

# The Catholic Register

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## ‘How Can I Give My Life To God?’ Is Question All Are Called To Answer, Says Dinner Speaker

**Cresson Native, Franciscan University President, Father Sean Sheridan Speaks At Annual Vocations Program**

Photos And Text  
By Msgr. Timothy P. Stein

Although the Annual Bishop’s Night For Vocations Dinner metamorphosed into the Bishop’s Day For Vocations this year, the theme of the event posed a question that is universal and unchangeable, and one that all believers should be considering, according to the guest speaker.

Marking the Year Of Consecrated Life, this year’s event was based around the theme “How Can I Give My Life To God?” and Third Order Regular Franciscan Father Sean Sheridan, president of Franciscan University of Steubenville said that question “applies to all of us who are here at this event, gathered in this hall, today.”

Said Father Sheridan, “God asks us to give our lives over to Him. He asks us to turn our lives over to Him.”

Held at the Our Lady of Loretto Community Hall in



Franciscan University Of Steubenville  
**FATHER SEAN SHERIDAN**  
T.O.R.

Loretto, this year’s dinner was sponsored by the Diocesan Vocation Office and the Serra Club of Cambria County. Cresson native Father Sheridan spoke to the dinner guests prior to the presentation of awards to young people who had participated in a poetry, poster and essay contest based upon the day’s theme.

In addressing that theme, Father Sheridan noted that Pope Francis has reminded us that “the Gospel is demanding. It



**POSTER CONTEST WINNERS:** Winners of the poster contest held in conjunction with Bishop’s Day For Vocations were presented awards by Bishop Mark L. Bartchak. Pictured are (left to right) First row: Blake Houck-Leitzell, Nicholas Igou, Clare Troll, Emily Lang, Josh Culley. Second row: Abigail Martin, Beth Yahner, Christine Troll, Bishop Mark, Mary Catherine Prostejovsky and Madeline Waibel.

demands to be lived radically and sincerely.

“It is not enough for us to just read the scriptures, or to meditate upon them,” Father Sheridan said. “Jesus asks us to practice the Gospel,” he stated. “This applies to all of us.”

A graduate of Saint Aloysius School in Cresson and of Bishop Carroll Catholic High School in Ebensburg, Father Sheridan spoke of his own journey to determine how he should

give his life to God, and said that “When I was in college I was more focused on developing my career than I was on developing my relationship with God.”

Giving up a dream of becoming a physician and pursuing a career in pharmacy instead, he graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in 1985, and in 1990 earned a juris doctorate degree from the same school, and then practiced law in California and Pittsburgh, focusing on health

care litigation, representing hospitals and physicians.

The partnership that employed him in California dissolved, Father Sheridan said he had to face the question “What next?”

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**TEACHER HONORED:** Suzanne Thoma (center), Math and Physics Teacher at Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School, Altoona, has been named the recipient of the Dr. John Powers Outstanding Educator Award presented annually by Saint Francis University, Loretto. She is pictured with Guilfoyle principal Joan Donnelly, who nominated her for the award, and Saint Francis president Third Order Regular Franciscan Father Malachi Van Tassell, who made the presentation. The award recognizes educators who share abilities and skills generously with others, use their knowledge to serve others, strive for excellence, are willing to learn from others, and seek the truth and encourages free and open exchange of ideas and responsible actions. Donnelly, who has worked with Ms. Thoma for 30 years, wrote in her nomination letter, “Sue’s competency as a Math and Science instructor is evident by the overwhelming admiration she has acquired from students, peers, and supervisors... She is a highly respected faculty member and a great asset our community. It is without reservation that I attest to her noteworthy credentials. She is the epitome of a professional secondary educator.”

**Higher Education**

**College Of Distinction**

**Loretto:** Saint Francis University has been named a Catholic College of Distinction

for the 2015 - 16 academic year by Colleges of Distinction (collegesofdistinction.com).

To be chosen as a Catholic College of Distinction, schools must excel at four unique distinctions: engaged students, great teaching, vibrant communities and successful outcomes.

High school college counselors and educators nominate colleges and universities for recognition by Colleges of Distinction, which then evaluates each school based on qualitative and quantitative research.

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**Michael J. Fapore, R.Ph.**  
814-443-9500  
“What a Pharmacy Was Meant To Be”

*(Continued On Page 3.)*



**SAINT ALOYSIUS:** Saint Aloysius Parish, Cresson, celebrated Confirmation on Thursday, April 23. Taking part were (left to right) First row: Sabryna Fitzsimmons, Taylor Clark, Kimber Berezansky, Montana Pigza. Second row: Jordan Simanski, Hunter Krug, Jacob Guzic, Jonathan Brethauer, Father John Byrnes (pastor). Third row: Raymond Watt and Adam Gould. Not pictured are Amber Elliott, Abigail Harvey and Bob Sutton (Confirmation director).



**SAINT ANDREW:** Saint Andrew Parish, Johnstown, celebrated Confirmation on Tuesday, May 5. Pictured are (left to right) First row: Tracy Yoder (Confirmation director), Molly Massimo, Abbey Roberts, Father Angelo Patti (pastor), David Williams, Ashley Matse. Second row: Maureen Clark (director of religious education), Gina Yonko, Joseph Vatavuk, Nicholas Booth, Zachary Yost and Bill Blum (Confirmation director). Not pictured are Michael Gindlesperger, Tahlyn Miller, Nina Pollock, Michael Roman, Hannah Thomas and Ryan Yoder.



**SAINT NICHOLAS:** The Confirmation class at Saint Nicholas Parish, Nicktown, included (left to right) First row: Craig Wiewiora, Faith Dumm, Rebecca Kwisnek, Aleah Krug, Lakin Birchall, Joshua Smith, Robert Kerr Jr. Second row: Melissa Nealen, Zachary Lieb, Ryan Farabaugh, Jordan Wenturine, Thomas Freidoff, Jr., Samantha Kline, Elizabeth Strollo, Tyler Kirsch and Evan Marsh.

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# In The Alleghenies



**COLOR CORPS:** Members of the Knights of Columbus All Saints Assembly 954 Color Corps took part in Saint Andrew Parish, Johnstown's annual Novena to the Infant Jesus of Prague. Pictured are (left to right) First row: Anthony Ream, Richard Dovala, Father Angelo Patti (pastor), Francis Bazyk, John Werzyn. Second row: John Horvath, Andrew Solomon, Don Schrum, John George, John Horvath, George Hickey, Andrew Solomon and John Calka.



**UNIFORMS FIND NEW HOME IN HONDURAS:** Bishop Guilfoyle's old athletic uniforms are creating new opportunities for the less fortunate. For the past four years, Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School, Altoona, has donated old uniforms for sports teams in the missions of Honduras and other countries. The uniforms are delivered to the missions by Mount Aloysius volleyball coach Brianna Baker, who visits missions with her church group. She transports uniforms one suitcase at a time. BG's donations were started when Bishop Guilfoyle volleyball coach Bob Kasun heard Mount Aloysius was donating its old uniforms to missions. BG's volleyball team just purchased new uniforms and BG's old uniforms were donated. After that, BG assistant athletic director Mary Louise Butler started collecting old uniforms from other sports and promotional t-shirts to send to Baker for the missions. "These are uniforms that would be sitting in storage, and now they bring excitement to sports teams in Honduras," Kasun said. "Donating our Bishop Guilfoyle uniforms promotes the Christian outreach of our school."



**SAINT BENEDICT, CARROLLTOWN:** Saint Benedict Parish, Carrolltown, celebrated Confirmation on Thursday, April 23. Pictured are (left to right) First row: Thaddeus Lallemand, Edgar Link, Joseph Sclesky, Austin Gill, Evan Johnson, Amber Westrick, Kaitlyn Kitchen, Ellie Yahner. Second row: Michael Fox, Benjamin Bearer, Richard Gwizdak, Cortney Hoover, Nicole Donahue, Taylor Forsythe, Brianna Fox, Kevin Venesky, Koty Barrett and Robert McGowan (catechist).

