



# The Catholic Register

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## In Imitation Of Brother Charles Of Jesus

# Little Sisters Of Jesus Strive To Live, And To Love All People, With A ‘Universal Heart’

**Community’s Charism Includes  
Special Consecration To Pray For  
And Live In Solidarity  
With Muslim People**

By Msgr. Timothy P. Stein

One - hundred years ago, December 1, 1916, the hermit known as Little Brother Charles of Jesus, met his death in the Sahara Desert of North Africa, at the hands of a party of Muslim nationalists, intent on driving out all foreign “infidels.”

There was a certain irony in the manner of his death. Charles, born the Viscount De Foucauld, a member of a noble French family, was a former soldier, who had made his name as an explorer of the uncharted regions of Morocco. He had led a dissolute life of dissipation, but had gone on to try his vocation as a Trappist monk, and was eventually ordained a priest. He, who met his death from the bullet of a Muslim assassin, credited his conversion to a radical Christian life, to the influence of the men and women who practiced the faith of Islam.

*“Islam really shook me to the core. The sight of such faith, of these people living in the continual presence of God, made me glimpse something greater, truer, than worldly concerns. I started studying Islam, and then the Bible,”* wrote Charles, in a letter to a friend.

Charles died alone in his desert hermitage at Tamanrasset. It seemed that his dream of founding a religious community of little brothers and sisters died with him. But some two decades after his death that dream came to fruition with first the establishment in 1933 of the Little Brothers of Jesus, and in 1939 of the Little Sisters of Jesus. Today, there are 19 foundations of priests, brothers and sisters, taking their inspiration from the life and charism of Little Brother Charles of Jesus, who was beatified by Pope Benedict XVI on November 13, 2005.

The Little Sisters of Jesus have been present in the Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown since 1973, when they established a



**BLESSED LITTLE BROTHER CHARLES OF JESUS  
SEPTEMBER 15, 1858 - DECEMBER 1, 1916  
BEATIFIED NOVEMBER 13, 2005**

house for prayer and adoration in Gallitzin’s Tunnelhill neighborhood. And in that simple house on the very edge of the borough, three Little Sisters live out their community’s unique consecration to pray for, and live in solidarity with Muslim people, while caring for the whole world and following Jesus.

“Brother Charles had a universal heart, and he wanted his followers to have a universal heart,” said Little Sister Jo. “We are an international community, with a Motherhouse in Rome. We come from many nations, cultures and races. In our communities we live in peace and solidarity with people of other races and cultures. It’s not something you have to talk about; you just have to do it,” she explained.

That sense of “just having to do it,” coupled with their special consecration to God for the Muslim people, prompted the Little Sisters to establish a community in a neighborhood with a large Muslim population, following the September 11, 2001 tragedy. Little Sister Ann Cecile was part of that community.

*(Continued On Page 10.)*

**Adult Enrichment**

**Sunday Sabbath**

**Gallitzin:** The next offering in the Carmelite Community of the Word's Sunday Sabbath Series will be presented Sunday, March 12, and will feature "Joseph of Nazareth: The Story of the Man Closest to Christ."

This is the first feature film ever on the story of Saint Joseph - - carpenter, husband of Mary and the foster father of Jesus Christ. Scripture tells us that Saint Joseph was a "just man", and that God gave him the most daunting task ever asked of a man - - to be the husband of the woman who would give birth to the Messiah, and the father and protector of this Holy Family, the man closest to Christ.

All Sunday Sabbath gatherings begin at 1:30 p.m. and end at 4:30 p.m., and will include a DVD presentation and time for prayer and reflection. There is no charge for the session but a



**THE LAST SUPPER:** A moving drama, "The Last Supper" will be presented at Saint Michael the Archangel Church in Hollidaysburg, on Monday, April 10, at 8:15 p.m. This moving and emotional event takes place in a darkened church sanctuary with colorful lights on the cast and altar. The disciples each share a reflection of their very personal thoughts regarding their last meal and meeting with Christ, as the Lord tells them of the pending betrayal by one of His own. The drama adds a dimension to one's spirituality, intensifying emotion and contemplation on this momentous event. Observers of the one hour drama have an opportunity to sit back, take in the historical importance of The Last Supper and to contemplate its significance in their personal lives. The performance includes heart penetrating music. The cast members are from Saint Mary and Saint Michael Parishes in Hollidaysburg, and Saint Patrick Parish in Newry. This will be the 17th year the cast has performed in Blair and Cambria County churches. All are welcome to attend. There is no charge, no audience participation, and no donations are requested.

free will donation will be welcomed.

Pre - registration is required the Friday before each session.

Sessions will be held at Carmelite Community of the

Word Incarnation Center, 394 Bem Road.

To register, get directions, or for more information, call (814) 886 - 4098.

**Community**

**Saint Patrick's Day Dinner**

**Altoona:** Dr. Bernard A. Joyce will be the featured speaker at the annual Ancient Order of Hibernian Saint Patrick's Day Dinner Celebration. The event will be held starting at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday March 11, at the Bavarian Hall on 13th Street.

Dr. Joyce, a retired Blair County Jury Commissioner and a retired public school Administrator, currently serves as an Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Graduate School at Saint Francis University, Loretto, as well as an Educational Consultant.

As a Past-President of the Blair County Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians,

his Saint Patrick's Day talk will focus of the growth of Irish Immigrants in Pennsylvania and the United States during periods of famine and economic depression in Ireland during the 19th century, and their continued efforts to better themselves and their newly adopted nation.

Receiving his Doctorate in Administration and Leadership from Duquesne University, his Masters Degree from St. Francis University, and his Bachelors Degree from the Pennsylvania State University, his life's employment journey has always involved human services and helping individuals to develop to their fullest .

Tickets are priced at: Adults, \$20.00, and students, \$15.00/ Tickets need to be purchased in advance, by calling (814) 944 - 6143.

After the dinner and program, there will be dancing with the music provided by DJ Matt Caporuscio.

**Sign Day**

**Loretto:** ASL at Saint Francis University will host the sixth annual Sign Day on Sunday, April 2. Sign Day is a fun introduction to ASL (American Sign Language) for students in grades 1 - 12. The event will be held from 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. in the JFK Student Center. Check-in begins at 9:15 a.m.

The cost is \$11.00 per participant. Registration deadline is today, Monday, March 6. Registration fee is non-refundable. Registration includes a T - shirt. Registrations received after March 6 will not receive T - shirts.

Registration may be done online at <http://stage.francis.edu/Sign-Day-Registration/>, or by calling (814) 472-3051 or by e - mail to [kbeck@francis.edu](mailto:kbeck@francis.edu).

**Family Life**

**Widows/Widowers Day**

**New Germany:** Widows and widowers are invited to remember their loved ones on Monday, March 20 with Mass at 11:00 a.m. at Immaculate Conception Church, 1640 New Germany Road. All spouses will be mentioned and remembered at Mass. Luncheon to follow in the parish hall.

(Continued On Page 3.)

**LENTEN FISH DINNER**

Queen Of Peace Parish Center in Patton (Upper Level) Fridays of Lent (including **Good Friday**), beginning

**Friday, March 3.**

**MENU Includes:**

Choice of baked, fried fish or Salmon patties; choice of baked potato or french fries. The dinner also includes: fresh baked rolls, cole slaw, stewed tomatoes, macaroni & cheese, haluski, dessert and beverage. Pierogies a la carte.

For your convenience, please park in the Parish Center parking lot above the hall.

**4-7 PM** Adults,\$10/Children(5-12),\$5/Children(under5),FREE. Takeout's available in the lower level of Parish Center

**Garvey Manor**

1037 So. Logan Blvd. Hollidaysburg

**BASKET BINGO**



**Sunday March 19, 2017  
2:00 - 5:00 PM**

Proceeds benefit activity programs for Resident of Garvey Manor/Our Lady of the Alleghenies

A fun-filled afternoon of BINGO & so much more!  
Space is limited pre-registration recommended  
**Call 695-5571 for more information**

**ANNUAL MEN'S TURKEY DINNER  
SUNDAY, MARCH 19<sup>th</sup> 11AM-3PM**



*The Men are Cooking!*

**BASILICA OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL  
LORETTO, PA  
ADULTS -\$10.00 CHILDREN 10 & under- \$6.00  
TAKEOUT \$11.00 BASKET RAFFLE !**

# In The Alleghenies



**MARCH FOR LIFE:** Students and faculty from Saint Joseph's Catholic Academy, Boalsburg were among 100 local marchers who traveled to Washington DC on Friday, January 27 for the March for Life. Organized by Father Michael Wolfe and Deacon Dave Lapinski, the group included Bishop Mark L. Barchak, parishioners, students and faculty from Queen of Archangels Parish in Clarence/Snow Show and Our Lady of Victory Parish, State College, and Penn State Students for Life. Pictured are (left to right) Ann-Marie Pase, Mary Elliot, Monica Surovec, Bishop Mark and Emily Merovich.

*(Continued From Page 2.)*

This event is sponsored by the diocesan Family Life Office. A \$5.00 donation is suggested. Widows and widowers from throughout the Altoona - Johnstown Diocese are invited to attend.

