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Focus On Jesus Will Lead To Increase In Vocations Says Speaker At Annual Bishop's Night Dinner

Photos And Text
By Bruce A. Tomaselli

To Father Stephen DeLacy, the answer to leading people to heed the call to a religious vocation at the service of the Lord is an easy one.

"If we make Jesus the biggest reality in our lives, and our top priority, we will have plenty of vocations," said the director of vocations for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

Father DeLacy was the keynote speaker at the annual celebration of the Bishop's Night for Vocations, held Friday, April 21 in the cafetorium of Bishop Carroll Catholic High School, Ebensburg, which was filled to capacity.

Each year Bishop's Night for Vocations is co-sponsored by the Altoona - Johnstown Diocese and the Serra Club of Cambria County.

The theme for this year was "Led By The Spirit," the title of Pope Francis' message for the 54th World Day of Prayer for Vocations, to be held Sunday, May 7.

In past years Pope Francis has addressed the theme of the invitation to come out of oneself to listen to the voice of God and the importance of the eccle-



POETRY WINNERS: Winners in the Poetry division of the Bishop's Night For Vocations contest, posing with Bishop Mark L. Bartchak, were (left to right) First row: Sarah Farabaugh, Hailey Friedline, Lily Adams, Lauren Long, Garrison Famiglio. Second row: Darrien Berkheimer, Alexa Adams, Quinn Cowher, Emily Foster, Blaine Farabaugh. Third row: Samantha Baker, Bailey Hildebrand, Brendan Scanlon and Kambria Lockett.



ESSAY WINNERS: Essay winners, pictured with Bishop Mark were (left to right) First row: Emily Sauro, Autumn McCloskey, Grace Corl, Marian Pownall, Josh Hershbine. Second row: Connor Brown, Ella Talbot, Logan Boyd, Eric Clark and Kaylee Schall.

sial community as a privileged place for the manifestation of the Lord's call. The Holy Father reflects this year on another aspect of the Christian vocation; its missionary dimension.

As he continued his address, Father DeLacy said, he, like many other people get caught up in the everyday realities of living and forgets the most important thing. "We have to allow God to be the biggest reality in our lives. We can't allow the everyday realities of life to become bigger to us than Jesus' Resurrection."

He said Jesus is much bigger than our fears and insecurities. He said if we understand that, we will have many vocations.

Bishop Mark L. Bartchak was honored for marking his sixth anniversary as Bishop of Altoona - Johnstown. He said "Young people always ask me how I answered the call to my vocation.

"As a young altar boy I was urged by the Sisters to watch the older boys to learn how to perform my duties. But, I was only ten - feet from the altar and I was drawn to what the priests were doing. That eventually brought me to the priesthood."

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High Schools

Serve - A - Thon

Boalsburg: On Tuesday, April 4, more than 160 students, faculty, and volunteers from Saint Joseph's Catholic Academy spent the day volunteering for 11 non-profit organizations in Centre County.

The Salt & Light Serve - a - Thon was a school - wide event with the purpose of raising beneficial funds for Saint Joe's in a meaningful way: by serving others.

"Salt & Light provided students with the opportunity to put servant leadership into practice, applying what they have learned in the classroom and chapel in a practical, meaningful way," said Saint Joseph's Dean of Students Malissa Martin, who organized the event for the school. "It also helped our students identify areas of need in our community and shows them how they can

make a difference, for now and in the future."

Non-profit organizations that benefitted from students' service hours include: Boal Mansion, Centre Peace, Centre Region Parks & Recreation, Housing Transitions, State College Meals on Wheels, Millbrook Marsh Nature Center, Mount Nittany Conservancy, Our Lady of Victory Preschool, Schlow Centre Region Library, Saint Vincent DePaul Society, and State College Food Bank.

"I left feeling more positive and focused on the important things in life," said Saint Joseph's senior Anna Henderson, who spent the day cleaning and organizing at the State College Food Bank. "It felt amazing giving back to the community."

"Our organization is fueled by the hard work of volunteers, and the students from Saint Joe's contributed valuable time to help us strengthen operations to serve hungry families in our community," added Carol Pioli,



CURSILLO: Mens Cursillo #119 and Womens Cursillo #120 were held March 16 - 19 and March 31 - April 2 at Mount Saint Ann Retreat Center, Ebensburg. Candidates attending were from Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel Parish, Loretto; Immaculate Conception Parish, New Germany; Our Mother of Sorrows Parish, Johnstown; Saint Benedict Parish, Johnstown; Saint Francis of Assisi Parish, Johnstown; Saint Mary Parish, Altoona; Saint Nicholas Parish, Nicktown; Saint Peter Parish, Somerset; and Saint Therese Parish, Johnstown. Taking part in the Mens weekend were (top photo, left to right) First row: Rick Wess, Tom Kinter, Mike Carbonara, Father Alan Thomas (spiritual advisor), Bernie Jubeck, Deacon Scott Little (spiritual advisor). Second row: Anthony Falvo, Jeff Wood, Bill Livingston, Matt DiFrancesco, John Fontana, Mark Komula, Bob Chumrick, Tony Campagna, T.J. Campagna, Rick Messina, Terry Deitz. Third row: Roy Holtz, Sean O'Dowd, Mike Thomas, Matt Hoffman, Doug Puchko, Jason Kurtz, Joe Hrbal, David Lee, Tom Price, Tom Simmons. Not pictured are spiritual advisors Father Larry Lacovic and Third Order Regular Franciscan Father Jim Morman. Taking part in the Womens weekend were (bottom photo, left to right) First row: Margaret Charney, Kathie Spargo, Mary Ann Zanghi, Monsignor Michael Becker (spiritual advisor), Lori Hogan, Nancy Simmons. Second row: Michelle Santee, Anne DiFrancesco, Debbie Falvo, Pam Vranich, Kathy Ashcom, Evie Wess, Suzy Brett, Mary Molnar, Sandy Malec, Allison Messina, Carmelite of the Word Sister Celeste Ciesielka (spiritual advisor), Betty Dennis. Third row: Juliana Kenawell, Karen Wood, Karen Hoffman, Louise Zankay, Roseann Bennett, Pat Gombita, Mary Kinter, Theresa Carbonara, Chris O'Dowd, Kim Kline and Andrea Sossong. For more information about the Cursillo experience in the Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown contact Tom Price, lay director, at (814) 935 - 8281.

Saint Peregrine Triduum

(Patron of Cancer Sufferers)

At The Church of
The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 1127 McKinley Avenue, Johnstown, PA



May 3,4,5
Confessions:
 6:15 PM Each Evening
Mass:
 7:00 - PM Each Evening
 Mass May 3, Bishop Mark L. Bartchak
Healing Mass - May 4
Closing Mass: May 5

Saint Peregrine is a powerful intercessor with God for all those who are seeking good health.
Saint Peregrine (1260-1345) was a Servite Friar canonized in 1726. His feast is May 4.

Please remember my intentions at the Shrine:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Intention: _____



Executive Director of the State College Food Bank.

Art Show

Boalsburg: Saint Joseph's Catholic Academy art students welcome the public to their inaugural Art Show being held on Sunday, May 7, from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at The Makery, 209 West Calder Way, State College.

Organized by senior art student, Grace Cousins, and SJCA Art Teacher, Rebecca Donaghue - Gilkes, the event will feature

select works from students in grades 9 - 12. Visitors can expect to see two-dimensional and three-dimensional works in various mediums and styles. All art will include a statement about the work written by the artist.

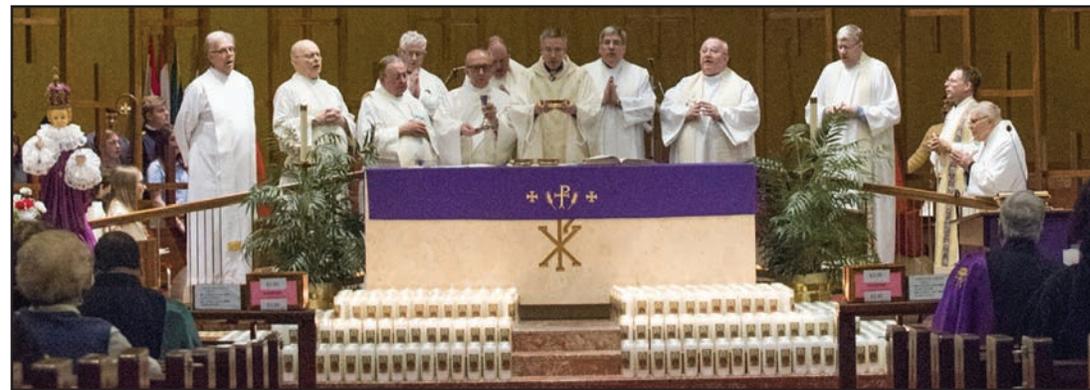
"By showcasing the art of students at SJCA, you can see the way they see things and how they grasp aspects of their lives," said Grace.

More than just an art show, attendees will enjoy dessert and snack items and the music of Saint Joseph's a cappella sing-

ing group. The organizers are hoping that this is yet another step in the evolution of Saint Joseph's rapidly growing art program. They're also hoping that the show will become an annual event.

(Continued On Page 3.)

