1-10) it says that after the angel informed the faithful women who came to the tomb that Jesus had been raised from the dead, “they went away quickly from the tomb, fearful yet overjoyed, and ran to announce this to his disciples.”

Some might think that’s a curious combination of emotions: “fearful yet overjoyed.” Yet, how many times have you and I had that feeling of confidence mixed with fear? How many times have we had a sense of security that comes from learning the truth, but we were not completely free of doubt?

In his Apostolic Exhortation, *The Joy of the Gospel* (Nov. 24, 2013), Pope Francis acknowledges that these experiences and mixed feelings are very real and human. And Pope Francis observes that these experiences and feelings may result in attitudes of pessimism, fatalism, and mistrust: things look bad; it’s not going to get better; there’s no one to count on for help; so it’s better to just stay home and do nothing.

That’s where the story of the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus is an important message for our world today. The faithful women (Matthew’s Gospel identifies them as Mary Magdalene and the other Mary) were told to go and tell the disciples that Jesus had been raised from the dead. I don’t know about you, but I am glad that they were not trapped by their mixed feelings! They ran to tell others the Good News of the Resurrection.

Pope Francis reminds us in *The Joy of the Gospel* that we may feel overcome by mixed emotions, but “if we think that things are not going to change, we need to recall that Jesus Christ has triumphed over sin and death.”

The Holy Father explains that lowering our arms once in awhile because we are weary is not the same as lowering them for good because we are over-

come by chronic discontent and a parched soul. The Lord Jesus allowed his arms to be lowered on the Cross, and we know that was not the end.

Pope Francis observes that so often it seems that God does not exist. That view is reinforced by images and experiences of persistent injustice, evil, indifference and cruelty in our world. But at the same time there are signs of life. Something new springs to life and sooner or later produces fruit.

Christ’s Resurrection is not an event of the past. It contains a power that permeates our world even now. Wherever and whenever we think that everything seems dead, signs of the Resurrection suddenly spring up. Pope Francis calls this “an irresistible force.” At Easter we are reminded to discover and experience that Christ is risen and glorified. He is the wellspring of our hope and he will not deprive us of the help we need to carry out whatever role we have been given in telling others about the Resurrection.

The faithful women had mixed feelings about Easter, but they ran to tell others the news about the Resurrection because they had faith, Easter faith. Their small part in the Easter story helped to change the world. It is something that should be repeated over and over again.

As Pope Francis reminds us, everyone who shares with others the Good News of Easter is an instrument of the power of the Lord’s Resurrection. But there is more.

In the story of Easter in Matthew’s Gospel it says that as the faithful women ran to share the message of the Resurrection with his disciples, they ran into Jesus. Actually, it says “Jesus met them and greeted them.”

Before sending them on their way to deliver the message, Jesus showed his immediate and personal concern for Mary Magdalene and the other Mary. He said, “Do not be afraid.” When he said that, Jesus was setting them free from the potential impact of the deepest worry and concern of their lives at that moment.

The negative and paralyzing impact of the circumstances and feelings of their lives were overcome by the power of the Resurrection. The only thing left for them at that moment was a renewed faith and overwhelming joy. How awesome!

So how do I feel about Easter?

During the season of Lent I heard from those who are coming into the Church at Easter, especially adults. I heard about their mixed feelings because of the circumstances of their lives. And I heard about messengers of faith, including their spouses, children, neighbors, and friends, who brought them the hope of the Resurrection.

And during the Easter season I will encounter more than a thousand teenagers who will be sealed with gift of the Holy Spirit in the celebration of the sacrament of Confirmation. These young people are the beneficiaries of the faith, hope, and love of others who have shared with them the Good News of the Resurrection. I have heard from multiple sources, including the teenagers, that they are full of joy and excitement as they await this special coming of the Holy Spirit.

Many of these adults and young people have already expressed their desire to put the “irresistible force” of the Resurrection to use for the good of others. In *The Joy of the Gospel*, Pope Francis observes that this message and method is the New Evangelization that is needed in the world today. What a blessing to have all these new evangelizers!

So how do I feel about Easter? Hopeful. Very hopeful! May you and your families know the hope and the joy that comes from the Risen Christ. Happy Easter!

+ Mark L. Bartchak

# In The Alleghenies

(Continued From Page 3.)

Dr. Jones currently serves as associate professor of political science in the Justice, Law & Society Department, and as program coordinator of the Freshman Seminar and Senior Capstone programs.

Foley noted that Dr. Michael Jones is an extremely active member of the College's faculty who readily accepts and excels at new assignments. "Dr. Michael Jones' work ethic, intellect and accessibility continue to be valued and recognized by students, faculty colleagues and staff at Mount Aloysius College. In addition to being an excellent educator, he is an able administrator and project manager. He brings a rare combination of experience, intellectual curiosity, an understanding of the value of education and personal warmth

that assures us of his success in this new role of Mount Aloysius College Librarian. The entire community can now benefit from his vision, his drive and his skills as a manager and educator."

Dr. Jones is a native of New Orleans LA. He earned his bachelor of liberal arts degree summa cum laude from Loyola University, New Orleans. Dr. Jones received his master of arts with a specialization in political theory and American political thought from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst Mass. His doctor of philosophy degree was also earned at the University of Massachusetts. Midwestern Political Science Meeting, Chicago, IL. 2004, and The Southern Political Science Association Meeting, in New Orleans, LA. 2011).

He came to Mount Aloysius College in 2008. He will assume his new role as librarian at Mount Aloysius College at the conclusion of the 2014 spring semester.

## Open House

**Loretto:** Saint Francis University will host an Adult Degree & Continuing Studies Information Session on Thursday, May 29, from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. This is an online event. Once registered, you will receive a link and instructions regarding how to join the event. The event for current and prospective students will feature cyber door prizes and the opportunity to talk with University staff about certificate, associate, bachelor, and degree completion programs.

## Teaching Positions Available For 2014-2015 School Year

**St. Benedict Elementary School**, Johnstown, has two teaching positions available for the 2014-2015 school year. We are searching for energetic, enthusiastic, professional educators who understand how to individualize instruction. Experience with Accelerated Reading & Math, and Study Island programs preferred. Submit a letter of interest, resume, references, PA certification in Early Childhood, Elementary Education, Health & Phys. Ed., or Middle School, plus clearances to Mr. George Nace, Principal, at [gnace@sbj.k12.pa.us](mailto:gnace@sbj.k12.pa.us). Application deadline is April 30, 2014.



**AWARD WINNERS:** Students from Saint Benedict School, Carrolltown, were Northern Cambria County regional winners in the Catholic Daughters of the Americas 2014 National Education Contest. Students throughout the United States were invited to submit essays, poems, photographs, art, music, or computer art for the themes: "Jesus Loves Us. How Do We Spread that Love?" and "How Do I Promote Peace in this World?" Pictured are (left to right) First row: Nicholas Witham, third place for computer art; Adam Link, first place for essay; Caleb Barrett, second place for Computer Art. Second row: Jeffrey Maucieri, principal and teacher, Mary Solnosky.

University staff from the career services and financial aid offices will also be available to answer questions.