Reservations are required by Tuesday, March 14. Contact the Family Life Office at (814) 886 - 5551 or familylife@dioceseaj.org

## High Schools

### Youth Alpha Course

**Ebensburg:** When Bishop Carroll Catholic High School art and religion instructor Karen Blaisdell first encountered the Alpha course at her Johnstown parish, Our Mother of Sorrows, she was a bit skeptical. "I thought that I was strong in my Christian faith and that it might be good to try it, [but] could it really change my life? I didn't think so. Boy, was I wrong!" she says in a letter addressing her fellow colleagues. It didn't take

long for her to realize this was a program that could highly benefit both the students and faculty at Bishop Carroll.

The 12 - week Youth Alpha course is relatively straight-forward. There are three key components according to Blaisdell - - food, fun, and faith. Students congregate and enjoy snacks and social interaction, worship and conversation on faith-based topics. Small group discussions often lead to strong friendships built out of common spiritual insights and struggles.

"With the culture of today pushing our kids away from their faith, we need to prepare them to lead a Christian life in an increasingly secular world. Youth Alpha can help us to do this," Blaisdell affirmed. So, she convinced her colleagues to bring the Youth Alpha program to Bishop Carroll. While she does recognize that the program is a large time commitment, spanning 12 weeks, with 30-minute sessions held each Friday, and one day - long retreat, she believes it's a more

than worthy cause, and one that can continue to be successful if repeated every four years.

Each session begins with conversation and snacks, followed by worship music, a thought-provoking video and small group time. Topics for each session range from "Life: What is it?" to "Follow: How Does God Guide Us?" At least five teachers are present, to assist students and oversee the program.

The program falls right in line with the Bishop Carroll motto of "Spirit, Heart, Mind, and Body," nurturing the development of the spirit alongside mass and daily prayer. The faculty hopes the program encourages students to nourish their personal relationships with Christ.

"I can't say enough about what a great program Alpha is! I love it and know that our students, faculty and staff will benefit from the time we set aside to learn more about Jesus Christ and each other," says Blaisdell.

The Youth Alpha program held its first session January 12, and will run through March 24. In addition, the adult Alpha program is being held for Bishop Carroll faculty, following the same schedule.

## Higher Education

### Publish Articles

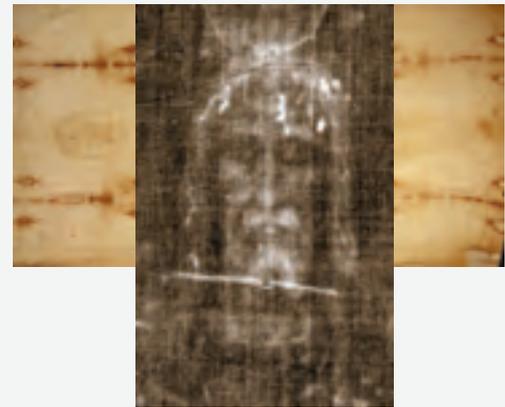
**Cresson:** Dr. Mary Shuttlesworth, assistant professor of psychology at Mount Aloysius College enlisted the efforts of three students to prepare detailed research articles for two academic journals. Their efforts resulted in two scholarly publications; but more importantly, Dr. Shuttlesworth's guidance exposed the students to a priceless experience that led them to further study. Their first work entitled, "Eating Disorders: Prevalence, Risk Factors and Treatment Options" was accepted for publication in the *Inter-*

*national Journal Of Psychology Research*. Her research assistant for the effort was then undergraduate student Brittany Mazur, of Cresson.

Dr. Shuttlesworth led the writing team as they identified differences between women of varying ethnicities and explored how inherent ethnic differences might correlate to subjective body image. Mazur is now a graduate student in the Mount Aloysius Psychology program. She graduated last spring with Bachelor's degrees in both Criminology and Psychology plus a certificate in Forensic Investigations. She provided feedback and edited each of the drafts from the proposal stage to the final manuscript.

*(Continued On Page 6.)*

## THE SHROUD OF TURIN



## IS THIS THE FACE OF JESUS?

In 2013 Bill Wingard established "Shroud Talks" to present the history and science of the Shroud of Turin and tackle its biggest mystery....*Is the Shroud the actual burial cloth of Jesus?*

**YOU ARE INVITED TO HEAR THE TALK AND SEE THE FULL SIZE REPLICA OF THE SHROUD OF TURIN!**

**WHEN: Sunday March 26, 2017  
Time: 3:00 PM**

**Where: St. Benedict Parish, Johnstown  
2310 Bedford St, Johnstown PA 15904**

For more information contact Deacon Michael Russo at; (814) 288-3036 " michael.russo@atlanticbb.net  
Tickets are not required. A Free Will offering with be taken.

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

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## Point Of View

“Confession is good for the soul,” they say. I agree. I also find that it helps us to live well no matter what our station or situation in life, especially if we make it a time to move fully out of our comfort zone.

During Lent and Advent, nearby parishes regularly have reconciliation services that allow us to reflect and prepare for these holy seasons. Often, before our regular parish Saturday evening Mass, the sacrament of reconciliation is offered, making it convenient to go to confession and Mass in one trip.

This year, I want to make a robust effort to revisit the sacrament of reconciliation when it might not be at the forefront of my schedule or mind, or even be convenient. This decision has led already to humor and grace and a tale to tell.

Saturday ended a week punctuated by heavy rain, wind and very cool temperatures. I was snug inside, but decided to unwrap myself from the comfort of home and go to confession. The church I selected was in a very heavily trafficked area of the city. On a Saturday afternoon after a blustery, stormy week, I realized it would be next to impossible to find a nearby parking space.

This got my mind a-worrying: Over Christmas, my car had been burgled, and since then I'd been especially vigilant about keeping it close no matter where I parked. But even with the rawness of my recent experience, I still went forth (though I did faintly promise myself that if



## Living Well

By Maureen Pratt

### A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To Confession

parking was a problem, I'd try another church another time).

True to my hunch, traffic was thick and spaces all along the way were full ... except as I turned the corner in the last block. Right in front of the church was an empty parking space! I have to admit I was a little anxious about what God had in store that it was so easy to park my car and save me a long walk in the chill. But I had no excuse now!

This particular church had two confessionals at opposite sides of the nave. I approached a gentleman sorting stacks of bulletins and asked him if he knew on which side confession would be heard.

“Sometimes it's one, sometimes the other,” he replied. He glanced at me. “Sometimes both.”

Was he being funny, or seeing something I didn't realize? I laughed, nervously. “Oh, I only



Photo By Monsignor Timothy P. Stein

need one,” I said.

Deadpan, he said, “I meant, sometimes there are two priests. It varies.” And he went back to sorting the bulletins.

I noticed there were others entering, so I sat in a pew and read a page from the devotional I'd brought with me. Gradually, my breathing slowed and I began to pray with my eyes fixed on the beautiful crucifix just behind the altar. Mundane concerns faded as I remembered the magnificent sacrifice made so that I could sit in silent reverence.

A feeling of disappointment in myself washed over me as I realized how small my thoughts had been before, when I'd worried about finding a parking space. Such a petty thing, compared to Jesus' act of selfless love. And with that realization, my whole body relaxed.

I could say that the reconciliation was in those moments before I went in to the confessional. But really the entire experience was necessary -- the private prayer, the reflection and the sacrament. Confession is good for the soul. And it helps us readjust so that our lives focus, not on that proverbial open parking space, but on the wide open arms of Jesus on the cross.



## Another Perspective

By Monsignor Timothy P. Stein  
 An Example To Be Followed

I have had many pleasant experiences, and met a number of very nice people, over the course of my almost 31 years at **The Catholic Register**. I have been in parishes in each of the eight counties of the Diocese. I have been in and out of Catholic schools, colleges and universities. I've had the chance to sit down and talk with priests, men and women religious, lay people, adults and children. Each of those visits and each of those encounters has made me appreciate the rich mosaic of the Diocese of Altoona – Johnstown. Each person -- each place -- is a beautiful facet that comes together with all the others to make a rich and a beautiful whole. I am grateful.

One of the most rewarding experiences I've had in this ministry is also one of the most recent; my visit to the convent of the Little Sisters of Jesus in Gallitzin, on Monday, February 20. I was grateful for the treat of a home – cooked dinner, but grateful most of all for the opportunity to sit down with the Sisters and listen to them talk about their community, their special charism and consecration, and the inspiration their lives derive from the example of one of my special heroes -- Blessed Brother Charles of Jesus, who is also known as Charles DeFoucauld.

Brother Charles died just over 100 years ago. He lived as a hermit in the Sahara Desert, but he was a hermit who didn't cut himself off from the people around him, but rather a hermit who lived as a friend and neighbor -- a brother -- to all the people he met. He hoped to inspire others to share religious life with him. Though he died alone, within two decades of his death religious communities inspired by his example had come into being, among them the Little Sisters of Jesus. Since 1973, the Little Sisters have lived their lives of neighborliness and prayer here in our Diocese.

Unlike many other religious communities, the Little Sisters of Jesus have never engaged in corporate, sponsored ministries in schools, hospitals or other institutions. Their vocation is to simply live, and live simply, amongst the people of any given neighborhood or locale, sharing the life of their neighbors, being employed in the same sorts of jobs that the local people work at, all the while living lives of intense prayer. They describe themselves as contemplatives in the midst of the world. Wherever the people of God can be found, you can find the Little Sisters of Jesus. They are like the leaven in the dough -- a hidden presence that is the agent of much good. Few in number, they are like the mustard seed -- the smallest of all plants that grew to be the mightiest of trees. They are, above all, women of the gospel.