In The Alleghenies



60TH ANNUAL NOVENA: Bishop Mark L. Barchak concelebrated one of nine Masses during the Infant Jesus of Prague Novena held March 19 - 27 at Saint Andrew Parish in Johnstown. Priests from across the Altoona - Johnstown Diocese joined Father Angelo Patti, pastor, (shown to the right of Bishop Barchak) in the 60th annual novena.



MOST HOLY TRINITY, SOUTH FORK: Most Holy Trinity Parish, South Fork, celebrated Confirmation Thursday, April 20. Pictured are (left to right) Nick Peretin, Father Joseph Nale (pastor) and Ryan Richardson.



JARED BOXES: As an all - school Lenten Service Project, the students of Our Lady of Victory Catholic School, State College, created Jared Boxes for children receiving medical care at Geisinger Janet Weis Children's Hospital and Geisinger Holy Spirit Hospital. On Friday, April 7, the OLVCS Middle School Service Club presented 222 Jared Boxes to the hospital representatives at an all - school assembly. Ruth McMullen, Jared Mullen's mother, and Cindy Kolarik from the Jared Box Project were also in attendance. Beginning in 2001, each year the students from Our Lady of Victory Catholic School create Jared Boxes in memory of the OLVCS student, Jared Mullen, who died of an incurable brain tumor. These boxes contain toys, art supplies and other items and are given to children receiving treatment at medical facilities in our area and through the country.

(Continued From Page 2.)

"I'm excited to see how much the SJCA art program has grown," said Grace's mother, Lisa Cousins. "I am hoping the SJCA family and State College community will stop by to appreciate the work of our talented students!"

Art student Torie Houseknecht echoes those sentiments. "I think this is a really good stepping stone for our school's art department," she said.

The Makery is an arts and crafts studio specializing in creative classes, parties, and events. They have generously donated

use of their space for this event and will donate a percentage of sales from the night to the Saint Joseph's art program.

"The Makery is happy for the opportunity to support young artists and makers in our community," said Amy Frank, owner of The Makery.

State College Framing Company has kindly donated matting services for the students' works for this event.

ranked 28th in the country by RNtoBSN.org.

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Point Of View

Winter rain brought blessed moisture to Southern California, and nature is now thriving. People who carefully protected their gardens, trees and all, during our very harsh drought are benefiting from their foresight and faith.

This lesson from nature is potent, and is framed in my mind by a story I heard from a friend. She had gone on a spring garden tour, moving from house to house to admire the blaze of color and lush green of this year's horticultural beauty.

At one house, however, there was a stark difference.

Last year, a woman had volunteered her husband to plant and nurture a gorgeous garden. She put their house on the tour, expecting it to shine come spring. But come tour time, nothing looked remotely like a showcased garden.

Instead, the husband took groups of people from place to place in backyard and front, describing what "could be" and "would be" or "should be" there, had he followed through on the couple's plans.

I wondered why the couple had decided to go ahead with the tour, since their yard wasn't ready. My friend said that they still had plans to do what they had hoped, and this experience gave them incentive to do the work needed to actually have something to show next year.

How refreshing! And how true!

How often have you or I had great plans, but then time, other commitments or, yes, laziness, get in the way and we have



Living Well

Success Within Failure By Maureen Pratt

nothing to show for it? How often have we felt guilty about not meeting a goal or were so embarrassed that we couldn't confess our shortcoming to others or dare to try again?

What began as a rather shaggy dog tale of failure quickly became one of courage and inspiration to me. Learn (again). Plan again. Try again. Share the "bad" experience with others so as to turn the next into a good one.

Drought moves into rain. Failure brings achievement. Stagnation brings growth.

The reality of climate cycles can also lead to thoughts of other types of life cycles, especially those of hardship and personal growth, spiritual "dryness" and bountiful rejuvenation of grace and joy. We might feel very low or detached from the spirit within or from our parish community; yes, even after the jubilation of Easter.

But if we carefully nurture our faith all along, grace is



bound to bring us up. If we feel we have failed at something we wanted to do or be -- whether a garden or a friend, more loving or giving -- that failure is a valuable instructor for us to know what to do better next time.

Another lesson from God's amazing natural world is also valuable: Although the degree of beauty and abundance might vary from year to year, the "bones" of growth and potential do not vanish. A seed maintains its form and function no matter what is going on around it.

So, although we might experience waves of emotions that hold us back at any given point -- embarrassment, disappointment, frustration, anger -- these are fleeting. Who we are and how loved we are in God's eyes never changes. The talents we have, the potential within each of us -- these and many other blessings also never, ever vanish.

Now that the garden tour is over, I like to imagine the couple hard at work. Tilling soil. Selecting plants. Weeding and hoeing and working. Doing all of the things today that enable them to achieve their goal next season.

I expect theirs will be a magnificent garden. Wouldn't you love to see it?



Another Perspective

Show Yourself A Mother By Monsignor Timothy P. Stein

Saturday, May 13 is the 100th anniversary of the first apparition of Our Lady to three shepherd children at Fatima, Portugal.

The 50th anniversary of the Fatima apparitions also took place on a Saturday. It was May 13, 1967, and the celebrations at Fatima were broadcast live on the national television networks. The Mass at the Fatima Basilica was big news. Pope Paul VI was there to celebrate the liturgy. In those days, Popes didn't travel as often as they do today. Pope Paul's trip to Fatima was only his fourth trip outside the Vatican since being elected to the papacy in 1963. A "Pilgrim Pope" was a novel concept. I was glued to the TV that morning, as I had been some 18 months earlier when the pontiff had made a one-day trip to the United States.

The 50th anniversary Mass in Fatima marked the first time that the surviving Fatima seer, Lucia, had visited the shrine since entering the cloister of the Discalced Carmelite Nuns. Lucia and I shared a birthday, so it was with more than a little interest that I watched her on the television as Pope Paul led her before the crowd of pilgrims gathered in the square before the great church. I was nine-years-old in 1967. Lucia had been only a year older when our Lady appeared to her in 1917. Seeing Lucia made the events at Fatima seem very close at hand. Reflecting on what had happened to her and to her cousins, Francisco and Jacinta Marto, brought home the lesson that even children, girls and boys like me and my sister, and our playmates, could be called to holiness. It was a powerful lesson.

In my childhood, my father would often pack us into the car for a trip to Loretto to visit the various shrines. As a family we sometimes attended the Fatima devotions at Mount Assisi on the 13th of the Summer months. I could not have thought then that I would one day grow up to preach at those devotions.

The story of Our Lady of Fatima is a story that I grew up with, and was quite devoted to as a little boy, but also one that I paid less and less attention to as I grew up and grew older. I grew tired of the speculation about the contents of the "secret" of Fatima. I wondered about how healthy it was to talk about the penances and mortifications practiced by small children. It seemed somehow morbid to dwell on the deaths of two of those children at very young ages. Fatima began to represent, in my mind, an excessive, cloyingly sweet piety that I wanted to get away from. And for a time, I did just that. I got away from Fatima and refused to think about it. And if I thought about it, it was only to scoff and make fun. I was too old, too wise for Fatima.

I was a fool.

With age comes wisdom -- or at least a new understanding of the things that moved our hearts when we were children. As I've grown older I've come to appreciate again the story of Fatima, and the story of other Marian apparitions. They are all, in the end, simple stories of a mother's love for her children. Maybe it takes the loss of your own mother to make you appreciate more fully the Mother of God. That seems to be the case, with me. When I talk to my mother in heaven, I find I'm talking to two mothers: one named Josephine and one named Mary. And in those conversations I'm glad to put aside all thoughts of being grown up and worldly-wise, and to be just a child again.

More and more these days my prayer is a simple one: "O Mary, show yourself to be a mother." She showed herself to be a mother at Fatima, at Lourdes, and at Guadalupe. She shows herself a mother in Altoona, in Johnstown, in Portage, in Wilmore, and in Summerhill, in Blair County, in Bedford County, in Somerset County, in Centre, Clinton, Cambria, Fulton and Huntingdon Counties, and wherever her children might be. Her anniversary day is one we can all celebrate, taking joy in the care she shows us.

I'm A Survivor . . . What Are My Options?

By Beth Birch
The Abuse Network, Inc. of Huntingdon, Juniata and Mifflin Counties

For many survivors of sexual abuse, seeking services may seem like an overwhelming experience and many can find themselves processing countless questions. What type of help is available? What are my options? Where can I go for help? Can I trust the person I am speaking with to protect my confidentiality? How do I know this agency or person has the skills to work with my situation?

The Abuse Network, and the other rape crisis centers which provide services to the 67 counties in Pennsylvania, have a variety of options to assist. Funded and credentialed by the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape, local centers are able to assist victims/survivors, their family, friends, and loved ones 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. These centers are staffed with specially trained advocates who have a wide understanding of sexual violence in all its forms and who can respond to you with an array of services designed to meet the unique needs of each person.

Support For Survivors

Support for survivors of sexual abuse is always available throughout the Diocese of Altoona-Johnston. Survivors are encouraged to seek help for recovery through any of the sexual assault centers in their area. All of the sexual assault centers offer:

- * 24/7 Hotline Services
- * Crisis Intervention
- * Case Management
- * Individual Counseling
- * Legal Advocacy and Accompaniment
- * Medical Advocacy and Accompaniment
- * Prevention and Awareness Education Programs
- * Sexual Assault Response Team (emergency medical care, emotional support, and medical/ legal examination)
- * Professional Trainings
- * Information and Referrals to other community services

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.