The Adult Degree & Continuing Studies program holds evening and weekend classes in Loretto, Altoona, Johnstown, and State College. Online courses are also available. New and returning adult learners can choose from programs in business, accounting, organizational leadership, health care management, early childhood education, and computer systems management. Generous credit transfer is available for those with prior college experience.

For more information about the information session contact (814) 472 - 3012 or [oce@francis.edu](mailto:oce@francis.edu). To register for the event,

visit [francis.edu/adcs](http://francis.edu/adcs) and fill out the brief registration form.

## Associate Dean Named

**Cresson:** Mount Aloysius College president Tom Foley has announced that Dr. David Haschak, N.C.C., L.P.C., has been named Associate Dean of Humanities of the College. Dr. Haschak has been serving in the position in an interim capacity since May of 2013.

In making the announcement Foley noted Dr. Haschak's formidable administrative abilities and for the breadth of his academic and business experience. "Dr. David Haschak is a well-regarded teacher and academic colleague who sets the standard for excellence in the classroom and for collegiality among faculty and staff," he said. "He completely grasps the mission of this College and enthusiastically puts his shoulder to the wheel as Mount Aloysius College continues to reinvent itself for the current and future generations of students. He brings leadership, clarity and drive to our academic community and we're very glad to count him among us."

As Associate Dean of Humanities, Social Science and

Professional Studies, Dr. Haschak will serve as faculty administrator for the departments of business & information technology, education, & ASL English Interpreting, English/fine arts, justice, law & society, enrichment, and psychology/religious studies and oversee curriculum on both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Dr. Haschak has been affiliated with Mount Aloysius College since 2008 and, in addition to teaching duties, has served as director of counseling/disability services and coordinator of Community Counseling and Behavioral Specialist Consulting graduate programs.

Dr. Haschak is a nationally certified counselor and licensed professional counselor. He is a member of the American Counselor Association; Health Care Providers Association.

Dr. Haschak earned his Bachelor of Science degree in psychology from the University of Pittsburgh and the Master of Arts degree in community counseling from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He earned his doctoral degree in counselor education and supervision from Duquesne University, Pittsburgh.

## Becomes Knight

**Loretto:** After having been dormant on campus for about 20 years, the Knights of Columbus is once again thriving at Saint Francis University. On Sunday, March 30, The Saint Francis University Knights of Columbus, Council No. 8222 conducted its eighth 1st Degree ceremony since the council was established in October 2012 and officially rechartered in February 2013. This particular 1st Degree ceremony recognized five new inductees, including the university's President - elect Third Order Regular Franciscan Father Malachi Van Tassell, who officially takes office in May.

(Continued On Page 12.)



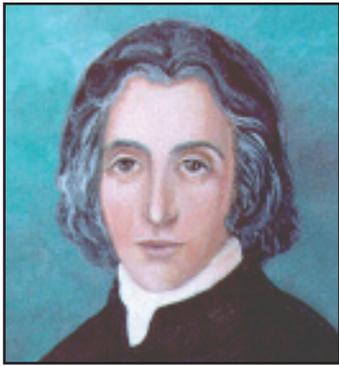
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## A Prince In The Service Of The Great King

The Servant Of God  
Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin  
1770 - 1840

# Prayer, Charity Will Surround Canonization Of Two Popes

By **Cindy Wooden**  
Catholic News Service

**VATICAN CITY (CNS)** -- The rite of canonization for Blesseds John XXIII and John Paul II April 27 will use the standard formula for the creation of new saints, but the Mass will be preceded by the recitation of the

Divine Mercy chaplet, and it is possible retired Pope Benedict XVI will attend, the Vatican spokesman said.

"He is invited," said Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, the spokesman. "But there is still a month to go. We'll have to see if he wants to be present and feels up to it."

Discussing preparations for the canonizations with report-

ers March 31, Father Lombardi also said the popes' tombs in St. Peter's Basilica would not be disturbed, other than to change the inscriptions from "blessed" to "saint." Pilgrims can visit the tombs after the April 27 Mass.

Relics from the two popes will be presented during the liturgy, the spokesman said. The relic of Blessed John Paul -- a vial of his blood encased in a reliquary featuring a silver sculpture of olive branches -- will be the same that was used for his beatification in 2011.

A matching reliquary has been made for a relic of Blessed John, said Msgr. Guilo Dellavite, an official of the Diocese of Bergamo, where the pope was born. When Blessed John was beatified in 2000, no relic was presented, the monsignor said, because no blood or body parts had been preserved for that purpose. However, when Blessed John's tomb was opened in 2001 and the remains treated before being reinterred in St. Peter's Basilica, some bone fragments were removed.

Floribeth Mora Diaz, a Costa Rican whose recovering from a brain aneurysm was the miracle accepted for the canonization of Blessed John Paul, and French Sister Marie Simon-Pierre, whose cure from Parkinson's disease was accepted as the miracle that paved the way for his beatification, are both expected to attend the Mass April 27, Father Lombardi said. Pope Francis waived the requirement for a miracle for the canonization of Blessed John.

The canonization Mass is scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. the Sunday after Easter, which the church celebrates as Divine Mercy Sunday. Pilgrims are expected to begin filling St. Peter's Square early in the morning, Father Lombardi said, and will have an opportunity to participate in the recitation of the Divine Mercy chaplet, a series of prayers focusing on the gifts of God's mercy, especially shown through the passion of Christ.

The Vatican, he said, is not issuing tickets for the Mass, although large sections of St. Peter's Square will be reserved for official government delegations, for bishops and priests, and for members of the Vatican diplomatic corps. Other than that, space in the square will be allotted on a first-come, first-served basis. Because the Vatican is not handling ticket requests, it cannot predict how many people will attend the ceremony, he said.

"We hope many people will come and we are making preparations to welcome them," Father Lombardi said. "We invite people to come to Rome with trust and serenity without excessive fear."

"If people filled St. Peter's Square and (the main boulevard) back to the Tiber River, we calculate there would be between 200,000 and 250,000 people," he said. Forecasts, including by city of Rome officials, that mention millions of pilgrims trying to attend the event appear exaggerated, Father Lombardi said.

"Come to Rome. Don't be afraid," he said.

Cardinal Agostino Vallini, papal vicar for Rome, told reporters that the diocese was focusing on a spiritual preparation for the canonization of "two pontiffs, two bishops of Rome, who lived and experienced their faith, becoming messengers of the Gospel, but also of great humanity."

The cardinal will lead an evening for young people April 22 along with the postulaters -- official promoters -- of the sainthood causes of the two popes. The night before the canonization, 11 churches near the Vatican will be open all night

for prayer, meditation and confessions. The program will be offered in English and Italian at the Basilica of St. Mark the Evangelist at the Campidoglio and in Italian and Spanish at the Jesuit Church of the Gesu.

The diocese also has launched a special website -- [www.2papisanti.org](http://www.2papisanti.org) -- and several social media initiatives with the help of communications students at a Rome university. The Facebook fan page is "2popesaints," the Twitter account is "@2popesaints," the Instagram account is "#2popesaints" and the YouTube channel search term is also "2popesaints."

