

# The Catholic Register

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## Diocese Will Welcome Two New Priests May 27

### Peter Dominic Crowe, Jonathan James Dickson Will Be Ordained By Bishop Mark L. Bartchak At Altoona Cathedral

With praise and thanksgiving to God, our Almighty Father and relying upon the help of Jesus Christ, our Lord, the Church of Altoona - Johnstown joyfully announces the ordination of Peter Dominic Crowe and Jonathan James Dickson to the Sacred Order of Presbyter through the imposition of hands and the invocation of the Holy Spirit by the Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, J.C.D., Bishop of Altoona - Johnstown.

The sacred event in which the two men will become priests will be held Saturday, May 27, at 10:00 a.m. at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Altoona.

Father Crowe and Father Dickson will be the first priests ordained for service in the Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown since the ordination of Father Brian Warchola on June 4, 2011.

The ordinands will celebrate Masses of Thanksgiving the next day, Sunday, May 28. Father Crowe's Mass will be at Our Lady, Queen of Peace Church in Patton at 3:00 p.m.; Father Dickson's celebration will be at 10:30 a.m. at Saint

Therese of the Child Jesus Church in Altoona.

Father Crowe is a native of Boalsburg, and a member of Our Lady of Victory Parish in State College. He was born June 13, 1986, the son of Robert Crowe Jr. and the late Susan (Hollick) Crowe. The priest - elect has five siblings: Christina, Joseph, Edel, Paul and John.

A 2004 graduate of State College Area High School, Father Crowe is a 2008 graduate of Hampden Sydney College in Virginia, where he received a bachelor's degree in Political Science and German.

He was enrolled in the pre - theology program at Saint Mark's College Seminary, Erie for two years, before completing his studies for the priesthood at Saint Vincent Seminary, Latrobe, receiving the master of divinity degree.

Father Dickson is an Altoona native and a member of Saint Therese of the Child Jesus Parish. The son of Rosalie (Vorndran) Dickson and the late Charles Dickson, he was born October 30, 1979.

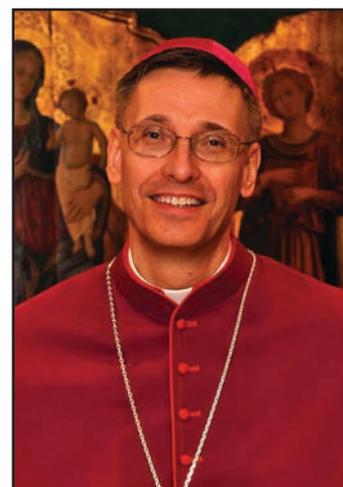


**PETER DOMINIC CROWE**

He has two brothers: Joseph and Andrew.

Father Dickson is a 1998 graduate of Altoona Area High School, and a 2004 graduate of Penn State Altoona, with a bachelor's degree in business and administration. After finishing the two - year pre - theology program at Saint Mark's College Seminary, he studied at Saint Mary's Seminary and University in Baltimore, receiving the master of divinity degree, and the pontifical degree of bachelor of sacred theology.

Of his call to the priesthood, Father Crowe said, "I think my vocation reminds me of the infinite mercy of God. I think Christ is calling me to labor in his vineyard as an instrument of His mercy."



**BISHOP MARK L. BARTCHAK**

He advised those thinking of a priestly vocation to "pray, especially at Eucharistic Adoration or near a tabernacle with the Blessed Sacrament. Try to find silence and stillness each day to encounter Christ - - turn off the TV and computer for some time each day - - God can be very gentle and "shy" and wants us to seek Him out. Try to get to daily Mass as often as possible, get to Confession regularly, and pray the Rosary.

"Find a priest who is happy, who prays, and who loves the church. Ask him about the priesthood and to help you grow closer to Christ through prayer."

Father Dickson said of his call "Several years ago during a tremendously low period in my life, I decided to see a priest who



**JONATHAN JAMES DICKSON**

eventually became my spiritual director. Within a very short time of meeting with him, I had a conversion experience that brought me back to the faith. Upon finding my faith again, I questioned what I was really supposed to be doing with my life. Following the advice of my spiritual director I set myself to pray; discerning what God was calling me to do.

"Within a relatively short period of time I felt a call to the priesthood but held back at first. I kept praying, hoping that there might be something else God was calling me to do, but I kept getting the same answer. Eventually I reached a point where I couldn't say no anymore and so I entered the seminary."



**SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST, BELLEFONTE:** Saint John the Evangelist Parish, Bellefonte, celebrated Confirmation Wednesday, April 26. Pictured at left are (left to right) First row: Ethan Scicchitano, Cassandra Vogel, Jordan Dawson, Lauren Yeager, Sarah Lexon, Austin Stock, Andrea Linn, Zachary Taylor, Emily Coslo, Nolan Fulton. Second row: Deacon Thomas Boldin, Jacob Rudloff, Nicholas Paloskey, Alexis Bucha, Nathan Smith, Noah Nadolsky, Andrew Dubbs, Zachary Cronin, Rianna Trexler, Robert Ford and Father George Jakopac (pastor). Pictured at right are (left to right) Megan Kresovich, Sierra Pletcher and Rianna Trexler.

**Community**

**Golf Outing**

**Altoona:** The Society of Saint Vincent DePaul's Youth Ministry will hold its ninth annual golf outing Thursday, June 8, at the Park Hills Country Club.

The entrance fee is \$75.00 per golfer (\$300.00 per foursome) includes green fees, cart, skills contests, on course refreshments and luncheon. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. and a shotgun start tee time is 9:30 a.m.

Tee sponsorship for businesses and organizations is \$100.00.