*(Continued From Page 2.)*

The Colleges of Distinction looks beyond rankings and test scores to find colleges that are the ideal places to learn, grow and succeed. The selection process reviews such factors as the school's first year experience, general education program, experiential components of the curriculum, the strategic plan and alumni success and satisfaction. The colleges and universities are not ranked, and instead, are members of a consortium of other equally impressive schools.

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

Saint Francis students are involved faith-based campus clubs and organizations. They also serve their community and the globe through unique service opportunities. Locally, students are involved in service projects through Reaching Every Door, the Dorothy Day Outreach Center, and the Knights of Columbus. Internationally, Saint Francis students volunteer in countries such as the Dominican

Republic, Jamaica, St. Lucia, among others.

According to university president Third Order Regular Franciscan Father Malachi Van Tassell, being named a "Catholic College of Distinction" reflects the university's focus on weaving its Catholic-Franciscan Mission throughout the fabric of the institution. The foundation of this mission is guided through the eight Goals of Franciscan Higher Education: a humble and generous attitude toward learning, a reverence toward all life and the goodness of humanity, respect for the uniqueness of individual persons, a global vision, service to the poor and needy, a community of faith and prayer, a spirit of simplicity and joy, a Franciscan presence on campus.

For more information about how Saint Francis students infuse their Franciscan values in the world around them, visit [francis.edu/faith-and-franciscanism](http://francis.edu/faith-and-franciscanism), and to find more information about the university as a Catholic College of Distinction, visit the university's profile: [collegesofdistinction.com/school/saint-francis-university/](http://collegesofdistinction.com/school/saint-francis-university/).

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## Point Of View

"Honey, I think you are stretching the truth a bit for there is no way this can be true!" I teased my eldest son. "Yes, mom, I am serious. The winner of the fight won 180 million dollars and the loser got 120 million dollars just for showing up!"

"That is ridiculous!" I rebutted. "If I was the underdog, I would simply stand there, take one punch and fall down, no talent needed there!" I added with a tone of playful disgust. As my son laughed hysterically he tried his best to give his mom a full tutorial on the sport of boxing fully realizing most of the instruction would be lost on me.

Although, I listened patiently and appreciated his effort, I still could not wrap my head around two men being paid millions of dollars to knock each other out, let alone paying money to watch the fight. For the painful truth is I have been watching boxing matches for free right in my own living room, with the winners and losers only earnings being a trip to their rooms for their mischievous behavior.

Although, I don't get the whole boxing hoopla, one thing I surely do get is the fact many men and boys absolutely love sports. There is something ingrained in them for battle and competition. Men love to explore, hunt, conquer and having four males in my house, I definitely can tell you at times our garage looks more like hunting and sporting store than it does like a place to store a vehicle. At my home there are endless hours spent trying to catch a possible



## Family Matters

By Amy Kanich  
Enough?

Guinness Book of World Records rainbow trout supposedly lurking in a local stream, days spent preparing for the annual hunting expedition and many hours, upon hours, spent playing or watching sports throughout the year. "Boys will be Boys!" I remind myself, knowing deep inside that God has formed their hearts this way and although I don't totally understand them, I know their Creator does!!

Then it happened, one night, the strong sports fanatic, avid hunter, Alpha Male in my house (My husband), looked straight in my eyes and posed a question. A question of great importance, a question that made chills run down my spine. "What does it matter if our boys win every game they played, catch the biggest fish or have claim the prize of the greatest hunt if their hearts have not found the God who loves them?" he questioned. "Am I doing enough as a Dad, to equip them on their hunt for a relationship with God, as I do helping them to prepare for their sporting events and hunting expeditions? Am I enough?" he wondered out loud. As I stood there speechless, my heart broke, for I know my husband tries very hard to lead our children to God

but down deep inside he questions if he is enough! I am sure he is not alone!

In a few weeks, on June 13th, men of the diocese will be hosting the Annual Catholic Men's conference at Saint Francis University. This conference is organized and planned by men who also wonder at times if they are enough, realizing they will never be enough on their own and only will be enough with God by their side. This conference is intended for fathers, grandfathers, single men and religious life who are seeking to renew their relationship with their God, a God who is more than enough! The day will be filled with nationally known motivational speakers, great worship music and a time to relax and enjoy great food and fellowship. In the world of not enough, this conference will be enough, for God surely will be there! The question is now for our Diocesan Men - Are you tired of asking if you are enough?

Come and find your answer. God is taking enough time out of his schedule to show up, will you? I surely hope so! For more information call the Family Life Office at (814) 886 - 5551. Blessings!



## Another Perspective

By Monsignor Timothy P. Stein  
Look,  
The Courageous Ones!

When I was in Rome last October, our tour group headed out early on a Wednesday morning to attend the Pope's general audience in Saint Peter's Square. The ladies in the group were all excited over the number of brides and grooms, dressed in all their finery, we saw heading to the Vatican. They were convinced we were going to witness something very special in the Square, and were disappointed when I explained that no, this was just part of the usual Wednesday routine; couples married within the year coming to receive a special blessing from the Pope.

I wonder what the couples attending the audience on Wednesday, May 6 felt when Pope Francis said in his address "marriage is not simply a ceremony that you have in church with flowers, the dress, photos. Christian marriage is a sacrament that takes place in the church and is also something the Church does, ushering in a new domestic community."

That insistence on defining marriage as a sacrament is something I took like to stress every time I preside at a wedding. I tell the story of a 1960s Broadway show, "I Do, I Do," the story of a couple, Michael and Agnes, from their wedding day until their golden wedding anniversary 50 years later. About midway through the show the husband, Michael, takes on a new role as father of the bride, and he sings a beautiful love song to his little girl, a song that reflects the feelings of so many fathers as they give their little girls away. The song is entitled "My Daughter Is Marrying An Idiot."

That always gets a big laugh from people seated on both the bride's and the groom's side of the church! It got a laugh 25 years ago when I told that story at my sister's wedding, and it got a laugh just over a week ago when I told it at the wedding of my sister and brother - in - law's oldest daughter, my lovely niece Laura to Mr. Tyler Catalani.

But a laugh is not what I was looking for when I told that little tale. I use that story because of a line that comes later in the song, when Michael sings "Marriage is a sacrament, which is just a way to say that a very private thing gets done in a very public way."

Any of us who were raised on the old Baltimore Catechism will remember the definition of a sacrament: "A visible sign, instituted by Christ, to give grace." Because marriage is a sacrament, because it is a visible sign, it can never be a purely private act. It is always something very public, very much of concern to the whole community.

Pope Francis said it best on May 6 when he said "The Christian vocation to love without reserve and without measure is what, with Christ's grace, is at the foundation of the free consent that constitutes marriage." What Laura and Tyler were saying to each other at their wedding - - what any couple entering a sacramental marriage are saying to each other is "When you look at me and see how much I love you, you are seeing how much Christ loves you." And when we look at that couple, we, the community of the faithful should be able to say "As much as they love one another, that's how much Christ loves me." In marriage the bride and groom commit themselves to being a visible sign of Christ's love for one another and for all of us. And in that great sacrament Christ gives them the grace they need to be that sign for each other and for the world.