The Diocese of Bergamo, where Pope John was born and ordained a priest, has put much of the focus of its celebration on acts of charity, Msgr. Dellavite said. The diocese is contributing the equivalent of \$1.1 million for the construction and three years of operating costs of a St. John XXIII School in Haiti; it is building a church and pastoral center in Shengjin, Albania, at a cost of about \$830,000; and it is remodeling a former military barracks in Bergamo to serve as a shelter and assistance center for the poor.

In addition, he said, the 900 priests of the diocese are being asked to donate one month's salary and take up a collection in their parishes to strengthen the diocese's "family and home" fund, which helps families in difficulty with rent, mortgage payments and utilities. The diocese also is selling some of its property to increase the fund's principal.

## 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  
Seminarians Called  
To Study, Conversion

**VATICAN CITY (CNS)** -- Meeting a group of seminarians who had walked more than 40 miles to see him at the Vatican, Pope Francis told them to give their all to prayer, study and pastoral preparation, or else have the "courage to seek another path."

"Let's be truthful here," he said April 14, "the seminary is not a refuge for the many limitations we might have, a refuge from psychological weaknesses or a refuge because I don't have the courage to move on with my life and I'm seeking a place that will defend me."

"If your seminary were that, the church would be mortgaging its future," he told students and staff members of the Pontifical Leonian College in Anagni, south of Rome.

A Catholic can serve God and the church in many ways, Pope Francis said. The ministerial priesthood is a specific vocation, a call to be like Jesus, the good shepherd, in the midst of his sheep.

"You are not preparing for a career or to become functionaries in a company or bureaucratic organization," he said. Too many priests have traveled only "halfway" on their vocational path and are little more than bureaucrats, which "is not good for the church."

Pope Francis told seminarians that he was not saying they had to be perfect to be worthy seminarians -- "just think of the apostles" and how much they had to learn from Jesus.

Putting a modern spin on the apostles' requests for places of honor beside Jesus, the pope told the seminarians to "think of James and John; one of them wanted to be prime minister and the other the minister of the economy because those were the most important" positions.

Despite the disciples' misunderstanding about what discipleship meant, Jesus was patient with them and taught them along the way, the pope said.

A serious commitment to preparing for the priesthood shows in a willingness to be converted a little more each day, he said. That means meditating on the Scriptures, "experiencing the mercy of God in the sacrament of reconciliation in order to become generous and merciful ministers," going to Mass, receiving the Eucharist and being men of prayer.

Before the call to become shepherds after Christ's heart, he said, "we might respond like the Virgin Mary did to the angel: 'But how is this possible?' Becoming good shepherds in the image of Jesus is something so big and we are so small. Yes, it's true, it is too big; but it's not something we do. It's the work of the Holy Spirit with our cooperation."



**ONE MORE TIME:** In the presence of Bishop J. Carroll McCormick, Father Regis F. Myers, pastor, celebrated the first Mass in the temporary church of the newly - founded Saint Catherine of Siena Parish, Duncansville, on January 26, 1964. The present church was dedicated June 24, 1979. The feast of Saint Catherine of Siena is celebrated April 29.

I look around the house and wonder how I came to possess so many things. Forty years ago, as I recall, I began our marriage with a few items of clothing, a box or two of books, a clock radio and a typewriter.

Now my "starter home" -- which turned out to be our only home -- is packed with all kinds of items. I suppose 40 years will do that.

The advantage of living in the same house for so many years is that the mortgage is paid off. The disadvantage is that there are decades worth of things crammed into it. And now with the coming of spring, there's some primal urge to sort, clean and simplify. I'm fighting it the best I can.

I understand and like the concept of living a simpler life. It's getting to that simpler life that always seems so complicated. Yes, a simpler life would be an easier life, but making life simple is so hard.

This is the house where Monica, my late wife, and I raised our three children, where we started and ran a nonprofit and where I've worked for the past 25 years as a freelance writer.

What that means is that there's a lot of stuff in every room, in the attic, in the garage, on the patio, even in a long-abandoned chicken coop at the far end of the lot. It is stuff that's



## Your Family

By Bill Dodds  
A House Without Clutter

going to stay exactly where it is until I do something about it.

With that in mind, here are some of the things I've been telling myself to get motivated:

-- You can clean one drawer, make it an easy one, make it one that you stand a good chance of cleaning.

-- No one needs three claw hammers, the top to an old blender, four long-dead computers or a ball of twine (maybe the ball of twine. It's probably a collector's item).

-- Most, if not all, of the items you think are "collector's items" are worth less than the dust collecting on them.

-- There are people who need, could use, and would be so happy to have the extra coats, jackets, scarves, gloves and hats in your front closet; ditto with all those towels and sets of sheets.

**A simpler life would be an easier life, but making life simple is so hard.**

-- What if you didn't have a junk drawer?

-- And this sobering thought: God forbid something should happen to you, and the kids had to sort through all your stuff. There is nothing exciting or even interesting to see, just a mess, a lot of work for them.

-- The above thought is followed by this rebuttal thought: Some of it is their junk! Maybe they should, you know, go through it, sort it, dump stuff and take what they want to keep.

-- One closet. I could clean out one closet, then one room, not the attic, not yet, no sense going crazy here.

On a more serious note, I know there's no rush to get rid of anything that was Monica's. I did some sorting and giving away a few months after she died. On the first anniversary of her death, I was able to donate some of her clothes to a clothing bank, which helps those in need. It was a happy thought, imagining women so pleased to have items she had liked.



## Question Corner

By Father Kenneth Doyle  
You Cannot 'Buy' A Mass

**Q.** I am a member of a faith-sharing group, which is ecumenical. Recently, a question came up with regard to "simony" and "buying a Mass." Please explain the concept of a stipend being offered for a Mass for a deceased person; non-Catholics (and Catholics, as well) find it confusing. Was not the value of the Mass already purchased by the sacrificial death of Jesus? What, exactly, is being bought? (Chippewa Falls, Wis.)

**A.** Simony, which is sinful, is the buying or selling of spiritual things. The term takes its origin from the Acts of the Apostles, where (in Chapter 8) a man named Simon the Magician sought to purchase from St. Peter the spiritual power derived from the imposition of hands and the invocation of the Holy Spirit.

Examples of simony would be to seek ecclesiastical promotion through a cash gift or to attempt to bribe a priest to receive sacramental absolution.

Mass stipends are not simony, and there is no such thing as "buying a Mass." A Mass stipend is a free-will offering given for celebrating a Mass for a particular person or intention. In the early church, it was often the sole source of a priest's income and support, and in poorer countries, it sometimes still is.

You are correct that the merits of Christ's redemptive death are infinite. A Mass intention is simply a plea to the Lord to channel some of those already-gained merits in a particular direction.

The church's Code of Canon Law takes pains to avoid the appearance of "buying a Mass" by explaining that the poor are never to be denied a request for a Mass because of their inability to provide the customary offering (No. 945) and by forbidding a priest from keeping for himself more than one Mass stipend per day (No. 951).

Despite these canonical cautions, the misunderstanding persists, and nearly every week

a caller or visitor to our parish office will ask, "How much does a Mass cost?"

I use that as a teachable moment to the point where our parish staff is tired of hearing me explain a "free-will offering." My preference would be that Mass stipends be eliminated entirely, but many priests, particularly in missionary territories, depend on them for their livelihood.

