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With Roots In Carrolltown, Benedictine Sisters Find New Ways To Live An Ancient Tradition

Photos And Text
By Msgr. Timothy P. Stein

Heirs to a tradition that began in Italy in the Sixth Century, the Benedictine Sisters of Pittsburgh are proud to claim that their local roots were planted in Carrolltown in the Nineteenth Century.

Benedictine men and women profess a vow of stability, promising to remain part of a particular monastic community in a specific locale, for life.

Yet, beginning with Saint Benedict, that stability has allowed Benedictine monks, nuns and sisters the freedom to move from place to place as they live out their charism of shared prayer and life in common.

Saint Benedict lived in Nursia, Rome and Subiaco, before finding a permanent home at Monte Cassino.

An English Benedictine nun, Saint Walburga, established a monastery in Germany. From the monastery of Saint Walburga in Eichstatt, Benedictine women came to the United States in 1852 and founded a convent in Saint Marys in Elk County.

In time, the Elk County sisters opened two convents in Cambria County - - one in Johnstown and one in Carrolltown. At the request of Bishop



VESPERS: Shared liturgical prayer is a vital part of the community life of the Benedictine Sisters of Pittsburgh. Praying vespers together in the chapel of their new monastery in suburban Bakerstown (left photo) are (left to right) Sisters Gemma Liberati, Evelyn Dettling and Alice Rock. In the photo at right, Carrolltown native Sister Rose Budicky joins in prayer with her Sisters. The Benedictine Sisters of Pittsburgh were founded in Carrolltown in 1870, and had their Motherhouse there until 1889. Sisters ministered at Saint Benedict School in Carrolltown until 1985.

Michael Domenec, those two houses united to form a new community of Benedictine Sisters in the Diocese of Pittsburgh. Carrolltown was designated the Motherhouse of the new community.

But Carrolltown was not to be the permanent home of the Benedictine Sisters. In 1889 the Motherhouse was transferred to Canal Street on Pittsburgh's

North Side. Another move would follow, to property in Ross Township, in 1927. And last year, on April 22, 2013, the Benedictine Sisters of Pittsburgh moved to another new home, a rural location in suburban Bakerstown, not far from the Pennsylvania Turnpike's Butler Valley exit.

With each move, the name of the Motherhouse changed too

- - Saint Scholastica Convent in Carrolltown, Mount Saint Mary on the North Side and in Ross Township, and now, Saint Benedict Monastery in Bakerstown. Yet in all those moves and new beginnings, the Sisters have kept an appreciation of their roots in Carrolltown and their origin in a place that was "Catholic and Benedictine - - we knew nothing else," as one Sister said.

That Sister, Sister Michelle Farabaugh, is one of four Carrolltown natives who has served as prioress, or major superior, of the community. Sister Michelle served from 1982 to 1990, and again from 2002 to 2008.

(Continued On Page 10.)



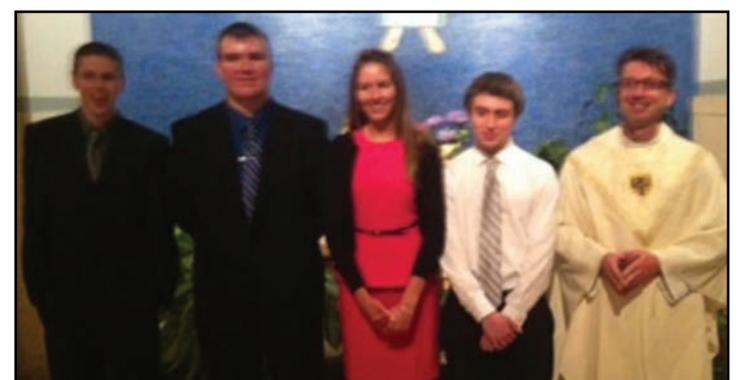
SACRED HEART: Celebrating First Holy Communion at Sacred Heart Parish, Altoona, on Sunday, May 4 were (left to right) First row: Ava Rokosky, Jane Fox, Sarah Geishauser, Grace Mickle, Aubrey Dietzel, Haley Novak, Hailey Kravitz. Second row: Monsignor Stanley B. Carson (pastor), James Horell, Aaron Brumbaugh, Tyler Kowalski, Caleb Fries, Noah Fries, and Betsy Chilcote (catechist).



SAINT THOMAS MORE: Saint Thomas More Parish, Roaring Spring, celebrated Confirmation on Thursday, May 1 and First Holy Communion on Sunday, May 4. Pictured above are (left to right) Tyler Sherry, Taylor Ritchey, Father Leo Lynch (pastor), Meghan Replogle, Cullen Gahagan, Emily Ritchey and Hannah Easley. Pictured at right are (left to right) Kylie Weber, Father Lynch, Payton Gregg and Logan Campbell.



MISSION TRIP: Members of Good Shepherd Parish, State College, made a mission trip to their twin parish, Holy Spirit Parish in Maggotty, in the Diocese of Mandeville, Jamaica, March 8 - 15. Here, parishioners are seen painting grates covering the windows of the parish church. Grates of this type are critical, since the church building is used as a shelter during hurricanes.



MOUNT UNION: Celebrating Confirmation at Saint Catherine of Siena Parish, Mount Union, were (left to right) Kordell Murphy, Scott Cooper, Katherine Christoff, Devin Crouse, and Father Lubomir Strecok (parochial administrator).

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Prayer

Carmelite Novena

Loretto: The fifth novena of the year 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 Thursday, May 22 and conclude Friday, May 30.

All intentions will be remembered in the prayers of the nuns 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 of the Most Blessed Sacrament is given in the public chapel at Carmel, followed by veneration of the relic of Saint Therese.

In The Alleghenies



SAINT MICHAEL: Saint Michael Parish, Saint Michael, celebrated Confirmation on Thursday, April 24. Pictured are (left to right) First row: Michael J. Barton, Jr. (catechist), Kristen Kundrod, Ashley Jamieson, LynsieDeibert, CariKestermont, Carrington Koeck, and Abbey Richards. Back Second row: Deacon David Hornick, Tyler McCall, Jesse Naugle, Garrett Varner, Devon Michaels, Father Charles Bodziak (pastor) and Pauline Minor (catechist).



SENIORS HONORED: Saint Michael Parish, Saint Michael celebrated their Senior Sunday Mass on April 27. All of the graduating high school seniors were presented with **The New Catholic Answer Bible** blessed by Father Charles Bodziak as a gift from the parish. Those that returned and completed their 12th grade year of Religious Education and requirements were also presented with an application for a \$300.00 Higher Education Grant, awarded through Saint Michael parish. Pictured are (left to right) First row: Missy Burkardt, (12th Grade Catechist), Rachel Blanchetti, Kara Hritz, Tori Dibble, Kayla Walls, Renae Kakabar and Laurie Sloan, (Director of Religious Education). Second row: Deacon Dave Hornick, Mark Bambino, Mitchell Leach, Nicole Richards, Derek Yoder, Jenna Weis, Megan Kostan, Father Charles Bodziak (pastor) and Madison Kundrod. Three of the students - - Madison Kunrod, Mitchell Leach and Megan Kostan were also presented with an additional \$250.00 REACH Service Award \$ funded through The Community Foundation of the Alleghenies in recognition for having the most cumulative service time in the parish's REACH Youth Ministry Program

The Catholic Register will be accepting First Holy Communion, Confirmation, May Crowning and Graduation group photos for publication until July 15. No submissions received after that date will be accepted.



SISTER ANNETTE FROEHLICH M.M.S.

Johnstown Native Marks Sixtieth Jubilee

Johnstown native and former member of Immaculate Conception Parish, Sister Annette Froehlich will celebrate her 60th Jubilee on August 15 at a special Mass and reception at the Medical Mission Sisters' North American Headquarters in Philadelphia.

She entered the Medical Mission Sisters in 1951 and, after initial religious formation, received a nursing diploma. Sister Annette worked for eight years at Holy Family Hospitals in Berekum and Techiman,

Ghana; received her certification as a nurse-midwife in 1967; and later was awarded a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing and a Master's Degree in Public Health. She then worked as a public health nurse, public health nursing supervisor and nurse-midwife in Techiman, Ghana, and in several U.S. cities.