To register an individual or

a foursome or for more information call (814) 659 - 8773 or email [avcdepaul@atlanticbbn.net](mailto:avcdepaul@atlanticbbn.net).

**Walk Scheduled**

**Johnstown:** The Society of Saint Vincent DePaul is participating in Highmark's Walk for Healthy Communities which takes place Saturday, May 20, in Central Park.

One - hundred percent of all money donated will go to the Society's Food for Families program in Cambria County. Food for Families works with Feeding America and Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank to help supply two dozen Cambria County food pantries and other agencies



**SAINT KATERI:** Saint Kateri Tekakwitha Parish, Spring Mills, celebrated Confirmation Wednesday, April 26. Pictured are (left to right) Deacon Thomas Boldin, John Will, Sam Gray, Jared Kines, Charlie Romig and Father George Jakopac (pastor).

working to end hunger in our area. In turn as many as 7,000 people receive needed groceries to help feed their families. In addition, the Society operates a Family Kitchen on Bedford Street, serving a lunch to all in need on a daily basis. An average of 150 people receive a hot meal per day without any charge.

To make a donation or more information go to: [www.walkforahealthycommunity.org](http://www.walkforahealthycommunity.org) and look for Society of Saint Vincent DePaul and join "Team SVDP." Donations can also be made to SVDP Food for Families, 945 Franklin Street, Johnstown PA 15905.

**Family Life**

**Natural Family Planning**

**Bellefonte:** An information session on Natural Family Planning (NFP), a scientific method of regulating conception ap-



**CONFIRMED:** Jeffrey Hodgdon, from Our Lady of Victory Parish, State College, was confirmed Wednesday, April 26. Pictured are (left to right) Deacon Thomas Boldin, Jeffrey Hodgdon and Father George Jakopac.

proved by the Catholic Church, will be held on Tuesday, May 23 at Saint John the Evangelist Rectory Meeting Room, 134 East Bishop Street, Bellefonte at 7:00 p.m.

An NFP teacher will present information on learning the method.

NFP is based on the awareness of a couple's fertility. It can be used to achieve or postpone

pregnancy and is a helpful tool for infertile couples.

No reservations are necessary. For more information call (814) 355 - 3134.

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*Carmelite Community of the Word  
13<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament*

*Friday, June 9 2017  
Scotch Valley Country Club*



**EARLY "BIRDIE" SPECIAL**

Register **Before** May 20- \$115 per Golfer \$425 per foursome  
Register **After** May 20 - \$125 per Golfer \$475 per foursome

Individual Golfers always welcome!

Registration deadline: May 31, 2017

Shotgun start at 12:00 Noon



Fee includes Golf, Lunch, Course refreshments, Prizes, Live Auction and Dinner served at 5:30 p.m

To Register, or for more information,  
Contact Sr. Jane Miller, CCW:  
CCW Incarnation Center

394 Bem Road, Gallitzin, PA 16641

Phone: 814-886-4098 or email: [jmseashell@msn.com](mailto:jmseashell@msn.com)

# In The Alleghenies



**LAW DAY:** Saint Francis University, Loretto, celebrated Law Day on Friday, April 21 with its annual Red Mass for all faiths. The Mass was held at the Immaculate Conception Chapel. Bishop Mark L. Barchak served as celebrant, and Oblate Of Saint Francis DeSales Father James Greenfield was the homilist. Following the Mass, the university hosted a luncheon for area judges, lawyers and public officials. A keynote address was given by Robert J. DeSousa, state director for United States Senator, Patrick Toomey. The Red Mass and the luncheon were well attended by numerous area judges, lawyers, law enforcement officials, friends and residents. Pictured are (left to right) university president Third Order Regular Franciscan Father Malachi Van Tassell, Robert J. DeSousa and Bishop Mark.



**SERVICE PROJECT:** George Kuhne prepares Easter greetings to include in the Easter food baskets that were distributed by the Saint-Thomas Conference of the Saint Vincent DePaul Society, Bedford. He and his mother Julie also assembled and helped distribute the baskets to those in need in Bedford County. George is a fifth grade student at Everett Elementary School. He chose to work with SVDP for his school service project. This is the second project he has participated in with the Saint Thomas Conference. The Kuhne family are members of Saint John the Evangelist Parish in Everett.

## Foundation

### Welge Scholarship

**Altoona:** The Independent Catholic Foundation is seeking

applicants for the 2017 Welge Scholarship.

The Welge Endowment Scholarship Fund was established in 1995 to honor Adelaide G. (Heverly) Welge. This scholarship provides financial assistance to worthy parishioners of Roman Catholic Churches in Blair County excluding Tyrone.

The Foundation Trustees are responsible for the awarding of the Adelaide G. (Heverly) Welge Scholarship(s) each year. This scholarship will be provided for the 2017-18 academic year.

To be eligible for the Welge Scholarship, applicants must meet the following requirements:

1. A member of a Roman Catholic parish located in Blair County(excluding Saint Matthew);
2. A college student entering their junior or senior (third or fourth) year, enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student at an accredited four-year college or university;
3. Demonstrate financial need; and,



**SAINT THOMAS MORE:** Celebrating Confirmation at Saint Thomas More Parish, Roaring Spring, are (left to right) First row: Ashley Sherry, Father Leo Lynch (pastor), Eva Rhule, Laurie Staub (Confirmation coordinator). Second row: Dr. William Kirsch (catechist), Ryley Lewis, Alex Kichman, Ian Wright and Austin Garner.

4. Submit a completed application form on or before Thursday, June 1. The application must be signed by the applicant's pastor to verify the applicant's active membership in their parish.

The application is available at the Foundation office or on-line at the Foundation's website, [www.icfdaj.org](http://www.icfdaj.org). Additionally, they should be available at the respective parish offices.