**Q.** Some time ago, you answered a question about the annulment process. First, you mentioned that statements from witnesses are used to help determine whether there are grounds for an annulment.

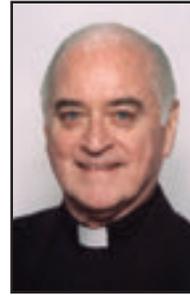
You also said that a questionnaire is filled out by the petitioner and also, if he or she is willing, by the former spouse. Couldn't the petitioner say anything at all, just to get the annulment? And what if the other party doesn't want the annulment granted or feels it is not just? Is there any avenue of appeal? (Newtown Square, Pa.)

**A.** For the Catholic Church to grant an annulment, it must be determined that from the very start of the marriage some essential element was lacking that kept it from being a binding and lasting union.

There may have been considerable emotional immaturity or instability on the part of one spouse or both, or a lack of full freedom or complete commitment.

Not infrequently, there are witnesses, who can say, for example, "My sister never really wanted to get married; she felt that everyone expected her to go through with it and our parents had already made all the arrangements" or, "We all knew, all of his friends, that he wasn't totally serious about the marriage; he told us, in fact, 'I'll try it for a while and see if it works.'"

As for the former spouse, he or she is completely free to oppose the annulment and to offer reasons why it should not be granted. Then it is up to the judges of the diocesan marriage tribunal to weigh all of the testimony and evidence.



## Spirituality For Today

By Father John Catoir  
Correspondence From A Struggling Soul

A mother from Maryland recently wrote me about something I wrote on joy. She came across something I wrote about the value to be found in giving and sharing one's time, in having uplifting thoughts and in helping others. I said these are the very things that bring joy to the soul. I asked the question: Why not decide to be joyful?

"I was feeling quite valueless today," she wrote. "Now that my kids are grown and out on their own, I am no longer needed as a Mommy. I feel like I have no value anymore. My life was so wrapped up in them for 30 years; their father was not really present for most of it, and now I am tempted to feel more and more empty."

The children, now adults, had started families and households of their own.

"All are strong, healthy, wonderful people, but they don't need me anymore," she wrote. "I realize these feelings are pretty normal and that I've done a good job because the kids are all going forward without me, but it still hurts."

She said that after reading Trappist Father Thomas Merton, "I realize my feelings are not unusual. And that if I take heart and remain brave enough to go straight into that place of complete aloneness with God, I can find the fullness of life in his arms, and nothing can take that peace away."

I understood when she told me how it's easy to lose a sense of peace and wellness. But then, she wrote, "I have to decide to be a happy, joyful person, in spite of my ups and downs. In a way, I'm just feeling the weight of the human condition. I see that the world is a lonely place, and even though I have emotional pain at times, I can choose to be happy anyway. My faith makes me whole."

And the most gratifying part of the letter: "Thanks for helping me to pull myself out of the blues."

I was proud and wrote to her, telling her there's a song about the feelings she was experiencing. It's called "I Gotta Right to Sing the Blues."

Feelings are real, but by faith you also know that feelings are not facts. Everyone feels lost and bewildered at times. However, believers know that the spirit of love abides deep within them. This deeper faith may not warm our hearts immediately, but we have to hang on to it because it will protect us from slipping into the cancer of self-pity.

Rather than brood in bed at night when your emotions are upset, try this for therapy: Take a cold shower for 30 seconds, then slowly turn it back to hot. You'll feel great.

I told the sweet soul who sent the correspondence: "I did not see a bit of self-pity in your letter; just emotional pain. Neither did I see any self-pity in St. Augustine's great quote, 'O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you.'"

Catherine of Siena  
1347-1380  
April 29



Catherine was the 24th of 25 children of a Sienese dyer; her mystical experiences and raptures began at age 6. She refused to marry, and about 1367 joined the Third Order of St. Dominic. She attracted a like-minded group in Siena for prayer and good works, and devoted her last five years to church unity and ending the scandal of rival papacies. Though she experienced the pain of the stigmata, it became visible only after her death at 33. And, in an odd division of relics, her body is in a Roman church, while her head is in a Sienese church. Named a doctor of the church in 1970, Catherine is a patron saint of Europe and Italy, and the patron of fire prevention, nurses and nursing.

## Michael Anna To Be Ordained Deacon

Michael A. Anna will be ordained a permanent deacon Saturday, May 3 at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Altoona.

Bishop Mark L. Bartchak will be the ordaining prelate at the 10:00 a.m. Ordination Mass.

A member of Saint Bernard Parish, Hasrings, Anna was born October 14, 1965.

He and his wife, Janine, are the parents of four children: Ryan, 24, is a doctoral candidate in mathematics at Clemson University; Stephanie, 22, is a graduate student in speech pathology at Indiana University of Pennsylvania; Melissa, 19, is studying in the physician's assistant program at Saint Francis University, Loretto; and Joshua, 16,



MICHAEL A. ANNA

**Michael A. Anna will be ordained a permanent deacon Saturday, May 3 at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Altoona. Bishop Mark L. Bartchak will be the ordaining prelate at the 10:00 a.m. Ordination Mass.**

is a student at Cambria Heights High School.

A graduate of Cambria Heights, Anna is a veteran of the United States Navy, and served at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Base in Cuba.

Employed as a cardiac catheterization lab technician at Conemaugh Memorial Medical Center in Johnstown, Anna is an E.M.T. with paramedic certification, and is a registered cardiovascular invasive specialist.

He was received to candidacy for Holy Orders October 15, 2011 at Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish in Bedford. On October 6, 2012 he was instituted into the Ministry of Lector at Saint Bernard Parish, Hastings, and on October 5, 2013, he was instituted in the Ministry of Acolyte at Saint Benedict Parish, Johnstown.

Anna made a canonical retreat preparatory to ordination April 6 - 10 at the Saint John the Baptist Retreat Center in New Baltimore.

The Deacon - elect enjoys spending time with his family, hunting with family and friends, hiking at Prince Gallitzin State Park, and watching Pittsburgh Penguins Hockey.

## Sister Mark Leaving Education Office

Bishop Mark L. Bartchak, has announced that Sister of Saint Agnes Mark Plescher, Assistant Director of Education for the Diocese, is leaving the position effective June 30.

Sister Mark has held the position since 1988. Throughout those 26 years, she was responsible for overseeing elementary education for all Diocesan schools, including curriculum, personnel, and government accountability.

Sister Mark coordinated Diocesan - wide academic competitions such as the annual spelling bee, forensics meet, and multi-media competition. She also launched an annual Christmas toy collection in all Diocesan elementary schools that benefits children through the Diocese's Fulton County Mission.

In 1993, Sister Mark received the Prince Gallitzin Cross, an award given to those exhibiting the "evangelizing spirit" of the Prince - Priest and Servant of God Demetrius Gallitzin. Prior to her appointment as Assistant Director of Education, Sister Mark served as Principal of the former Saint Mary School in Altoona for nine years.

"Sister Mark has dedicated much of her life to the Catholic schools of our Diocese," said Bishop Bartchak. "Thanks to her tireless efforts, countless children received a complete education that combined faith, service, and academic excellence.



SISTER MARK PLESCHER  
C.S.A.