We live in a world that is increasingly fraught with divisions. We speak more about building walls than we do about building bridges. We raise our hands in defense oftener than we extend them in welcome. We have forgotten what it is like to live as neighbors and friends, as brothers and sisters.

In a world like ours, the witness of the Little Sisters of Jesus is an important one. They show us that through simple efforts, through small gestures, through taking literally the Lord's command to “love one another as I have loved you,” we can make the world a better place. We may not be called to paint on a big canvas, or write large in the book of life, but every one of us, wherever we are, whoever we are, can bring God's love to the corner of the world we call home, and make that place a sign of His Kingdom.

The Little Sisters of Jesus having been doing that for almost 80 years, and for over 40 of those years they have lived and loved God's people in the Allegheny Mountains. Their example -- which is nothing less than the example of Jesus Himself -- is one to be followed.

# Pope, Chilean Bishops, Discuss Abuse Scandal

By Junno Arocho Esteves  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Francis spent nearly three hours with the bishops of Chile discussing several key issues they are facing, including fighting pedophilia and evangelizing the marginalized and the suffering.

Meeting with 30 prelates from the Latin American country, the pope also spoke to them about reaching out to youth in an increasingly secularized society, the difficulties facing priests and a possible papal trip, Cardinal Ricardo Ezzati of Santiago said Feb. 20.

"The pope wants to visit Chile, he wants to confirm the faith of the church in Chile and to pay homage through closeness and attention to the Chilean people," the cardinal said in a statement released after the meeting.

Taking part in the "ad limina" visits bishops are required to make to the Vatican, Cardinal Ezzati said that "no subject remained outside" of the discussions with the pope, but there was a special focus on evangelizing to those who are secularized and far from the church.

In an interview with Vatican Radio, Cardinal Ezzati said the pope focused particularly on the need for the church to listen to young people.

"The pope spoke to us about the 'apostolate of the ear,' of walking with them while listening and announcing the newness of Jesus Christ," he said.

As in many countries, the church in Chile has been forced to deal with the issue of clergy sex abuse and, particularly, with accusations of inaction by the local hierarchy.

Cardinal Ezzati said the pope urged the bishops to



CNS Photo/L'Osservatore Romano

be "attentive" to cases of abuse, which "are grave failings regarding human rights as well as a grave sin before God."

The pope also recalled the anger caused by the sex abuse scandals in his native Argentina, particularly of parents participating in a protest outside of the metropolitan cathedral in Buenos Aires, the cardinal said.

"These parents shouted at their child saying: 'Get away from there; there are pedophiles.' The pope was upset but now he told us: 'Look how far a mentality that sees evil everywhere can go!' He invited us, then, to overcome this situation," Cardinal Ezzati told Vatican Radio.

The bishops also discussed the challenges of evangelizing a "cultural environment" that is adverse to church teaching on sexuality and the family, including through abortion, same-sex marriage and gender theory.

"Deep down it is the denial of God" and his plan in creating human beings male and female, the cardinal said. The pope "told us very clearly that, without a doubt, it is a very serious issue of the current culture and that we are called to firmly denounce the evil that is behind this gender teaching."

## Support For Survivors

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

### Bedford County

Your Safe Haven Inc.

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

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

### Blair County

Family Services Inc.

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

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

### Cambria/Somerset Counties

Victim Services Inc.

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

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

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

### Centre County

Centre County Women's Resource Center, Inc.

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

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

### Clinton County

Clinton County Women's Center

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

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

## Reporting Child Abuse

Bishop Mark L. Barchak and the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown are firmly committed to protecting children and young people. If you have any information concerning suspected sexual or other abuse of minors, you are urged to report it immediately to:

- PA Child Line 1 - 800- 932 - 0313 (intake is available 24/7)
- Pennsylvania Attorney General Hotline (888) 538 - 8541
- Pennsylvania State Police Headquarters (717) 783 - 5599 or your local Pennsylvania State Police Station
- Your local police department

If there is an indication of imminent danger, you should call 911 immediately.

The Diocese reports all information regarding sexual abuse of minors to law enforcement. You are urged to do the same. Anyone may and should report suspected child sexual abuse.

To report to the Diocese any suspected abuse of a minor, please call Jean Johnstone at (814) 944 - 9388.

### Franklin/Fulton Counties

Women In Need/Victim Services

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

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

### Huntingdon/Mifflin/Juniata Counties

The Abuse Network

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

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

# In The Alleghenies

(Continued From Page 3.)

Mount graduates Kylie Froehlich, a Psychology grad from Berlin, and Crystal Miller, from Altoona, who graduated in December with a Bachelor's degree in Psychology co-wrote "Linking Pedagogical Approaches to Cognitive Needs and Personality Traits," with Dr. Shuttlesworth. This article explores the relationship between an individual's learning processes, their personality, and several additional factors. It will be printed soon as a chapter in the Nova publication, **Progress In Education**.

Dr. Shuttlesworth outlined the research and publishing process and her work with the undergraduate students at Mount Aloysius. "In the cognitive needs article, students Kylie Froehlich and Crystal Miller completed the bulk of the work," said Dr. Shuttlesworth. "This article started as an assignment I gave to my PY 440:

Personality Theories and Research class in the spring 2016 semester. From that point, we developed the work into a full-length article. The students conceptualized the study, collected the data, and wrote the majority of the paper. I worked with them on data analysis, data interpretation, application of study results, and writing," added Dr. Shuttlesworth.

Writing articles is a detailed process. Dr. Shuttlesworth estimates she and her students completed several months of research before putting ink to paper. "The process of writing is always challenging, as it is incredibly time-consuming. For me, it takes a very long time. The work includes months of reading, synthesizing, and conceptualizing before I feel ready to begin writing about a topic. However, if I can write about topics that I find interesting, the process is much more enjoyable," she said.

Dr. Shuttlesworth credits the Mount Aloysius College's students for having the determination to work on scholarly research. "The entire process has been exciting," she said. "I am fortunate to have such great students who are interested in doing research. Not every student is interested in doing detailed work like this, so it's a unique opportunity for me as a faculty member too."

## Ethics Lecture

**Loretto:** The Saint Francis University Institute for Ethics will present "The Ethics of Drone Warfare: Perspectives from the Just War" on Tuesday, March 21 at 7:00 p.m. at the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art on the Loretto campus. The lecture is free and open to the public.

This year's annual ethics lecture will be presented by Franciscan Father Kenneth R. Himes, a professor of Christian Ethics and former chairman of the Department of Theology at Boston College and author of the book **Drones And The Ethics Of Targeted Killing**.

A native of Brooklyn, NY, Father Himes received his Ph.D. in religion and public policy from Duke University. As a Catholic priest and a member of the Franciscan Order of Friars Minor, he has a special interest in the areas of Catholic social teaching and the role of the church in American public life. He is a past president of the Catholic Theological Society of America.

Fr. Himes is also the author of four books and the co-editor of two others. He was the founding associate editor of the journal **New Theology Review**, later serving for five years as editor-in-chief. His edited volume **Modern Catholic Social Teaching: Commentaries And Interpretations** received the first prize award for reference books from the Catholic Press Association. Another of his writings, **Christianity And The**

**Political Order** was awarded first prize by the Catholic Press Association in the area of social teaching, and his most recent work, **Drones And The Ethics Of Targeted Killing**, was published last year.

For more information about the annual Ethics Lecture contact Dr. Michael McKale at (814) 472 - 3396 or mmckale@francis.edu.

## Finkle Family Art Exhibit

**Cresson:** The Finkle Exhibit at Mount Aloysius College is a true Homecoming. The Wolf - Kuhn Art Gallery at Mount Aloysius is exploding with the colors of the Finkle Family's eclectic artwork now on display. Husband and wife, Bob and Joanne Finkle, along with their son, Jason, believe the exhibit completes a circle of sorts, and brings their art home to where, for them, artistic creation all began.

"The Mount provided me with the education I needed to pursue a career from an associate of art degree in 1972 to a bachelor of art degree in 1994. The college also provided me with my first job in the human resources field as their assistant director of admissions," Bob Finkle wrote in an artist statement. "The college baptized my son in their beautiful Chapel on campus and exposed us to the world of classical music and fine art."

Over 50 art pieces will be on display in the fabled Wolf - Kuhn Gallery until May 19. Visitors will be treated to colorful paintings, twisted wood and worn stone cast into beautiful sculptures and bowls smoothed to perfection.

Each member of the Finkle trio contributes a different medium of the art exhibit. Joanne Finkle uses a mixed media technique that draws audiences into her colorful, textured artworks. "The collection here at Mount Aloysius is what I refer to as an eclectic assortment. There is quite a variety, but that's just me! I really enjoy the experimental part of art. You never quite know how it will develop," Joanne shared.

Bob Finkle sculpts wood and stone into unique forms. "What I try to do is present it in such a way as to bring the surface of the beauty that lives within it," wrote Bob Finkle. "It is my intent to use the lines and colors that have surfaced due to all the forces of nature that have been infected upon them."

Their son, Jason, works on a lathe and created his 100th bowl in 2015. "Carving on the lathe is a very Zen sort of process for me," he said. "It allows me to escape the pressures of the workday and I feel really good at the end of the day if I manage to create something that even surprises me."

The Wolf - Kuhn Art Gallery of Mount Aloysius College is located on the first floor of the iconic Main Building. To inquire about the Gallery's hours or about pieces for sale, contact Dr. Don Talbot at (814) 886 - 6470 or dtalbot@mtaloy.edu.