Counseling that is free and confidential is one of these important services. Our counseling options focus on supportive listening, feedback, and clarification of options available. They are empowering and put the survivor at the forefront of their recovery. These services respond to the unique needs and experiences of each survivor.

Advocates are also available to provide advocacy and accompaniment services in medical and legal settings. Medical advocacy provides services to those who seek medical treatment options after an assault. Advocates are available to accompany victims to the hospital or other medical facility during which time advocates assist by notifying the victim of the medical options that are available to them. Survivors are consistently informed about the medical examination throughout the process and notified about their rights. In this way, the victim/survivor is empowered to make informed decisions about their bodies and options moving forward.

The legal system can be frightening and perhaps confusing in the wake of an assault. Among the goals of legal advocacy is for the advocate to act as a link between the victim and the legal system. Advocates will

Bedford County
 Your Safe Haven Inc.
 (800) 555 - 5671
 Yoursafehaven.org

Also offers: * Safe Shelter and/or Transitional Housing
 * Transportation * Additional Services for Domestic Violence Survivors

Blair County
 Family Services, Inc.
 (814) 944-3585
 Familyservicesinc.net

Also offers: * Therapy/ Therapeutic Counseling * Transportation * Additional Services for Domestic Violence Survivors

Cambria-Somerset Counties Victim Services, Inc.
 (814) 288-4691 and (800) 755-1983
 Victimservicesinc.org

inform survivors of their rights, assist them with information that will help them to make knowledgeable choices, and prepare them for what they may experience as they navigate the legal system. Victims/survivors may be accompanied to any number of legal events such as interviews with law enforcement or university administration, hearings, case trials, and sentencing.

The needs of victims/survivors are diverse and each person who seeks assistance requires options that are specific to them. Another valuable service local centers offer is the ability to help those they help make connections and relationships with other local service providers. Centers have collaborative relationships with these other agencies, and with the survivor's consent, we can offer prompt referrals to much needed resources.

Knowing about some of the many services and options available from local rape crisis centers can help to alleviate the concerns of anyone who may be considering reaching out for assistance.

If you or someone you know is in need of assistance after their assault, please consider contacting your local rape crisis center to discuss your options.

Also offers: * Therapy/ Therapeutic Counseling * Support Groups * Group Counseling

Huntingdon - - Mifflin - - Juniata Counties
 The Abuse Network
 (717) 242-2444
 Abusenetwork.org

Also offers: * Crisis Counseling * Support Groups * Group Counseling * Safe Shelter and/or Transitional Housing * Transportation * Additional Services for Domestic Violence Survivors

Clinton County
 Clinton County Women's Center (
 570) 748-9509
 Ccwcsafe.org

Also offers: * Therapy/ Therapeutic Counseling * Support Groups * Safe Shelter and/or Transitional Housing * Transportation * Additional Services for Domestic Violence Survivors

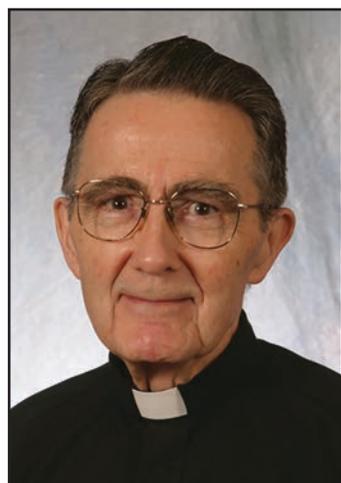
Franklin - - Fulton Counties
 Women in Need/ Victim Services
 (717) 264-4444
 Winservices.org

Also offers: * Support Groups * Group Counseling * Safe Shelter and/or Transitional Housing * Transportation * Additional Services for Domestic Violence Survivors

Centre County
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 Ccwrc.org

Also offers: * Support Groups * Therapy/ Therapeutic Counseling * Safe Shelter and/or Transitional Housing * Transportation * Additional Services for Domestic Violence Survivors * Civil Legal Representation in family, law, immigration or Title IX matters * Safe Custody Exchange and Supervised Visitation

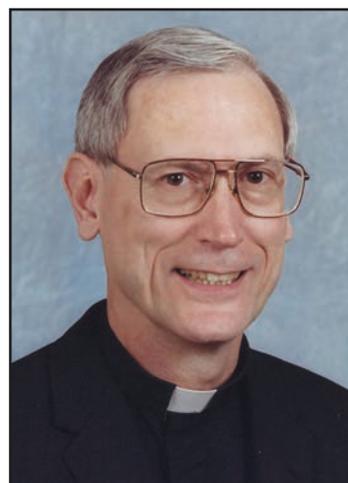
Two Benedictine Monks Are Jubilarians



**FATHER NOEL H.
ROTHRAUFF O.S.B.**

Two Benedictine monks from Saint Vincent Archabbey, Latrobe, with ties to the Altoona - Johnstown Diocese who are celebrating jubilees of their monastic profession this year.

Father Noel H. Rothrauff is celebrating the 70th anniversary of his monastic vows in 2017. He made simple profession of monastic vows on July 2, 1947, before Archabbot Alfred Koch, and solemn profession of vows on July 11, 1950, before Archabbot Denis Strittmatter, both



**FATHER MYRON
KIRSCH O.S.B.**

at Saint Vincent Archabbey Basilica.

On May 22, 1954, Father Noel was ordained a priest by Bishop Hugh Lamb, at the Saint Vincent Archabbey Basilica.

Father Noel was assigned to serve at Bishop Carroll Catholic High School, Ebensburg. From 1961 through 1980, he taught Religion, English, Algebra, and Bookkeeping, served as moderator of the Camera Club. Father Noel is a professional photographer and a member of the Triangle professional Photographer's Association, and was the year-book photographer.

During his years at Bishop Carroll, Father Noel also served as parochial vicar of Saint Bene-



SAINT ROSE OF LIMA: Saint Rose of Lima Parish, Altoona, celebrated Confirmation Wednesday, April 19. Pictured are (left to right) First row: Bernice Shoenfelt (director of religious education), Samantha Gburek, Madisyn Stockley, Teresa Solimando, Karlee Noel, Morgan Kieswetter, McKenzie Detwiler, Brynn Danison, Aleah Berkheimer, Finley Steinbugl (server). Second row: Ian Yon, Michael Schirf, McKenna Dugan, Kaitlynn Gibrson, Kain Davis, Bryant Eberhart, Mia Cooney, Lucas Steinbugl (server). Third row: Deacon James Woomer, Joshua Yasulitis, Michael Berish, Tyler Berkheimer, John Keating, Nicholas Fink, Dylan Kavalets, Father Brian Saylor (pastor) and Maren Steinbugl (server).



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL: Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Altoona, celebrated Confirmation Wednesday, April 19. Pictured are (left to right) First row: Brenden McCulley, Madison Wilkes, Shelby McCloskey, Emily Stevens, Meghann Mignogna. Second row: Fern Loughridge, Mackenzie Kirwin, Tyler Weigand, Nicholas Giardino, Coby Bernhart-Horton, Karen Snowden (director of religious education), Third Order Regular Franciscan Father Frank Scornaienchi (pastor). Third row: Third Order Regular Franciscan Father Terrence Smith (parochial vicar), Gabriella Petrarca, Noah Murray, Braeden Burchfield, Masen Nartatez and Ryan Berger.

dict Parish, Carrolltown (1961-1972); administrator of Immaculate Conception Church, New Germany (1972-1973); and, pastor of St. Nicholas Church, Nicktown (1974-1980).

Father Myron Kirsch, is celebrating the 50th anniversary of

his monastic profession of vows. He is a son of the late Herman A. and Catherine (Kritzer) Kirsch of Nicktown. Father Myron was born in Spangler, on April 22, 1946. He is one of nine children.

He attended Saint Nicholas Parochial School in Nicktown, and is a 1964 graduate of Bishop Carroll Catholic High School in Ebensburg. He received a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy from Saint Vincent College in 1969, and a master of divinity degree from Saint Vincent Seminary in 1973. In 1977, he received a master of business administration degree from Loyola University in Chicago.

He entered the Benedictine Monastic Community of Saint Vincent Archabbey in 1966. He

made simple profession of vows on July 11, 1967, and solemn profession of vows on July 11, 1970. He was ordained a priest in Saint Vincent Archabbey Basilica by the Most Reverend William G. Connare, Bishop of Greensburg, on May 12, 1973.

Father Myron has served the monastic community in its educational apostolate. At Saint Vincent College, he was assistant campus minister (1977-79), residence hall moderator (1979-84), instructor of business administration (1977-81), assistant baseball coach (1980-83), and dean of students (1984-1994). He has been an assistant professor of business administration since 1981, and has served as athletic director since 1983.



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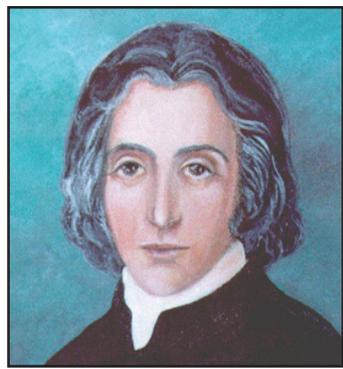
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1770 - 1840

How The Church Determines A True Marian Apparition

By Junno Arocho Esteves
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS)

-- When it comes to Marian apparitions, the Catholic Church takes a prudent approach that focuses more on the message than the miracle.