I am especially grateful to her, and I wish her many blessings."

Sister of Charity Donna Marie Leiden, Diocesan Director of Education, echoed the Bishop's sentiments.

"I am so appreciative of Sister Mark's 35 years of dedication to our young people and our elementary schools in the Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown," Sister Donna said. "During this time, she has served unselfishly, giving of her time and talents, encouraging our teachers and students to achieve academically, recognizing many opportunities for service to others, while keeping our Catholic faith foremost in our vision."

A search for a new Assistant Director of Education is underway.

**"Sister Mark has dedicated much of her life to the Catholic schools of our Diocese," said Bishop Mark L. Bartchak. "Thanks to her tireless efforts, countless children received a complete education that combined faith, service, and academic excellence. I am especially grateful to her, and I wish her many blessings."**

### How Would You Like to Have the Best Week of Summer Ever?

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For more information or a registration brochure for Camp Zacchaeus, contact Francine Swope in the Diocesan Youth Ministry Office at (814)693-9605 Ext. 2646. You can also get a brochure on our website at [www.dioceseaj.org](http://www.dioceseaj.org).

### Second Sunday of Easter

Celebration of  
Feast of the Divine Mercy



Sunday, April 27, 2014

2:30 p.m. - Adoration

3:00 p.m. - Divine Mercy Chaplet will be said.

There will be a special prayer for the  
**Feast of the Divine Mercy**  
at  
the Basilica of Saint Michael

This service will include the recitation of the Chaplet of Mercy, the Litany of Mercy and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.  
Literature of the Devotion to Divine Mercy will be available.  
All are welcome.



**JOINS BISHOP IN PRAYER:** Third Order Regular Franciscan Father Roderick Soha (foreground) and the other concelebrating priests, join Bishop Mark L. Bartchak in the prayer consecrating the Sacred Chrism.



**CONSECRATING THE CHRISM:** After mixing fragrant balsam with the oil, Bishop Mark L. Bartchak, with hands outstretched, consecrated the Sacred Chrism. The oil was presented to him by candidates who were to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation during the Easter Season.

## Holy Week Celebrations Began With Chrism Mass

Photos By Bruce A. Tomaselli

Text By Monsignor Timothy P. Stein

Holy Week, the fourth Bishop Mark L. Bartchak has spent in the Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown, began with the celebration of the Chrism Mass Monday, April 14, at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona.

Clergy, religious and lay faithful, including Diocesan Administration Center staff and a number of Catholic elementary and high school students, joined Bishop Mark and Bishop - Emeritus Joseph V. Adamec for the Mass in which the Sacred Chrism was consecrated, and the Oil of the Sick and the Oil of Catechumens were blessed, for use in parishes and institutions throughout the eight county Diocese.

The celebration also encompassed the annual renewal of commitment to priestly service by all priests serving in the Diocese.

Bishop Mark challenged the priests to be "men of prayer," reminding them that last year Pope Francis asked the priests of the Diocese of Rome, "Does your day end with God or with television?"

Said the Bishop "Pope Francis used that question to talk about the importance, the priority of prayer in the life of priests. It's an important reality check for all of us to make. It corresponds to what I said a few minutes ago about the longing in everyone's heart, including the heart of priests, for fulfillment.

"Jesus reminds us today that the fulfillment that we seek and that He promises comes in our hearing. But if Christ is not the beginning and end and center of our day, then the risk is greater that we will settle for something less than the fulfillment that comes from Him."

Bishop Mark acknowledged a special bond with the priests of the Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown, saying "I thank God for you, the priests of our diocese. Thank you for your service. I pray for you every day and for your intentions. I know that the people of our Diocese care about you and pray for you even if they never mention it to you."

And, Bishop Mark underscored the importance of the public nature of ordained ministry in the Church, telling the priests "It's a very good thing that you and I make the renewal of commitment of our priestly service in front of the people we are to serve."



**BEHIND - THE - SCENES:** As the Chrism Mass celebration took place, medicine bottles waited to be filled with the Holy Oils. After all the oils were blessed and consecrated by the Bishop, the individual bottles were prepared for distribution by Cathedral parishioners and diocesan staff.



# In The Alleghenies

(Continued From Page 6.)

“We are very excited to welcome Father Malachi to our council and to the international order of the Knights of Columbus. We are looking forward to supporting Father Malachi as he transitions into the presidency and supporting his vision for the University. As Knights of Columbus we stand in solidarity with our priests and other religious and being a college council, this very personal link to our newly elected leader is very encouraging for our future growth, sustainability, and impact to both the campus and community,” said Bobby Anderson, director of Student Engagement & Leadership Development at the University and Grand Knight of Saint Francis University’s Council.

This move by Father Malachi to join the University’s council is a sign of his commitment to upholding the traditional Catholic faith of the institution. “I am honored to have been inducted into our campus Council of the Knights of Columbus. The Knights are a fine group of men who have placed themselves at the service of the Church and our campus community. As President and pastor of the university, I am pleased to have the Knights as co-workers in the vineyard. Their presence is a vital part of the Catholic and Franciscan identity of our campus,” Father Malachi shared.

Following Sunday’s ceremony, as is customary for the council, the members attended

student mass in the Immaculate Conception Chapel on campus with Father Malachi as celebrant. During the mass he publicly recognized the Knights and his new membership within the order.

Sunday’s ceremony was conducted by the 1st Degree Team of the Saint Anne’s council, No. 4259 in Cresson. The members and officers of the Cresson council have been working alongside the newly re-established SFU council since the initial conversations of re-establishment began back in the spring of 2012. The members of the Cresson council have provided much assistance and guidance to the young college council as they have worked to become better acclimated to the functions and procedures of operating a Knights of Columbus council.

To date, since re-establishing in October 2012, the college council has grown to an impressive 76 members, a majority of whom are SFU students, in addition to members of the University’s staff, faculty, and administration as well as alumni, fathers of current students, and even members from the larger community. This unprecedented growth has captured the attention of the Pennsylvania State Council of the Knights of Columbus to where the SFU Knights have received recognition for their success in membership and have received multiple awards from both the State Council and the Supreme Council which oversees the entire international order.



**BELLEFONTE CONTEST WINNERS:** The Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Reverend Patrick McArdle #448, of Bellefonte announces the winners of their recent art & essay contest. The themes the students were to choose from were: “Jesus loves us. How do we spread that love?” or “How do I promote peace in the world?” The winners are: Art: Samuel Yangula (1st Place): Kira Watson (2nd Place) and Isabella Pruss (3rd Place). Samuel’s winning entry will advance to the state level. The essay contest (grades 6-8) (1st Place): Nathan Tice. Nathan’s essay also advanced to the state level. The judges were Stephen St. Amant (art) and Paula Brezler (essay). Pictured are (left to right): Father George Jankopac (pastor of Saint John the Evangelist Parish), Isabella Pruss, Kira Watson, Samuel Yangula and Christine Surovec, Catholic Daughters youth and education chair.

“I believe, in today’s society, there is a hunger in young Catholic men to gather in fellowship and to express their faith through prayer and service. Having grown up in a small town and attending a parish where the Knights of Columbus were very active I felt confident that this Catholic men’s fraternal organization could benefit the men here at Saint Francis University,” said Paul Girardi, the Council’s Financial and Corresponding Secretary who established the council on campus.