"It is a true honor for the Finkle Family to be coming home to Mount Aloysius College and we hope you enjoy our art," Bob Finkle added. "The Mount has been an important influence on its creation and on all of our lives."

The Wolf-Kuhn Gallery is open daily. Visitors are encouraged to call the College at (14) 886 - 4131 to make sure the Gallery is not being used for a special event.

## Sacred Music Concert

**Cresson:** Mount Aloysius College's Vox Nova choral group will present "Cross of the Lamb," a vocal reflection of the journey of Jesus Christ's path to Calvary. The concert will be on Tuesday, March 21, at 7:00 p.m. in Our Lady of Mercy Chapel, on the college's campus.

Nancy Way, assistant professor of music and Vox Nova director explained the significance of this concert titled "Cross of the Lamb" as it relates to the Lenten/Easter Season, the most sacred liturgical season in the Catholic faith.

(Continued On Page 12.)

## 2nd Annual Lenten Mission In Honor Of Our Lady Of Loretto

**MARCH 26 - 31, 2017 Father Michael Caridi, STL HOMILIST**

**7:00 PM (Sunday) Mission Prayers with Homily/Benediction**

**Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, JCD Bishop of the Altoona-Johnstown presiding**

**Confessions at 8 PM**

**7:00 PM Mass with**

**Mission Prayers each night (Mon - Fri)**

**Eucharistic Adoration at 6 PM each night (Mon-Fri)**

**Reconciliation/Confessions at 6 PM each night (Mon-Fri)**

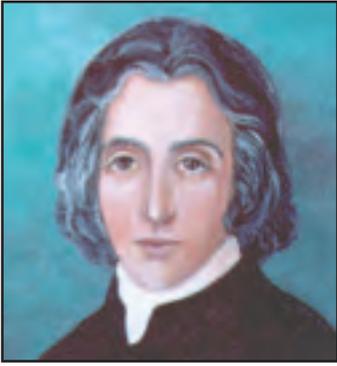


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## A Prince In The Service Of The Great King

The Servant Of God  
Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin  
1770 - 1840

## Diocesan Phase Of Fatima Visionary's Cause Completed

By Junno Arocho Esteves  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- The Diocese of Coimbra concluded its phase of the sainthood cause of Carmelite Sister Lucia dos Santos, one of the three children who saw Our Lady of Fatima in 1917.

### 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.

+ + +

Kindly send information about favors granted to:

**The Cause for the Servant of God  
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Diocese Of Altoona - Johnstown  
927 South Logan Boulevard  
Hollidaysburg PA 16648**

Bishop Virgilio Antunes of Coimbra formally closed the local phase of investigation into her life and holiness Monday, February 13 in the Carmelite convent of Saint Teresa in Coimbra, where she resided until her death in 2005 at the age of 97.

The ceremony included the sealing of 50 volumes -- 15,000

pages -- of evidence and witness testimonies detailing the life of Sister Lucia. The documents sealed at the ceremony were to be shipped to the Congregation for Saints' Causes at the Vatican.

After a thorough review of the materials and a judgment that Sister Lucia heroically lived the Christian virtues, her cause still would require the recognition of two miracles -- one for beatification and another for canonization -- attributed to her intercession.

The Marian apparitions at Fatima began on May 13, 1917, when 10-year-old Lucia, along with her cousins Francisco and Jacinta Marto, reported seeing the Virgin Mary.

The apparitions continued once a month until Oct. 13, 1917, and later were declared worthy of belief by the Catholic Church.

Father Romano Gambalunga, postulator of the visionary's cause, said that while "Lucia is already a saint in the eyes" of many people, "the prudent path of the church is that she is proposed to all, not just those who believe."

"Lucia became holy over the years, not because of the apparitions," Father Gambalunga told Agencia Ecclesia, the news agency of the Portuguese bishops' conference. Without providing details, he said she had a "spiritual experience" in the convent.

While many hope her heroic virtues will be recognized by the church soon, it is important "not to do things in a hurry," he said Feb. 13.



CNS Photo/Paulo Carrico, EPA

**SISTER LUCIA:** Sister Lucia dos Santos, one of the three children who saw Our Lady of Fatima in 1917, is pictured in a 2000 photo. Bishop Virgilio Antunes of Coimbra, Portugal, formally closed the local phase of investigation into her life and holiness Monday, February 13 in the Carmelite convent of Saint Teresa in Coimbra, where she resided until her death in 2005 at the age of 97.

The evidence and testimonies gathered for Sister Lucia's cause, he said, provide "a great occasion for spiritual and theological deepening," and the material will help "illuminate the history of the church over the last 100 years."

Pope Francis is scheduled to visit Fatima May 12-13 and many people hope he will use the occasion to canonize Sister Lucia's cousins, Francisco and Jacinta, who were beatified by St. John Paul II in 2000.

Bishop Antonio Marto of Leiria-Fatima told Radio Renascenca, the Portuguese bishops' radio station, that while nothing is certain, he is "deeply hopeful" the canonization will take place this year, the centenary of the apparitions.

"We are waiting and continue to pray to the Lord. But I hope that, during the centenary, we will have the grace and joy to participate in the canonization," he said.

Bishop Marto also admitted that "he is a convert," who, as a priest, was initially skeptical of the Marian apparitions in Fatima.

"I was a skeptic. I didn't

care; I did not take an interest nor did I take a position. I understood it as something for children," Bishop Marto said.

The skepticism changed into belief after attending a conference on the apparitions and reading Sister Lucia's memoirs, he told the radio station. "I was deeply impressed, both by the authenticity of the testimony she gave and by the seriousness of the problems she dealt with. I read her memoirs three times to find the historical and ecclesial context" of the apparitions.



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# Word of Life



## The Pope Teaches

By Pope Francis  
Pray For Someone  
Who Doesn't Like You

**ROME (CNS)** -- A practical first step toward holiness -- as well as for assuring peace in one's family and in the world -- is to pray for a person who has caused offense or harm, Pope Francis said.

"Are you merciful toward the people who have harmed you or don't like you? If God is merciful, if he is holy, if he is perfect, then we must be merciful, holy and perfect as he is. This is holiness. A man or woman who does this deserves to be canonized," the pope said Feb. 19 during an evening parish Mass.

"I suggest you start small," Pope Francis told members of the parish of St. Mary Josefa on the extreme eastern edge of the Diocese of Rome. "We all have enemies. We all know that so-and-so speaks ill of us. We all know. And we all know that this person or that person hates us."

When that happens, the pope said, "I suggest you take a minute, look at God (and say), 'This person is your son or your daughter, change his or her heart, bless him or her.' This is praying for those who don't like us, for our enemies. Perhaps the rancor will remain in us, but we are making an effort to follow the path of this God who is so good, merciful, holy, perfect, who makes the sun rise on the evil and the good."

The day's first reading included the line, "Be holy, for I, the Lord, your God, am holy," and in the Gospel reading, Jesus said, "Be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect."

"You might ask me, 'But, father, what is the path to holiness?' 'What is the journey needed to become holy?' Jesus explains it well in the Gospel. He explains it with concrete examples," the pope said.

The first example, he said, is "not taking revenge. If I have some rancor in my heart for something someone has done, I want vengeance, but this moves me off the path of holiness. No revenge. 'But he did this and he will pay.' Is this Christian? No. 'He will pay' is not in the Christian's vocabulary. No revenge."

In people's everyday lives, he said, their squabbles with their relatives or neighbors may seem a little thing, but they are not. "These big wars we read about in the papers and see on the news, these massacres of people, of children, how much hatred! It's the same hatred you have in your heart for this person, that person, that relative, your mother-in-law. It's bigger, but it's the same hatred."

Forgiveness, the pope said, is the path toward holiness and toward peace. "If everyone in the world learned this, there would be no wars."

Wars begin "with bitterness, rancor, the desire for vengeance, to make them pay," he said. It's an attitude that destroys families and neighborhoods and peaceful relations between nations.

"I'm not telling you what to do, Jesus is: Love your enemies. 'You mean I have to love that person?' Yes."

"I have to pray for someone who has harmed me?' Yes, that he will change his life, that the Lord will forgive him," the pope said. "This is the magnanimity of God, of God who has a big heart, who forgives all."

"Prayer is an antidote for hatred, for wars, these wars that begin at home, in families," he said. "Think of how many wars there have been in families because of an inheritance."

"Prayer is powerful. Prayer defeats evil. Prayer brings peace," the pope said.



**ONE MORE TIME:** In 1973, Monsignor Arnold Gaus, pastor of Saint Patrick Parish in Gallitzin, was instrumental in bringing the Little Sisters of Jesus to the borough's Tunnelhill neighborhood. In this 1974 photo he is shown with Little Sister Francisca (left) and Little Sister Madeline Augustine (center).

Catholics advancing social justice sometimes wonder: Will my efforts have a lasting impact? Am I building God's kingdom or will all of this be wiped away?

The Second Vatican Council gave a profound answer: The kingdom is not ours to build directly, since "deformed by sin, the shape of this world will pass away." But we foreshadow that kingdom when we promote human dignity, freedom and community, and "charity and its fruits" will endure ("Gaudium et Spes," No. 39). The key to lasting social change is love.

As Pope Francis has reminded us, another name for love is mercy. The saying "hate the sin but love the sinner," from a letter by St. Augustine, is at the core of how Jesus transformed sinners by loving them.