Supernatural phenomena,

like the alleged miracle of the sun in Fatima, Portugal, nearly 100 years ago, are not the primary factors in determining an apparition is worthy of belief.

In that particular case, the bishop of Leiria -- where Fatima is located -- deemed the apparitions, but not the miracle of the sun, were worthy of belief. His ruling came in 1930, more than

a dozen years after Mary's final apparition to Lucia dos Santos and her cousins, Jacinta and Francisco Marto.

More than 1,500 visions of Mary have been reported around the world, but in the past century, fewer than 20 cases have received church approval as worthy of belief.

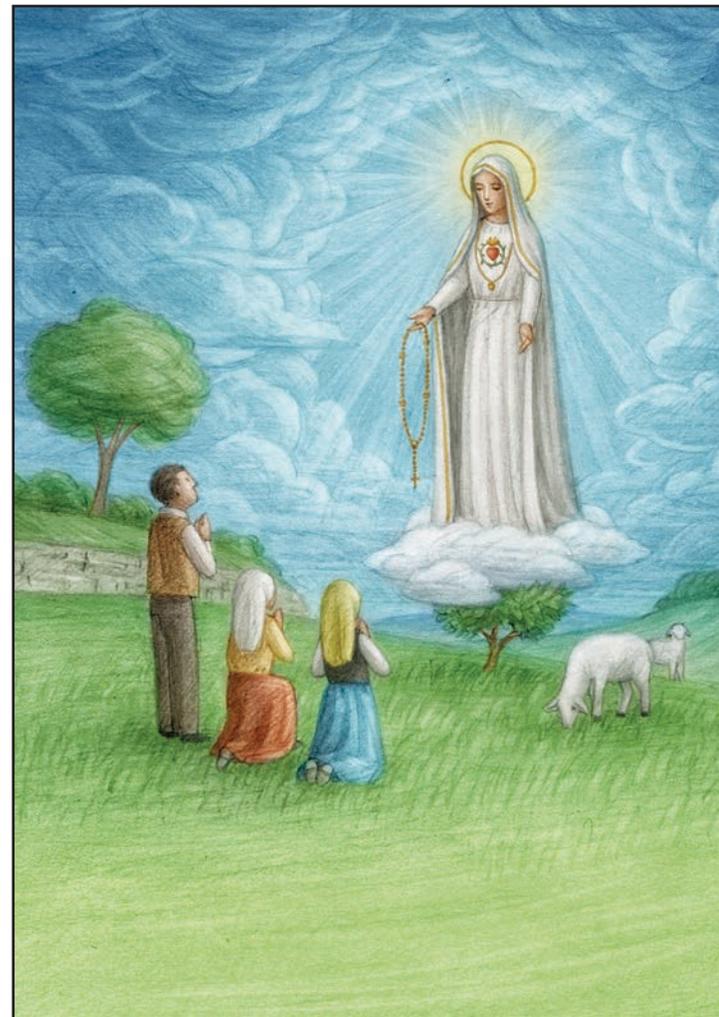
The Vatican's "Norms regarding the manner of proceedings in the discernment of presumed apparitions or revelations" were approved by Pope Paul VI in 1978. An official English translation was released in 2011.

Like with Fatima, responsibility for determining an apparition's veracity lies with the local bishop, according to the norms established by the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

The process is never brief, with some cases taking hundreds of years. Visionaries and witnesses must be questioned and the fruits of the apparitions, such as conversions, miracles and healings, must be examined.

According to the norms, the local bishop should set up a commission of experts, including theologians, canonists, psychologists and doctors to help him determine the facts, the mental, moral and spiritual wholesomeness and seriousness of the visionary, and whether the messages and testimony are free from theological and doctrinal error.

A bishop can come to one of three conclusions: He can determine the apparition to be true and worthy of belief; he can say



CNS Photo/Courtesy of Vatican Philatelic and Numismatic Office

FATIMA ANNIVERSARY: This postcard, set for release by the Vatican May 4, marks the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Mary to the three shepherd children in Fatima May 13, 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.

+ + +

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it is not true, which leaves open the possibility for an appeal; or he can say that at the moment, he doesn't know and needs more help.

In the last scenario, the investigation is brought to the country's bishops' conference. If that body cannot come to a conclusion, the matter is turned over to the pope, who delegates the doctrinal congregation to step in and give advice or appoint others to investigate.

Still, the Catholic Church

does not require the faithful to believe in apparitions, even those recognized by the church.

Church recognition of a private revelation, in essence, is just the church's way of saying the message is not contrary to the faith or morality, it is licit to make the message public "and the faithful are authorized to give to it their prudent adherence," now-retired Pope Benedict XVI said in his 2010 apostolic exhortation, "Verbum Domini" ("The Word of the Lord").

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Word of Life



The Pope Teaches

Don't Close Your Heart
By Pope Francis

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Christian faith is a grace and can be perceived only in the hearts of those willing to be surprised by the joy of the Resurrection, Pope Francis said.

"A closed heart, a rationalistic heart" is incapable of understanding the Christian message which has God's love -- manifested in Christ's victory over death -- at its center, the pope said at his weekly general audience April 19.

"How beautiful it is to think that Christianity is essentially this: It is not so much our search for God -- a search that is, truthfully, somewhat shaky -- but rather God's search for us," the pope said.

The pope, bundled up in a white overcoat due to the unusually chilly and windy weather, entered a packed St. Peter's Square in his popemobile. Immediately, he invited two girls and a boy, dressed in their altar server robes, to board the vehicle and ride with him around the square.

Pope Francis also took a moment to greet an elderly woman who, overcome with emotion, cried and stretched out her arms to embrace the pope. He stooped over, warmly embracing the woman and gently caressing her face before making the sign of the cross over her forehead.

Continuing his series of talks on hope, the pope reflected on St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians in which the apostle emphasizes the Resurrection as "the heart of the Christian message."

"Christianity is born from here. It is not an ideology nor a philosophic system but a path of faith that begins from an event, witnessed by Jesus' first disciples," the pope said.

St. Paul's summary of those who witnessed the risen Christ, he noted, ends by describing himself as the "least worthy of all" given his dramatic history as a one-time adversary of the early Christians.

St. Paul "wasn't a 'choirboy.' He was a persecutor of the church, proud of his own convictions," the pope said, departing from his prepared remarks. But "one day something completely unpredictable happens: the encounter with the risen Jesus on the road to Damascus."

It is the surprise of this encounter, the pope continued, that all Christians are called to experience "even if we are sinners."

Like the first disciples who saw the stone overturned at Jesus' tomb, all men and women can find "happiness, joy and life where everyone thought there was only sadness, defeat and darkness," the pope said.

God, Pope Francis said, is greater than "nothingness and just one lit candle is able to overcome the darkest night."

"If we are asked the reason for our smile and our patient sharing, we can respond that Jesus is still here, he continues to be alive in our midst," the pope said. "Jesus is here, in this square with us, alive and risen."



ONE MORE TIME: Sister Mary Walter, of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Baden, was a founding faculty member, and the second grade teacher, at Our Lady of Victory School, State College, in 1963. She is pictured conducting a music class at Easter, 1964. Later known as Sister Mary Hall, Sister Mary Walter died Friday, April 14. Her obituary appears on page 15.

The Council of the District of Columbia and the mayor have approved a law allowing physician-assisted suicide. Under Article I of our Constitution, Congress has legislative authority over the district and can block that law. Here are three nonpartisan reasons why it should do so.

First, a constitutional value held dear by liberals and conservatives alike is equal protection. Everyone should have the same basic rights, and "discrimination" is the ultimate fighting word.

Laws like the district's are discriminatory: Most people are protected from those who want to end their lives by "assisting" their suicides, but one class of people gets the opposite treatment. All it takes is a guess by two doctors that the patient might have less than six months to live.

This is not about freedom. Many people, for many reasons, are tempted to suicide. They feel they are acting freely and they may welcome "assistance" in meeting their goal. Their suffering seems worse to them, and longer-lasting, than the pain of terminal illness.

Government's response is suicide prevention. But for one group, it will promote suicide assistance instead. That is invidious discrimination by those in power. As columnist Debra Saunders has written, it is "death with a note from Big Brother."

Second, as two decades of experience in Oregon show, such laws don't work as supporters claim. They do not take



A More Human Society

Death Without Dignity In DC
By Richard Doerflinger

the lives solely of people who are imminently dying.

People who decide not to take the lethal dose have lived for years; some who do take their lives were diagnosed, and given those pills, in previous years. More than 96 percent of them never get a psychological evaluation, and people with depression and dementia have received the deadly prescription.

Half the people taking their lives in Oregon say they are doing so because they've become a "burden" -- a message the law promotes, by implying that the common good is served by their deaths. In this climate, even acts clearly violating the law, such as direct killing by medical professionals, have occurred without prosecution.

Third, Washington, D.C., is the worst place of all for this experiment with people's lives.

Oregon is overwhelmingly white and middle-class, with African-Americans making up about 2 percent of the population. Washington is half African-American, with a large urban poor population. One-third of the district's residents get their coverage through Medicaid.