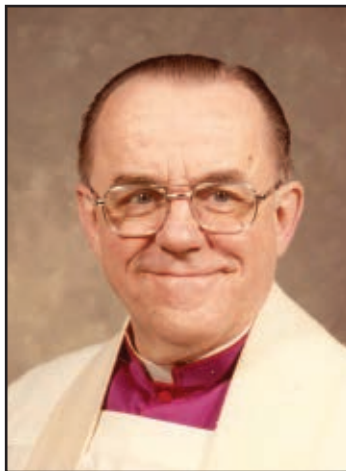
At his May 6 audience Pope Francis said "I greet newlyweds and I say 'Look, the courageous ones!' You need courage to love each other as Christ loves the Church." I came home from Frederick MD rejoicing that Laura and Tyler have that courage and that love in abundance. May God bless them and all married couples, because their witness of self - sacrificing love is something that the world needs to see, perhaps now, more than ever.





**MATH COMPETITION:** The ninth annual 24 Challenge math competition was held on April 24, 2015 at Saint Michael School in Loretto. Sixty students from schools in the Altoona - Johnstown Diocese participated in the competition. Awards were given to the top three students in each of five different grade level categories. Denise Nairn, a teacher at Saint Benedict School in Johnstown, organized the event. Competition winners were (left to right) First row: Dominic Yanoshak (Grade 4, 2nd place), Lilian Newcomer (Grade 4, 3rd place), Alex Williams Grade 5, 3rd place), Tommy Urbain (Grade 4, 1st place). Second row: Tyler Cygan (Grade 6, 2nd place), Jack Majercsik Grade 6, 1st place), Travis Nace (Grade 7, 2nd place), T.J. Novak Grade 6, 3rd place), Emily Ream (Grade 5, 2nd place), Alayna Przybys (Grade 5, 1st place). Third row: Wyatt Kosicki (Grade 7, 3rd place), Max Smith (Grade 7, 1st place), Alex Brisko (Grade 8, 1st place), Matthew Byrne (Grade 8, 2nd place), Hunter Leech (Grade 8, 3rd place), 24 Challenge Coordinator Denise Nairn.

## Senior Priest Marking 60th Jubilee Of Ordination



**Monsignor Philip P. Saylor**



**SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI:** Celebrating First Holy Communion at Saint Francis of Assisi Parish, Johnstown, on Sunday, May 10 were (left to right) First row: Jorja Stancombe, Alyssa Ressler, Margaret Sweeney, Cassidy Stancombe, Brooke Esposito. Second row: Ryan Stancombe, Nathaniel Mikula, Dravyn Fabina, Hayden Devico, Kael Woodruff. Third row: Alice Havers (catechist), Carol Pisula (director of religious education), Deacon Bruce Becker, Conventual Franciscan Father. Anthony Francis Spilka (pastor) and Cecilia Neiderer (catechist).

Monsignor Philip P. Saylor, a senior priest of the Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown, will celebrate the 60th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood on Thursday, May 21.

Monsignor Saylor, a native of Saint John the Evangelist Parish, Bellefonte, was ordained a priest May 21, 1955 at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Altoona, by the late Bishop Richard T. Guilfoyle.

He is the son of the late Philip and Kathryn (Hoy) Saylor. He attended Saint John the Evangelist Parish School and graduated from Bellefonte High School. He completed his studies for the priesthood at Mount Saint Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg MD, and holds a master of divinity degree from Saint Francis Seminary, Loretto.

The jubilarian served as parochial vicar at Our Mother of Sorrows Parish in Johnstown; Saint Leo Parish in Altoona; and Saint John Gualbert Cathedral Parish in Johnstown.

Monsignor Saylor served as pastor of Saint Joseph Parish in Bellwood; Saint John the Evangelist Parish in Lakemont, Altoona; Saint John Gualbert Cathedral Parish, Johnstown; Our Lady of Victory Parish in State College; and Saints Peter and Paul Parish in Philipsburg.

He retired from active ministry in 1999.

Monsignor Saylor is a former editor of **The Catholic Register**. He was active in the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference and has extensive experience as an educator.

He was named a chaplain of honor to His Holiness Pope Paul VI in 1974, and was elevated to the rank of Prelate of Honor by Pope Saint John Paul II in 1984.

Monsignor Saylor resides in State College.

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**SAINT CATHERINE, MOUNT UNION:** Celebrating First Holy Communion at Saint Catherine of Siena Parish, Mount Union, were (left to right) First row: Jacob Cramer, Kaylee O’Leary, Ava Detwiler, Evan Yakymac. Second row: Connor Whitsel, Elijah Harper, Connor Harper and Julian Weirich. Third row: Father Joseph Fleming (pastor).



**MAY CROWNING IN WILMORE:** Saint Bartholomew Parish, Wilmore, celebrated May Crowning on Sunday, May 3. Taking part were (left to right) Madelyn Graessle (Queen) and Emily Bednar (attendant).



**SAINT STEPHEN:** Saint Stephen Parish, McConnellsburg, celebrated Confirmation on Tuesday, April 14. Pictured (left to right) are sponsor Allen Trembl, confirmandi Alexandra Trembl, Confirmation Director Carmelite of the Word Sister Martha Burbulla, confirmandi Kassandra Stermerl and sponsor Susan Cubbage.



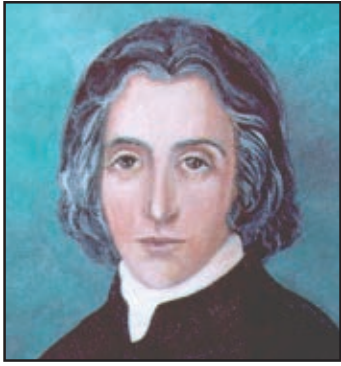
**SAINT AUGUSTINE AND SAINT MONICA:** Saint Augustine Parish, Saint Augustine, and Saint Monica Parish, Chest Springs, celebrated Confirmation Saturday, April 11. Taking part were (left to right) First row: Tyler Boland, Ian Brumbaugh (Sacred Heart Parish, Altoona), Bryce Gibbons, Stephen Flis. Second row: Roy and Lynn Holtz (catechists), Garrett Link, Lucas Eckenrode, Isaac Lewis, Dennis Link, Carmelite of the Word Sister Linda LaMagna (Confirmation director). Third row: Jane Stoltz (director of religious education at Saint Augustine Parish and Confirmation team member), Courtney Moyer, MacKenzie Sherry, Taylor Lansberry, Julia Prtichard, Harley Nelen and Joshua Henry. Monsignor Timothy J. Swope is pastoral administrator of both parishes. Father Donald Boslett is in residence at Saint Monica, and Deacon Steve Luke serves in diaconal ministry at both parishes.

**July 15 is the deadline for the submission of First Holy Communion, Confirmation, May Crowning and Graduation photos for publication in The Catholic Register.**



**GOOD SHEPHERD:** Good Shepherd Parish, State College, celebrated Confirmation on Friday, April 10. Father Charles Amershek is pastor. Those confirmed were Brian Cunningham (left) and Sarah Heininger.





# A Prince In The Service Of The Great King

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

## Pope Praises American Saints

By Cindy Wooden  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- People seem to enjoy finding the shortcomings of candidates for sainthood like Blessed Junipero Serra, but they should ask themselves if they would have his generosity and courage to leave everything behind to care for the poor and bring them the Gospel, Pope Francis said.

Visiting the Pontifical North American College, the U.S. seminary in Rome, Pope Francis insisted Blessed Serra fits into a host of saints who shaped the history and culture of the Americas, particularly by spreading Christianity, caring for the poor and defending the oppressed.

The pope's Mass May 2 with 250 seminarians from more than 100 U.S. dioceses, as well as Australia and Canada, came at the end of a symposium on Blessed Serra organized by the



CNS Photo/Paul Haring

**POPE PREACHES:** An image of Blessed Junipero Serra is seen as Pope Francis preaches at Mass at Rome's North American College on Saturday, May 2. The Pope will canonize Father Serra when he visits the United States of America in September.