The council applied this principle to social conflict. Even when listing crimes that poison civilization, such as abortion, torture and genocide, it made the startling claim that these "do more harm to those who practice them than those who suffer from the injury" ("Gaudium et Spes," No. 27). The innocent victims are received into God's loving arms; the perpetrators risk their souls.

So we hate the sin because we care about the sinner. To reach those who are doing wrong, we must begin by loving them.

One bright light here was the



## A More Human Society

By Richard Doerflinger  
Love And Mercy In Politics

recent March for Life in Washington, featuring messages like "Why not love them both?" Vice President Mike Pence declared to the crowd: "Let this movement be known for love, not anger ... for compassion, not confrontation." Women considering abortion, he said, must be met "with generosity, not judgment."

The bishops of the United States have long understood this. The faith community most staunchly opposed to abortion leads the way in offering healing and reconciliation for those involved in abortion, through its Project Rachel ministry.

When former abortionist Bernard Nathanson became a Catholic many years ago, he said he was attracted to the church not because it says abortion is wrong -- he had figured that out for himself as an atheist -- but because it says there's forgiveness for what he had done.

South Africans, after ending decades of apartheid, found that becoming one society required a plan for "truth and reconcili-

ation" -- acknowledging violent acts on all sides and the motives behind them, then granting amnesty so people could forgive each other and move forward.

Love and mercy are now in short supply in our country. After a divisive presidential campaign, the new president continued divisive and sometimes offensive rhetoric -- provoking many Americans to take part in protests linked to the Women's March on Washington.

Many protesters paid more attention to what they opposed than to what they were joining: A campaign whose website named abortion giant Planned Parenthood as its "exclusive premiere sponsor."

The campaign's "unity principles" demanded support for publicly funded abortion on demand; pro-life feminist groups devoted to care and support for women were kicked out of the "women's march."

(Continued On Page 13.)



## Question Corner

By Father Kenneth Doyle  
Distractions During Prayer

**Q.** I have heard that it is sinful to let oneself be distracted in prayer. This makes sense to me as regards prayers that are obligatory: e.g., Sunday Mass, the Divine Office for priests and religious, or the penance assigned during confession.

But what if one is not required to say that prayer in the first place: the morning offering, for example, or weekday Mass? Would it be better not to say those prayers at all, because then there would be no sin?

And at what point do distractions become sinful -- when they are intentional of course, but what about a quick thought regarding something I must remember to do when I get home from church?

Also, when I have a weighty decision to make or a stressful situation on my hands, I like to say the rosary because it seems to help me to think clearly and be calm. But should I not be using that time (in the context of prayer) to think things through? (Omaha, Nebraska)

**A.** Relax, and don't be so tough on yourself. Distractions during prayer are not necessarily sinful -- even during prayers that are obligatory; they come to everyone -- even to the saints, who have written often about this.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church recognizes the universality of the problem, calling distraction "the habitual difficulty in prayer" (No. 2729).

Purposely to allow one's mind to wander during prayer onto nonspiritual paths would be wrong, and the distracted thought itself might be sinful: dwelling deliberately on thoughts of adulterous pleasure, for example, or thinking vindictive thoughts.

But much more often, the distraction is a neutral one morally -- such as in the example you offer of thinking of something you need to do as soon as you get home. When distractions do occur, the strategy is simply to pause, refocus and move forward.

St. Paul of the Cross said,

"Concerning distractions and temptations that occur during holy prayer, you don't need to be the least bit disturbed. Withdraw completely into the upper part of your spirit to relate to God."

As for your practice of "thinking things through" while you pray the rosary, I have no problem with that: You are using the soothing backdrop of the repeated words of prayer to commune with the Lord in a meditative way and to seek his guidance.

**Q.** I attend a very large Catholic parish that has some 4,000 families and 10,000 parishioners. Would it be appropriate for me to assign my contribution for our archbishop's annual appeal to a nearby smaller church that I sometimes visit?

Our own parish always exceeds its obligation comfortably, while I suspect that the smaller parish is challenged to do so. (To be completely honest, I would probably join that other parish if it were a bit closer.) (Atlanta area, Georgia)

**A.** I heartily endorse your idea and can speak from my own experience. In our diocese -- and I suspect this is replicated widely -- each parish is given a specific assessment for the annual diocesan appeal. If a parish does not make that figure during the campaign, it supplies the difference from its own parish funds.

But if it exceeds the assigned amount, 50 percent of the excess is rebated to the parish. In the parish from which I recently retired (after 24 years as pastor), parishioners were exceedingly generous and always pledged considerably more than the assessed figure.

More than once, a person who was enrolled in our parish but sometimes attended Mass elsewhere would ask if they could credit their bishops' appeal donation to that other parish, knowing that it was struggling to make its quota.

I always encouraged them to do exactly that; the church is wider than one's own parish, and blessings should be shared.



## For The Journey

By Effie Caldarola  
Lent And  
The Culture Of Greed

Once again, Pope Francis does not mince words.

In his 2017 Lenten message, our refreshingly candid pontiff takes on the subject of money in our lives and pulls no punches.

The love of money can become a "tyrannical idol," said Pope Francis, who reminds us that it was St. Paul who said "the love of money is the root of all evils."

Although society is saturated with consumerism and we obsess about money, the discussion of it remains a social taboo. It's rude to ask someone to divulge his or her salary, and we wouldn't ask someone what they paid for their new sofa.

I know priests who dread their yearly "sermon on the amount." They hesitate to mention what any family must readily discuss -- the budget. Their angst is well-founded -- I know parishioners who resent hearing the word money spoken from the altar, as if the mere conversation somehow menaces their pocketbooks.

Our church talks often about a "culture of death," but we need to hear more about our society's "culture of greed."

How else to explain that between 1978 and 2014, inflation-adjusted CEO pay in the U.S. increased by almost 1,000 percent, according to a report by the Economic Policy Institute? Wealth may not "trickle down," but perhaps avarice does.

"The result of attachment to money is a sort of blindness," says the pope.

The early Christians shared their resources and provided for their needy, but we dismiss that as socialism. Sure, we'll contribute to the food bank or shelter -- but often from our excess, not from our essence, forgetting that true Christian charity is sacrificial.

Peter Maurin, a mentor to Dorothy Day and co-founder of the Catholic Worker Movement, once said that "the coat that hangs in your closet belongs to the poor."

That's a radical statement -- after all, we all need one coat -- but his radicalism stemmed from the Gospel, and he and Day established hospitality houses where people lived and shared with the poor in dignity.

The London Catholic Workers expanded on Maurin's dictum: "the second coat in our closet, the spare room in our home, a place at our table. Anything beyond what we immediately need belongs to those who go without."

These challenging words speak to what Pope Francis is urging us to consider this Lent.

I've written about a friend in London who volunteered her spare room to a refugee student. Another friend is finding one thing in her home to give away for each of the 40 days of Lent.

I know people who tithe -- give 10 percent of their income to church and charity -- and continued to do so even after losing the primary breadwinner's salary.

This radical generosity challenges me and makes me see how I fail. Yet, I'm consoled by the words of a deacon friend, who would say, when people asked him how much they should give, "You should give more."

That's our challenge. Not to measure ourselves against the likes of Dorothy Day, where we inevitably fall short, but to measure our steps toward sacrificial generosity by our own steady growth.

Pope Francis pointed toward Jesus' parable of Lazarus, whose pleas outside the door of a rich man were ignored.

Pope Francis tells us, "The rich man's greed makes him vain. His personality finds expression in appearances ... but his appearance masks an interior emptiness."

We live in a culture of greed where grasping for wealth and security can mask the emptiness we feel. Perhaps the Gospel story of Lazarus and the rich man would make a challenging daily reflection during Lent.

Saints Perpetua  
and Felicity  
Died 203  
Feast - March 7



Martyrs in Carthage, now in Tunisia, these young women -- the noblewoman Perpetua and the slave Felicity -- were among five catechumens who, after refusing to worship the Roman emperor, were arrested and condemned to be thrown to wild beasts. They were baptized in prison, where Felicity also gave birth to a daughter. In the Carthage arena, they were attacked by a beast, which did not kill them, so their throats were cut by a gladiator.

# Little Sisters Of Jesus Live In Solidarity With Neighbors

(Continued From Page 1.)

Sister Ann Cecile had lived in Gallitzin for over a decade when 9/11 took place. She was employed in the housekeeping department at Mount Aloysius College in Cresson, when the call came to become a part of the new community, located in Patterson NJ.

"We just live among the Muslim people," Sister Ann Cecile said. "We have 'disappeared' among them. When we first came to the neighborhood there was some concern: 'Who are these women? What do they want? Why are they here?' But it pretty quickly became clear that we were not there to be converted to Islam, nor did we want to convert our neighbors. On that basis, friendships could grow.

"On the second day that we were out looking for a home, we found an apartment, on the second floor of a house. On the first floor there was the landlord and his family, Muslims from Palestine. In the apartment on the third floor were some Muslim men. Our Sisters are still there, and the bonds of friendship we have made in that neighborhood are amazing.

"I was there for ten years, and though I am now back in Gallitzin, and Gallitzin is my home, a big part of my heart is still in Patterson."

Little Sister Emilie, who has lived in Gallitzin since the late 1980s, explained that living in solidarity with their neighbors

is a big part of the lifestyle of the Little Sisters of Jesus.