After 40 years of hands-on health care, Sister Annette earned a degree in Wildlife Science from New Mexico State University in 1994. She was recently honored for her volunteer work by the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management for

"Making a Difference on Public Lands." Sister lives in Las Cruces, New Mexico, where she has earned the distinction of "Master Gardener."

The Medical Mission Sisters are an international Religious Community of women committed to a mission of healing in areas of need throughout the world. Founded in 1925 by Austrian-born Doctor Anna Dengel, they are the first Roman Catholic Sisters to combine the practice of medicine, surgery, and obstetrics with the Religious life. Their 600 Sisters and 100 Associate members today serve as a healing presence in 17 countries around the world.

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Point Of View



On The Ballot 2014

Primary Election day is Tuesday, May 20. Pennsylvanians will go to the polls to select the Democratic and Republican contenders for governor, lieutenant governor, U.S. Congressional representatives, some state senators and all state representatives.

In the gubernatorial race, Republicans have one choice. Tom Corbett is the incumbent governor and former state attorney general. Prior to running for statewide office, Corbett was a teacher and a lawyer both as an assistant U.S. attorney and in private practice.

Democrats have a few more choices. Here is how they will appear on the ballot. Tom Wolf is the former Secretary of Revenue under Governor Ed Rendell and is CEO of a kitchen cabinet and specialty building products company. Rob McCord is the cur-



CNS Photo/Nancy Phelan Wiechec

rent state treasurer. Prior to his public service, he was the managing director of several venture capital funds. Katie McGinty sits on the boards of several energy and clean technology companies. She was a senior advisor on environmental matters to Senator and Vice-President Al Gore and President Bill Clinton and was secretary of Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) under Governor Ed Rendell. Alyson Schwartz currently

represents Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District and is a former state senator. Prior to elective office she was executive director of the Elizabeth Blackwell Women's Health Center, a Planned Parenthood abortion clinic in Philadelphia.

The Pennsylvania Catholic Conference neither supports nor opposes any candidate for public office but aims to educate Catholic voters about candidates and their positions on key issues. We sent a questionnaire to every statewide candidate giving them an opportunity to state their positions in

their own words. Governor Corbett responded; the Democratic candidates did not respond. However, all of the candidates have made public statements and published campaign materials that give clues about where they stand. These are a few, but certainly not all, of the issues that may be of interest to Catholic voters.

Life & Dignity of the Human Person

Republican Corbett indicated on PCC's questionnaire that he opposes legalized abortion, except when the life of the mother is in danger or the pregnancy is a result of rape or incest. All four Democratic candidates described themselves as 'pro-choice' on the abortion issue during a debate at Carnegie Mellon University in January 2014.

Access to Health Care

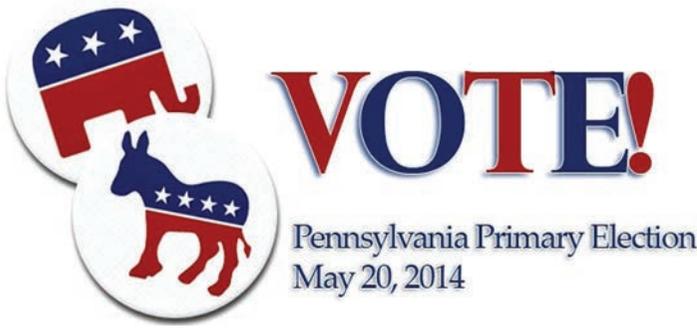
Corbett told the PCC he believes Pennsylvania should use the additional federal funds under the Affordable Care Act to allow more people, including the working poor, to access the private insurance market. He has proposed a plan to this effect called Healthy Pennsylvania. All four Democrats say they would expand Medicaid immediately if elected governor. According to his campaign website, Wolf would "take an active, aggressive role in expanding access to health care in Pennsylvania." In addition to expanding Medicaid, McCord told Keystone Politics that he "would like to see Pennsylvania take an aggressive approach to promoting health care exchanges, especially to

young, healthy consumers who will help spread out the risk and bring costs down for the rest of us." In a campaign press release, McGinty said, "Numerous studies have shown the federal aid would not only cover hundreds of thousands of Pennsylvanians, but it would also boost economic activity, support job creation and generate real savings for state government." Schwartz talks about her record in Congress helping to pass the Affordable Care Act in her campaign ads.

School Choice

Corbett increased funding for the Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program (EITC) and established the Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit Program (OSTC) during his administration. All four Democratic candidates told NBC 10 in Philadelphia that they oppose state-funded tuition assistance vouchers for private school students. They also told the **York Daily Record** about their opposition to vouchers. Wolf has a plan to reform charter schools. McCord has a \$1.3 billion education plan. McGinty has a multi-step plan to increase education funding. Schwartz details a "new road forward" for education in Pennsylvania.

(The staff of the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference contributed to this article. The PCC is the public affairs agency of Pennsylvania's Catholic bishops and the Catholic dioceses of Pennsylvania. Stay up-to-date with Catholic news and issues at www.pacatholic.org, www.facebook.com/pacatholic, and www.twitter.com/pacatholic.)



The Pennsylvania Primary is on Tuesday, May 20. In an effort to give the Catholic faithful an opportunity to better understand candidates' position on key issues, the Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown, in partnership with the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference, asked candidates in contested races for United States Congress and the Pennsylvania Legislature to respond to PCC questionnaires.

United States House of Representatives

Do you support or oppose legislation to continue and expand current federal laws that provide educational benefits to students and teachers in private and religious schools on an equitable basis in comparison to the benefits received by public school students and teachers?

5th District
Thomas Tarantella (D) – Did not respond
Kerith Taylor (D) – Did not respond

9th District District
Arthur Halvorson (R) -- Support
Travis Schooly (R) – Did not respond
Bill Shuster (R) – Oppose

12th District
John Hugya (D) – Support
Erin McClelland (D) – Did not respond

Which statement reflects your position most accurately?

- I support legalized abortion.
- I oppose legalized abortion in all circumstances.
- I oppose legalized abortion, except when the life of the mother is in danger or the pregnancy is a result of rape or incest.

5th District
Thomas Tarantella (D) – Did not respond
Kerith Taylor (D) – Did not respond

9th District District
Arthur Halvorson (R) – I oppose legalized abortion in all circum-

stances
Travis Schooly (R) – Did not respond
Bill Shuster (R) – I oppose legalized abortion, except when the life of the mother is in danger, or in the case of rape and incest.

12th District
John Hugya (D) – I oppose legalized abortion, except when the life of the mother is in danger or the pregnancy is a result of rape or incest.
Erin McClelland (D) – Did not respond

Do you support or oppose legislation that would permit undocumented immigrants who have lived in the United States for a number of years, have worked and built equities in our country, and who do not have criminal records to register with the government and take steps to earn legal status?

5th District
Thomas Tarantella (D) – Did not respond
Kerith Taylor (D) – Did not respond

9th District District
Arthur Halvorson (R) – Oppose
Travis Schooly (R) – Did not respond
Bill Shuster (R) – Oppose

12th District
John Hugya (D) – Oppose
Erin McClelland (D) – Did not respond

What is your position on providing a federal tax credit to businesses that donate to scholarship organizations that provide scholarships for low-income students at private and religious schools in grades kindergarten

through 12?

5th District
Thomas Tarantella (D) – Did not respond
Kerith Taylor (D) – Did not respond

9th District District
Arthur Halvorson (R) – Support
Travis Schooly (R) – Did not respond
Bill Shuster (R) – Oppose

12th District
John Hugya (D) – Support
Erin McClelland (D) – Did not respond

Do you support or oppose robust funding for poverty-focused assistance to reduce global poverty and increase the percentage of gross domestic product (GDP) contributed in foreign aid?

5th District
Thomas Tarantella (D) – Did not respond
Kerith Taylor (D) – Did not respond

9th District District
Arthur Halvorson (R) – Did not respond
Travis Schooly (R) – Did not respond
Bill Shuster (R) – Oppose

12th District
John Hugya (D) – Oppose
Erin McClelland (D) – Did not respond

Do you support or oppose robust levels of aid for refugees who are fleeing from persecution abroad and to provide adequate funding for the U.S. refugee admissions and resettlement programs?

5th District
Thomas Tarantella (D) – Did not respond
Kerith Taylor (D) – Did not respond

9th District District
Arthur Halvorson (R) – Did not respond
Travis Schooly (R) – Did not respond
Bill Shuster (R) – Oppose

12th District
John Hugya (D) – Oppose
Erin McClelland (D) – Did not respond

Do you support or oppose legislation to prevent federal agencies and states that receive federal funds from discriminating against health care providers who do not perform or partici-

pate in abortions (Hyde-Weldon Amendment)?