## 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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Mayflower reached the North Atlantic coast," he noted.

While critics of the canonization have claimed that Blessed Serra was part of a system that destroyed native cultures and that he abused Native Americans at his missions, Pope Francis said Blessed Serra, like other Catholic missionaries in the Americas, "defended the indigenous peoples against abuses by the colonizers."

Referring to the Franciscan missionary as "Fra Junipero,"

poor, to proclaim him to those who have not known Christ and, therefore, have not experienced the embrace of his mercy," the pope said.

The witness of Blessed Serra, he said, is a call for all Catholics to get personally involved in missionary activity across the Americas, motivated by "the joy of the Gospel."

Referring to Blessed Serra as "one of the founding fathers of the United States" -- his missions were settlements that grew into some of the major cities of what is now the state of California -- Pope Francis said the Franciscan is a reminder of the important role the Spanish had and their descendants continue to have in the U.S. Catholic community.

Blessed Serra is part of a long line of holy men and women who preached and lived the Gospel of charity in the Americas, he said, listing two dozen male and female saints who ministered everywhere from Canada to Chile. He included the indigenous "humble workers in the vineyard of the Lord, like Juan Diego and Kateri Tekakwitha," as well as "martyrs like Roque Gonzalez (a Jesuit killed in Brazil in 1628), Miguel Pro (a Mexican Jesuit killed in 1927) and Oscar Arnulfo Romero," the assassinated archbishop of San Salvador, who is scheduled to be beatified May 23.

"There has been holiness in America -- much holiness," Pope Francis said. "May a powerful gust of holiness sweep through all the Americas during the coming extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy."

Pope Francis, the first pope from the Americas, prayed that "the life of our American continent may be rooted ever more deeply in the Gospel it has received; (and) that Christ may be ever more present in the lives of individuals, families, peoples and nations, for the greater glory of God."

seminary, the Pontifical Commission for Latin America, the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and the Knights of Columbus.

Although the college is on the Janiculum Hill overlooking the Vatican, Pope Francis' was the first papal visit to the campus since 1980, when St. John Paul II went.

Pope Francis is scheduled to canonize Blessed Serra, the 18th-century Spanish missionary to California, during his September trip to the United States. "This meeting at your college and around the eucharistic table is a beautiful and meaningful introduction to my apostolic trip to the United States of America," he told the students, staff, bishops and cardinals at the Mass.

Giving his homily in Italian, Pope Francis noted how Spanish missionaries in the 16th century had preached the Gospel across what is now the southern and southwestern United States from Florida to California. "This was long before the pilgrims of the

Pope Francis said the Spaniard was motivated by a desire to share the Gospel with the indigenous peoples of the Americas.

"He was filled with joy and the Holy Spirit in spreading the word of the Lord," the pope said. "Such zeal excites us, it challenges us!"

People study the lives and works of the missionaries, he said. They look at their strengths and, unfortunately, especially "their weaknesses and their shortcomings."

"But I wonder if today we are able to respond with the same generosity and courage to the call of God, who invites us to leave everything in order to worship him, to follow him, to rediscover him in the face of the

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# Word of Life



## The Pope Teaches

By Pope Francis

### Guards: Arm Yourself With Gospel, Rosary

**VATICAN CITY (CNS)** -- Wearing armor and carrying medieval-era weaponry -- halberds and swords -- is not enough. Pope Francis told Swiss Guards that they should always be armed with a pocket-edition of the Gospel and a rosary.

In addition to serving and protecting the pope, a Swiss Guard "is a Christian with genuine faith," he told members of the corps May 4.

Living that faith means receiving the sacraments by attending Mass regularly, going to confession frequently, but also reading the Gospel daily, he said.

"The thing I say to everyone, I'll also say to you: always have on hand a small Gospel to read as soon as you have a quiet moment."

He also told them to pray the rosary, especially when they are serving as honor guards and must stand immobile and at attention for hours.

The pope made his remarks during a private audience with members of the Swiss Guard, including new recruits, who will be sworn in May 6. The new guards' family members also were at the audience.

New recruits pledge to "faithfully, loyally and honorably" serve and protect the pontiff and, if necessary, sacrifice their lives for him.

The colorful induction ceremony is held May 6 every year to mark the date in 1527 when 147 Swiss Guards lost their lives defending Pope Clement VII in the Sack of Rome. Only 42 guards survived. Holding the ceremony on the anniversary is meant to remind new guards of the seriousness of their commitment.

Today, the 110 Swiss soldiers are responsible for guarding all entrances into Vatican City State as well as keeping watch over the pope and his residence in the Domus Sanctae Marthae. They also provide security and ceremonial services during liturgical events and visits of heads of state and other dignitaries to the Vatican.

Pope Francis thanked them for their service and reminded them how important it is that they be helpful, kind and courteous with the countless visitors they meet every day, since they are "the face" of the Holy See.

Pope Francis had met with the corps' new commander, Col. Christoph Graf, 54, during a ceremony to inaugurate and bless the guard's new flag May 1.

Elements of the Swiss Guard flag change with each new pope and new commander. Col. Graf, who has been serving in the Swiss Guard since 1987, was named commander of the guard Feb. 7.

The pope told the commander that the corps' leader has to be man of love, charity, humility and unity, according to the Vatican newspaper. The Gospel sense of leadership or being in command, he said, is serving others.



**ONE MORE TIME:** The April 4, 1975 edition of *The Catholic Register* reported that Gail Huff of Saint Joseph Parish, Bellwood, was the winner of the first place award in the Girls Division of the Vocation Poster Contest sponsored by the Serra Club of Altoona. Pictured are (left to right) Monsignor Francis Plummer (director of vocations), Richard Stoltz (contest chairman), Gail and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Huff.

Sometimes I sense that God is telling me to rest awhile. And I strongly suspect that sometimes that's what he's telling you.

I've come to realize what I need to pay attention to, what I need to remind myself of, is Christ telling the apostles to "come away ... and rest awhile" (Mk 6:31). I can't set down all the "crosses" I carry each day, but I can cut myself some slack.

It might seem a little harsh to refer to raising children, caring for an aging loved one or even volunteering at a school or parish as a "cross." But, certainly, there are aspects of doing any one of those things that calls for you to "deny yourself" and shoulder on. But resting also is necessary to keep going forward.

So, how can you come away and rest awhile? Or maybe better put, "get away and rest awhile"?

You're probably familiar with the idea that there are sins of "commission" and sins of "omission." In the words of the Confiteor: what you have done and what you have failed to do. In a similar way, you can get away by doing something or by not doing something.

How can you get away by doing something? A week at the beach might be lovely, but your kids might notice you weren't



## Your Family

By Bill Dodds

### Giving Yourself Space And Time To Rest

## Loving your neighbor as yourself includes loving yourself.

around the house. On the other hand, it might be possible to see if you can squeeze in a short afternoon nap, or a walk around the block, or 30 minutes of a television show, or just 10 pages of reading that book you've been trying to complete since you went to the hospital for the birth of your first child.

You can also "get away" by not doing something, by excusing yourself from an activity. Don't consider yourself a failure if you're not the perfect parent, the perfect caregiver or the perfect volunteer. You can let that go. You're not the perfect anything and you never will be and that's OK.

Then, too, not doing something can mean saying no.

You can say, "No, darling child, you can't be on the bas-

ketball team and then go right into softball. Choose one or the other."

You can say, "I can't personally provide all the help you need at this point. We're going to have to bring in outside help."

You can say, "No, parish director of religious education, I'm not going to be the fifth-grade teacher again this year. You'll have to find someone else."

The simple truth is that saying no can be a very positive thing to say, especially if the Holy Spirit has been nudging you to slow down. Don't be so overwhelmingly concerned about others that you have disregarded yourself.