## Irish Diplomat To Visit

**Cresson:** The Mount Aloysius College 2013-2014 Speaker Series will feature Irish historian, writer and diplomat James Anthony Sharkey as speaker and visiting scholar. Ambassador Sharkey’s visit to Mount Aloysius is part of the College’s year-long speaker series addressing the theme, “21st Century Citizenship: The Common Good.” He will spend nearly a month at

the College meeting with faculty and students and lecturing on such diverse topics as literature and the environment, Irish Dramatist and Author Brian Friel, and social violence as disease.

The public is invited to two events during Ambassador Sharkey’s visit. A community lecture will be held on Tuesday, April 29th at 6:00 p.m. in the Wolf-Kuhn Gallery entitled, “Crisis in the Ukraine.” Then on Thursday, May 1st at 3:30 p.m. in historic Alumni Hall, Mr. Sharkey will deliver the Mount Aloysius College 2014 Spring Honors Lecture.

Ambassador Sharkey will also discuss Irish Poet Laureate and his longtime friend, the late Seamus Heaney during a recorded interview with Mount Aloysius College President Tom Foley. Other topics addressed during his time as Visiting Scholar will include, the crisis in Ukraine, religious conflict, and the Irish peace process in Northern Ireland.

## Prayer

### Carmelite Novena

**Loretto:** The year’s fourth novena to Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Saint Therese, the Little Flower, conducted by the Discalced Carmelite Nuns, will open at the Carmelite Monastery Chapel on the Tuesday after Easter, April 22, and conclude on Wednesday, April 30. All intentions will be remembered in the special novena prayer recited after daily Mass.

Those desiring to share in the graces and blessings of these nine days of prayer, and in the private prayers of the Carmelite Nuns during the novena, are requested to send their petitions to Mother Prioress, Discalced Carmelite Monastery, P.O. Box 57, Loretto PA 15940.

Every Sunday afternoon at 4:00 p.m. and every First Friday of the month, Benediction is given in the public chapel at Carmel, followed by veneration of the relic of Saint Therese.

**The Catholic Register is now accepting First Holy Communion, Confirmation, May Crowning and Graduation group photos for publication.**

**The deadline for all such photos is Tuesday, July 14. No exceptions to that deadline will be made, but all photos received prior to the deadline will be published in the paper.**

# Pope Declares Three New Saints For The Americas

By Cindy Wooden  
Catholic News Service

**VATICAN CITY (CNS) --** Without a canonization ceremony, Pope Francis declared three new saints for the Americas, pioneers of the Catholic Church in Brazil and in Canada.

Pope Francis signed decrees April 3 recognizing: St. Jose de Anchieta, a Spanish-born Jesuit who traveled to Brazil in 1553 and became known as the Apostle of Brazil; St. Marie de l'Incarnation, a French Ursuline who traveled to Quebec in 1639 and is known as the Mother of the Canadian Church; and St. Francois de Laval, who arrived in Quebec 20 years after St. Marie de l'Incarnation and became the first bishop of Quebec.

In declaring the three saints, the pope used a procedure known as "equivalent canonizations," which required a thorough study of the candidates' life and writ-



CNS Photo/Courtesy Of Jesuit Postulation

**SAINT MARIE  
DE L'INCARNATION**

ings, fame of holiness and reports of favors granted through their intercession. Unlike a regular sainthood process, though, it did not require the verification of a miracle through their intercession, nor further studies by historians and theologians working for the Congregation for Saints' Causes.

The three were beatified together by Pope John Paul II in 1980.

The Brazilian bishops have said they will celebrate a Mass of thanksgiving with Pope Francis April 24 in Rome's Church of St. Ignatius. The bishops of Quebec have said they will celebrate a thanksgiving Mass May 18 in Quebec and hope to have a larger celebration with the pope in Rome in October.

Across Canada, the news of the decrees was welcomed with joy and thanksgiving, most especially in the Archdiocese of Quebec, where St. Marie de l'Incarnation and St. Francois de Laval are buried.

Pope Francis has used the "equivalent canonization" twice before; in October he signed the decree recognizing Italian St. Angela of Foligno, and in December, he signed a decree recognizing St. Peter Faber, one of the founding members of the Jesuits.



Courtesy Photo

**WARM RELATIONSHIP:** Mother Amabilis, pioneer of the Sister Servants of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus in the United States, had a warm relationship with Pope John Paul II, who will be canonized on Sunday, April 27.

## Cresson Priest, Sisters Share Links To Pope John Paul II

(Continued From Page 16.)

Saint Aloysius Parish also has another link with soon - to - be - Saint John Paul II. The late pontiff was attended in his private household by members of the Sister Servants of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, who minister in the Cresson parish as musicians and catechists. The congregation's United States provincial house is located in Cresson.

Following the death of the pontiff on April 2, 2005, the Sisters reflected on their association with him in an April 18 article in **The Catholic Register**.

Mother Amabilis, one the order's pioneers in the United States and the first local Provincial Superior recalled the Pope John Paul, as auxiliary Bishop of Krakow "connected me with a businessman from Philadelphia who gave me enough financial help to get us started" when the Sisters came to this country. "The Holy Father was charitable to all of us," she stated.

In 2003, Mother Amabilis celebrated her golden jubilee in

religious life; as part of her jubilee celebration she attended the canonization of her order's founder, Saint Joseph Sebastian Pelczar, at the Vatican, and was again the recipient of special attention from Pope John Paul II.

"I spent time with the Holy Father and he gave me a holy card with his signature on it. I was able to tour all the rooms in the Vatican, including his private living quarters," she remembered.

The Sisters perpetuate the memory of their relationship with the late Holy Father in their ministry at John Paul II Manor, a personal care home for the elderly and the ill, in Cresson. "With that same love and dedication with which the Sisters served this great Pope so well at the Vatican, the Sisters seek to bring to everyone everywhere the love of God's Heart especially to the residents of John Paul II Manor and to families, schools, hospitals, missions, or wherever they may be called to serve God's people," the Manor's website states.

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



**HOLY HOUR  
SUNDAY, APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup>  
AT 3:00 PM**

**Exposition and Benediction of the  
Blessed Sacrament**

**The Chaplet of Divine  
Mercy in Song**

**OUR LADY OF  
LOURDES PARISH  
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# Now Showing

## 'Noah' Steers Ark Into Uncharted Seas

By John Mulderig  
Catholic News Service

**NEW YORK (CNS)** -- "Noah" (Paramount), which begins as a fairly straightforward recounting of the biblical story of the flood, eventually veers off into a grim, scripturally unfounded drama about a family dispute.