"We learn from each other. We become one with the people we live with. They learn from us, we learn from them. That's how we live out the mystery of the Incarnation -- the mystery of God becoming one of us. Brother Charles spoke of it 'Nazareth,' living among the people, as Jesus lived among us."

Sister Jo went on to explain that "In Nazareth, Jesus made the incarnation real. He lived a life of hard work, a life of poverty, which is how the majority of the world's people live. That's how we live."

Sister Jo said she found something very important in the life of Brother Charles.

"I knew that I wanted to follow Jesus. But I found that I couldn't do medicine. I found that I couldn't do a lot of the things I thought I had to do in order to follow Jesus.

"Brother Charles showed me that it's not what I do that's important, but how I do it and why I do it: to be present to love people, to care for them, to be for them."

Prayer is at the heart of the lives of the Little Sisters of Jesus, and Brother Charles "showed me that no matter who you are, and no matter what your circumstances might be, you can be a person of prayer. You can have an intimate relationship with Jesus," said Sister Jo.

"Brother Charles took contemplative prayer out of the cloister and showed that it's something that's within the realm of the possible for everyone."

Sister Ann Cecile reflected that by living in a house indistinguishable from those of their neighbors, by taking jobs that anyone else in the local community might have "we show that everyone can have a close relationship with Jesus. That kind of a relationship can be



Photo By Monsignor Timothy P. Stein

**THE LITTLE SISTERS OF JESUS:** The Little Sisters of Jesus who live lives of prayer and of solidarity with their neighbors in Gallitzin are (left to right) Emilie, Ann Cecile and Jo.

given to anyone in any circumstance." And by living as they do, in the midst of a neighborhood the Little Sisters of Jesus "can show laypeople that priests and sisters are no different from anyone else. We're all just the same. When I was working at the Mount, I felt real solidarity with the other women who worked in housekeeping. I wasn't someone who was different. I was just one of them."

"Our vocation," said Sister Emilie, "is solidarity with the people, sharing their situation." She believes their neighbors in Gallitzin have come to understand that, about them. "Here, we're just part of the scenery," she reflected, "but Brother Charles is still not so well known. We have such a treasure in Brother Charles," she said, and she, and her sisters, hope that other people will discover the depths of that treasure.

The Little Sisters in Gallitzin are an international community as is the wider community they are part of. Sister Emilie and Sister Ann Cecile were born in France, and Sister Jo's family home is in Maryland. "Sisters from Africa, from Vietnam and Korea have all passed through Gallitzin," said Sister Emilie. Sisters from Canada and Switzerland have lived there. And though Gallitzin, in the Allegheny Mountains of Western Penn-

sylvania is thousands of miles away from the Middle East where their community began, the Little Sisters in Gallitzin feel a close bond with their Sisters from that part of the world.

Sister Emilie explained that it has always been the community's goal to have at least one-quarter of the total membership living among Muslim people. There are Little Sisters of Jesus still living in war-torn Aleppo in Syria. Little Sisters are present in Iraq and throughout the Middle East, and many are natives of the region, Sister Emilie said. "A number of them are living in refugee camps," she said.

All Little Sisters spend some time at their Motherhouse in Rome, and so they get to meet Sisters from all over the world. "We know the Sisters who are in Syria, Iraq, and Lebanon," said Sister Jo. That brings the things happening in that part of the world quite close to home for us. We worry about them. We wait for news of them. We meet each other in prayer, and share news with the other local communities."

Although like many religious communities in Europe and North America, the Little Sisters of Jesus are aging and "diminishing," with only about 20 of them in the United States, the Sisters in Gallitzin are encouraged by how many new

communities of brothers and sisters are embracing the charism of Brother Charles of Jesus and "giving it a local flavor" in new countries," said Sister Jo.

The Sisters point to the Little Sisters of the Incarnation in Haiti as one example of a community inspired by Brother Charles, and are glad those Sisters have a relationship with the local Carmelite Community of the Word. The Little Sisters of Jesus and Mary in Salisbury MD is another new community that they said incarnates the vision of Brother Charles.

"Brother Charles' message is one of universality," said Sister Jo. "It's a message of respect for another person, no matter where they're from.

"It's a vision of being able to see Jesus in another person."

They are, after all, Little Sisters of Jesus, not Little Sisters of Brother Charles.

"A niece of Brother Charles told Father (Rene) Voillaume, the founder of the Little Brothers of Jesus not to be so concerned about the servant (Brother Charles) that he forgot about the master (Jesus)," said Sister Emilie.

That thought was echoed by Sister Ann Cecile, as a simple summing up of their mission. "We care for the whole world," she said.

"We want to follow Jesus."

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# Bishop Guilfoyle, Mount Aloysius Announce Program That Will Allow High School Students Opportunity To Earn College Degree

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

Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School, Altoona, will offer a unique academic opportunity to its students.

Through a partnership with Mount Aloysius College in Cresson, students will be able to enroll in the college and earn a full Associate of Arts in Liberal Studies Degree. It is fully accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education.

The new program was announced at a news conference held on Friday, February 17 at the high school.

These credits will direct into certain programs at Mount Aloysius. Because the Liberal Arts program is fully accredited, the credits may be transferred into other universities as well, just like any college students transferring from one institution to another.

Students will pay their high school tuition, along with what officials described as a low cost college degree program for about \$9,600, spread out over four years of high school.

College costs vary, but two years of college tuition and other fees may cost in excess of \$27,000. With room and board added in costs could near \$60,000.

“Compare that to less than \$10,000 and even my math tells me that families could save \$50,000. That could mean fewer student loans, and more freedom to pursue collegiate and career dreams,” said Joseph Adams, president of Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School.

He said that he is thrilled about this new program that builds on the excellent curriculum the high school already has in place, and takes a major step forward to helping students ac-

celerate to success in college.

School officials have named the program “Our Degree in High School Program.” It will begin in the 2017 - 2018 school year. Students can begin applying now. The best time to apply is before they enter into ninth grade at Bishop Guilfoyle.

Students currently in eighth grade are the primary candidates. Eighth graders currently studying at Bishop Guilfoyle are outstanding candidates, the administrator said. But, doors are open to applicants from any school. This includes students from Holy Trinity Catholic School, students from public schools, or any other school.

“The problem we’re working on here is that the path to college can be too complicated and too expensive. We want to help make it simpler,” said Adams.

The students and their families will be offered a very strong support system. Counselors from Bishop Guilfoyle and academic advisors from Mount Aloysius will be available to guide the students. When students meet admission standards and enroll in this program, they will be enrolled in Bishop Guilfoyle and also Mount Aloysius College.

Adams said that, “Classes will be taken at Bishop Guilfoyle. Students proceed through a prescribed path that offers plenty of options. If they stay on track, they will graduate with their high school degree and



**ANNOUNCING NEW VENTURE:** Joseph Adams, president of Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School, Altoona, announces a new venture in which the high school and Mount Aloysius College, Cresson, will partner and allow high school students to earn an associate’s degree from the Mount. Adams unveiled the plan Friday, February 17, at the high school.

their very first college degree at the same time.” He said there is the opportunity to earn 60 college credits.

Adams added that they are proud of all the students, and appreciate their families who sacrifice to give their children the best education possible. “We are particularly thankful for the many people in our community who support the work we

do here. We don’t take you for granted. We sincerely thank you for giving back, supporting our work, supporting our kids, and encouraging us to be the best

we can be. Because you give of yourself, you open doors to innovations like this, which can help families, and make our entire area better.”

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## Communal Penance Services

The season of Lent is a time to seek God's healing and forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The following is a schedule of some of the Communal Penance Services at various parishes in the Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown during Lent 2017. For other Reconciliation opportunities leading up to Easter, please consult individual parish schedules.

March 12 at 4:00 p.m. - Saint John the Evangelist, 309 Lotz Avenue, Altoona.

March 12 at 5:00 p.m. - Saint Joseph, 623 E. 3rd Street, Bellwood.

March 19 at 3:00 p.m. - Holy Spirit, 3 E. Walnut Street, Lock Haven (with Stations of the Cross).

March 23 at 7:00 p.m. - Saint Clement, 114 Lindberg Avenue, Johnstown.

March 26 at 5:30 p.m. - Saint Mark, 416 6th Avenue, Altoona.

March 27 at 5:30 p.m. - Resurrection, 314 Eighth Ave-

nue, Johnstown (West End Penance Service).

March 27 at 7:00 p.m. - Immaculate Conception, Washington Street Ext., Dudley.

March 28 at 5:30 p.m. - Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 1127 McKinley Avenue, Johnstown.

March 28 at 7:00 p.m. - Saint Francis Xavier, 211 Powell Avenue, Cresson.

March 29 at 7:00 p.m. - Saint Patrick, 609 Park Avenue, Johnstown.

April 1 at 10:00 a.m. - Saint Therese of the Child Jesus, 2301 5th Street, Altoona.

April 2 at 2:00 p.m. - Saint Bernard, 148 7th Avenue, Hastings.

April 2 at 2:30 p.m. - Holy Name, 500 N. Julian Street, Ebensburg.

April 2 at 5:00 p.m. - Saint Rose of Lima, 5514 Roselawn Avenue, Altoona.

April 3 at 7:00 p.m. - Our Lady of Mount Carmel, 806 11th Street, Altoona.

April 3 at 7:00 p.m. - Prince of Peace, 811 Chestnut Avenue, Northern Cambria.

April 3 at 7:00 p.m. - Saint Matthew, 1105 Cameron Avenue, Tyrone.