The Foundation expects to award three \$500.00 (approximately) scholarships this year. Questions should be directed to the Foundation office at (814) 201 - 2080 or via e-mail at [Bill@icfdaj.org](mailto:Bill@icfdaj.org).

## High Schools

### National Honor Society

**Ebensburg:** The Cor Christi Chapter of the National Honor Society at Bishop Carroll Catholic High School welcomed 15 new members into the group on Wednesday, April 26. Membership is based on meeting the criteria in the four areas set by the NHS: Scholarship, Leadership, Character and Service.

The new inductees are: Olivia Billetdeaux, Margaret Blaisdell, Zachary Bohrer, Mattie Bossler, Mariah Farabaugh, John Hegemann, Samantha Hilyer, Graci Hoppel, Emily Kutschel, Alyssa Martinazzi, Georgia Sherry, Allison Smith, Ashlee Smithro, Anne Way and Alexis Zavresky

"These students represent everything that the National Honor Society and Bishop Car-

roll Catholic High School stand for and are outstanding examples to their peers," said advisor Jonathan Nagy. "I am privileged and honored to be able to work with them day in and day out and I know they will be able to do great things in the world."

*(Continued On Page 6.)*

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## THE CATHOLIC

## REGISTER

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# Point Of View

A dear friend recently became a grandma for the first time and now the baby is "already" a month old. How did that happen so quickly?

In a couple of months, two of my three children will "already" be in their 40s. How did that happen so quickly?

When I think back to "those thrilling days of yesteryear" - - to use a phrase we old-timers recognize from the introduction to "The Lone Ranger" - - I feel fortunate my vocation to parenthood began way back when and not here and now.

Although, we veteran parents discover, it's never really a case of "been there, done that." Yes, we're finished with the middle-of-the-night feedings, first steps, kindergarten, tooth fairy and all the other milestones leading up to their adulthood.

But - - surprise, and don't tell the new moms and dads - - parenting never ends.

Not in this lifetime and, I suspect, not in the next if we're there and our children and grandchildren remain here. (I'm more than a little sure my late wife, Monica, keeps busy praying for our three children, a son-in-law and two grandchildren. Not to mention keeping an eye on me.)

I suppose the often-overlooked lesson for parents - - rookies, veterans and those at all stages in between - - is this: You never get caught up on your parenting.

A few years ago, a high school classmate told me being a



CNS photo/Karen Callaway

missionary is like being a rancher. He was the former, his dad the latter. There were always, always, always items waiting on the to-do list and more being added. Almost daily. Being a missionary, or a rancher, meant learning to live with that reality.

So does parenting. And that's the message, the wee bit of advice I'd have for new mommies and daddies.

You're not going to get "all caught up" so don't beat yourself up thinking you can be. Or, probably more self-damaging, thinking you should be.

If you're parenting well, you never will be. And that's the temporal and supernatural nature of . . . no, not "the beast." "The blessing."

With that in mind, a few points to consider:

- - A large part of learning to parent comes from having to parent. Yes, the advice of others, the examples given by good

## Your Family

### Never - Ending Parenting By Bill Dodds

moms and dads, and what health care professionals and parenting experts advise all help.

But, to use a Latin phrase: "experientia docet." Experience teaches. Perhaps especially when (3 a.m. comes to mind) you really want to skip class.

- - Your little darling, your teen, your adult child has God - given free will. Yes, you help your child learn to recognize and make good choices, but as the months and years go by, they decide what to do and what not to do.

One of the best feelings in this world is when they choose wisely. One of the hardest is when they choose . . . otherwise.

It's easy to feel that, to one degree or another, you're to blame. But that's not necessarily so, although none of us is a perfect parent.

An adaptation of an old adage can help: The proof isn't always in the pudding when the pudding has free will. (Or, the apple doesn't fall far from the tree but, boy, does it roll sometimes!)

- - Love your child. Pray for your child. Thank God you have the honor and privilege of being a mom or dad. And remember God's with you every step, and misstep, of the way.



## Another Perspective

### To Become A Saint

By Monsignor Timothy P. Stein

The Incarnation is the greatest mystery of our faith, a mystery summarized in the beautifully simple phrase "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us."

An important nuance to that phrase is the caveat that He became one of us in all things but sin.

But that nuance, that caveat does not mask the fact that God became flesh - - someone like you and me. The wonderful, heart-stopping, take your breath away reality of it all is that if you want to know what God looks like, look in the mirror, or take a look at the people who are all around you. The face of God is always before us, on the face of every man, woman and child we encounter. This is the great truth of the incarnation.

This edition of **The Catholic Register** might well be called a celebration of the incarnation, because it is, in truth, a celebration of the people of God. These 16 pages recount the wonderful ways that God is being made manifest in the lives of our sisters and brothers throughout these eight counties in the Allegheny Mountains. These pages are a celebration of God dwelling among us.

We begin this week with a story about the two men who will be ordained priests on May 27 - - Peter Crowe and Jonathan Dickson. Here are two men who have taken to heart the call of the Good Shepherd to join Him in laying down their lives for the sheep. We give thanks for their generosity and pray that their ministry may bring them joy and gladness, grace and blessings.

This issue goes on to give details about those who will be honored with awards from Catholic Charities, and those who will receive the Prince Gallitzin Cross Award. There are very young people among them, and there are those who are not so young. All of them have devoted themselves to working for the welfare and well-being of others, primarily through their parish faith communities. They are people who are very much in the mold of Saint Therese of Lisieux, the Little Flower, the Saint of the "Little Way." They are people who have done simple, ordinary things extraordinarily well, because they did those things with love. Love for God and love for God's holy people has animated them. We celebrate them with gratitude for their good example.