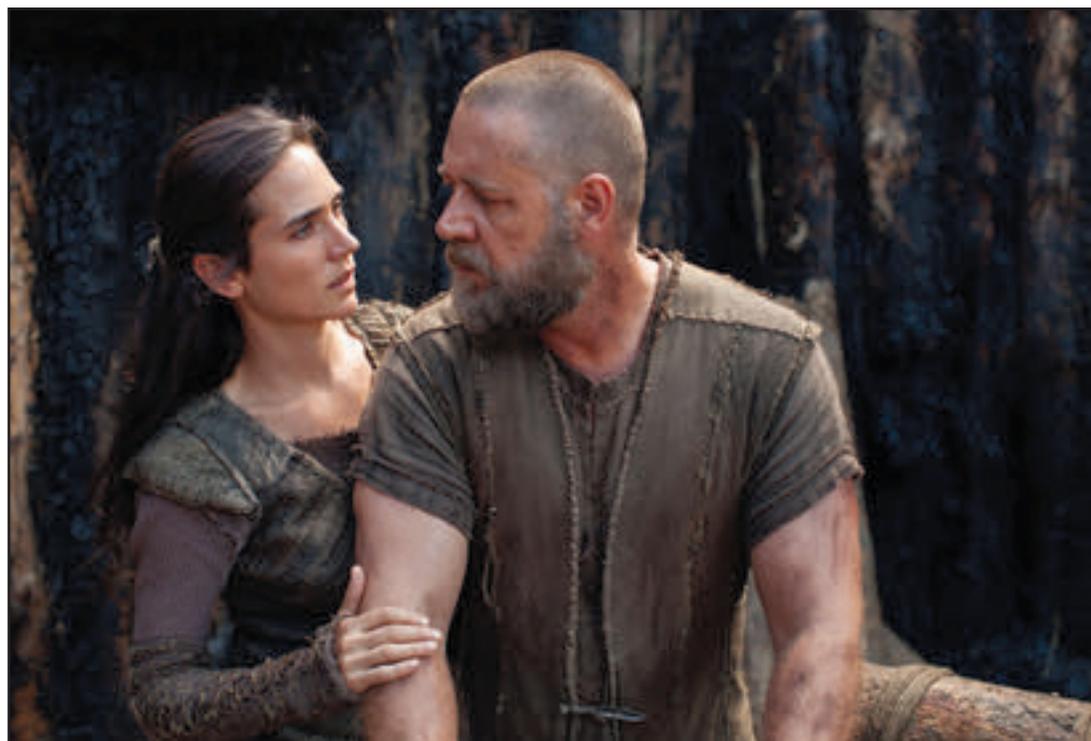
This clan conflict is driven by the titular patriarch's (Russell Crowe) misguided interpretation of God's purposes in causing the deluge. Though Noah's extreme pro-nature, anti-human reading of the situation is corrected in the end, his temporary fanaticism requires that viewers approach the film with mature discernment and with a solid grounding in the relevant, sometimes mysterious passages of the Old Testament.

Even early on, the narrative of the Book of Genesis is padded out, and there are some

borrowings from other parts of the Bible as well as from non-canonical works. Thus, in convincingly portraying the wickedness from which the earth is to be cleansed, director and co-writer Darren Aronofsky embodies the range of sinful tendencies on display in the impious person of self-proclaimed "King" Tubal-Cain (Ray Winstone).

The single verse of Scripture that refers to Tubal-Cain -- Chapter 4, Verse 22, of Genesis -- tells us only about his genealogy and his role as, more or less, the first metalworker. But there is a tradition that at least part of Tubal-Cain's craft involved forging weapons, so perhaps he can reasonably be enlisted as the prototype of arms merchants and war-profiteers.

A more questionable exercise of creative liberty presents us with a race of giant creatures called the Watchers. Their background story, meant to connect them to the shadowy Nephilim



CNS Photo/Paramount

**NOAH:** Jennifer Connelly and Russell Crowe star in a scene from the movie "Noah." The Catholic News Service classification is A-III -- adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 -- parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

mentioned in Chapter 6 of Genesis, describes them as angels who voluntarily fell to Earth to help the fledgling human race. The idea of angel-like Watchers also evokes the Book of Daniel and the extra-canonical books of Enoch and Jubilees.

Still, the opening sequences are largely faithful to the original story, though in place of a direct revelation by God, Noah is tipped off to the fate of humanity by a dream. He interprets this vision -- acknowledging that it was sent by "the Creator," as God is always called in the dialogue -- with the help of his grandfather, Methuselah (Anthony Hopkins).

The building of the ark and the gathering of the animals are also according to Hoyle, and are accomplished through predictably impressive special effects.

On the eve of the flood,

though, the stage is set for the familial clash that will occupy the audience's attention throughout the ark's forthcoming voyage. This necessitates not just a departure from the text of Genesis, but a direct contradiction of it.

The Bible tells us that all three of Noah's sons -- Shem (Douglas Booth), Ham (Logan Lerman) and Japheth (Leo McHugh Carroll) -- were accompanied onto the ark by their wives (Chapter 7, Verse 13, of Genesis). On screen, Shem has his destined bride in Ila (Emma Watson), an orphan Noah and his wife, Naameh (Jennifer Connelly), long ago rescued and adopted. But Ham has no spouse, and Noah systematically thwarts

his efforts to acquire one, while Japheth is barely a teenager.

Noah, it emerges, believes that the only reason he and his relatives have been rescued by God is so that they can keep the animals safe during the flood. Having seen to all the other creatures' survival, it will then be wicked humanity's destiny to die out, restoring the natural world to a pure and innocent state.

*(Continued On Page 15.)*

***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 WWCP - TV FOX Channel 8**

**Proclaim!**  
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## Coming Up On 'Proclaim!'

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

**April 27** -- On this day of canonization for Blessed John Paul II, Father John Byrnes, Pastor of Saint Aloysius Parish in Cresson and Judicial Vicar for the Diocese, shares his special connection to the Holy Father.

**May 4** -- Benedictine Father Boniface Hicks, of We Are One Body Radio (WAOB) discusses his ministry and its reach in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown.

# Parish Leads Prayerful Response To Stabbing Attack At Murrysville High School

By Elizabeth Fazzini  
Catholic News Service

**MURRYSVILLE (CNS)** -- Stunned by an early morning tragedy, the Murrysville community gathered at Mother of Sorrows Church April 9 and asked God to send his Holy

## 'Noah'

(Continued From Page 14.)

This ultra-environmentalist outlook not only puts Noah at odds with Ham but -- through a late-blooming crisis not to be outlined for fear of a spoiler -- with everyone else on board except Japheth. Since Noah will stop at nothing to carry out the apparently anti-life mission the Deity has entrusted to him, what we are left with, for the time being at least, is not a model of faith but an image of unbalanced zealotry.

All this is somewhat mitigated, and explained away, before the closing credits. And Aronofsky's script, penned in collaboration with Ari Handel, approaches its weighty themes of righteousness and evil, punishment and redemption, with due seriousness.

But, taken together with the elements listed below, the movie's dramatic deviations from its inspired source material mean that young viewers would be better directed -- initially at least -- to more literal-minded adaptations, rather than this very free variation on a theme.

The film contains much stylized violence with minimal gore, an off-screen encounter that may be premarital, distant partial nudity and some mild sensuality. The Catholic News Service classification is A-III -- adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 -- parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.



CNS Photo/Mary Seamans, *The Catholic Accent*

**COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRAY:** Community members participate in the Ecumenical Prayer Service for Healing April 9 at Mother of Sorrows Catholic Church in Murrysville. Earlier in the day, a 16-year-old student wielding two knives went down the hallways of Franklin Regional High School near Pittsburgh on a stabbing rampage, wounding 22. Several students suffered life-threatening wounds, but all were expected to survive.