April 4 at 7:00 p.m. - Good Shepherd, 867 Gray's Woods Boulevard, State College (Diocesan Service with Bishop Mark Bartchak presiding).

April 4 at 7:00 p.m. - Queen of Peace, 907 6th Avenue, Patton.

April 4 at 7:00 p.m. - Saint Aloysius, 7911 Admiral Peary Highway, Cresson.

April 4 at 7:00 p.m. - Saint Stephen, 303 Lincoln Way East, McConnellsburg.

April 5 at 6:30 p.m. - Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, One Cathedral Square, Altoona (Diocesan Service with Bishop Mark Bartchak presiding).

April 5 at 7:00 p.m. - Saint Nicholas, 1169 Alverda Road, Nicktown.

April 6 at 6:30 p.m. - Saint John Gualbert Cathedral, 117 Clinton Street, Johnstown (Diocesan Service with Bishop Mark Bartchak presiding).



April 6 at 7:00 p.m. - Our Lady of Lourdes, 2716 Broad Avenue, Altoona.

April 6 at 7:00 p.m. - Saint Benedict, 100 South Main Street, Carrolltown.

April 9 at 2:00 p.m. - Our Lady of Victory, 820 Westerly Parkway, State College.

April 9 at 4:00 p.m. - Saint Mary, 312 Clark Street, Hollidaysburg.

April 10 at 5:00 p.m. - Saint Benedict, 2310 Bedford Street, Johnstown.

Other Reconciliation Opportunities:

Saint Andrew Parish, 1621 Ferndale Avenue, Johnstown - Confessions will be heard after

Mass each night of the Infant of Prague Novena March 19 - 27.

Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel, 321 St. Mary Street, Loretto - Confessions will be heard as part of the Lenten Mission in Honor of Our Lady of Loretto March 26 at 8:00 p.m. and March 27-31 at 6:00 p.m.

Sacred Heart Parish, 511 20th Street, Altoona - Confessions will be heard three times each day during the Sacred Heart Novena March 27 - April 4.

Saint Mary (Immaculate Conception) Parish, 1405 5th Avenue, Altoona - Confessions will be heard Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Holy Week at 6:30 p.m.

## In The Alleghenies

(Continued From Page 6.)

"Jesus has been referred to as the Lamb," she explained, "one who goes quietly and gently toward their destiny -- in this case the death of Christ on the cross."

The Catholic Church uses 14 scenes or "Stations" to depict Christ's path to Calvary and His crucifixion. Vox Nova presents music representative of each Station to help tell the story of the Way of the Cross in song."

General admission will be \$5.00; students are free. For more information, please call the Music Office at (814) 886 - 6495.

### Prayer

#### Saint Joseph Novena

**Loretto:** The Discalced Carmelite Nuns announce their

annual private Novena in honor of Saint Joseph.

This year, Saint Joseph's traditional feast day, March 19, falls on a Sunday in Lent, so it has been transferred to the following day, Monday, March 20. Accordingly, the Novena will begin Sunday, March 12 and end on Monday, March 20.

All the intentions submitted to the Nuns will be entrusted to the intercession of Saint Joseph, with special intentions offered for employment, and for holy and happy family life.

The regular monthly private novena honoring Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Saint Therese will take place at the same time. All intentions will be included in the special Novena prayers recited by the Nuns after Vespers each day of the Novena.

Those desiring to share in the graces and blessings of these

nine days of prayer are requested to send their petitions to Mother Prioress, Carmelite Monastery, P.O. Box 57, Loretto PA 15940.

### Healing Mass

**Loretto:** A Mass and Healing Service will be held Thursday, March 16 at 7:00 p.m. at the Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel. Father Robert Hilz and other Third Order Regular Franciscan Friars from Saint Francis Friary - Mount Assisi, will be presiding.

The Friars at Saint Francis Friary - Mount Assisi, have begun a prayer meeting on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Heritage Room, beneath the main chapel. All are welcome.

### Lenten Seafood Buffet Eat In or Take Out Featuring Weekly Chef's Special

#### Saint Mary Parish, Altoona

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Children Ages 3 - 12 - - \$5.00

Children Under 3 - - Free



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## Johnstown Native

# Michael Novak, Noted Philosopher, Theologian And Author, Dies At 83

By Catholic News Service

**WASHINGTON (CNS)** -- Michael Novak, a Catholic philosopher, theologian and author who was highly regarded for his religious scholarship and intellectual independence, died Feb. 17 at his home in Washington. He was 83.

His daughter Jana Novak told **The Washington Post** the cause of death was complications from colon cancer.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Feb. 25 in the Crypt Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington.

Since last August, Novak had been a faculty member of The Catholic University of America's Tim and Steph

## Love And Mercy

(Continued From Page 8.)

While signs at this march declared that "love trumps hate," its national leaders exhibited more hate than love toward those who disagree.

On other issues too -- immigration, religious freedom, national security -- divisions have grown as words are used to attack and discredit, not communicate.

This presents a challenge and opportunity for Catholics. We can model an approach that begins with love and respect for everyone.

We should be first to hear people's real worries and fears, cool tempers, correct exaggerations and build bridges for dialogue. Only then might we find ways to work together for the good of all.

Love and mercy in politics? It's so crazy it just might work. I don't know anything else that will.

Busch School of Business and Economics in Washington. He joined the business school's Arthur and Carlyse Ciocca Center for Principled Entrepreneurship last year as a distinguished visiting fellow.

He taught special topics in management and gave a series of lectures on campus on the topic of human ecology.

Novak studied at Catholic University in 1958 and 1959 and had lectured at the university several times prior to last year's appointment. John Garvey, the university's president, remembered him as "a man of great intellectual honesty."

"Unlike some scholars, Michael Novak made it a point to reflect on new and different topics, always with a fresh and dynamic perspective," Garvey said in a statement. "We are immensely grateful that he could end his academic life as he began it, as a member of our community."

Upon his appointment to Catholic University of America as a visiting fellow, Novak commented on the university's commitment to promote Catholic social doctrine as a means to human flourishing. "If, as a teacher you want to reach the 1.2 billion Catholics in the world, many of whom are poor, where better to be?"

In 2006, Novak and his wife, Karen Laub - Novak, established two scholarship funds to support philosophy graduate students, one in his name for students working on the intersection of philosophy and religion or public policy and one in her name for students interested in the philosophy of beauty.

The author of more than 50 books who was highly regarded for his religious scholarship and intellectual independence, Novak shared his insights into the spiritual foundations of economic and political systems and the moral ideals of democratic



CNS Photo

MICHAEL NOVAK

capitalism in syndicated columns and innumerable lectures, articles and commentaries.

Novak wrote on topics as varied as capitalism, human rights, labor union history, sports, peace, families and the role of churches in a pluralistic world. His books have been translated into every major Western language, as well as Bengali, Korean, Chinese and Japanese.

He considered his greatest honor to be that St. John Paul II called him a friend, as did Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and President Ronald Reagan.

Novak, whose 1982 book **The Spirit Of Democratic Capitalism** changed the public conversation about the benefits of capitalism, was awarded the Templeton Prize for Progress in Religion in 1994. He also served as ambassador to the U.N. Commission (now Commissioner) on Human Rights in 1981 and 1982.

In an interview with Catholic News Service after he won the Templeton Prize, he said he saw a failure in the checks and balances of government, with its major flaw being "the interests of politicians in offering goodies and their lack of interest in seeing that they're paid for."

To counteract that, he said, the church needs to push its

"well-developed theory of civil society" independent of the state -- "the family, educational systems, labor unions, associations of many kinds."

During his varied career, he moved from left to right on the political spectrum. Early in his career, he questioned Catholic teaching on birth control. During the Second Vatican Council, he wrote **The Open Church**, which took a liberal look at the council. He also covered the council for **National Catholic Reporter**, **Commonweal** and **Time** magazine.

In 1982, as a neoconservative, he founded **Crisis Magazine** with Ralph McInerny and was its editor-in-chief. For many years, starting in 1978, Novak was a resident scholar in religion and public policy at the American Enterprise Institute, a Washington think tank.

He taught at the University of Notre Dame as well as at Harvard, Stanford, Syracuse and Ave Maria universities and was awarded 27 honorary degrees, including one from Catholic University in 2015.

In his name, the Acton Institute, a Michigan-based think tank, created the Novak Award, which honors outstanding scholarly research concerning the relationship between religion, economic freedom, and the free and virtuous society.

Novak was born in 1933 in Johnstown, to a Slovak - American family, the oldest of five children of Michael J. and Irene (Sakmar) Novak. A brother, Holy Cross Father Richard Novak, a missionary who was killed during political violence in Bangladesh in 1964.

Novak was married to Karen Laub - Novak, a professional artist and illustrator, who died of cancer in August 2009. They had three children Richard, Tanya, and Jana, and four grandchildren.

Novak earned a B.A. summa cum laude in philosophy and English from Stonehill College in 1956, a *Sacrae Theologiae Baccalaureus* (a degree in theology), from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome in 1958 and an M.A. in history and philosophy of religion from Harvard University in 1966. Novak attended Harvard University to study philosophy and religion, intending to obtain a doctorate in philosophy of religion. Novak stated that he thought the philosophy department was too focused on analytic philosophy, neglecting religion. He left Harvard after receiving his M.A., and began work as a writer.