In these pages, too, you will find photos of young people celebrating milestones as they share in the Sacramental life of the Church. Every year we publish photos of First Holy Communion and Confirmation groups, and every year I marvel at how good God is to give us these children and young adults who are a sign to us of hope for a bright future. Our prayer for them must be that they stay as close to God always, as they are to Him on the special days they have celebrated.

Included among the stories of the people of God in these pages are obituary notices for parents who have given their children to God's service, and the obituary for Sister Charlene Kelly, a devoted Sister of Mercy who in her long years of ministry in Catholic education at all levels, proved herself a true daughter of Mother Mary Catherine McAuley, the foundress of the Mercy community. Her legacy is in the young people she taught, who now share her lessons with others.

And finally, this issue tells again the story of Capuchin Franciscan Father Solanus Casey, who will be beatified this year. Father Solanus urged people to thank God always and in all ways, even thanking God ahead of time for the blessings He would someday grant. Above all, Father Solanus reminds us that all of us have only goal: to become a Saint and to live with God forever.

May the inspiring stories of the people you meet in these pages, help you to achieve that goal!

# The Untold Cost Of Rape

## By Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape (PCAR)

Sexual violence takes a toll on an individual's body, mind, spirit, and wallet. It steals a person's safety, their stability and comfort. It causes fear, shame, and pain. It costs victims trust, sleep, and control. Sexual assault uproots a person's life, affecting every aspect of their lives.

In the aftermath of an assault, victims and their families face a number of challenges and concerns. Victims often need immediate resources in order to pay for therapists, counselors, lawyers, and medical care. According to a recent report by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), rape costs an individual an average of \$122,461 across their lifetime. This includes the cost of physical and mental health treatment, lost work productivity, counseling and therapy services, and many other factors.

According to RAINN (Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network), nearly 40 percent of victims experience problems in maintaining relationships with friends and family. Following their assaults, victims often have difficulty in work or school. Individuals often miss a consid-

erable amount of work due to medical, legal, and other appointments. Many will quit or leave their jobs.

When sexual violence occurs in childhood or adolescence, one of the most immediate effects is a decrease in education. High school and college students that experience sexual assault may also drop out of their schooling early, setting them back years in their education.

Sexual violence also leaves survivors fighting a lifetime of trauma. Following sexual assault, mental and physical health challenges can make it difficult to concentrate at work and at home. Depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), anxiety, stress--these are all impacts that victims of sexual violence may experience. According to RAINN, 94 percent of women who are raped experience PTSD during the two weeks following their assault. About 30 percent will experience PTSD nine months after their assault. Victims of rape and other forms of sexual violence are also more prone to develop substance abuse problems, eating disorders, and attempt suicide at higher rates.

Financially, rape and sexual violence cost the United States more than any other crimes. As reported by the

National Alliance to End Sexual Violence, rape costs the United States over \$127 billion a year. However, sexual violence is preventable and there are services available for victims and their families.

In Pennsylvania, there are 50 rape crisis centers serving more than 30,000 survivors of sexual violence each year. They offer free, confidential services to victims of sexual assault as well as friends and family members. Sexual assault counselors provide counseling, hotline services, case management, and medical and legal assistance at no cost to victims. Each year, rape crisis centers also provide education to over 300,000 Pennsylvanians on how to prevent sexual violence in their communities.

It takes all of us to prevent sexual violence and support survivors in our communities. By donating, volunteering, or building relationships with the counselors at your local rape crisis centers, you can help prevent and stop violence in your communities. We encourage you to visit connect with your local sexual assault center and learn about what you can do to end sexual assault.

## 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

### 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  
Victimsservicesinc.org

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

Centre County Women's Resource Center  
(814) 234-5050  
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

## Reporting Child Abuse

Bishop Mark L. Bartchak 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.



**QUEEN OF ARCHANGELS:** Queen of Archangels Parish, Clarence and Snow Shoe, celebrated Confirmation Wednesday, April 26. Pictured are (left to right) First row: Father Michael Wolfe (administrator), Desiree Welker, Melody Soster, Tiffany Rees, Emma Murgas, Mae Hugar, Alyson Onder. Second row: Morgan Chambers, Austin Besong, Seth Koleno, Jacob Michael, Zachary Chambers, Gabriel Basalla and Ryan Brooks.



**SAINT JOSEPH, WILLIAMSBURG:** Celebrating First Holy Communion at Saint Joseph Parish, Williamsburg, were (top photo, left to right) First row: Levada Gorsuch, Maddison Morelli, Katelyn Bilger, Alyza Forshey. Second row: Father Matthew Reese (pastor), Ethan Reffner, Caden Eger and Brody Weaver. Celebrating Confirmation (bottom photo) were (left to right) Bree McCloskey (catechist), Tyler Roland, Nicholas Michelone and Father Reese.

*(Continued From Page 3.)*

The 2017 class was inducted during a special Mass held in the school chapel, celebrated by 1985 graduate and NHS Member, Father John D. Byrnes. "I was honored to be able to say Mass for the very ceremony I was once a part of as a student on Husky Hill," he said.

The new inductees join the following members of the Cor Christi Chapter at Bishop Carroll: Crystal Byrne, Ashley Durbin, Brittany Krug, Nathan Krug, Patrick Link, Rachel Litzinger, Maria Schall and James Wyland.

The Bishop Carroll Cor Christi Chapter of the National Honor Society sponsors two American Red Cross Blood Drives each year, and assists in the logistics of the graduation ceremony.



**Prayer**

**Carmelite Novena**

**Loretto:** The year's fifth Novena to Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Saint Therese, the Little Flower, offered by the Disalced Carmelite Nuns, will open Monday, May 22 and conclude Tuesday, May 30.