Loving your neighbor as yourself includes loving yourself.





## Question Corner

By Father Kenneth Doyle  
Honoring An  
Unworthy Parent

**Q.** I have a personal problem with the Fourth Commandment. It reads that we should honor father and mother, but my own father is not an honorable man.

He has always been a self-centered person who puts his own needs above everyone else's. Right now he is elderly and sick with stage 4 cancer. He expects me to be there to take care of his every need, even though he resides in an assisted living facility, and he never gives a thought to how anyone else is doing.

I try to do what I can, and I want to follow the commandments, but I am having a real problem understanding how to handle this one. (South Carolina)

**A.** The command from the Decalogue to "honor your father" does not mean that you have to like the distasteful things you find in him. What it does mean, though, is that you are obliged to treat him with civility

and decency -- and with some measure of gratitude for having given you life.

In your present situation, that would mean doing what you reasonably can to ease your father's twin burdens of old age and sickness. The word "reasonably" is key: You may take comfort in the fact that your responsibilities to yourself and to your own family trump your obligations to your father, especially since his basic needs are being seen to by the assisted living staff, and so you can balance your time accordingly.

What he needs from you, probably more than anything else, is a bit of companionship on his difficult journey and the assurance that he has someone who cares.

There is no need to beat yourself up; my guess is that you're already doing most of what you need to. Honoring your father doesn't mean pretending that he has never hurt you or allowing yourself to be manipulated by him. It does

mean trying your best to forgive and keeping the lines of communication open. I have heard stories of long-strained relationships being gently healed in later life, when circumstances change and people need each other in new ways.

I will pray that this is one of those stories.

**Q.** I am a freshman in high school. I believe in God and in the Christian way of life, but I do have a question. How does God influence our lives, and how can one have a closer relationship with him? I want to depend on God for the decisions I make in my life, but many people say that they can live independently, without God. I only want to know the truth. (Mt. Arlington, New Jersey)

**A.** You are to be congratulated -- and envied. To have come to understand at a young age that your daily existence depends on the providence of the Lord and that God's will offers the best chance at a happy life is something of a rarity. (One might think this to be a self-evident truth that ought to be grasped readily, but many people take many years to incorporate it into their thinking.)

As you move through your teenage years, you will surely draw even closer to God -- by seeking to align your desires with the will of God.

The Lord does influence our lives in several ways: in the inner comfort and guidance we feel during quiet times and in prayer; with advice from trusted friends and mentors; and in the opportunities he provides, through the ever-changing circumstances of our lives.

**Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at [askfatherdoyle@gmail.com](mailto:askfatherdoyle@gmail.com) and at 40 Hopewell Street, Albany, N.Y. 12208.**



## For The Journey

By Effie Caldarola  
The Witness  
Of Modern Martyrs

A little over a year ago, Jesuit Father Frans van der Lugt was assassinated in Syria. His story is inspirational for the sheer faithfulness and integrity of his witness. I keep his picture in my office to remind me of this witness.

Although we don't know for sure who killed him -- Syria being the muddled chaos it is -- we do know that in a very real sense he died a martyr for Syria and for his faith, and certainly for the stand he took for all that is good and enduring on this earth.

Like most Jesuits, Father van der Lugt was an intellectual, a Dutchman described by a fellow Jesuit as a progressive visionary. He served in Homs, Syria, and was involved in the life of that community, initiating youth programs, engaging in interreligious dialogue.

He founded a project that included a center for the disabled, a retreat and a winery. He was loved and admired by his Christian and Muslim neighbors.

The fact that masked gunmen would drag him from his home and shoot him is a testimony to the evil of our world.

The siege of Homs was ghastly. This old Syrian city was caught between rebel fighters and the brutal forces of Bashar Assad, Syria's president, bit by bloody bit, in an effort to retain power.

"Nothing is more painful than watching mothers searching for food for their children in the streets," Father van der Lugt wrote in his blog shortly before his death, neglecting to mention that, like them, he was reduced to eating whatever he found.

When I was growing up, I thought of martyrs as early Christians, people fed to lions who offered Masses in secret. But history shows us that martyrdom is as contemporary as today's headlines.

Martyrdom intrigues us, probably because most of the martyrs we admire could easily have avoided their death, usually with no loss to their prestige. Sometimes martyrdom is as simple as sticking around the place you're called to be.

Father van der Lugt's superiors would have helped him leave Syria long before he joined his neighbors in the abject hunger that they experienced as the siege continued.

But people like Father van der Lugt, or Archbishop Oscar Romero, assassinated in El Salvador, or Lutheran theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who stayed in Germany under Adolf Hitler, remind us that often, people are martyred simply for standing their ground.

What does a martyr do? A martyr doesn't choose death, and certainly doesn't want to die. Usually martyrs are people who truly savor life. But a martyr remains faithful. No word describes a martyr better than "integrity." A martyr places his life on the line as a witness to truth.

The martyr's model is Jesus. As we read the Gospels, sometimes we yearn to say to Christ, "Stop! Don't go to Jerusalem now." Surely his disciples tried to dissuade him: Let things calm down, blow over. But he remained true to the path on which his life's work had set him.

Jesus' example of faithfulness to the end is a Christian's inspiration, and that's what gave Father Frans van der Lugt the courage to pick up his cross and do the same.

What do these martyrs teach us? They don't suggest that we make of life a sacrificial downer. They urge us to live our lives to the full but always to remain faithful to the calling God gives us, knowing God will be there with us at the end.

Madeleine  
Sophie Barat  
1779 - 1865  
Feast - May 25



Born to a cooper and winemaker in Burgundy, France, Madeleine was educated by her older brother, Louis, who was studying for the priesthood. He strove to repress her emotions and instruct her as if she were a seminarian. Her extensive formation, unusual for the time, paid off, as Madeleine was prepared for the rebirth of French Catholicism after its persecution during the French Revolution. In 1800, she and three companions began the Society of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Madeleine was appointed superior at 23, and over the next 63 years she oversaw the establishment of more than 100 houses and schools in 12 countries. Her order was approved by Rome in 1826, and she was canonized in 1925.



# Promoting Vocations Like Planting Seeds, Says Father Sheridan

(Continued From Page 1.)

“And I started asking the big questions. What am I looking for? What am I searching for? How can I live my life with peace in my heart? How can I live out my faith? How can I know what it is that God is asking me to do?”

Father Sheridan said that in the gospels, when the disciples were facing important questions like the ones he was facing, Jesus invited them to “Come and see” where and how He was living. In discerning his vocation, Father Sheridan said he answered that invitation, and eventually found himself back on familiar ground, in Loretto, attending a discernment weekend with the Third Order Regular Franciscan Friars.

Although he went to the weekend with the hope that he would discover that his vocation did not lay with the Franciscans,

Father Sheridan admitted he felt “more confused than ever” when the weekend ended, and finally had to abandon himself to God, making an act of trust, reminding himself that “the God who cares for us each and every day will care for us into the future.”

Father Sheridan entered the Loretto Franciscan community in 2000, made his solemn profession in 2005, and was ordained a priest in the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception on the campus of Saint Francis University in December 2006.

“I have to tell you, with great sincerity,” he said “that I have never been happier than I am now. Knowing that I am doing what God is asking of me in my life, gives me great peace.”

Father Sheridan spoke of his gratitude to the Serra Club and the work it does in promoting vocations, and recalled that when he was in grade school and high school his parents, the late



**POETRY CONTEST WINNERS:** The Vocations Poetry Contest winners were recognized by the Bishop, Sunday, May 3, in Loretto. Pictured are (left to right) First row: Teresa Golden, Alexa Sindleri, Jordyn Leckey, Kiersten Way, Megan Barron, Max Rossman. Second row: Daniel Beahr, Sarah Nagy, Megan Vigne, Bishop Mark, Anthony Hassett, Catalina Thornburg and Camryn Eby.



**ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS:** Winners of the Essay Contest were also honored at the Bishop's Day For Vocations dinner. Pictured are (left to right) First row: Sarah Grove, Emily Roy, Anna Prostejovsky, Michalina Templin, Haiden Walk, Dominic Cannizzaro, Peter Rose IV.. Second row: Anna Haigh, Samuel Krumenacker, Bishop Mark, Zelig Eger, Eric Clark, William Gay and Benji Ruszkoski. The contests were sponsored by the Diocesan Vocations Office and the Serra Club of Cambria County.



## HEALING MASS

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Tom and Jean Sheridan were active in the Cambria County Serra Club. He urged club members “not to lose heart when promoting vocations. All of us have an obligation to promote good and holy vocations. It’s like planting seeds; they will bear much fruit in the future.”

Bishop Mark, in his after-dinner remarks, also spoke of his gratitude to the Serrans and thanked them for hosting the annual event.

“When I speak of our Vocations Day to other Bishops they are always envious of the excitement this brings to our Diocese.

**“All of us have an obligation to promote good and holy vocations. It’s like planting seeds; they will bear much fruit in the future.”**

“What a gift this event is to our Diocese,” he said. “This day reminds us of the work we all have to do, to promote vocations.

“Vocations are a sign of God’s blessing for us, and all of you are a blessing, too.”





**MEETING BISHOP MARK:** Eli Updyke, 9, speaks with Bishop Mark L. Bartchak following last year's Faith Day Mass held on Sunday, June 29, 2014 at DelGrosso Amusement Park in Tipton. With him is his father, Matt. His mom is Monica. They are members of Saint John Gualbert Cathedral Parish in Johnstown. This year, Faith Day will be held at the park on Sunday, June 28.

## Diocese's Annual Faith Day Is Planned For June 28

*(Continued From Page 16.)*


Swope continued, "One nice thing about Faith Day is that there are activities throughout the day for all ages. Persons can celebrate Mass, relax at the water park, experience the rides, or just eat." She gets a lot of calls through the year from persons inquiring about Faith Day.

"People really have a good time. You can come for all day or just part of the day. Just come out and have some fun."

DeGol said this is a really good opportunity for the faithful to spend time with Bishop Mark in a relaxed setting. "Faith Day is like no other in our diocesan Church. It is a great opportunity for Catholics throughout our eight - county Diocese to come together to celebrate their faith in a fun and relaxed environment.


"I know Bishop Mark is already looking forward to seeing everyone and having an enjoyable day.

"For those who have never attended the faith day, we have a simple message: Try it. You'll love it."




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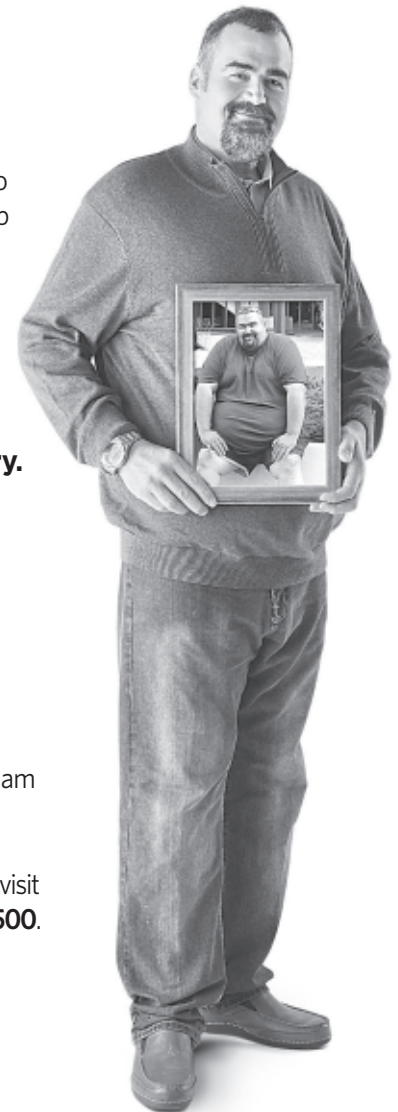
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# Nuns Worry About Fate Of Romero Relics

By Brother Octavio Duran  
Catholic News Service

**SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (CNS)** -- The chapel of Divine Providence Hospital in El Salvador is one of the most visited places by local and foreign pilgrims. They come wishing to learn more about Archbishop Oscar Romero, the controversial archbishop who has become a Salvadoran icon.

In 1966, the Congregation of the Carmelite Missionary Sisters of St. Therese built this hospital under the leadership of Sister Luz Isabel Cuevas Santana, a Mexican missionary who saw the need to care for cancer patients. It was in the small chapel of the hospital that on March 24, 1980, Archbishop Romero was killed, shot near his heart, just as he prepared to consecrate the host.

The day before, the archbishop challenged army soldiers for killing their own brothers and sisters. Afterward, some said the bishop was advised to go into hiding, but he refused. He believed he had not done anything wrong by asking the soldiers not to kill, and he was already committed to celebrate a memorial Mass at the hospital's chapel for the mother of one of his friends.

When Archbishop Romero was shot, the vestments he wore

were bathed in blood. After the attack, the Carmelite nuns kept them with the greatest possible care. For a while, the sisters hid his belongings for fear that the murderers would return to eliminate any form of evidence.

"Some of the sisters who were there at the moment of his death rushed out and washed their habits because they were stained with blood," said Sister Maria Julia Garcia, Carmelite superior and director of the hospital. "They feared for their lives since they had been witnesses of the crime. From then on, things have never been the same at this small dwelling place."

For 35 years, the congregation and the sisters running the hospital have taken care of the relics. Sister Garcia expressed some disappointment at the lack of interest by the Salvadoran hierarchy in preserving the relics during all these years.

"There are not too many things left by Archbishop Romero. This indicates that he lived not surrounded by many luxuries. It shows the simplicity in the way he lived," Sister Garcia said.

"Now that the pope has recognized his martyrdom, everyone is interested Romero, including those who disagreed with his message. We as the moral owners of these relics fear that they will be taken away from us and relocated to another



**OUR MOTHER OF SORROWS:** Our Mother of Sorrows Parish, Johnstown, celebrated Confirmation on Thursday, April 30 and First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 2. Pictured at Confirmation (top photo) are (left to right) First row: Michalina Templin, Maura Clark, Alaina Bailey, Kelly Ingram, Courtney Irwin, Katie Downey, Autumn Hershberger, Zia Hunt. Second row: Quinn Callihan, Inez Panebianco, Emily Tyger, Caitlyn Kelley, Morgan Ruis, Sara Stumpo, Carly Hajjar, Ashley Kush, Audrey Schafer (catechist). Third row: Father Mark Begly (pastor), Collin Schafer, Jacob Dorian, Connor Schafer, Sam Barry, Michael Gritzer, Anthony Battaglia (Confirmation team leader). Fourth row: Connor Bunn, Patrick Dailey, Mitchell Causer and Jordan Wherthey. Not pictured are Krista Bach, Jozef Leech, Leah Markley, Colin Turnbull, Michael Stem of Saint Michael Parish, and Karen Fink, director of religious education. Pictured at First Holy Communion (bottom photo) are (left to right) First row: Sebastian Jones, Kathryn Donaldson, Peyton Schario, Reese Ramirez, Bella Fosbrink, Lily Runkle, Te'a Ashcom. Second row: Dani Fregly, Sophie Rosemas, Peyton Barry, Chase Neumann, Zoey Lynch, Lewis Dill, Ashley Gregorchik. Third row: Haley Kesslak, Madison Adams, Nathalie Frem, Natallo Rocco. Fourth row: Scott Hassett, Caden Miller, John Wesner, Joseph Gritzer, Matthew Carbonara, Micah Smedberg. Fifth row: Father Begly, Karen Fink, Elaine LaRocca (teacher), Audrey Schafer (catechist), Joyce Dailey (teacher) and Keith Kuckenbrod (principal). Joseph Nibert also received his First Holy Communion.

place where they would not be treated with respect," she said.