5th District
Thomas Tarantella (D) – Did not respond
Kerith Taylor (D) – Did not respond

9th District District
Arthur Halvorson (R) – Support
Travis Schooly (R) – Did not respond
Bill Shuster (R) – Support

12th District
John Hugya (D) – Support
Erin McClelland (D) – Did not respond

What is your position on legalizing same-sex marriage?

5th District
Thomas Tarantella (D) – Did not respond
Kerith Taylor (D) – Did not respond

9th District District
Arthur Halvorson (R) – Oppose
Travis Schooly (R) – Did not respond
Bill Shuster (R) – Oppose

12th District
John Hugya (D) – Oppose
Erin McClelland (D) – Did not respond

Do you support or oppose legislation that would guarantee comprehensive freedom of conscience for health care professionals, providers and institutions?

5th District
Thomas Tarantella (D) – Did not respond
Kerith Taylor (D) – Did not respond

9th District District
Arthur Halvorson (R) – Support
Travis Schooly (R) – Did not respond
Bill Shuster (R) – Support

12th District
John Hugya (D) – Oppose
Erin McClelland (D) – Did not respond

Do you support or oppose efforts to pass legislation (i.e., the Federal Employment Non-Discrimination Act) that would make sexual orientation and gender identity or expression protected classes that are equivalent to existing protected classes (e.g., race, religion, sex, etc.)?

5th District
Thomas Tarantella (D) – Did not respond
Kerith Taylor (D) – Did not respond

9th District District
Arthur Halvorson (R) – Oppose
Travis Schooly (R) – Did not respond
Bill Shuster (R) – Oppose

12th District
John Hugya (D) – Support
Erin McClelland (D) – Did not respond

Pennsylvania House

What is your position on legislation that would provide direct grants to parents to choose the schools that they believe are best suited for their children, including non-public schools?

71st District
Mark Amsdell (R) – Support
James Rigby (R) – Did not respond

72nd District
Frank Burns (D) – Did not respond
Martin Westrick (D) -- Support

Philip Rice (R) – Did not respond
Randall Wilson (R) – Did not respond

78th District
Joshua Lang (R) – Did not respond
Jesse Topper (R) – Did not respond

80th District
Aaron Ritchey (R) – Support
Judith Ward (R) – Support

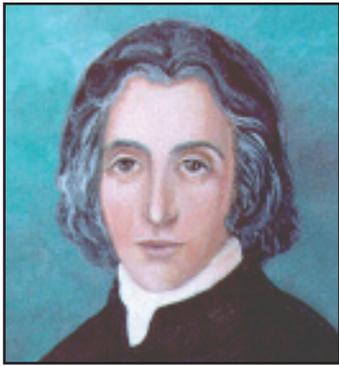
Which statement reflects your position most accurately?

- I support legalized abortion.
- I oppose legalized abortion in all circumstances.
- I oppose legalized abortion, except when the life of the mother is in danger or the pregnancy is a result of rape or incest.

71st District
Mark Amsdell (R) – I oppose legalized abortion in all circumstances
James Rigby (R) – Did not respond

(Continued On Page 6.)

- (Continued From Page 5.)
- 72nd District
Frank Burns (D) – I oppose legalized abortion, except when the life of the mother is in danger or the pregnancy is a result of rape or incest.
Martin Westrick (D) – I oppose legalized abortion except when the life of the mother is in danger.
- Philip Rice (R) – Did not respond
Randall Wilson (R) – Did not respond
- 78th District
Joshua Lang (R) – Did not respond
Jesse Topper (R) – Did not respond
- 80th District
Aaron Ritchey (R) – I oppose legalized abortion, except when the life of the mother is in danger or the pregnancy is a result of rape or incest.
Judith Ward (R) – I oppose legalized abortion, except when the life of the mother is in danger or the pregnancy is a result of rape or incest.
- What is your position on legislation that would add state restrictions to existing federal prohibitions concerning the hiring of undocumented immigrants or providing healthcare or government services to the undocumented immigrant?
- 71st District
Mark Amsdell (R) – Support
James Rigby (R) – Did not respond
- 72nd District
Frank Burns (D) – Support
Martin Westrick (D) – Oppose
- Philip Rice (R) – Did not respond
Randall Wilson (R) – Did not respond
- 78th District
Joshua Lang (R) – Did not respond
Jesse Topper (R) – Did not respond
- 80th District
Aaron Ritchey (R) – Oppose
Judith Ward (R) – Support
- What is your position on legalizing same-sex marriage?
- 71st District
Mark Amsdell (R) – Oppose
James Rigby (R) – Did not respond
- 72nd District
Frank Burns (D) – Oppose
Martin Westrick (D) – Oppose
- Philip Rice (R) – Did not respond
Randall Wilson (R) – Did not respond
- 78th District
Joshua Lang (R) – Did not respond
Jesse Topper (R) – Did not respond
- 80th District
Aaron Ritchey (R) – Oppose
Judith Ward (R) – Oppose
- Which statement reflects your position most accurately?
- _____ Pennsylvania's anti-discrimination laws for housing, employment and public accommodation should include "sexual orientation" and "gender identity or expression" as protected classes, no exceptions.
- _____ Pennsylvania's anti-discrimination laws for housing, employment and public accommodation should include "sexual orientation" and "gender identity or expression" as protected classes, but should contain exceptions in narrow circumstances to protect religious institutions.
- _____ Pennsylvania's anti-discrimination laws for housing, employment and public accommodation should include "sexual orientation" and "gender identity or expression" as protected classes, but should contain exceptions in narrow circumstances to protect religious conscience for business owners.
- _____ Pennsylvania should not amend its anti-discrimination laws to add "sexual orientation" and "gender identity an dexpression" as protected classes at this time.
- 71st District
Mark Amsdell (R) – Pennsylvania should not amend its anti-discrimination laws to add "sexual orientation" and "gender identity expression" as protected classes at this time.
James Rigby (R) – Did not respond
- 72nd District
Frank Burns (D) – Pennsylvania should not amend its anti-discrimination laws to add "sexual orientation" and "gender identity and expression" as protected classes at this time.
Martin Westrick (D) – Pennsylvania should not amend its anti-discrimination laws to add
- "sexual orientation" and "gender identity and expression" as protected classes at this time.
- Philip Rice (R) – Did not respond
Randall Wilson (R) – Did not respond
- 78th District
Joshua Lang (R) – Did not respond
Jesse Topper (R) – Did not respond
- 80th District
Aaron Ritchey (R) – Pennsylvania should not amend its anti-discrimination laws to add "sexual orientation" and "gender identity and expression" as protected classes at this time.
Judith Ward (R) – Did not respond
- Assuming there is money in the state budget, what is your position on increasing funding for textbooks and instructional materials for non-public school students at the same rate as increases in subsidies for public school students?
- 71st District
Mark Amsdell (R) – Support
James Rigby (R) – Did not respond
- 72nd District
Frank Burns (D) – Support
Martin Westrick (D) – Support
- Philip Rice (R) – Did not respond
Randall Wilson (R) – Did not respond
- 78th District
Joshua Lang (R) – Did not respond
Jesse Topper (R) – Did not respond
- 80th District
Aaron Ritchey (R) – Did not respond
Judith Ward (R) – Support
- Which statement reflects your position most accurately?
- _____ Pennsylvania should accept federal funds under the Affordable Care Act and allow more people, including the working poor, to participate in Medicaid.
- _____ Pennsylvania should use the additional federal funds under the Affordable Care Act to allow more people, including the working poor, to access the private insurance market.
- _____ Pennsylvania should not accept Affordable Care Act funds.
- 71st District
Mark Amsdell (R) – Pennsylvania should not accept Affordable Care Act funds.
James Rigby (R) – Did not respond
- 72nd District
Frank Burns (D) – Pennsylvania should use the additional federal funds under the Affordable Care Act to allow more people, including the working poor, to access the private insurance market.
Martin Westrick (D) – Pennsylvania should not accept Affordable Care Act funds.
- Philip Rice (R) – Did not respond
Randall Wilson (R) – Did not respond
- 78th District
Joshua Lang (R) – Did not respond
Jesse Topper (R) – Did not respond
- 80th District
Aaron Ritchey (R) – Pennsylvania should use the additional federal funds under the Affordable Care Act to allow more people, including the working poor, to access the private insurance market.
Judith Ward (R) – Pennsylvania should not accept Affordable Care Act funds.
- What is your position on the death penalty?
- 71st District
Mark Amsdell (R) – Support
James Rigby (R) – Did not respond
- 72nd District
Frank Burns (D) – Did not respond
Martin Westrick (D) – Support
- Philip Rice (R) – Did not respond
Randall Wilson (R) – Did not respond
- 78th District
Joshua Lang (R) – Did not respond
Jesse Topper (R) – Did not respond
- 80th District
Aaron Ritchey (R) – Religious childcare and pre-kindergarten providers should follow state standards for health and safety of children, but be free to determine their own educational content based on the teachings of their faith tradition.
Judith Ward (R) – Religious childcare and pre-kindergarten providers should follow state standards for health and safety of children, but be free to determine their own educational content based on the teachings of their faith tradition.
- _____ Religious childcare and pre-kindergarten providers should follow state standards for health and safety of children, but be free to determine their own educational content based on the teachings of their faith tradition.
- _____ Religious childcare and pre-kindergarten providers should be free from government regulation.
- 71st District
Mark Amsdell (R) – Religious childcare and pre-kindergarten providers should be free from government regulation.
James Rigby (R) – Did not respond
- 72nd District
Frank Burns (D) – Religious childcare and pre-kindergarten providers should follow state standards for health and safety of children, but be free to determine their own educational content based on the teachings of their faith tradition.
Martin Westrick (D) – Religious childcare and pre-kindergarten providers should follow state standards for health and safety of children, but be free to determine their own educational content based on the teachings of their faith tradition.
- Philip Rice (R) – Did not respond
Randall Wilson (R) – Did not respond
- 78th District
Joshua Lang (R) – Did not respond
Jesse Topper (R) – Did not respond
- 80th District
Aaron Ritchey (R) – Religious childcare and pre-kindergarten providers should follow state standards for health and safety of children, but be free to determine their own educational content based on the teachings of their faith tradition.
Judith Ward (R) – Religious childcare and pre-kindergarten providers should follow state standards for health and safety of children, but be free to determine their own educational content based on the teachings of their faith tradition.
- _____ Religious childcare and pre-kindergarten providers should follow state standards for health and safety of children, but be free to determine their own educational content based on the teachings of their faith tradition.
- _____ Religious childcare and pre-kindergarten providers should be subject to government review of educational content.