All intentions submitted to the Nuns will be remembered with the special Novena prayers following daily Mass in Carmel's chapel.

Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament is held every Sunday, and every First Friday of the month at 4:00 p.m., followed by veneration of the relic of Saint Therese.

Those desiring to share in the graces and blessings of these

nine days of prayer, and in the private prayers of the Carmelite Nuns during the Novena, are requested to send their petitions to Mother Prioress, Disalced Carmelite Monastery, P.O. Box 57, Loretto PA 15940.

*(Continued On Page 15.)*

**56th Holy Name Church ANNUAL FESTIVAL**  
 NORTH JULIAN STREET, EBENSBURG  
 JUNE 2, 3, 4, 2017

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT Every Day  
 SPECTACULAR Amusements  
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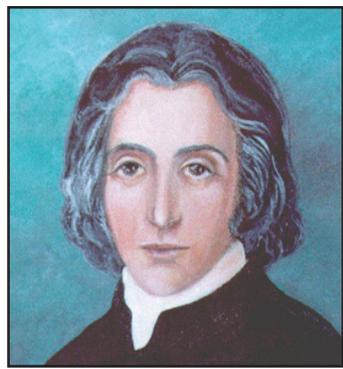
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 Adult \$9.00 Child (under 12) \$5.00

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# A Prince In The Service Of The Great King

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

## U.S. Priest To Be Beatified

By Carol Glatz  
Catholic News Service

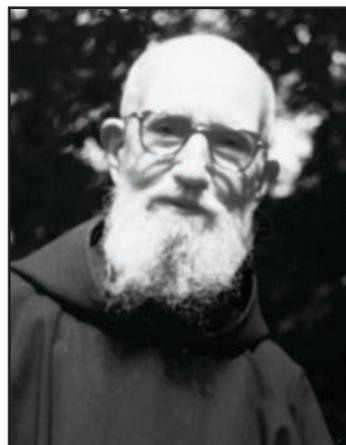
VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Francis advanced the sainthood causes of Wisconsin-born Capuchin Father Solanus Casey, five religious, four laypeople and two cardinals, including Vietnamese Cardinal Francois Nguyen Van Thuan.

The pope approved the decrees during an audience May

4 with Cardinal Angelo Amato, prefect of the Congregation for Saints' Causes.

Father Casey (1870-1957) was known for his great faith, humility and compassion and for his ministry as spiritual counselor. He gained a popular following during his lifetime, with healings attributed to his intercession both before and after his death.

He was the sixth of 16 children of Irish immigrant parents.



FATHER SOLANUS CASEY O.F.M. CAP.

He was born on a farm near Oak Grove, Wisconsin, and as a young man worked as a logger, a hospital orderly, a street-car operator and a prison guard before entering the Capuchins at age 26.

He was ordained in 1904 as a "simplex priest," one who is unable to hear confessions or preach dogmatic sermons because he had not performed very well in his studies. He carried out humble tasks in the monastery and, while serving in Yonkers, New York, Father Casey was assigned to be the friary's porter, or doorkeeper, a ministry he would carry out for the rest of his life.

He was known to be gentle, approachable and genuinely concerned for people as he had unique insight into people's needs and how they fit into God's plans.

He was declared venerable in 1995 and Pope Francis' approval of a miracle attributed to his intercession was the next step needed for his beatification. Another miracle, after his be-

atification, would be needed for him to advance to sainthood.

Among the other decrees May 4, Pope Francis recognized the heroic virtues of Cardinal Nguyen Van Thuan, who served as president of the Vatican's Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace from 1998 to 2002 -- the year he died.

Born in 1928, Vietnam's communist regime jailed him in 1975 when he was the newly named coadjutor bishop of Saigon, later renamed Ho Chi Minh City. He was never tried or sentenced and spent nine of his 13 years of detention in solitary confinement. His uncle was South Vietnam's first president,

Ngo Dinh Diem, a Catholic who was assassinated in 1963.

Also May 4, the pope recognized miracles that advanced the causes of three religious women toward beatification and the martyrdom of Lucien Botovasoa, a married man with eight children, who was also a Third Order Franciscan, teacher and a catechist at his parish in Vohipe-no, Madagascar.

As the African island went from being a colonial outpost to an independent nation, Botovasoa was blacklisted as an enemy of the cause for independence and was killed in 1947 out of hatred of the faith.

## 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:

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Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin  
Diocese Of Altoona - Johnstown  
927 South Logan Boulevard  
Hollidaysburg PA 16648**

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# Word of Life



## The Pope Teaches

**Softening Hearts Of Stone**  
By Pope Francis

**VATICAN CITY (CNS)** -- God's compassion can change the rigid hearts of those who use his law to condemn others, Pope Francis said.

A person with a hardened, "pagan heart does not allow the Spirit to enter" and often relies on his or her own strength and intellect rather than understanding God's will through humility, the pope said May 2 in his homily during Mass at Domus Sanctae Marthae.

"They do not know that the Word became flesh, that the Word is a witness to obedience," the pope said. "They do not know that God's tenderness is able to take out a heart of stone and put in its place a heart of flesh."

The pope focused his homily on the day's first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, which recalled the martyrdom of St. Stephen, who was stoned to death after denouncing the scribes and elders "as stiff-necked people" that "always oppose the Holy Spirit."

Unlike the disciples at Emmaus whose hearts were opened after being reproached by Jesus as "foolish," the elders who stoned Stephen gave into their anger at being corrected. This, the pope said, is the tragedy of those "with closed hearts, hardened hearts."

"This makes the church suffer very, very much: closed hearts, hearts of stone, hearts that do not want to be open, that do not want to listen, hearts that only know the language of condemnation," the pope said.