Archbishop Romero will be beatified in San Salvador May 23. Sister Garcia said she is happy that the beatification is just around the corner and is also aware that the government might declare the chapel a National Cultural Heritage. But that would put the sisters in a very awkward situation, because they would have no say in the care of the relics.

"Today, everyone who could benefit with a personal or financial gain is Romero's friend or follower," she said.

Sister Elvia Elizett Cazun Penate is currently responsible for the archbishop's small house, known as Oscar Arnulfo Romero Historic Center. She is also concerned about the future of his relics.

"Now these relics have become the most precious treasures left by the archbishop. But

for 35 years, no one here in El Salvador offered us any help to preserve them; not even the hierarchy of the Salvadoran Catholic Church.

"Many locals and foreigners visit this place with great reverence, and they find themselves close to Romero, just by looking at these relics," Sister Penate said. "We encourage all Salvadorans to stop by this center and learn more about Romero."

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**SAINT BENEDICT, JOHNSTOWN:** First Holy Communion was celebrated by Saint Benedict Parish, Johnstown, on Sunday, May 3. Taking part were (left to right) First row: Deacon Michael Russo, Michelle Robatin, (sacramental preparation director), Pam Direnzo (catechist), Sam LaPorta. Second row: Kaedan Errett, Elle Berkebile, Lilly Nyanko, Delanie Kiser, Ireland Bradley, Emma Pabrazinsky, Morgan Langerholc, Hailey Mowery, Danika Billow, Kolbie Smiach, Jennifer Polacek (catechist). Third row: Callihan Bradley, Finnegan Bradley, Cody Yeager, Julien Baxter. Fourth row: Father David Peles (pastor), Father Matthew Baum (parochial vicar), Garrett Murphy, Zachary Jastrzab, Joseph Sorg, Evan Ream, Adam Radkowski, Tucker Lindrose, Logan Heptner, Luke Piscitella, Austin Yarnick, Dane Jordan, Brayden Yorchak, Jeffrey Brown Jr., Beth Eckenrod. Fifth row: Austin Blough, Emma Feichtel, Caleb Cordek, Lanie Marshall, Eli Zasadni Jr., Sophia Hoagland, Brady Dolgas, Sarah Mert, Aiden Cooper and Noah Ritko. Absent from the photo were Zevyn Robison and Samantha Hauser (catechist).



**QUEEN OF ARCHANGELS:** Queen of Archangels Parish, Clarence/Snow Shoe, celebrated Confirmation on Friday, April 10. Taking part were Laura Allen, Matthew Blaylock, Trey Butterworth, Noah Chambers, Daniel Hockenbury, Michale Kachik, Jaboc Koleno, Andrew Onder, Raelee Passuello, Andrew Swabick, Alyssa Ward and Derek Welker. Father Mark Reid is pastor.



**SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST, BELLEFONTE:** Saint John the Evangelist Parish, Bellefonte, Father George Jakopac, pastor, celebrated Confirmation on Friday, April 10. Those confirmed included Meghan Bird, Jacob Ciampichini, Aaron Coslo, Miranda Fedor, Michael Forstmeier, Kyla Irwin, Nicholas Jabco, Kailee Jo Klimek, Tyler Lucas, Michael O'Donnell, Kamberylenn Replogle, Charles Ross, Taylor Schoch, Emily Sinclair, Emma Smith, Maepearl St. George, Sarah VanCise, Jeremy Warefield, Cody Watson and Allena Wendt.

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# Now Showing

## ‘Marie’s Story’ A Joyous, Life - Affirming Tale Of Love

By Joseph McAleer  
Catholic News Service

**NEW YORK (CNS)** -- “Everything has its wonders, even darkness and silence.” So wrote Helen Keller (1880-1968), the deaf-blind activist portrayed in the 1962 movie “The Miracle Worker.”

Keller’s depth of perception and zestful attitude -- despite all obstacles -- are shared by “Marie’s Story” (Film Movement), a fictionalized profile of Marie Heurtin (1885-1921), often called the “French Helen Keller.”

This joyous film stands out among cinematic offerings with not one but two important messages: a demand to respect human life at all stages, and a positive portrayal of women religious.

Born deaf and blind and wholly unable to connect to the world around her, by the age of 14, Marie -- played by deaf actress Ariana Rivoire -- is a feral creature, prone to wild outbursts.

With nowhere else to turn, her exasperated parents (Gilles Treton and Laure Duthilleul) bring Marie to the Larnay Institute, where an order of sisters runs a school for deaf girls.

The mother superior (Brigitte Catillon) rejects Marie’s application, as the school has never taught a child who is blind as well as deaf. “How would we communicate with her?” she asks.

Marie returns home, but not before making a big impression on one idealistic nun, Sister Marguerite (Isabelle Carre).

“Today I met an imprisoned soul, tiny and quite fragile, that I saw shining brightly through her prison bars,” Sister Marguerite



CNS Photo/Film Movement

**MARIE’S STORY:** Isabell Carre and Ariana Rivoire star in scenes from the movie “Marie’s Story.” The Catholic News Service classification is A-II -- adults and adolescents. The film is not rated by the Motion Picture Association of America.

writes in her journal. “The girl is locked in a world of darkness and silence. How can we talk to her?”

With all the spunk of Maria in “The Sound of Music,” Sister Marguerite lobbies the mother superior to give Marie a chance.

What ensues is a master class in unconditional love, patience and perseverance, as teacher and student start to break down the walls of isolation. It’s a slow and frequently violent process that is at times painful to watch, but that nonetheless makes suitable -- and impressive -- viewing for teens and adults.

Director Jean-Pierre Améris brings a rare sensitivity and poignancy to his inspirational story. The magnificent setting of the French countryside in full bloom, moreover, complements the tale nicely. The profoundly life-affirming results are not to be missed.

In French. Subtitles.

The film contains some potentially disturbing scenes of a frightened child.

The Catholic News Service classification is A-II -- adults and adolescents.

Not rated by the Motion Picture Association of America.



## Coming Up On ‘Proclaim!’

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

**May 24** -- Graduating seniors from the Catholic high schools in the Diocese join the Bishop to reflect on their years of Catholic education and look to the future.

**May 31** -- In celebration of their 30th anniversary of ordination, Deacon Gene Neral of Saint John the Evangelist Parish in Altoona and Deacon John Concannon of Saint John Gualbert Cathedral in Johnstown discuss the joys of their ministry.

### *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  
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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 M. Christopher Zayicek S.C.N.

Sister Mary Christopher Zayicek, a Sister of Charity of Nazareth, died Wednesday, April 22 at the age of 85, and in the 64th year of her religious life.

Sister Mary Christopher entered the former Vincentian Sisters of Charity from the former Saint Anthony Parish, John-

stown, in 1951. She ministered as a teacher in the Dioceses of Greensburg, Pittsburgh, and in Mobile AL. She also worked in health care at the Vincentian Home and Vincentian DeMarillac Home in Pittsburgh.

Because of health issues she retired in 2006, but continued to serve her Sisters as a driver and sacristan aide.

Surviving are two sisters, Patricia Vjelica and Agnes Sahut.

The funeral Mass for Sister Mary Christopher Zayicek S.C.N. was celebrated Monday, April 27 in the chapel of Saint Louise Convent, McCandless Township.