African-Americans disproportionately suffer from serious

illness and inadequate health care. Black men are more likely to die from prostate cancer, and black women from breast cancer, than their white counterparts. Black men have higher rates of AIDS, diabetes and other conditions that can trigger suicide assistance. They fare badly in having depression diagnosed and treated. And black Americans have been subjected in the past to appalling experiments by doctors and the government, from the Tuskegee syphilis experiment to involuntary sterilization of poor black women.

A final irony is that few practicing doctors in the U.S. -- perhaps 5 percent -- are African-American. To put it bluntly, Washington will be the place where poor black Americans go to white doctors to die. If that doesn't send chills up the spine of any progressive, I don't know what will.

Catholics oppose assisted suicide because it demeans human life. But this issue should be easy for anyone who cares for equality and the rights of the poor. If you believe that black lives matter, you will want your member of Congress to help stop the district's law.

Question Corner

By Father Kenneth Doyle
When Father Is Monsignor

Q. Could you explain for me the difference (if any) between “priest” and “monsignor”? Under what circumstances is a priest given the title of “monsignor”? (Burke, Virginia)

A. “Monsignor” is a title bestowed on a priest who has distinguished himself by exceptional service to the church. It is a title granted by the pope -- typically, upon the recommendation of the priest’s diocesan bishop. It is a purely honorary title and has no effect on the priest’s duties or ministerial assignment.

Nearly 50 years ago, the Priests’ Senate in my own diocese passed a resolution asking that our bishop no longer name any priests as monsignors. As I recall our discussion, we felt that it was a medieval and inappropriate title (it derives from the Italian words meaning “my Lord”) and that its bestowal could cause hard feelings -- not so much with priests who were passed over, but among parish-

ioners whose own pastor had not been so honored.

So it was with some satisfaction that I noticed, in January 2014, that Pope Francis had instructed the bishops of the world that diocesan priests would no longer be awarded the title before reaching the age of 65. No reasons were published for the pope’s decision, but Pope Francis has often cautioned priests against careerism and personal ambition.

He seems to have long felt uncomfortable about ecclesiastical titles; when he was a bishop and later a cardinal in Argentina, Pope Francis always asked people to call him “Father.” And notably, while he served as archbishop of Buenos Aires (1998-2013), not once did he petition the Holy See to have one of his priests named a monsignor.

Q. For some time now, I have been disturbed by the fact that, several times a day, EWTN telecasts the Mass of that day without indicating that these

Masses are prerecorded and not “live.” Surely 99 percent of those watching feel that that they are participating in a real Mass. This has significant import on the spiritual lives of the network’s viewers, especially on Sundays.

I have written repeatedly to the network urging them at least to precede such Masses with a statement indicating that the presentation is for inspirational purposes only and not a real Mass, but no adjustment has been made.

Do you agree with me that the station needs to correct this? (While I am sure this is unintentional, the network is involved in a serious matter of deceptive spiritual broadcasting.) (Merion Station, Pennsylvania)

A. On Sundays and other holy days of obligation, a Catholic who is able to do so has a serious obligation to attend Mass, i.e., to participate personally in the eucharistic celebration. If prevented, however, by sickness, infirmity due to old age, severe weather or other emergency, the obligation ceases; nor is that person then morally bound to “make up” for the absence by watching Mass on television (although this is certainly worthwhile.)

If the person is legitimately impeded from attending the Mass, it doesn’t have to “count” because there is no obligation in the first place. Such a person is, in fact, watching the televised Mass for (in your words) “inspirational purposes” -- in which case it matters not at all that the Mass has been prerecorded.

In my own diocese, where I was once responsible for arranging to have the Sunday Mass televised, we filmed those Masses on the previous Wednesday evening (because studio time was less expensive and priest-celebrants easier to find.) So, to answer your question -- no, I don’t think that EWTN is involved in “deceptive broadcasting” or needs to correct anything.

Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at ask-fatherdoyle@gmail.com and 30 Columbia Circle Dr. Albany, New York 12203.



For The Journey

By Effie Caldarola
Mystagogy: A Call
To Encounter Risen Christ

At the conclusion of the Mass I attended on Easter while visiting in New Jersey, the pastor repeated what appeared to be his annual Easter joke. Many people applauded when he asked if they wanted to hear it, and many smiled knowingly, already in on the punchline.

So, the Easter Bunny is crossing the street on Easter Sunday, distracted by his day’s enormous duties, when a car fails to stop, hits the bunny and kills him.

What? The congregation listened appreciatively while my jaw dropped. I looked around at all the kids in their Easter finery, little plaid suspenders and bow ties, floppy flowered hats.

Did they hear what he just said about the Easter Bunny dying? Apparently either overstimulated or nearly comatose from the morning’s chocolate overload, no one under 10 seemed concerned.

But wait. Why am I talking about Easter? Isn’t it over and shouldn’t we be moving on? Haven’t those Easter baskets and that fake green grass been stored away days ago?

Before his joke (and yes, there will be a punchline) the pastor had reminded us in his homily of something important. Lent, he said, lasts 40 days. The Easter season lasts 50, and we should spend it rejoicing.

In the church, the period between Easter and Pentecost is a glorious time. Sometimes it is referred to as a time of “mystagogy” -- a fancy word with roots in the Greek language -- that basically means we Christians are being initiated into mystery.

We’ve moved from the human sorrow and pain of the Lenten journey into the overpowering mystery of the resurrection. We should be basking in Easter hope.

That word “mystagogy” is most often associated with the entrance of new Christians into the church. At the Easter Vigil -- our premier liturgy of the year -- catechumens are baptized, confirmed and receive their first Eucharist.

During the period of mystagogy, before Pentecost, they continue to attend classes and delve more deeply into the mystery of Christ, the church and the sacramental life of the church as lived through liturgy. We are a liturgical church.

At the parish where I formerly worked, we would use the period of mystagogy to explain to our newest Catholics how they could serve as active Catholics. Those of us who headed ministries would explain the tasks and needs of our work. Service is a wonderful way to encounter Christ, but mystagogy goes far beyond the practicalities of service.

Mystagogy calls all Christians, new and old, into an encounter with the risen Lord. We renewed our baptismal promises on Easter Sunday, rejecting Satan and his empty promises, professing belief in Jesus.

Now, during this happy season, we deepen our relationship with Christ. Like Mary of Magdala, who encountered Jesus in the garden but initially failed to recognize him, we begin to search for the Lord to whom we want to cling. We seek God in the moments of each day and yearn to hear him call our name, as he did Mary’s.

When Pentecost arrives, the Spirit comes and the church is empowered. We the church are called to rejoice in the wonderful spiritual benefits provided by the Easter season as we await the Spirit.

And the Easter Bunny? Immediately following his untimely demise, a woman in a car pulls up, grabs a can and sprays the bunny all over. He is immediately revitalized. He comes back to life and begins to bounce dramatically back on his mission.

The can? Hare spray, of course. Energizes dead hare, adds bounce.

Maybe you had to be there?

Saint Joseph
the Worker
First Century
Feast - May 1



Though his principal feast is March 19, St. Joseph also is honored for his labors as a carpenter in providing for his family’s needs in Nazareth. The carpentry trade in first-century Palestine covered building houses, which were mostly made of wood; by tradition, Jesus joined the family business. Throughout church history, Joseph was honored as a craftsman, but this feast was set in 1956 to give Christian meaning to what had become a secular association of May 1 with labor.

Young People Honored For Creative Efforts At Annual Night For Vocations

(Continued From Page 1.)

He spoke of the present Generation Z and said they don't get enough credit. They actually gave him a wake - up call. He said it was at a Holy Hour, Confession, Scripture, and Eucharistic Adoration that he came to see them in a new light.

"I asked them after their confession to go kneel at the altar as they prayed. Many of them were never that close to the Blessed Sacrament before. I was shocked to see that all 80 students gathered around the altar and stayed there until all received the Sacrament of Penance.

"They wanted to discuss the Sacrament of Penance. I saw they were developing their own spirituality. I could see they wanted to better understand their relationship with Christ.

"Sometimes we miss the direction that Jesus wants us to go. We need to encourage these young people."

Bishop Mark presented our two seminarians who will be ordained to the priesthood this

year: Deacon Jonathan Dickson of Saint Therese of the Child Jesus Parish in Altoona; and Deacon Peter Crowe of Our Lady of Victory Parish in State College.

Bishop Mark noted that there were no seminarians when he came here six years ago. "We need to talk to them, learn from them, and listen," he said. "We must encourage and support them so all vocations will be honored."

Engaging and energetic, Father DeLacy said when he came to his vocation he didn't trust in the Lord. "I prayed everyday, but I didn't trust Him."

He said the death of his Dad actually brought him to the priesthood. He said as his Dad lay dying he called his parish priest to come right away to anoint him. "My Dad was not fully conscious until the priest held the Blessed Sacrament before him. He opened his eyes and focused on the Blessed Sacrament. Shortly thereafter, he laid his head back down on the pillow and died.

"I saw the power of the Eucharist that day. Dad was alive even though he experienced



POSTER: Bishop Mark is shown with the winners of the Poster division (left to right) First row: Isabella Gunby, Ryann Haer, Kaleena Rokita, Peyton Hileman. Second row: Frank Stathaus, Lauren Crocco, Anna Tyson, Joshua Culley, Richard Kirsch. Third row: Naveen Sirsikar, Chloe Croft, Maggie Blaisdell and Jenna Smith. Not pictured are Delia Morchesky, Madeline Vasilko, Madison Rozich and Emma Ellsworth.