A Prince In The Service Of The Great King

The Servant Of God
Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin
1770 - 1840

Father Molinari, Longtime Promoter Of Causes, Dies At 90

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

ROME (CNS) -- Italian Jesuit Father Paolo Molinari, official promoter of sainthood causes great and small, died at the age of 90 at the Jesuit headquarters in Rome May 2.

From 1957 to 2010, the Turin-born priest was the official postulator of Jesuit sainthood causes and of many others. He conducted research and prepared all the paperwork for the canonizations of the Martyrs of England and Wales, St. Kateri Tekakwitha and St. Philippine Duchesne, for example.

Jesuit Father Giuseppe Bellucci, spokesman for the order,

said that by the Jesuits' calculations, Father Molinari brought 39 causes to beatification or canonization. Those causes often included large groups of martyrs, so the 39 causes involved more than 150 individuals now honored as blessed or saints.

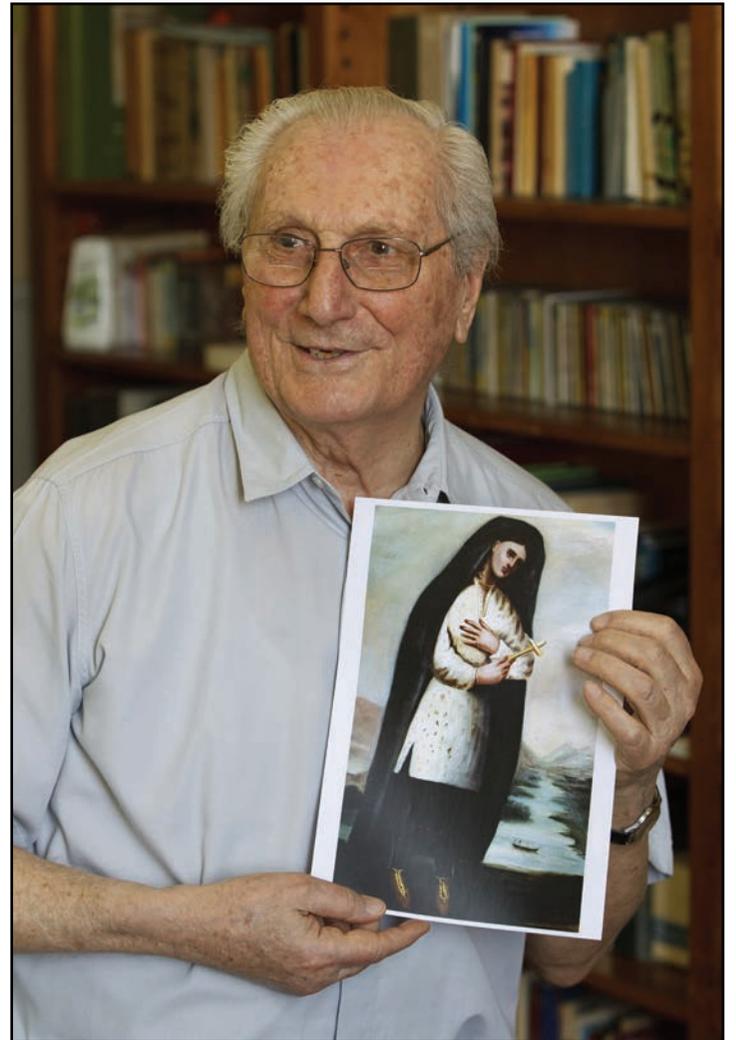
For years, Father Molinari served simultaneously as president of the Vatican's College of Postulators, professor of theology at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, patient explainer of the canonization process to journalists and adviser to the popes on procedures and causes to promote.

In an interview with Catholic News Service in 1999, he described the saints as "ordinary people living in a way that ordinary people don't; doing good beyond what good people do."

He loved Blessed Francisco and Jacinta Marto, the two youngest of the three children who saw Mary at Fatima in 1917. He prepared their causes for beatification so that "all the children of the world can look to them for inspiration."

Forced to retire when he turned 80, Father Molinari said, "thank God, they let me keep Kateri," the Native American whose cause he began working on in 1957 and who was canonized in 2012.

"Kateri lived 300 years ago and yet she is widely remembered with love and admiration to the point that people believe she is certainly with God because of the way in which, as an Indian woman, she opened herself to the grace of God, be-



CNS Photo/Paul Haring

FATHER PAOLO MOLINARI S.J.

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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came a Christian and lived as a Christian," he said a few months before her canonization.

He believed that the devotion of the faithful to a holy man or woman was the most important indication that the person was a saint. "If the simple people are drawn to someone, this is a sign of God for us," he told CNS. The saints "are attractive because God is working in them

and telling us something through them."

Born Jan. 17, 1924, he entered the Jesuits in 1942 and was ordained to the priesthood in 1953.

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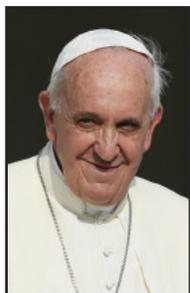
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Word of Life



The Pope Teaches

By Pope Francis
Never Forget To Pray!

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Never forget to pray, even while commuting, taking a walk or when waiting in line, Pope Francis said.

And don't just stick to prayers memorized from childhood, but include heartfelt requests and pleas for help, advice and guidance, he said.

During his weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square May 7, the pope continued a series of audience talks on the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord.

Looking at the gift of counsel, Pope Francis said people know how important it is to go to the right person -- to "people who are wise and who love us" -- to get the best advice, especially concerning difficult or "thorny" situations.

Through the Holy Spirit, God is there to enlighten people's hearts and "help us understand the right things to say, the right way to act and the right road to take" when it comes to an important decision, the pope said.

By opening one's heart to God, "the Holy Spirit immediately begins to help us perceive his voice and guide our thoughts, our feelings and our intentions" to be in harmony with God's will.