### Carmelite Novena

**Loretto:** The year's fifth novena to Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Saint Therese, the Little Flower, offered by the Discalced Carmelite Nuns, will open on Friday, May 22 and end on Saturday, May 30.

While renovations and repairs continue in Carmel's public chapel, the monthly novena will be offered in Our Lady's Chapel, a temporary site within the monastic enclosure, where Mass is celebrated for the nuns.

All intentions sent to the Carmelites will be remembered in the prayers of the nuns, and 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.

During the renovation of Carmel's Chapel, Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament is being given every Sunday afternoon at 4:00 p.m. at Queen of Peace Church in Patton. All are welcome to attend.

**Local news briefs may be submitted to [tstein@dioceseaj.org](mailto:tstein@dioceseaj.org) or [btomaselli@dioceseaj.org](mailto:btomaselli@dioceseaj.org).**

# Nun Was Longtime Spokesperson For Church

By Patricia Zapor  
Catholic News Service

**ALBANY, N.Y. (CNS) --** Mercy Sister Mary Ann Walsh, who went from hometown schoolteacher to Vatican correspondent, lived out her drive to be a writer even in her last days. She died April 28 in her hometown of Albany, New York, after a battle with cancer.

Sister Mary Ann, 68, had stepped down last summer from her role of 21 years in media relations for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, the last six years as director. Just as she began a transition to a new job she quickly came to love -- writing for **America Magazine** as the Jesuit publication's U.S. church correspondent -- she learned that she had fast-growing metastatic cancer and moved home to the motherhouse in Albany where she had entered the Sisters of Mercy 50 years earlier.

Reporters, colleagues and bishops praised her deep faith, her determination, her trail-blazing as a woman and a nun and her abiding friendship.

Sister Mary Ann was born in Albany, Feb. 25, 1947, the

only daughter of Irish immigrants. After attending local Catholic schools staffed by the Sisters of Mercy, she entered the order as a 17-year-old. She earned degrees in English at the College of St. Rose in Albany and began teaching elementary and then high school.

But the writing bug, which had led her as a child to stay up late, scribbling beneath the bedcovers under the light of a gooseneck lamp, soon led her to a reporting job at **The Evangelist**, newspaper of the Albany Diocese.

She went on to become a Vatican correspondent for Catholic News Service and then its media editor. In those roles, she traveled the world with Pope John Paul II and sat down for interviews with movie stars. "Rome taught me how to cover Hollywood," she told CNS in interviews in January. "They're both complete bureaucracies."

Her career path led her to the media relations staff of the USCCB, where she managed arrangements for press coverage of World Youth Day in Denver in 1993, for several other visits to the U.S. by St. John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI.

## In The Alleghenies

(Continued From Page 3)

### Prayer

### Presentation

**Altoona:** Carmelite of the Word Sister Linda LaMagna, will be give a special presentation entitled, "Forming Intentional Disciples" on Monday, May 18, at 7:00 p.m., at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament.

The evening of prayer will include praise and worship music and special prayers for heal-

ing. All are welcome.

### Holy Hour

**Carrolltown:** Bishop Mark L. Bartchak will offer a Holy Hour of Prayer Friday, June 5 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Saint Benedict Church, for the concerns of those who have loved ones who have drifted away from the Church, and to join with others who share that concern in praying for their return to the Faith.

### Director of Development-Franciscan Friars, TOR

#### Position Description:

The Director of Development oversees the functions of a mission-focused development program, which is in line with the principle standards of the Roman Catholic Church. The Director of Development will also foster an environment which is donor-centered. The Director of Development is responsible for all fundraising programs, publications, and solicitation of donations to provide funds for support and mission objectives of the Franciscan Friars, TOR.

#### Education and Experience:

- BS/BA or higher in business, marketing, or related field preferred, CFRE certification a plus
- Minimum of 5 years experience in fundraising, development, or comparable sales/marketing experience required
- Experience with Blackbaud/Raiser's Edge strongly preferred, web/graphic design skills a plus

#### Salary and Benefits:

- Salary commensurate with experience
- Paid time off, medical insurance, 401 (k) retirement plan

For a full job description, please visit:  
[www.thefranciscanfriars.org/careers](http://www.thefranciscanfriars.org/careers)

For consideration, please forward a cover letter and resume to:  
Franciscan Friars, TOR, PO Box 117, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648  
Or by e-mail to: [kellie@thefranciscanfriars.org](mailto:kellie@thefranciscanfriars.org)

Deadline for applications: May 31, 2015

## Support Catholic Schools with PA Business Taxes

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# Faith Day's Appeal Growing Say Event Organizers

**Celebration Will Take Place  
Sunday, June 28  
At DelGrosso Park, Tipton**

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

A day with an appeal that grows each year, the 7th Annual Altoona - Johnstown Diocese's Family Faith Day celebration is just over a month away. The event will be held on Sunday, June 28 at DelGrosso Amusement Park in Tipton, a few miles from Altoona. According to Francine Swope and Tony DeGol, co - chairpersons for the day, DelGrosso has become much more than a sponsor. "As always, we are grateful to the DelGrosso family for working with the Diocese to create a fun and affordable day for the faithful. We appreciate their support and generosity," DeGol said.

Again this year, DelGrosso will offer Ride 'N Slide passes at a reduced rate of \$12.00. The regular rate is \$19.95. In addition, Delgrosso's will donate \$3.00 of every ticket voucher to the Angel Fund.

The \$3.00 donation to the Angel Fund helps children participate in one of the two diocesan week - long summer camps, Camp Zacchaeus and Camp Timothy. Interest in the camps has grown each year and the fund makes it affordable for some children who might not

otherwise be able to meet the fee.

Vouchers for the Ride 'N Slide may be purchased from parishes, the Youth Ministry Office, the diocesan web site, or the day of the event at Pavilion 2.

The day begins with the opening of the picnic area at 8:00 a.m. followed by the rides opening at 11:00 a.m.

Faith Day activities begin with entertainment provided by Johnstown's Cathedral Catholic Academy Youth Chorale on the Park Stage. On that same stage at 3:00 p.m., Bishop Mark L. Bartchak will celebrate the Liturgy along with the priests of the Diocese. The Mass will be followed by a picnic at 5:00 p.m. in Pavilion 2.

Meal tickets are \$8.25 for adults and \$7.25 for children and must be ordered in advance. Officials urge the meal tickets be purchased through the parishes. They can also be ordered through The Youth Ministry Office at (814) 695 - 9605. The order form can be printed from the Diocesan Web site: [www.ajdiocese.org](http://www.ajdiocese.org). Meal orders must be returned by June 22. No meal tickets will be sold the day of the event.

The picnic meal includes: chicken, a choice of hamburger or hotdog, baked beans, potato



**FAMILY FUN:** Joscelyn Jones, 5, enjoys a picnic lunch with her mom, Michelle, at last year's Diocesan Faith Day held on Sunday, June 29, 2014 at DelGrosso Amusement Park in Tipton. They are members of Saint Francis Xavier Parish in Cresson. Michelle's husband is Dan Jones. This year's event will take place at the park on Sunday, June 28.

salad, and desert.

Swope, diocesan director of Youth Ministry, coordinator of Religious Education, and Sacramental Preparation, said even though the event is sponsored by the Altoona - Johnstown Diocese, persons of all faiths are invited to attend.

"Once again we are sending out an invitation to all parishes to join us, and maybe hold a parish picnic," Swope said. "It's a nice day to get together with parish families from throughout the Diocese because we are all one diocesan Church."

Annually, persons partici-

pating in the family day, bring nonperishable food items or make a donation to Catholic Charities. "The response to the collection grows each year," DeGol said.

*(Continued On Page 11.)*

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# The Catholic Register

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