VIDEO: Bishop Mark is shown with the Video division winners (left to right) Mike Marafino, Breonna Hoffman and Karson Helsel. The three are seniors at Bishop McCort Catholic High School, Johnstown, and Michelle Rivetti is their teacher.



FATHER STEPHEN DELACY

physical death. At that moment I wanted so badly to become a priest."

Father DeLacy played a short video that reminded us that the world cannot give us what our hearts yearn for. That comes through Jesus.

"It is such a privilege for me to be a priest, Father DeLacy said with conviction. I can't even put it into words. I am so blessed. There's nothing more

important than what a priest does when he raised the host.

"A priest is called by God to represent Jesus. Follow the will of God and you will find happiness. We need to be all promoters of vocations, actively and enthusiastically."

Father Matthew Reese is the director of vocations for the Altoona - Johnstown Diocese. Tony DeGol, diocesan secretary for Communications, served as

master of ceremonies at the dinner.

Rose A. Eckenrod of the Serra Club led grace, and Father Angelo J. Patti, chaplain of the Serra Club of Cambria County, delivered the Benediction.

Following the banquet the Serra Club presented the annual awards to students who addressed this year's theme through poetry, art, video and essay.

Fatima At 100: Story Of Marian Apparitions Continues To Attract Attention

By Junno Arocho Esteves
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) --

While conversion and prayer are at the heart of Mary's messages at Fatima, Portugal, the miracles and unexplained phenomenon that accompanied the events 100 years ago continue to intrigue believers and nonbelievers alike.

The apparitions of Mary at Fatima in 1917 were not the first supernatural events reported there.

Two years before Mary appeared to the three shepherd children -- Lucia dos Santos and her cousins, Jacinta and Francisco Marto -- they saw a strange sight while praying the rosary in the field, according to the memoirs of Sister Lucia, who had become a Carmelite nun.

"We had hardly begun when, there before our eyes, we saw a figure poised in the air above the trees; it looked like a statue made of snow, rendered almost transparent by the rays of the sun," she wrote, describing what they saw in 1915.

The next year, Francisco and Jacinta received permission to tend their family's flocks and Lucia decided to join her cousins in a field owned by their families.

It was 1916 when the mysterious figure appeared again, this time approaching close enough "to distinguish its features."

"Do not be afraid! I am the Angel of Peace. Pray with me," Sister Lucia recalled the angel saying.

The three told no one about the angel's visit and received no more heavenly visits until May 13, 1917. While the children tended their sheep and played, they were startled by two flashes of lightning.

As they made their way down a slope, the children saw a "lady all dressed in white" standing on a small tree. It was the first of six apparitions of Mary, who gave a particular



CNS Photo/Paulo Cunha, EPA

OUR LADY OF FATIMA: A statue of Mary is carried through the crowd in 2013 at the Marian shrine of Fatima in central Portugal.

message or revelation each time:

-- May 13, 1917. When asked by the children who she was and where she came from, the lady said she was "from heaven" and that she would reveal her identity later. She asked the children to come back to the Cova da Iria on the 13th day of the month for the next six months, and she asked them to pray the rosary every day "in order to obtain peace for the world" and the end of World War I.

-- June 13, 1917. The lady said she would take Francisco and Jacinta to heaven soon while Lucia would remain on earth for "some time longer" to establish devotion to the Immaculate Heart.

-- July 13, 1917. The lady said she would reveal her identity in October and "perform a miracle for all to see and be-

lieve." After telling the children to make sacrifices for sinners, she revealed three secrets; two of the secrets were not shared publicly until 1941 and the third secret, written down by Sister Lucia and sent to the Vatican, was not released until 2000.

The first secret involved a vision of hell in which the children saw "a sea of fire" with demons and human souls shrieking "in pain and despair." In her memoir, Sister Lucia said people nearby, who had begun gathering around the children on the 13th of the month, heard her "cry out" during the frightening revelation.

The second secret was that while World War I would come to end, a "worse one will break out" if people continued offending God.

The children were told that

calamity would be prevented if Russia was consecrated to the Immaculate Heart. Although Sister Lucia confirmed that the consecration was done properly by Pope Pius XII in 1942 and by St. John Paul II in 1984, some Fatima devotees continue to argue that it was not.

The third and final secret, published 83 years after the Fatima apparitions, was a vision of a "bishop dressed in white" shot down amid the rubble of a ruined city. The official Vatican interpretation, discussed with Sister Lucia before its publication, was that it referred to the persecution of Christians in the 20th century and, specifically, to the 1981 assassination attempt on the life of St. John Paul II.

Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, the future Pope Benedict XVI, was prefect of the Congrega-

tion for the Doctrine of Faith at the time of the third secret's publication in 2000. Presenting the secret and the interpretation to the press, he said the vision's purpose was not to show an "irrevocably fixed future" but to "mobilize the forces of change in the right direction."

-- Aug. 13, 1917. The lady again said she would perform a miracle in October and asked that the money given by pilgrims be used to build a chapel on the site of the apparitions.

-- Sept. 13, 1917. The lady asked them to continue to pray the rosary "to obtain the end of the war," and she said that Jesus, St. Joseph, Our Lady of Sorrows and Our Lady of Carmel would appear during the miracle in October.

-- Oct. 13, 1917. Despite the pouring rain, tens of thousands of people went to the Cova da Iria to witness the long-awaited miracle.

The lady identified herself as "Our Lady of the Rosary" and said the war would end and the soldiers would return home. After asking that people cease to offend God, she opened her hands, which reflected a light toward the sun.

Sister Lucia recalled crying out, "Look at the sun!" As the crowds looked on, the sun appeared to "dance," spinning and changing colors. The children also saw the promised figures of Jesus, St. Joseph and Mary.

Amazement at the "dancing sun" turned to panic when the sun seemed to hurl toward earth. Fearing the end of the world, some people screamed and ran, some tried to hide and others remained on their knees, praying for mercy. Then the sun returned to its place.

Thirteen years after Mary's final apparition at Fatima, the bishop of Leiria declared the visions of the three shepherd children "worthy of belief" and allowed the veneration of Our Lady of Fatima. However, the bishop did not recognize the "dancing sun" as miraculous.



SAINT ANDREW: Saint Andrew Parish, Johnstown, will celebrate Confirmation Tuesday, May 9. Pictured are (left to right) First row: Erin Berzonski, Shannon Booth, Deanna Arnone, Jose McKendree, Father Angelo Patti (pastor), John Yoder, Nicole Firm, Traci Yoder (Confirmation director). Second row: Maureen Clark (director of religious education), Bill Blum (Confirmation director), Clint Sparling, Marisa Cardarella, Brandon Gindlesperger, Devin Nau, Mackenzie Dunn and Sean Norman. Not pictured are: Brianna Thompson, Gaitlyn Osborne and Ian Pollock.



SAINT BARTHOLOMEW: Saint Bartholomew Parish, Wilmore, celebrated Confirmation Thursday, April 20. Pictured are (left to right) Greta Crouse, Jacob Eggie, Elizabeth Ann Hutsky, Lucas Miko and Kacy Smith. Father Joseph Nale is pastor and Diana Frantz is director of religious education.

(Continued From Page 3.)

Citing convenience, freedom, and the variety of learning formats offered to students; RN-toBSN.org noted that the Mount Aloysius RN to BSN online program provides nurses with clinical experiences and academic rigor needed to advance in the profession.

The Mount Aloysius College Onsite nursing program ranks sixth among the largest and most prestigious nursing education programs in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Analyzing NCLEX results using actual numbers of test takers rather than only percentages; Mount Aloysius College stands tall among the state's 83 nursing schools. Mount Aloysius is among a prestigious group of 30 Pennsylvania nursing programs with 85 or more nursing graduates routinely taking the NCLEX exam each year. In the last five years, over 400 Mount Aloysius nursing graduates have taken the NCLEX exam, with more than 90 percent of them passing their initial test.

NCLEX pass rates are

commonly used to the gauge academic quality of nursing programs; however, pairing the pass rate percentage with actual numbers of nursing grads taking the exam offers prospective nursing students a more complete picture of a nursing program's performance. NCLEX is required of all nursing school graduates in order to earn state licensure as a registered nurse.

Mount Aloysius College has been educating nurses since 1965. The Mount Aloysius College nursing NCLEX pass rate consistently exceeds both state

and national averages.

Among Pennsylvania's largest nursing programs, Mount Aloysius produced a higher average five year NCLEX pass rate than many prestigious schools throughout the Commonwealth. Other top-tier Pennsylvania nursing programs include: University of Pennsylvania, Villanova, Duquesne, University

of Pittsburgh, The Thomas Jefferson School of Nursing, and others.

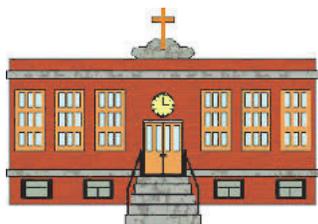
(Continued On Page 13.)