Jesus becomes the reference point for modeling one's behavior and finding the right way to interact with God and other people, he said.

The Holy Spirit helps people to grow in the virtues, to stop being "at the mercy of egoism" and to see the world and its difficulties with "the eyes of Christ," he said.

The Holy Spirit "enables our conscience to be able to make a concrete choice that's in communion with God, and according to the logic of Jesus and his Gospel."

But how can people make sure God is the one speaking to them and not their own biases, fears, limitations and ambitions? he asked.

The right counsel comes through prayer, he said.

"We have to give room to the Holy Spirit so that he can counsel us. And giving him room means praying, praying that he come and always help us."

"Prayer is very important," he said, and "never forget to pray, never!"

"Nobody can tell when we are praying on the bus, on the road, we pray in silence, with the heart, so let's take advantage of these opportunities to pray."

Don't just recite the prayers "that we all know from childhood, but also pray with our own words, pray to the Lord: 'Lord, help me, advise me, help me right now, let me know what we should do.'"



ONE MORE TIME: An undated photo from the nineteenth century shows a Benedictine Sister and her class at Saint Benedict School, Carrolltown.

Let's start with possible reasons you may give for not writing your memoirs now:

I'm too young (or too old) to write my memoirs. I've led an ordinary, uneventful life. I'm not a writer. No one would want to read them. I'm not good at remembering family stories. I don't have the time. I can't write a book. Heck, I'm not even sure what a "memoir" is. I have no idea where to begin. There's always later.

All of those may seem true, but on the other hand, consider the following.

If you're young, you more easily remember stories about your youth. If you're older, you have more family stories to tell. And you may be the only one still around who knows them.

No one leads an ordinary and uneventful life. And what seemed "ordinary" to you as a child half a century or more ago is a different world to youngest family members today. Radio shows for kids? Only one (black-and-white) TV in the house? No video games?

There's no need to be a writer. Be a storyteller. Grammar, punctuation and spelling don't matter. (Forget what Sister Mary told you in the fifth grade. Just get it down on paper.)



Your Family

By Bill Dodds

Preserving Family Stories: A Treasure Trove Of History

It might be true that no one will want to read your stories now. But in 10, 20, 50 years, these stories will be treasured. They'll be priceless.

Yes, you may confuse some facts. That's OK. All "history" is what was written down at one time, and it all has at least a few errors.

You don't have to make a big commitment of time. Write one story a week and in a year the results of those little, regular commitments add up quickly. You don't need to write a book. Again, just tell stories. Some may be long, some may be short, some may be off-the-record or best forgotten and there's no need to include those.

A memoir can take a lot of different forms. Yours doesn't have to be chronological, bio-

graphically complete or follow a structure. You don't need to call what you write your "memoirs." A "collection of family stories" or "stories from my life" works just fine. It sounds less stuffy, too.

Here's more good news: You don't need to begin at "the beginning," whatever that may turn out to be, just jot down a favorite story, a strong memory, then stop. Come back and do another. Writers of books, articles and columns quite often don't start at the beginning. They write first and then rearrange.

Part of your collection might well include how your faith, your Catholicism, shaped and enriched your life. That's a lovely legacy to pass on to younger generations, those present now and those yet to come.



Question Corner

By Father Kenneth Doyle
**Will I Be Happy In Heaven
 Without My Children?**

Q. Why don't we see many healings today? I'm told that they were more numerous in the early church. (I read that the theologian Athanasius in the year A.D. 354 wrote, "We know bishops who still work signs.")

Recently, I was watching on television when Pope Francis embraced and kissed what seemed to be a seriously ill child. What if he had laid hands on that child and miraculously cured him, as did some of his predecessors in the past? What an impression that would have made in today's ultrasecular world! (Columbus, Ohio)

A. Certainly, some miracles do still occur. Recently, we learned of a Costa Rican woman who recovered from a brain aneurysm after praying to Pope John Paul II -- leading to that pontiff's canonization. And at last count, after extensive scrutiny, the medical bureau at Lourdes in France had documented 69 miracles since the virgin appeared there in 1858.

But I have the same impression as you -- that miracles are not as frequent now as they were in the early church -- so it is reasonable to ask why.

It may have something to do with our faith not being sufficiently strong. Remember in Acts 14, Paul cured the crippled man after seeing "that he had the faith to be healed" and in Luke 18:42, when Jesus said to the blind beggar, "Have sight; your faith has saved you." Faith, lively and strong, seems to have been an essential ingredient in a miracle and a necessary prerequisite.

Jesus, it should be pointed out, did not cure every sick or disabled person that he met. The number of Christ's miracles was limited. He seems to have healed not to "put on a show" but only when it seemed critical to the messianic mission or when, moved with special compassion, he wanted to reward a person's faith.

Why he did not heal everyone is the same question as why

God doesn't cure each sick child whom Pope Francis embraces with obvious affection -- and the answer is something I don't think we'll fully know while we are on this side of heaven.

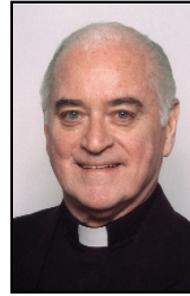
Meanwhile, it may be important to broaden our view as to what we consider to be a healing. In the 1960s, after my sister had been sick for several years with multiple sclerosis, my family took her to Lourdes. We were hoping that by bathing in the spring waters of that shrine, she might be freed from her illness. She was not.

But what did happen was that from that day until she died four years later, she seemed perfectly at peace. She evidently felt that she had done everything that God had asked of her, and so she bore her suffering with true serenity. I had wished and prayed for a different outcome, but the Lord, I am confident, was wiser than I.

Q. A few months ago, I visited a Catholic church and noticed that the priest was using a chalice for Mass that was made from glass or crystal. (You could see the wine.) I thought that you could use only a chalice made from precious metal. I wrote a letter to our bishop but did not receive a response. What should I do? (City of origin withheld)

A. The current guidelines of the church allow some latitude on the use of glass chalices. That statement, though, requires a bit of parsing. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal, revised most recently in 2011, says in No. 328: "Sacred vessels should be made from precious metal."

Where does that leave glass? Well, if it is thin and fragile, it fails the breakability standard. However, some manufacturers make glass vessels that can be dropped from a table without any damage. And a glass tumbler surely seems more a household product than material that is precious or noble, but cut crystal, artistically fashioned, might well pass the test. So there is some subjectivity as to what is allowed, and reasonable minds can differ. There is no outright prohibition of glass.



Spirituality For Today

By Father John Catoir
Juggling Life, With Grace

Life has been falsely compared to a juggling act, where the juggler tosses many balls in the air with ease and keeps them all circulating magically until he or she sets them down in perfect order.

Real life is not at all like that. In fact, in real life, most of us will make mistakes regularly, and the stakes are much higher than just dropping a few balls.

If you drop some responsibility in real life, it could have lasting, unhappy consequences. Mistakes are frequently made as you try to juggle the conflicting duties and obligations amid the tensions of daily life.

But take heart, because by constantly juggling several objects, just like obligations, that's how jugglers learn to develop their skills and ultimately learn to balance everything that's up in the air.

The way a juggler learns to handle several objects is much the same way that a person learns to juggle obligations in life. It's impossible for an ordinary person to become an overnight expert at juggling obligations. No one is in perfect control all the time. But constant practice, learning to spot what needs immediate attention and what does not, can help us learn this balance.

Just remember not to impose false and unreasonable expectations of perfection on yourself. These high expectations of immediate perfection have the effect of imposing extraordinary burdens on our lives, spiritually and otherwise. When you realize that you're only an ordinary person, you have a better chance of enjoying your precious life.

Yet why do we grow so impatient when, time and again, we find ourselves falling short of perfection?

When you find yourself falling into this trap, try to remember that no one, except God, is perfect. If you fall short of your expectations, remember that the faults you find so heavy to carry are more sins of weakness than sins of malice.

God is merciful with all sinners, but especially so with those who mean well. But those who are malicious, out to step on others to attain their selfish goals, those are the ones who should fear God's wrath.

It is normal to feel disappointment in oneself. The disappointments we experience every once in a while in life may be upsetting, but failure isn't fatal. Adjusting to one's humanity and lack of perfection takes time and patience.

It's almost comical and difficult to face this reality if you're the kind who thinks of yourself as an undiscovered superstar. Remember that it's hard, if not impossible, to attain perfection in this life.