Spirit into their community to dispel the darkness and fear and lead them into the light.

The parish held a candlelit service on the evening of a violent incident at nearby Franklin Regional Senior High School, Murrysville, where 21 students and an adult security guard were stabbed in a knife-wielding rampage, according to Westmoreland County Department of Public Safety spokesman Dan Stevens.

The suspect, 16-year-old sophomore Alex Hribal, has been arraigned and charged as an adult.

More than 700 people -- some of whom were embracing and showing quiet, yet visible, signs of distress -- filled the large church and prayed for everyone impacted by the violence.

Rows of police officers, first responders and young people stood shoulder-to-shoulder along the back wall; nearly 350 Franklin Regional High

School students are parishioners of Mother of Sorrows Parish, which is near Pittsburgh.

Father William J. Lechnar, pastor, who led the prayer service, told the assembly it was difficult to put into words the emotions that have surfaced by the painful event.

"This evening we gather asking for God's grace to help us all in a time of darkness and, in a special way, to send his healing power on those who are recovering and still struggling from wounds that have injured both body and spirit," he said.

"There is no definitive answer to the question, 'Why would God allow this to happen?'" Father Lechnar said, noting that God's gift of free will allows people to choose to follow Christ or stray from his path.

"Even when we are not able to make sense of situations that unfold before our very eyes, we should trust that we are not abandoned or scattered without

protection in the darkness," Father Lechnar said.

Mother of Sorrows' parishioner Beth Krauza, a senior at Franklin Regional High School who was not injured during the morning's stabbings, attended the service to support the community and a close friend who received minor injuries.

"(In addition to all the victims,) my heart goes out to his (the suspect's) family," Krauza said. "I can't imagine what his parents are going through."

"No one deserved any of this. Everyone is a victim in this situation," she told *The Catholic Accent*, newspaper of the Greensburg Diocese.

"I'm just praying that we can all find something positive out of this -- and come together especially," Krauza said.

Robert and Darlyn Abel, also parishioners, expressed similar emotions.

Their granddaughter is a middle-school student at Frank-

lin Regional. Although the incident didn't directly affect her or her school, the grandparents were troubled.

"I was emotionally upset all day," Darlyn said.

Both agreed it was important to attend the prayer service, and they were glad they did.

The Abels, too, said their hearts go out to the suspect and his family and that they will be praying that victims and everyone affected by the incident will be able to overcome the devastation.

"If everyone treated one another the way they want to be treated, it would be a better world," Robert said.

Father Lechnar reminded people during the service that they were praying for everyone who suffers from emotional distress that could cause them to perpetrate acts of violence.

"And we ask God for his mercy upon them all," he said. "We also pray for those who suffer pain or loss this night, here in Murrysville and those around the world.

"May God's healing power penetrate deeply the lives of us all," Father Lechnar added.

He read a statement by Greensburg Bishop Lawrence E. Brandt, who was not able to attend the service.

In it, the bishop assured the victims of the "senseless act of violence" -- as well as their families, friends and school community -- that his prayers and those of the people in the Diocese of Greensburg are with them.

"We all suffer when violence shatters lives," he said.

"May God hear our prayers, protect our children, and bring strength, peace and hope to all affected by this tragedy," Bishop Brandt said.

Before departing from the church, the assembly raised hundreds of lit candles and joined voices to sing "Let There Be Peace on Earth."

# Cresson Priest, Sisters Share Memories Of Special Links To Soon - To - Be - Saint John Paul

**Photo And Text  
By Bruce A. Tomaselli**

Miraculous, maybe, but not in the conventional sense. To a young seminarian - deacon, nevertheless, it probably seemed like a miracle that Pope John Paul II would use his very own brand, new chalice to celebrate Mass.

To be canonized Sunday, April 27, Blessed John Paul II extended the thoughtful gesture to Father John D. Byrnes on March 18, 1993. Father Byrnes also was given legal documentation of the event complete with the Vatican Seal.

Father Byrnes, judicial vicar for the Altoona - Johnstown Diocese, and pastor of Saint Aloysius Parish in Cresson, smiled as he recalled the day.

A seminarian resident at the North American College in Rome, Father Byrnes later followed Pope John Paul's Mass celebration when he used the chalice to celebrate his first Mass following his ordination to the priesthood on November 13, 1994. He cherishes the chalice presented to him by his parents.

"It was a huge honor to be at the Mass when Pope John Paul used my chalice for the first

time," said Father Byrnes. "He used it first and I used it second at my first Mass. It was such an honor, and it remains so every day I use it to celebrate Mass."

Cresson jeweler Larry Servinsky of Servinsky Jewelers, inscribed its base noting that Pope John Paul II celebrated Mass with the new chalice.

His parish is quite aware of the significance and history of the chalice. "They realize that this chalice used at daily Mass ties us with the Holy Father and the Saints of Heaven. It's pretty amazing." In a sense it binds the entire Altoona - Johnstown Diocese to the saints above.

As usual in these kinds of situations, a perfect happenstance of events came together to make it possible for the chalice to be used by Pope John Paul II.

The Bishops of Illinois and Indiana were making their Ad Limina visit at the time. The Pope planned to celebrate Mass in his private apartment for the visiting Bishops and he requested it be celebrated in English.

Gary Penkala of the Altoona - Johnstown Diocese was the music director at the North American College. Previously, he had been music director at Our Lady of Victory Parish in State College. He needed a can-

tor so he asked the then seminarian, Deacon John Byrnes, to accompany him. Father Byrnes was ordained a Deacon in 1992 along with 30 of his classmates from the North American College.

He had no classes scheduled that day and he just happened to have his chalice, a gift from his parents, with him. "It was known at the time that the Holy Father would bless and use a chalice of a Deacon as a sign of support to the seminarians," Father Byrnes explained.

But, to make it happen Father Byrnes needed an assist from the Pope's personal Secretary, Archbishop Stanislaw Dziwisz (now Cardinal - Archbishop of Krakow), who facilitated the early morning Mass in the Pope's private chapel. "What really impressed me was the willingness of the Holy Father to offer this gesture," said Father Byrnes.

"It was a Pope being kind. It says a lot about his personal care for the seminarians, and that the saints are real. My chalice was used by a saint. Sometimes I find it hard to wrap my mind around that thought."

Father Byrnes said the act of kindness made by our newest saint toward a seminarian inspires him to reach out to other



**CHALICE USED BY SAINT:** Father John D. Byrnes, diocesan judicial vicar and pastor of Saint Aloysius Parish, Cresson, displays his chalice, a gift from his parents. The chalice was blessed, and first used at Mass, by the soon - to - be - Saint John Paul II on March 18, 1993, when Father Byrnes was a seminarian at the North American College in Rome.

men who are discerning a vocation.

"I still remember hearing the tap, tap, tap of the electric typewriter as Archbishop Dziwisz typed out the document

for me," recalls Father Byrnes, like it was just yesterday. "He smiled, handed me the document and said, 'Here, now you'll always have proof.'"

*(Continued On Page 13.)*

**PERIODICAL RATE MAIL**

# The Catholic Register

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