"They know how to condemn, but they do not know how to say, 'Explain this to me. Why do you say this? Why that? Can you explain it to me?' No, they are closed. They know everything. They have no need for an explanation," he said.

Those who stoned the church's first martyr had "no space in their hearts for the Holy Spirit," who allows Christians to look on others with the same tenderness God has "toward us, toward our sins, our weaknesses," Pope Francis said.

"Let us enter into this dialogue and ask for the grace so that the Lord softens a bit the heart of these rigid ones, those people who are always closed in the law and condemn all those who are outside of that law," he said.



CNS Photo/Paul Haring



**ONE MORE TIME:** The staff of Catholic Charities of the Altoona - Johnstown Diocese is shown in a September 15, 1972. Pictured (left to right) are caseworkers Dee J. Bragonier, Linda S. Camberg and Catherine M. Gutwald; Monsignor Joseph M. Luddy, assistant director, and Monsignor William M. Griffin, director. Catholic Charities will hold its annual Recognition Dinner Wednesday, May 31, and present the Monsignor William M. Griffin Humanitarian Award the Matthew 25 Youth Humanitarian Awards.

New U.S. Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch hit the ground running in April, taking part in oral arguments on what I see as this year's most important case.

At issue is a Missouri program for safer playgrounds for children. Helped by a tax on new automobile tires, Missouri recycled old tires into rubber surfacing to cover hard playground surfaces. Nonprofit institutions could apply for grants for the resurfacing - - except religious institutions.

Trinity Lutheran Church in Columbia, Missouri, filed suit, claiming the policy is unconstitutional discrimination against religious schools. Dismissed by a federal appeals court, the suit has made its way to our highest court.

At oral argument, Missouri's stance was sharply questioned by "liberal" as well as "conservative" justices. When the state's advocate said its policy doesn't forbid police and fire protection for churches, for example, Justice Stephen Breyer asked why it forbids protecting children from getting broken arms on their property.

The Supreme Court has long held that under the First Amendment, government generally cannot withhold public benefits from individuals or organizations merely because they are (or are not) religious. So Trinity



## A More Human Society

**Religious Discrimination**  
By Richard Doerflinger

Lutheran should prevail.

All believers should worry about policies that treat them as second - class citizens. For two reasons, Catholics should take a special interest.

First, Missouri's law is a state constitutional provision forbidding public support for "any church, sect or denomination of religion." Similar provisions in more than 30 states are known as "Blaine amendments," after a failed amendment to the U.S. Constitution offered in the 1870s by Rep. James Blaine.

Blaine's effort to forbid public support for "sectarian" schools arose from fear of the growing population of Catholic immigrants. Public schools at the time taught a generic form of Protestantism, and "sectarian" was a code word for "Catholic." So Justice Samuel Alito asked during oral argument whether Missouri wants the court to uphold policies arising from "anti-Catholic bigotry."

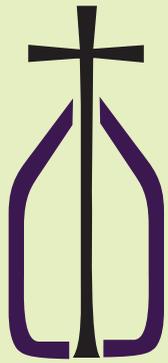
Second, in many ways Catholic institutions provide more help for the poor and needy than

other religious groups - - often more than nonprofit groups of any kind. One - sixth of hospital patients in the U.S. are cared for in Catholic health facilities; in 2015, Catholic Charities provided over 9 million food services, supported 350,000 seniors and helped almost half a million people find housing.

These services are offered to people of any faith and no faith, because Catholics see all people without exception as children of God. Trinity Lutheran, as well, opens its playground to all local children outside of school hours. When people of faith are allowed to participate in programs for the public good, they serve all their fellow citizens and remove a burden from the government.

This argument is lost on organizations like the American Civil Liberties Union, which for years has claimed that allowing Catholic institutions to participate in public programs is an unconstitutional "establishment of religion."

*(Continued On Page 9.)*



# Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown

# Chronicle

Altoona Office: Blair, Bedford and Huntingdon Counties • Bellefonte Office: Centre and Clinton Counties • Johnstown Office: Cambria and Somerset Counties

VOLUME ONE • NUMBER SIX

Spring 2017

TO LOVE AND SERVE OUR NEIGHBORS AS OURSELVES

## You Can Help a Neighbor Avoid Losing It All

The working poor—many of Catholic Charities' clients—work one, sometimes two jobs, but their take-home barely covers bills and basic necessities. At the end of the month, there's nothing left to save for an unexpected medical expense or home appliance repair. They earn just enough to get by, but too much to qualify for assistance.

The working poor live day-to-day on the edge of hunger, eviction, or homelessness.

Thanks to you, and generous donations from others who care about the well-being of their neighbors, Catholic Charities helps individuals and families avoid

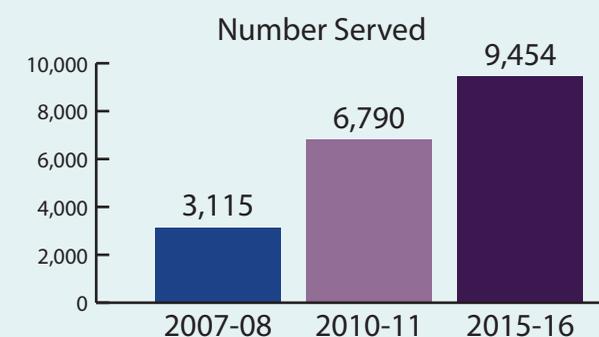
financial disaster by providing one-time emergency assistance. The average request we fulfill is \$185—a small amount to help someone keep the heat on or stay in their home.

Along with you, we can lift more families out of desperation. When you donate to Catholic Charities, your donation will go directly to a household in your community that urgently needs help. Help they can't get anywhere else.