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SAINT MARY, ALTOONA: Saint Mary (Immaculate Conception) Parish, Altoona, celebrated Confirmation Wednesday, April 19. Pictured are (left to right) First row: Halle Miller, Maria Anslinger, Haley Webber, Megan Anslinger. Second row: Maura Skelley, Michael Bartley, Reece McDermitt, Kaitlin Burley, Madison Saylor and John Fanelli II. Monsignor Timothy P. Stein is pastor, and Debbie Bartley is director of religious education.

Joseph Schmoke. Schmoke stated, "It is our distinguished pleasure to present the award to Mount Aloysius College. We hope current students and alumni take pride in this honor, and anyone searching for a quality, reasonably priced college education strongly considers Mount Aloysius."

The committee that reviewed nominees out of the thousands of eligible schools is made up of former university presidents, CEOs, provosts, and professors. Schools cannot pay to receive the award; it has to be earned through nomination and the committee evaluation process. Mount Aloysius College

was chosen by the committee because it passed rigorous standards including a combination of cost, accreditation, variety and quality of school programs, and student satisfaction with the institution.

"Our committee prides itself on combining our extensive experience, knowledge of post-secondary education and insight into what provides students with good value when selecting a Best Value award recipient," says Schmoke.

Mount Aloysius College will retain the Best Value School designation for one year. Award recipients must re-qualify each year.

(Continued From Page 12.)

The College's reputation for superb academic support services, individual attention, state-of-the-art simulation laboratories, and excellent clinical partners continues to attract prospective nursing students to the beautiful 193-acre Cresson campus.

The Mount Aloysius Nursing Division was named one of **Nurse Journal's** Top Nursing Programs in Pennsylvania.

The Mount Aloysius College Nursing Division is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) and is fully approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing.

For additional information on the Mount Aloysius College Nursing Division contact the college at (888) 823 - 2220 or visit their web site at www.mtaloy.edu.

Best Value School

Cresson: Mount Aloysius College has been selected out of nearly 8,000 postsecondary schools as the recipient of a Best Value School award. The award is issued by University Research & Review (URR) (www.urandr.org/about-us), a company dedicated to improving the process of how students select a postsecondary school.

Mount Aloysius College President Tom Foley was pleased that the College has

been recognized in a manner that is so very meaningful to families. "Recognition by University Research & Review LLC (URR) as a Best Value School is significant for families looking make decisions about college choice," said President Foley. "After this organization researched over 2,400 post-secondary institutions, Mount Aloysius College emerged as one of less than 100 colleges in the United States to have earned the Best Value designation. It endorses who we are, what we do, and most importantly, what our students think of us," added

Foley. "It is a genuine affirmation of solid value and reflects so very well on the entire Mount Aloysius College community."

The University Research and Review organization uses a rigorous selection process conducted by a combination of researchers and former college presidents and university CEOs.

Foley noted that the Best Value Award further affirms the College's national designation by the White House as one of four "engines of opportunity."

President Foley was informed of the award on behalf of the College from URR Founder



Join us in the outdoor Rosary and Eucharistic Procession.

In case of inclement weather, the Rosary March will be moved into the Expo I Building.

40th Anniversary

Rosary March

&

Celebration Of Mass

Sunday, May 7, 2017 Mass

Celebrated At 1:30 PM

Rosary March 3:00 PM

In the Expo I Building at the Clearfield Fairgrounds

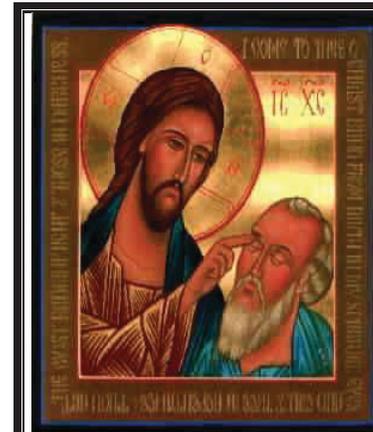
David Carollo,

Executive Director Of The World Apostolate Of Fatima, USA, will be guest speaker.

There will be Religious Articles, Books, Literature, Food and more!

**For information call:
Bill Moore
814-765-0171**

The Catholic Register is now accepting First Holy Communion, Confirmation, May Crowning and Graduation group photographs for publication. The deadline for sumitting photos is Saturday, July 15. No exceptions to the deadline will be made. Photos may be submitted electronically in the jpeg format to either tstein@dioceseaj.org or btomaselli@dioceseaj.org. Every person in the photo must be identified, front row to back row, left to right. Photos may also be submitted by sending them to Catholic Register, 925 South Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg PA 16648. Please include a stamped, self - addressed envelope if you would like to have your photograph returned.



HEALING MASS

**Tuesday
June 6, 2017
7:00 pm
Fr. Bill Kiel
CELEBRANT**

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Now Showing

'Gifted' Just Misses Being Family - Friendly

By John Mulderig
Catholic News Service

NEW YORK (CNS) -- Endearing and well-acted, director Marc Webb's drama "Gifted" (Fox Searchlight) might have been a family-friendly movie.

Elements in screenwriter Tom Flynn's script, however, make this thoughtful film -- which examines the proper balance between cultivating youthful talent and the need for even extraordinary kids to lead a normal life -- exclusively suitable for grown-ups and perhaps older teens.

Facing the issue outlined above is easygoing Florida boat mechanic Frank Adler (Chris

Evans). Informally entrusted with the care of his then-infant niece, Mary (McKenna Grace), at the time of her mother's suicide, Frank has had to adjust his bachelor lifestyle for the sake of stand-in fatherhood (Mary's real dad has shown no interest in her.)

Frank has also had to come to grips with the fact that Mary, like her mom before her, is a math prodigy.

Believing, as the audience eventually learns, that his sister's death was at least partially caused by the demands their hard-driving mother, Evelyn (Lindsay Duncan), made on her to concentrate only on her studies, at the cost of both friendships and romance, Frank wants something different for Mary.

The dialogue implies that religious ideas are wholly unconnected to reason, an exaggeration of the proper dividing line between what we can perceive with our senses and what transcends them. Yet the fact that this exchange takes place against a glowing sunset suggests that the moviemakers' sympathies may not be on the side of cold rationalism.



CNS Photo/Fox

GIFTED: McKenna Grace and Chris Evans star in a scene from the movie "Gifted." 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.

So, after homeschooling her to the age of 7, he enrolls her in the local public school.

Though Mary's caring

teacher Bonnie (Jenny Slate) soon discovers her gift, and suggests that she would be better off in a more competitive environment, Frank keeps to his plan. He even turns down the possibility of a full scholarship at a private academy.

When British-born Evelyn turns up, though, Frank faces a more formidable challenge to his intentions. Evelyn initiates a lawsuit to win custody, and Mary becomes the prize in a bit-

ter courtroom battle between the two.

The generally wholesome atmosphere of the proceedings is briefly marred by Mary's exposure to the aftermath of a bedroom encounter and her use of a vulgar expression. Additionally, viewer discernment is required to sort through a conversation Mary and Frank have about religion.

This discussion pits ex-philosophy professor Frank's somewhat passive agnosticism against the faith that guides his and Mary's warmly affectionate landlady and neighbor, Roberta (Octavia Spencer). Frank maintains, fairly enough, that no one can know for certain whether there is a God. But Frank is open to belief in general and, when Mary specifically asks about Jesus, Frank encourages her to imitate him.

The dialogue implies that religious ideas are wholly unconnected to reason, an exaggeration of the proper dividing line between what we can perceive with our senses and what transcends them. Yet the fact that this exchange takes place against a glowing sunset suggests that the moviemakers' sympathies may not be on the side of cold rationalism.

The film contains non-graphic premarital sexual activity, mature references, including a suicide theme, a single rough term and a couple of uses each of crude and crass language. The Catholic News Service classification is A-III -- adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG -- parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.

Coming Up On 'Proclaim!'

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

May 7 - - Amy Hill, Communications Director for the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference, joins the Bishop to discuss matters the PCC is following in Harrisburg and how they impact the Catholic faithful.

May 14 - - On this Mother's Day, Sandy Bambino, a mother of five and member of Saint Michael Parish in St. Michael, shares her thoughts on being a Catholic mom to a her family.

Sunday Mass
Broadcast Live from
the Cathedral of
the Blessed Sacrament, Altoona
10:00 a.m. WFBG Radio, 1290 AM

Sunday Mass Telecast
Live from Saint John Gualbert Cathedral
Downtown Johnstown
11 a.m. - Noon WATM - TV ABC Channel 23

Proclaim!
10:30 a.m.

A half - hour of local Church news and features

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May They Rest In Peace



Sister Patricia Collins S.C.

Sister Patricia Collins, formerly known as Sister Marie Alicia, died Thursday, April 6 at Caritas Christi, the Motherhouse of the Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill, Greensburg. She was 85.

She entered the Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill in 1950, and until 1982 was a junior and senior high school teacher in the Dioceses of Altoona - Johnstown, Greensburg and Pittsburgh.

The Funeral Mass for Sister Patricia Collins S.C. was celebrated Saturday, April 8 in the Chapel of the Assumption at Caritas Christi. Committal was in the Sisters' Cemetery at Seton Hill.

Sister Harold Ann Jones S.C.

Sister Harold Ann Jones, 95, died Monday, April 10 at Caritas Christi, the Motherhouse of the Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill, Greensburg.