Finally, we need to remember that in this path toward improvement of our inner lives, it's especially important to practice kindness, especially kindness to ourselves.

Rita of Cascia
 1381 - 1457
 Feast - May 22



This Italian saint is patron of impossible and desperate situations for good reason. Born near Spoleto, Rita was married against her will at the age of 12 to a cruel man. They had two sons during an 18-year marriage that ended when her husband was killed in a fight. After both sons also died, she tried to join the Augustinian convent in Cascia, but was rejected three times because she wasn't a virgin. Finally, in 1413, her early hope of becoming a nun was realized when the Augustinians accepted her as a novice. Famous for mystical experiences, Rita had a permanent wound on her forehead after hearing a sermon on Christ's crown of thorns. She was canonized in 1900.

Benedictine Sisters

(Continued From Page 1.)

Carrolltown Roots, Memories

Among her predecessors was Mother Rosalia Luther (1932 - 1938) and Mother Pauline Stevens (1962 - 1974). When her first period in office ended, Sister Michelle was succeeded by Sister Roberta Campbell, who served from 1990 - 2002.

Sister Michelle said that Benedictine influence "was everywhere" in Carrolltown, the birthplace of Benedictine monasticism in the United States in 1846. Although the monks made their permanent foundation at Saint Vincent in Latrobe, they established Saint Benedict Parish in Carrolltown in 1847, and a monastery or priory there in 1848.

"The pastor, Father Thomas Wolf, was the prior of the monks at the priory, and that's how he was known all through town, as 'Father Prior,' not as 'Father Thomas,'" Sister Michelle recalled. The Benedictine love of liturgy was evident at the daily Mass which all of the children in Saint Benedict School attended, and Solemn Vespers celebrated for the parish every Sunday evening.

Liturgical prayer helped draw Sister Michelle to follow the example of the Benedictine Sisters who were her teachers.

"As often as I could I would go up to the convent to attend Vespers with the Sisters," she remembered. "Sister Rose (Budicky) would go too. We couldn't go in the cloister - - the part of the house reserved for the Sisters, but the chapel was just inside the front door, so that was all right and we could go in and pray with them."

Sister Michelle entered the



Photos Courtesy Of Benedictine Sisters Of Pittsburgh

HOME: Saint Scholastica Convent in Carrolltown (above) was the first home of the Benedictine Sisters of Pittsburgh. Today the Sisters make their home at Saint Benedict Monastery in Bakerstown (below).



community in Pittsburgh as an "aspirant" in the tenth grade and this year will celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of her religious profession. Sister Rose Budicky, who used to join her for Vespers at the Carrolltown convent, entered the community after working for six - and - a - half years in Carrolltown's bank. She has already marked her sixtieth jubilee.

Sister Rose said that coming to the Pittsburgh monastery was like becoming part of an extended family. "My sister, Sister Magdalen, was already here, and I had several cousins, Sister Louise, Sister Hilda and Sister Leona, in the community."

Sister Rose found not only a family dimension to life at the

monastery, but a chance to continue to hone her business skills, this time at the service of her Sisters.

"I taught business subjects in our academy," she explained, and then helped set up our Business Office. I managed our investment portfolio for over 20 years."

Sister Rose, too, has happy memories of growing up in Carrolltown. "Everything that went on in town just revolved around the church," she said. "Even the band from the public high school played for the church's religious processions on feasts like Corpus Christi. We just took it for granted that everyone was a Catholic."

Sister Michelle said that when she attended Saint Benedict School "all of our teachers were Sisters. They were strict, but they were good teachers.

"More than that," she went on, "they were good people, kind people. The Sisters re-



SISTER JUDITH ANN: Sister Judith Ann Criner extinguishes the Paschal Candle at the conclusion of Vespers at Saint Benedict Monastery. She shared memories of living as a young Sister in Carrolltown.



CARROLLTOWN ROOTS: Mother Adelgunda Feldmann (left) was the first prioress when the Benedictine Sisters were founded in Carrolltown in 1870. Sister Rose Budicky (right), a Carrolltown native, has lived Benedictine monastic life for over 60 years.

ally cared about us." That care and concern helped draw her to Benedictine religious life.

Sister Judith Ann Criner remembers living in the Carrolltown convent as a young nun in the early 1970s. The house was so full of Sisters that the two youngest in the community - - Sister Judith Ann and another Sister, had their beds in the attic.

"My bed was right up against where the television antenna came up and went out the roof. When someone moved the

antenna or changed the channel, it would swing around and I'd have to duck to miss getting hit! I finally hung strips of paper from it so I would at least see it coming," she laughed "and then I got in trouble for interfering with the reception!"

(Continued On Page 11.)

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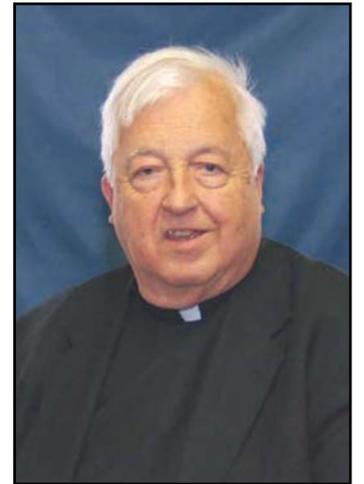




FATHER JAMES B.
COVENEY



FATHER JOHN P.
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FATHER NORMAN P.
IMGRUND

TREASURED CRUCIFIX: A wooden crucifix depicting Christ crowned as King and robed as High Priest hangs in the chapel of Saint Benedict Monastery in Bakerstown. It was purchased by Mother Rosalia Luther, a Carrolltown native, when the Benedictine Sisters lived in Ross Township. A treasured heirloom of the community, it moved with them to the new monastery last year.

(Continued From Page 10.)

A Vital, Hopeful, Happy Community

Overcrowded convents with no room for younger Sisters is no longer an issue for the Benedictine Sisters of Pittsburgh. The move to the Bakerstown monastery was made when the Ross Township monastery, four stories high with block long corridors became hard to navigate for aging women, many with mobility issues.

The new monastery is a single story home, with four short wings built around a center block housing the chapel, dining room and common area. Each Sister has her own room with a private bath in one of the four wings.

The Sisters are frank in acknowledging that the new house was built with an eye towards a future in which the community might have to merge with another group, or shut down altogether. Recently they became aware of the reality of merger when the Saint Marys monastery was closed, and three Sisters transferred to the Pittsburgh community. Still, the Sisters remain hopeful and happy.

"Yes, we're aging, but we're still vital and doing important ministry," said Sister

Evelyn Dettling, a development associate in the Office of Community Advancement.

According to Sister Evelyn, a number of Sisters are involved in education, outreach work, counseling and hospice care; three are employed by the Salvation Army. Sister Michelle, who has a master's degree in social work, is employed as a case manager for the UPMC Behavioral Health Services.

"There is a dynamism about religious life today," said Sister Evelyn, "inviting people bring their best gifts and put them to good use at any age level."

She explained that the Benedictine Sisters of Pittsburgh have given up corporate ministries, such as their academy for "collaborative ministries, working with others, wherever people are doing good works, where we can be a part of it."

For Benedictines, Sister Michelle said "ministry is important, but it's not the most important thing.

"Our way of life is all about living in community, sharing prayer and sharing our lives in community." Sister Evelyn put it more succinctly: "We come here, we live here, we die here."

The Benedictine Sisters live together following Benedict's precept: "That in all things, God may be glorified."

Priests Are Golden Jubilarians

Three priests, ordained May 23, 1964, are celebrating the golden jubilee of their ordination.

Father James B. Coveney, Father John P. Ellias and Father Norman P. Imgrund, all now retired from active ministry with the status of Senior Priest, were ordained at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona, by the late Bishop J. Carroll McCormick.

Father James B. Coveney is the son of the late William and Mary Catherine (Wineland) Coveney, and a native of Saint Mary Parish, Altoona. He holds a master of divinity degree from Saint Francis Seminary, Loretto.

Father Coveney served as parochial vicar at Saint John Gualbert Cathedral, Johnstown; Saint Benedict Parish, Johnstown and Saints Cyril and Methodius Parish, Windber. He was a faculty member at Mount Aloysius College, Cresson and Saint Francis Seminary, Loretto, and then served as pastor of Saint Joseph Parish, Portage, Holy Family Parish, Colver and at Saint Mark Parish, Altoona, from 2000 until his retirement in 2011.