Will you give a little to help a neighbor avoid losing it all? Your generosity goes a long way.

## A Growing Demand

In the last decade, demand for Catholic Charities' Emergency Financial Assistance has more than tripled.



## Who Are the Working Poor?

*Thousands of Local Families Live on the Edge of Hunger, Eviction, or Homelessness*

*“We earn just enough to get by, but too much to qualify for assistance. There’s never any left over to save. A major unexpected expense would be devastating for our family.”*



**Charles, a 43-year-old father of three.** A highly skilled engineer, Charles was recently laid off. Struggling to find comparable employment, he has settled on lower-level temp work to make ends meet until he can land a job in his field.



**Alice, a 70-year-old widow.** Alice and her husband were enjoying retirement before he unexpectedly passed away last year. Unable to afford rent and medication on her own, she began working at a supermarket to help get by.



**Kathy and Michael, parents of two young children.** Kathy has cut back on her work hours to travel with her 5-year-old daughter Samantha for frequent cancer treatments. The family is trying to balance a loss of income with growing medical and travel expenses.



**Jennifer, a 22-year-old single mom.** She works retail in the mornings and as a waitress in the evenings to support her infant daughter. Jennifer frequently forgoes meals herself so that she can afford formula and diapers.

## The Martha & Mary House

Cambria County Emergency Homeless Shelter Program  
Operated by Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown

Operated by Catholic Charities, The Martha & Mary House opened in Johnstown in March 2015. The shelter has rooms for women, men, and families, and can house up to 15 residents at a time.

All houseguests take part in programs to help them get back on their feet and be successful once they leave the house. These programs include:

- ✓ Case management sessions with the director
- ✓ Career development workshops
- ✓ Goal setting and attainment
- ✓ House meetings
- ✓ Job search and stability
- ✓ Housing search
- ✓ Tools for overcoming roadblocks on their journey to self-sufficiency

**The Martha & Mary House Homeless Shelter**  
Contact: Danielle Bowers  
899 Bedford Street  
Johnstown, PA  
814-254-4413

## Wish List

In addition to monetary donations, the homeless shelter accepts the following items:

- ✓ Cleaning supplies: including Clorox wipes, toilet bowl cleaner, air fresheners, and cleaning rags
- ✓ Laundry detergent pods
- ✓ Nonperishable and easy-to-prepare food items: including macaroni and cheese, soup, ravioli, chili, cereal, oatmeal, breakfast bars, granola bars, pudding, Jello, individual fruit cups, apple sauce, etc.
- ✓ Blankets
- ✓ Paper products: including tissues, paper plates, plastic spoons, napkins, toilet paper, and paper towels
- ✓ Hygiene products: including toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, lotion, razors, hair accessories, floss, and brushes/combs
- ✓ Holiday decorations
- ✓ Meals (prepared and delivered)
- ✓ Gift cards
- ✓ Board games
- ✓ Kids' games and toys

Please note that the Martha & Mary House cannot accept the following items:

- ✓ Clothing
- ✓ Shoes
- ✓ Electronics
- ✓ Furniture

## 210 Lives Changed by Offering Help and Hope to Johnstown's Homeless

### Martha & Mary House Celebrates Second Anniversary

**T**wo hundred and ten lives have been changed since The Martha & Mary House opened its doors in Johnstown in March 2015.

That's because The Martha & Mary House is more than a homeless shelter. It's a program that teaches the necessary skills needed to reach self-sufficiency and safe, sustainable housing.

"We offer hope when hope has been lost," said Director and Lead Case Manager Danielle Bowers.

The homeless whom we've served come from many backgrounds. Families who've been evicted and have nowhere else to go; women escaping abusive relationships; veterans who have little more than the clothes on their backs. And the paths they take once they enter our doors are as unique as their stories.

"Each resident enrolled into the program works with our dedicated staff to reach financial and personal milestones and housing," said Bowers. "When you see them make positive steps toward creating the life they desire and reaching each milestone, you are proud of what they have accomplished and look forward to seeing where else their journey is going to take them."

The Martha & Mary House does more than just assist homeless Cambria County residents with rebuilding their lives. It benefits the entire community by partnering with

*"The Martha & Mary House does more than just assist homeless Cambria County residents with rebuilding their lives. It benefits the entire community by partnering with other agencies to build self-confidence and teaching skills that will work to end the war on poverty."*

other agencies to build self-confidence and teaching skills that will work toward ending the war on poverty.

"We continue to strive to change the community's perception of what a shelter is," said Bowers.

## Success Stories: Ailing Mother and Teenage Children Secure Stable Housing and Strengthen Family Bond

**A**s we strive to change the community's perception of what our shelter is, we will periodically share anonymous stories of Martha & Mary House residents whose lives have been transformed thanks to this resource in Cambria County.

This story is about a mother and her two teenage children who moved into the house in fall 2016. The mother's health had been deteriorating over the years. She pushed through the pain and sickness to ensure her children had a roof over their heads and that they went to school each day.

As her health deteriorated, so did her ability to maintain their rental home. The apartment was determined inhabitable. So they turned to The Martha & Mary House.

"They came in and felt so many different emotions," said Danielle Bowers, Director and Lead Case Manager of

The Martha & Mary House. "Over the month they were in the house, their family bond became stronger. They began to work together to overcome obstacles and issues."

During case management sessions, the family was able to re-evaluate and begin to create the new life that they wanted. They located safe and stable housing,



## Honoring Those Who Serve

### Annual Recognition Dinner Celebrates Selfless, Dedicated Individuals Who Go Above and Beyond for Neighbors in Need

Together, we can support those who are working hard to make our community a better place.