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# Now Showing

## Not Much To Say About 'The Great Wall'

By John Mulderig  
Catholic News Service

**NEW YORK (CNS)** -- Those seeking nothing more from a movie than sheer spectacle may be satisfied with director Zhang Yimou's visually interesting but thoroughly implausible action adventure "The Great Wall" (Universal).

Epic in scale, the film is shallow in emotion and characterization. On the upside though, its central romance is completely chaste and its dialogue mostly free of cursing.

To appreciate those assets, however, viewers will first have to swallow a whopper of a premise. Drawn by the wealth they could gain by introducing gunpowder into the West, two medieval European mercenaries, William Garin (Matt Damon) and Pero Tovar (Pedro Pascal), arrive in China after an arduous

journey during which they were harried, as the opening scenes show, by unidentified adversaries.

But an unpleasant surprise awaits the visitors. As they soon discover, their unwilling hosts are preoccupied with battling vicious alien monsters called the Tao Tei. It was to defend against these marauding creatures, whose idea of eating Chinese has nothing to do with General Tso's chicken, that the famous structure of the title was built.

Or so, at least, the script -- written by Carlo Bernard, Doug Miro and Tony Gilroy -- attempts to inform us with a straight face.

William gradually becomes committed to this struggle, not least because he's attracted to Lin Mae (Jing Tian), the fetching commander of one division of the local forces, the Crane Corps (think Cirque du Soleil with spears). But Pero remains focused on the original scheme.



CNS Photo/Universal

**THE GREAT WALL:** Matt Damon stars in a scene from the movie "The Great Wall." 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.

He's abetted in it by Ballard (Willem Dafoe), another traveler who came to the Middle Kingdom years before for exactly the same purpose as the new arrivals, and has been held prisoner ever since.

What with catapults launching great balls of fire and innumerable colorfully uniformed soldiers manning the ramparts, there's plenty to absorb the eye. As for the brain or heart, not so much.

Super-skilled archer William undergoes something of a conversion, evolving from a lone wolf who boasts of trusting no one to a team player, at least where Lin Mae is concerned. And the movie's conclusion does show him putting loyalty to Pero above potential profit, a choice the screenplay implicitly but unmistakably endorses.

But he remains merely the battle-hardened, scarred warrior type rather than a fully rounded

person. Nor is there much individuality to Lin Mae.

Given that these two never so much as kiss, on the other hand, and that the screenplay is seldom marred by vulgarity, many parents may consider "The Great Wall" acceptable for older teens. All the more so since the mayhem of the fight against the Tao Tei is portrayed far more suggestively than graphically.

The film contains action violence with little gore, a mild oath as well as at least one crude and a couple of crass terms. 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.

**Epic in scale, the film is shallow in emotion and characterization. On the upside though, its central romance is completely chaste and its dialogue mostly free of cursing.**

## Coming Up On 'Proclaim!'

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

**March 12** - - As we recognize Northern Cambria Catholic School in Nicktown as our March School of the Month, a school family will discuss their enthusiasm for Catholic education.

**March 19** - - Bishop Carroll Catholic High School Student Josh Knicely will share his experiences from attending the inauguration of President Trump.

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**May  
They Rest  
In Peace**



**Father Leo Raymond  
Tittler**

Father Leo Raymond Tittler, 82, died Saturday, September 18 at Stella Maris in Timonium MD.

He was born in Altoona, the son of the late Paul Calvin and Elsie (Coons) Tittler.

Surviving are a brother, Robert Tyler; and numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

He was preceded in death by six siblings: Rose Shuman, Mary Kells, Sarah McCloskey and Jane Clowers; and Sister Patricia and Sister Mary Paulus, of the Sisters of Saint Joseph.

Father Leo was a graduate of Altoona Catholic High School. After that, he began his studies at The Catholic University of America, Washington DC, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy and a Master of Science degree in liberal science.

He went on to complete his theology studies at Catholic University, and on June 8, 1963, was ordained a priest of the Third Order Regular Franciscan Friars at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington DC.

In July 1970, he became an associate pastor at Saint Stephen Church, Bradshaw MD.

Working with Cardinal Lawrence Shehan, Father Leo was incardinated into the Baltimore archdiocese, first serving in June 1972 as an associate pastor at Saint William of York

Church, Baltimore. In September 1975, he was associate pastor and, in 1977, pastor of Saint Peter Church, Westernport MD. In August 1982, he became an associate pastor at Saint Matthew Church, Baltimore. In December 1982, he served as pastor at Saint John the Evangelist Parish, Hydes MD. In February 1992, he was pastor at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Thurmont MD, in addition to serving at Saint Anthony Shrine, Emmitsburg MD. Finally, in February 2001, he became a senior priest at Saint John the Evangelist Church, Frederick MD, which would be his final appointment until his retirement in February 2005.

He was very active with Knights of Columbus and was a Third and Fourth Degree Knight. He was also instrumental in be-

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

ginning a Knights of Columbus Council at Saint John the Evangelist, Hydes MD., called the Long Green Council.

Archbishop William E. Lori, Archbishop of Baltimore, was the celebrant of the Funeral Mass for Father Leo Raymond Tittler, celebrated Friday, February 24 at Saint John the Evangelist Church, Frederick MD. Committal was at Saint John's Cemetery, Frederick.

**Mary Rose Scornaienchi**

Mary Rose Scornaienchi, 91, of Garvey Manor, Hollidaysburg, formerly of Johnstown, died Sunday, February 19. She was the mother of Third Order Regular Franciscan Father Frank Scornaienchi, pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Altoona.

She was born November 16, 1925, daughter of the late Antonio and Vincenza (Castagnola) Aveni. She was preceded in death by her husband, Albert; parents; brothers James, Charles and Anthony "Nino"; and sisters Angeline Ohler and Margaret Brunetto.

In addition to her son, she

is survived by a daughter, Rosemary, married to Charles R. Turner, Jr., Johnstown; grandsons Andrew and fiancée Ashley Strack, Johnstown, and Matthew and girlfriend Katelyn Smith, Binghamton NY; sister - in - law Shirley Aveni, Johnstown, and brother - in - law Charles Ohler, Holly Hill FL. Also, survived by numerous nieces and nephews, especially very special nephew Sean Aveni. She was the last surviving member of her immediate family.

She was a lifelong member of St. Clare of Assisi Church (formerly St. Anthony), where she was a Eucharistic minister. She also worked diligently at the spaghetti dinners and festivals.

The Funeral Mass for Mary Rose Scornaienchi was celebrated by her son, Father Frank, on Wednesday, February 22 at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Altoona. Committal was at Saint Anthony Cemetery, Geistown.

Memorial contributions may be made to Saint Clare of Assisi Church, 124 Maple Avenue, Johnstown PA 15901 or Franciscan Friars TOR, Saint Bernardine Monastery, P.O. Box 139, Hollidaysburg PA 16648.

**Infant Of Prague Novena March 19 - March 27, 2017**

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## Operation Rice Bowl Invites Encounter With Those In Need

By Bruce A. Tomaselli

For 42 years Operation Rice Bowl has helped fight poverty and hunger around the world. The ministry is sponsored by the Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the official humanitarian agency of the Catholic Church in the United States.

“This Lenten program began in the diocese with Ash Wednesday on March 1, and concludes at the end of Lent,” said Saint Joseph Sister Patti Rossi. Sister Patti administers the annual campaign in the Altoona - Johnstown Diocese.

She says, “The faithful of the Diocese are annually very generous.” Twenty - five percent of all contributions stay within the Diocese to help feed the hungry. The money also helps alleviate poverty by aiding community gardens, food pantries, soups kitchens, and other ministries.

“Operation Rice Bowl is a great family activity and a teaching tool. Each kit has a change box to place in the home along with a daily Lenten calendar of activities that encourages the Lenten practices of prayer, almsgiving, and fasting,” Sister Patti added.” The Operation Rice

Bowl Kit, and more information can be obtained by calling The Mission Office at (814) 317 - 2648.

The theme for this year is “Encounter Lenten Prayer to Encounter Christ.”

Pope Francis told Catholic leaders that the “ability to see yourselves in the faces of others, this daily proximity to share their troubles and their little acts of heroism: this is what enables you to practices the commandment of love, not the basis of ideas or concepts, but rather on the basis of genuine interpersonal.

“We do not love concepts or ideas,” said Pope Francis. “We love people.”

Sister Patti said that Operation Rice Bowl takes on added importance this year. “Especially when you think of all of the men, women and children in refugee camps that may only get as little as a bowl of rice each day. We must not forget those from war - torn countries as they seek to escape violence and religious persecution. Not only in refugee camps, but in detention camps within our own borders.”

CRS is sponsored by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), and all donations to Operation Rice Bowl will reach their designated destinations. “As a diocesan family, this is probably the best



way to do what Jesus asks, to feed and clothe the poor,” Sister Patti reminded.

“CRS Rice Bowl is about people and the hope we have for each other. It’s about our ability to encounter our neighbors no matter where they live, to love them as God loves us,” said

Joan Rosenhauer, executive vice president of the U. S. Operations for CRS.

“At a time when there is so much conflict in the world, this Lenten program gives people of all ages a way to respond to human suffering with compassion and action. To learn the names of

and stories of our brothers and sisters, to include them in our prayers, to contribute our Lenten sacrifices so they can live better, healthier lives; this is the way we deepen our faith, building a culture of encounter and holding up the dignity of each and every one of us,” Rosenhauer said.

### PERIODICAL RATE MAIL

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