Father John P. Ellias, a native of Holy Name Parish, Ebensburg, is the son of the late John A. and Ann (Washko) Ellias. He is a veteran of the United States Air Force, and completed his studies for the priesthood at Saint Vincent Seminary, Latrobe.

As parochial vicar he served at Saint Mary Parish, Altoona; the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Altoona; Saint Columba Parish, Johnstown and Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, Johnstown. As pastor he served at Saint John the Evangelist Parish, Everett, Immaculate Conception Parish, Johnstown, and at Saint Michael Parish in Saint Michael from 1995 until his retirement in 1999.

Father Norman J. Imgrund is the son of the late Philip J. and Colletta (Anna) Imgrund, and is a native of Our Mother of

Sorrows Parish in Johnstown.

After completing college and theology studies at Saint Francis Seminary, Loretto, Father Imgrund was parochial vicar at Saint Patrick Parish, Newry, was the founding pastor of Saint Thomas More Parish in Roaring Spring, and served as pastor of Saint Agnes Parish, Lock Haven; Saint Matthew Parish, Tyrone, and pastor of Saint John the Evangelist Parish in Everett and Seven Dolours of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Beans Cove, from 1999 until his retirement in 2010.

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HAPPY COUPLE: Newly - ordained Deacon Michael A. Anna and his wife, Janine, are a picture of happiness as they greet well - wishers on the front portico of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament.



VESTED: Michael Anna is vested in the stole and dalmatic of a deacon by his wife, Janine. She was assisted by Michael's father, Joseph Anna.

Responds To Call

(Continued From Page 16.)

Deacon Anna said he was doing a lot of soul - searching shortly after the death of his mom several years ago. "I was reading, and looking for fulfillment in my life," he recalls.

"I began to turn my thoughts inwardly, and that's when I heard God and the Holy Spirit calling me."

As a young man he once considered a vocation to the priesthood, but it wasn't the right time. Instead he accepted



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BOOK OF GOSPELS: Bishop - Emeritus Joseph V. Adamec presents Deacon Michael Anna with the Book of Gospels, as a sign of his ministry to preach and teach. Bishop Joseph is flanked by Deacons Jack Orlandi (left) and Michael Russo (right).

the ministry of husband and father. "I have a great wife, marriage, and four great children," he said with obvious pride.

"God called me when the time was right," he said firmly.

"He kept a presence in my life, and finally, all of the pieces of the puzzle fit together."

Naturally, his wife Janine is very proud of her husband. "I feel so much joy today. This will

enable him to do a lot of good things. I've watched him grow spiritually. I think he'll make a difference."

(Continued On Page 13.)

Vatican Statistics Report

Church Growth Still Steady

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) --

The number of Catholics in the world and the number of priests, permanent deacons and religious men all increased in 2012, while the number of women in religious orders continued to decline, according to Vatican statistics.

The number of candidates for the priesthood also showed its first global downturn in recent years.

The statistics come from a recently published Statistical Yearbook of the Church, which reported worldwide church figures as of Dec. 31, 2012.

By the end of 2012, the worldwide Catholic population had reached 1.228 billion, an increase of 14 million or 1.14 percent, slightly outpacing the global population growth rate, which, as of 2013, was estimated at 1.09 percent.

Catholics as a percentage of the global population remained essentially unchanged from the previous year at around 17.5 percent.

However, the latest Vatican statistical yearbook estimated that there were about 4.8 million Catholics that were not included in its survey because they were in countries that could not provide an accurate report to the Vatican, mainly China and North Korea.

According to the yearbook, the percentage of Catholics as part of the general population is highest in the Americas where they make up 63.2 percent of the continent's population. Asia has the lowest proportion, with 3.2 percent.

During the 2012 calendar year, there were 16.4 million baptisms of both infants and adults, according to the statistical yearbook.

It said the number of bishops of the world stayed essentially the same at 5,133.

The total number of priests -- diocesan and religious order -- around the world grew from 413,418 to 414,313, with a modest increase in Africa, a larger rise in Asia, and slight decreases in the Americas, Europe and Oceania. Asia saw a 13.7 percent growth in the number of priests between 2007 and the end of 2012.

The number of permanent deacons reported -- 42,104 -- was an increase of more than 1,100 over the previous year and a 17 percent increase since 2007. The vast majority -- more than 97 percent -- of the world's permanent deacons live in the Americas or in Europe.

The number of religious brothers showed 0.4 percent growth worldwide. The num-

ber of religious brothers totaled 55,314 at the end of 2012. Slight growth was seen everywhere except the Americas.

The number of women in religious orders continued its downward trend. The total of 702, 529 temporarily and permanently professed sisters and nuns in 2012 was a 1.5 percent decrease from the previous year and a 5.9 percent decrease since 2007.

The number of candidates for the priesthood, who had reached the level of philosophy and theology studies showed its first downturn since 2003. The number of candidates dropped slightly to 120,051 men at the end of 2012 as compared to 120,616 at end of 2011.



SIGN OF PEACE: At his Saturday, May 3 ordination as a permanent deacon, Michael Anna (left) received the sign of peace from Deacon John J. Szwarc.

(Continued From Page 12.)

Janine and Deacon Anna are the parents of four children: Ray, 24; Stephanie, 22; Melissa, 19; and Joshua, 16. They are members of Saint Bernard Parish in Hastings. Their pastor, Benedictine Father Thaddeus Rettger, attended the ordination.

Deacon Anna is employed as a cardiac catheterization lab technician at Conemaugh Memorial Medical Center in Johnstown. Deacon Anna is an EMT with paramedic certification, and is a registered cardiovascular invasive specialist.

He was relaxed as he spoke minutes before his ordination. "I feel peace," he said. "This is my true calling."

His journey was by no means easy and he had a few personal hurdles to negotiate. By his own admission he was reticent to be the focus of attention.

"I've always been a shy person and not comfortable in front of large groups. But, you know what? With the help of God, the Holy Spirit, and my formation instructors, I've been able to overcome that fear."

Both he and his wife are very thankful for the support they've received from their families and parish faith community during the years of formation. But, Janine is especially grateful for the manner in which



FAMILY: With his family to support him, Michael Anna awaits the moment of his ordination. Pictured at left is his father, Joseph Anna, and Michael's wife, Janine (center).

her children have responded. "I can't say enough about my children," she said. "They've been understanding and supportive. They've been such a great help to us."

She said her parish has been very helpful and accommodating to them. "They've been so wonderful," said Janine. "They even brought a bus load of parishioners to the ordination today." The parish celebrated his first ordination with a reception in the church hall.

Festival

St. Clare of Assisi Parish

110 - 124 Maple Avenue (Woodvale) Johnstown, PA

Sat., June 7th (5-10 pm) &

Sun., June 8th (Noon - 10 pm)

Spaghetti Dinner

Sunday, June 8th, 11am - 5pm

Adults - \$7 Children 12 & Under - \$4

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Jack & Barb LaBarko

Oldies Show - 6 - 9:30 pm

Now Showing

‘Spider Man’ A Movie - And - A - Half

By John Mulderig
Catholic News Service

NEW YORK (CNS) -- Patrons are unlikely to walk away from the overstuffed but diverting 3-D comic-book sequel “The Amazing Spider-Man 2” (Columbia) feeling that they’ve failed to get their money’s worth. In fact, director Marc Webb’s follow-up to his 2012 reboot covers enough material for at least a movie and a half.

In doing so, the film showcases a good deal of mostly stylized mayhem that’s too intense

for little kids. But the positive use to which the web-slinger -- once again played by Andrew Garfield -- puts his powers, together with a script that’s virtually free of objectionable vocabulary, makes this adventure acceptable for just about everyone else.

Garfield brings an appealing -- and approachable -- goofiness, both to his titular persona and to the superhero’s alter ego, average teen Peter Parker. Peter’s high school graduation provides the setting for some early scenes during which we see that Spider-Man is so busy protecting the people of New York that Peter misses his girlfriend Gwen Stacy’s (Emma Stone) valedictorian address and barely



CNS Photo/Sony

THE AMAZING SPIDER - MAN 2: Andrew Garfield stars in a scene from the movie “The Amazing Spider-Man 2.” 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.

arrives in time to claim his own diploma.