A native of Altoona, she was in the 77th year of her religious life.

Sister Harold Ann entered the Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill from Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament Parish, Altoona. She served as a teacher and administrator in the schools of the Dioceses of Greensburg, Pittsburgh, Lafayette and Tucson. She also served as administrator of the former Assumption Hall, Greensburg; coordinator of hospitality at Caritas Christi, and supervisor of Elizabeth Ann Hall, there.

The Funeral Mass for Sister Harold Ann Jones S.C. was celebrated Tuesday, April 18 in the Chapel of the Assumption at Caritas Christi. Committal was in the Sisters' Cemetery at Seton Hill.

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



Sister Mary Hall C.S.J.

Sister Mary (Mary Walter) Hall, 80, died Friday, April 14, in the 61st year of her religious life as a Sister of Saint Joseph of Baden.

The daughter of the late Walter and Irene (Wassell) Hall, Sister Mary entered the Congregation from Saint Raphael Parish, in Pittsburgh and most recently served from 2000 - 2012 as Pastoral Associate at Our Lady of Guadalupe - Saint Mary Parish in Kittanning.

In 1963, she was sent to Our Lady of Victory Parish in State College, where she assisted with the opening of a four - classroom grade school.

Shortly after her arrival as a missionary in Liberia, West Africa, in 1979, a violent civil war erupted. When she returned to the United States, Sister Mary drove her Chevette clunker from Baden to Appalachia in Eastern Kentucky where she served until 1993 as Pastoral Associate at two mission churches.

Sister Mary is survived by a brother, Walter Hall (Ginny) of Saint Petersburg FL; a niece, nephews, grandnieces, and grandnephews, the Associates and the Sisters of Saint Joseph.

The Funeral Mass for Sister Mary Hall C.S.J. was celebrated Thursday, April 20, in the chapel of Saint Joseph Convent, Baden. Committal was in the Sisters' Cemetery on the Motherhouse grounds.

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

Children Of Fatima To Be Canonized May 13

By Junno Arocho Esteves
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS)

-- Pope Francis will declare the sainthood of Blessed Jacinta Marto and Blessed Francisco Marto, two of the shepherd children who saw Mary in Fatima, Portugal, during his visit to the site of the apparitions May 13.

The date was announced April 20 during an "ordinary public consistory," a meeting of the pope, cardinals and promoters of sainthood causes that formally ends the sainthood process.

Cardinal Angelo Amato, prefect of the Congregation for Saints' Causes, addressing the assembly noted that of the future saints considered at the consistory, five were children or young teenagers.

"In our time, where young people often become objects of exploitation and commerce, these young people excel as witnesses of truth and freedom, messengers of peace (and) of a new humanity reconciled in love," the cardinal said.

At the same consistory, the pope set Oct. 15 as the date for the canonizations of two priests and two groups of martyrs, including Blessed Cristobal, Blessed Antonio and Blessed Juan -- also known as the "Child Martyrs of Tlaxcala" -- who were among the first native converts in Mexico. They were killed between 1527 and 1529 for refusing to renounce the faith and return to their people's ancient traditions.

Pope Francis will preside over the canonization ceremony of the Fatima visionaries during his visit to Fatima May 12-13.

The pilgrimage will mark the 100th anniversary of the Marian apparitions, which began May 13, 1917, when 9-year-old Francisco and 7-year-old Jacinta, along with their cousin Lucia dos Santos, reported seeing the Virgin Mary. The appa-



CNS File Photo

CANONIZATION: Jacinta and Francisco Marto are pictured with their cousin Lucia dos Santos (right) in a file photo taken around the time of the 1917 apparitions of Mary at Fatima, Portugal. Pope Francis has set Saturday, May 13 as the day for the canonization of Jacinta and Francisco.

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

A year after the apparitions, both of the Marto children became ill during an influenza epidemic that plagued Europe. Francisco died April 4, 1919, at the age of 10, while Jacinta succumbed to her illness Feb. 20, 1920, at the age of 9.

Francisco and Jacinta's cause for canonization was stalled for decades due to a debate on whether non-martyred children have the capacity to understand heroic virtues at a young age. However, in 1979, St. John Paul II allowed their cause to proceed; he declared them venerable in 1989 and beatified them in 2000.

The children's cousin entered the Carmelites. Sister Lucia died in 2005 at the age of 97. The diocesan phase of her sainthood cause concluded in February and now is under study at the Vatican.

The other canonizations set to take place Oct. 15 include:

-- The "Martyrs of Natal,"

Brazil, including: Blessed Andre de Soveral, a Jesuit priest; Blessed Ambrosio Francisco Ferro, a diocesan priest; Blessed Mateus Moreira, a layman; and 27 others. They were killed in 1645 in a wave of anti-Catholic persecution carried out by Dutch Calvinists.

-- Blessed Faustino Miguez, a Spanish priest and a member of the Piarist Fathers born in 1831. He started an advanced school for girls at a time when such education was limited almost exclusively to boys.

While he taught a variety of subjects and wrote numerous textbooks, he also honed an interest in botany, which led him to find a cure for a professor so ill that he was thought to be beyond hope. People then came to him from all parts of the country seeking relief from their sicknesses.

-- Blessed Angelo da Aciri, an Italian Capuchin priest who was born Luca Antonio Falcone. A famed preacher, he was known for his defense of the poor. He died in 1739 and was beatified by Pope Leo XII in 1825.

Loretto Fatima Devotions Have 67 - Year History

By Msgr. Timothy P. Stein

On Sunday, May 13, 1917, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared at the Cova da Iria in Fatima, Portugal, to three shepherd children: Lucia dos Santos, and her cousins, Francisco and Jacinta Marto.

Thirty - three years later, on Saturday, May 13, 1950, a shrine to Our Lady of Fatima was dedicated in the gardens of Mount Assisi in Loretto, the Motherhouse of the Third Order Regular Franciscan Friars of the Province of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

The centennial of the Fatima apparitions will be marked Saturday, May 13, with the canonization of Francisco and Jacinta at the Basilica that marks the sight of their visions of Mary. And on that same day, 67 years after the Loretto Fatima shrine was blessed and became a place of local pilgrimage, the Franciscan Friars will again welcome pilgrims to the Fatima devotions held on the 13th of every month from May to October each year.

From June to September the devotions are held at the shrine at Mount Assisi. In May and October, the devotions are held nearby at the Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel.

“We do that mainly because you can never be sure of the weather in those months,” said Third Order Regular Franciscan Father Jonathan St. Andre, co-

ordinator of the devotions, “but also because the Basilica is such a jewel. We want to celebrate its place in our local heritage, as well.”

Father Jonathan said that over the course of seven decades, the Fatima devotions have followed a familiar routine. The evening begins with a musical prelude at 6:15, with selections by a choir from one of the parishes of the eight - county Diocese. At 6:30, the devotions commence with the recitation of the Rosary, with hymns sung between the decades. The Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary, also known as the Litany of Loretto -- the Italian shrine for which Loretto is named -- is recited, followed by a prayer to Our Lady of Fatima.

A priest or deacon then gives a reflection, followed by Exposition and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Father Jonathan noted that in past years, including the first year of the devotions in 1950, a candlelight procession was also held, and he hopes to include a procession in at least some of the months of this year’s rites.

He will be giving the reflection in May, and in June another Third Order Friar, Father Nathan Malavolti will speak. “He’s going to be in Fatima in May,” Father Jonathan said, “so I thought people would enjoy hearing about his experience there.”

In October, Bishop Mark L. Bartchak will preside and preach. The October date marks the 100th anniversary of the



THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA AT MOUNT ASSISI, LORETTO

last Fatima apparition, and the famed “Miracle of the Sun.”

Father Jonathan said that typically 75 - 100 people attend the Fatima devotions, “and they are very faithful.” But, he added. “It’s an aging crowd,” and in the hopes of introducing the devotions to a younger generation, he has invited students from local Catholic schools to lead the recitation of the Rosary each month. Students from Bishop Carroll Catholic High School in Ebensburg will lead the prayers in September, and students from Saint Michael School in Loretto in October.

In another effort to make the Fatima devotions more widely known, Father Jonathan is inviting people to come to Loretto

for “A Pilgrimage In A Day.” This special observance will take place on Tuesday, June 13, and Sunday, August 13.

“Many people would love to go to Fatima this year,” Father Jonathan explained, “but many will be unable to make the trip for a variety of reasons. This will be an opportunity for everyone to gain a plenary indulgence granted for the centennial year, by making a pilgrimage to Loretto and taking part in our devotions.”

Father Jonathan said pilgrims will arrive in Loretto at approximately 11:00 a.m. and will be greeted with a short talk about Our Lady of Fatima. They will be served a bag lunch, and will then tour the spiritual sights of Loretto, including the Basil-

ica of Saint Michael the Archangel, The Discalced Carmelite Monastery of Saint Therese of Lisieux, the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception on the campus of Saint Francis University, and the shrines in the gardens at Mount Assisi.

Pilgrims will have the opportunity to shop for religious goods at the Mission Store. They will celebrate Mass late in the afternoon, and conclude their day by taking part in the Fatima devotions.

Reservations will be required for the pilgrimages. Father Jonathan is preparing a brochure which will be mailed to parishes giving details of the observance and the contact information for registration.

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