Webb gives those viewers who may not have seen his earlier movie only a minimum of information about Spider-Man and how he got that way. He does let us know, via flashbacks, that Peter’s father (Campbell Scott) was a genetics researcher

with uber-conglomerate Oscorp who, together with Peter’s Mom (Embeth Davidtz), disappeared under mysterious circumstances when Peter was still a small child.

Raised by his kindly Aunt May (Sally Field) and now-deceased Uncle Ben, Peter’s quest to learn the truth about his parents led to his being bitten by a genetically altered arachnid -- with results familiar to every 4-year-old who cherishes a “Spider” figurine.

While Peter’s initial conflict involved balancing his new powers with a concomitant sense of responsibility, he now struggles to reconcile the dangers of his mission with his desire to safeguard Gwen. Is there any way for him to do so short of parting with her forever?

Romantic troubles have to be put on the back burner, though, when a new foe for Spider-Man emerges in the person of Electro (Jamie Foxx). The confused victim of a power-grid accident at Oscorp headquarters, Electro angrily hurls bolts of his namesake form of energy hither and yon, disturbing the denizens of Times Square and testing even Spider-Man’s ability to contain him.

As Peter continues to probe the circumstances of his parents’ long-ago departure, he has a fraught reunion with his best friend from childhood, Oscorp heir Harry Osborn (Dane DeHaan). Afflicted with a fatal hereditary disease, Harry believes that Spider-Man can help to cure him, and he’s desperate to arrange a meeting with the wall-crawler.

Giddy special effects and a lively pace help pass the long running time and make the excess of storylines somewhat less noticeable. More substantially, moviegoers will appreciate Spider-Man’s knack for making the ordinary people he routinely rescues feel good about themselves. He thus not only battles evil but affirms and encourages goodness as well.

The film contains much action violence, including torture, a single crass expression and a mild oath. The Catholic News Service classification is A-II -- adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 -- parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

Coming Up On ‘Proclaim!’

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

May 25 - - Haylee Kelleher, a member of Sacred Heart Parish in Altoona, talks about her spiritual and exciting travels as a college student.

June 1 - - Sacred Heart Sisters Ryszarda and Mary Joseph join Bishop Mark to discuss Sister Ryszarda’s presence at the canonization of Saint John Paul II and how the order served the Holy Father.



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See Professional Profile on LinkedIn

Nancy Rose Vincent RN, BSN, MEd CLNC (plus advanced doctoral work).
nancyrosevincent@gmail.com, pamediation.org, naclncdirectory.org

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!
10:30 a.m.

A half - hour of local Church news and features

May They Rest In Peace



Sister Gemma Godeck C.S.J.

Sister Gemma Godeck, 99, died Friday, May 2, at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Baden, in the 81st year of her religious life.

The daughter of the late John J. and Teresa Rose (Dular) Godeck, Sister Gemma entered the Congregation from Assumption Parish in Bellevue. For more than 50 years she served as a teacher in the Dioceses of Altoona - Johnstown, Greensburg, Pittsburgh, Atlanta GA and Columbus OH.

Sister Gemma is survived by her community, the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Baden.

The funeral Mass for Sister Gemma Godeck C.S.J. was celebrated Monday, May 5 in the chapel of Saint Joseph Convent, Baden. Committal was in the Sisters' Cemetery on the Motherhouse grounds.

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

Theonas E. Fleming

Theonas E. Fleming, 90, of Saint Augustine, died Tuesday, May 6 at Garvey Manor Nursing Home, Hollidaysburg. She was the mother of Father Joseph W. Fleming, pastor of Saint Augustine Parish in Saint Augustine and Saint Monica Parish in Chest Springs.

She was born April 20, 1924 in Altoona, the daughter of the late Max and Elizabeth (Wertzberger) Kettl. She was preceded in death by her husband, William E. Fleming on October 4, 1966, and by five siblings: Regis, Delores Tyner, Wilhelmina Myers, Coletta Crossman and Rita Sanker.

Surviving are her children: Father Joseph, Marie C. Korman of Bellwood and John C. and wife Gail of Hahira GA;

four grandchildren; give great-grandchildren; and two brothers-in-law: George Myers of Titusville FL and Bill Crossman of Gainesville FL.

Mrs. Fleming retired as a secretary from Penn State University, University Park. She was a member of Saint Augustine Parish, Saint Augustine.

The funeral Mass for Theonas E. Fleming was celebrated by her son, Father Joseph W. Fleming at Saint Augustine Church, Saint Augustine, on Monday, May 12. Committal was at Oak Grove Cemetery, Tyrone.

Memorial contributions may be made to Saint Augustine Church Building Fund, or to Garvey Manor Nursing Home.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Father Neil Saller T.O.R.

Father Neil Saller, 84, of the Third Order Regular Franciscans of the Province of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, died after a brief illness May 7, 2014 at UPMC- Altoona. Father Neil resided at Saint Francis Friary - Mount Assisi, Loretto where he was in the ministry of prayer.

He was born on June 18, 1929 in Altoona and given the name Raymond, the son of the late Charles J. and Mary (Hipp) Saller. Father Neil is survived by a sister, Joanne Kough, Phoenixville, a brother Charles and wife Peggy, Harrison City, nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews, and his Franciscan brothers. He was preceded in death by his sister, Rosemarie Saller.

He was a graduate of Saint Mary Elementary School, Altoona and Saint Francis Preparatory School, Spring Grove in 1948. After high school gradu-

ation, he entered the Franciscans in June, 1948 at Sacred Heart Novitiate, Loretto. He professed his temporary vows on July 1, 1949, and his solemn vows on July 1, 1952. Father Neil was ordained to the priesthood by the late Bishop John M. McNamara, D.D., auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C. at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on June 9, 1956.

Father Neil received his bachelor of arts degree in Philosophy from Saint Francis College and did theology studies at Saint Francis Seminary, Loretto, and the Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. He received a J.C.L. in Canon Law from the Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum) and a J.U.L. in Canon

Law from the Pontifical Lateran University, and did post graduate studies in Canon Law at the Catholic University of America. During his long and very faithful Franciscan life, Father Neil worked in various educational and parochial ministries of the Province.

The funeral Mass for Father Neil Saller T.O.R. was celebrated Monday, May 12 in the Saint Francis Friary Chapel at Mount Assisi with Father Richard L. Davis, minister provincial as principal celebrant. Committal was in the Franciscan Friars Cemetery on the campus of Saint Francis University.

Memorial contributions may be made to the T.O.R. Retirement Fund, St. Francis Friary, P. O. Box 137, Loretto, PA 15940.

ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN DIOCESAN LITURGY COMMITTEE

Invites members of the Diocesan Church Parish Communities to apply to serve on the Diocesan Liturgy Committee

Appointment Requirements:

- * Active Member of a Parish Faith Community
- * Recommendation of the Parish Pastor
- * Appointment for a three (3) year term
- * Fully Initiated Catholic: minimum age 18
- * Must be committed to attend meetings on a regular basis.

Applications may be obtained by writing to:

Cecilia Neiderer—Nominating Chairperson
The Diocesan Liturgy Committee
209 Sauers Avenue
Johnstown, PA 15906

Application available on Diocesan Website

www.dioceseaj.org

(click on Liturgy)

Deadline to apply: July 15, 2014

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PERMANENT DEACON: Michael A. Anna was ordained a permanent deacon for service in the Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown on Saturday, May 3 at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona, by Bishop - Emeritus Joseph V. Adamec. Pictured are (left to right) Deacon Gene Neral (director of diaconal formation), Deacon Anna, Bishop Joseph, Benedictine Father Thaddeus Retger (pastor of Saint Bernard Parish, Hastings, Deacon Anna's home parish) and Deacon Michael Russo (assistant director of diaconal formation).

Anna Responds To Spirit's Call To Diaconate

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

There are times the Holy Spirit has to grab you by your

spiritual shoulders and shake you around a little, to get your attention. Most of us have had those "Holy Spirit" moments.

Newly - ordained Deacon Michael A. Anna would agree.

Bishop - Emeritus Joseph V. Adamec ordained him to the permanent diaconate at an Ordination Mass held Saturday May 3, at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona.

During the ceremony Bishop Adamec reminded Deacon Anna that "you did not choose God, God chose you. The Apostles chose deacons to assist them with the many corporal and tem-

poral needs of the faithful. You are a valuable assistance in our ministry."

(Continued On Page 12.)

PERIODICAL RATE MAIL

The Catholic Register

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