Each year, Catholic Charities hosts an Annual Recognition Dinner to celebrate the dedicated individuals who go above and beyond to help their neighbors in need. On May 31, we will recognize adults and youth from our area that provide exceptional service to their communities.

In 2017, we are honored to recognize:

**Msgr. William M. Griffin**  
**Humanitarian Award**

**Mary Lou Waugerman** (Bedford)  
**Donald Belsey** (Altoona)  
**Millie Bodenschatz** (Ebensburg)

**Matthew 25 Youth Award**  
**Emmalee Mizera**, 3rd grade,  
Jackson Elementary School

**Samuel Penna**, 6th grade, Divine Mercy  
Catholic Academy - East Campus  
**Marissa Smilnak**, 11th grade,  
Holidaysburg Senior High School  
**Danielle Miller**, 12th grade, Bishop  
Guilfoyle Catholic High School  
**Ryan Allen Statler**, 12th grade,  
Windber Area High School  
**Kathleen Price**, 12th grade, Bishop  
Guilfoyle Catholic High School

You are invited to join us on May 31 at the Altoona Grand Hotel Ballroom in support of the men, women, and youth who are invested in making our community a better place for all of us.

You're Invited to Our

## Annual Recognition Dinner

as we honor outstanding individuals with the

*2017 Msgr. William M. Griffin Humanitarian Award*

and the

*2017 Matthew 25 Youth Humanitarian Award*

5 to 8 p.m. | Wednesday, May 31, 2017

*The Altoona Grand Hotel Ballroom*

1 Sheraton Dr., Altoona, PA 16601

*Chef-Inspired Menu by*  
*Executive Chef Josh Wertz*  
(formerly of Bedford Springs)

### Served Dinner:

Frenched Breast of Chicken  
Confit Leg & Thigh  
Jardinere Vegetables  
Potato Gratin  
Sauce Supreme  
Fresh Strawberry and Dark Chocolate Trifle

### Schedule of Events

5 p.m.: Reception  
6 p.m.: Dinner  
Dinner tickets are \$45  
Cash Bar  
Basket Raffle  
Gift Card Extravaganza  
50/50

Please RSVP by **Friday, May 19, 2017** by calling 814.944.9388

 **Catholic Charities**  
of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown

*From the Executive Director*

## What If You or a Loved One Faced Financial Ruin?

In our country's current economic situation, most Americans are just a few paychecks away from needing some type of assistance.



Think about that for a moment. Could one major unexpected expense cause your neighbor, your friend, your colleague, or even your own household financial ruin?

*"I have learned that God is a deep-rooted source of comfort and support during the troubled times for the majority of the individuals and families we serve."*

Thankfully, organizations like ours exist to help individuals and families in their greatest time of need. Through our Emergency Financial Assistance program, Catholic Charities is able to bridge the gap for a struggling household to help them avoid eviction or utility termination. And for those that do end up homeless, The Martha & Mary House provides a safe place to live along with personalized case management to help them get back on their feet.

But we wouldn't exist without generous supporters like you. Nearly 60% of the Emergency Financial Assistance we're able to provide each year is made possible through financial contributions from community members.

You can help us help even more households in need in your county. Current funding only allows us to help 1 in 3 of the families that ask us for assistance. Imagine the impact we could make if more people joined our mission to serve our brothers and sisters who need us.

I'm asking you to continue your annual support and to encourage your friends, neighbors, and fellow parishioners to do the same. After all, you never know when you or a loved one might be the one in need of support.

In Sincere Gratitude,

Jean D. Johnstone, Executive Director

The official registration and financial information of Catholic Charities may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

## Yes! I want to help my neighbors in need.

- I'd like to join Guild of Guardians.
- One-time payment of \$1,000       Two payments of \$500  
 Four payments of \$250       Monthly payments of \$83.33  
 Please invoice me for installment payments.
- I'd like to make an annual contribution of:
- \$500    \$250    \$100    \$50    \$35    Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Please earmark \$ \_\_\_\_\_ of my gift to the Martha & Mary House.

Make your check payable to "Catholic Charities" or donate online at  
[www.catholiccharitiesaj.org](http://www.catholiccharitiesaj.org).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Please add me to upcoming email communications:

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Catholic Charities of the  
Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown**  
1300 12th Avenue  
P.O. Box 1349  
Altoona, PA 16603

## 5 Ways Your Gift Makes an Impact

Your donation to Catholic Charities helps us to:

- † Provide Emergency Financial Assistance to individuals and households facing eviction, hunger, and homelessness.
- † Offer low- to no-cost therapy services to help individuals and families in crisis cope with trauma, abuse, grief, family conflicts, depression, and other mental health issues.
- † Operate The Martha & Mary House, providing safe housing and a stepping stone for homeless individuals and families in Johnstown.
- † Offer pregnancy support to help promote physical and mental well-being of mother and child during the pre- and postnatal periods.
- † Do God's work in your community, helping our brothers and sisters in their most desperate time of need.



## Critical Needs Met through Generous Guild of Guardians Program

### Doug Stoehr Strives to Expand Memberships to Help Allocate Funding for Needy Families throughout the Year

As a long-time Catholic Charities donor, Doug Stoehr has always felt a strong connection to their mission, "To love and serve our neighbors as ourselves."

"I find it important to give money to local charities that are faith-based and affect people in our community," said Stoehr.

He finds that Catholic Charities has a very strong impact on the individuals it serves and the money donated is used appropriately.

"They are good stewards of the money," said Stoehr. "I like that my donation is getting to people who truly have a crisis at that moment."

Stoehr's years of donations to Catholic Charities paved the way for the launch of Guild of Guardians, an annual giving program through the organization. This program requires donors give a minimum of \$1,000 over the course of one year. These funds are used to meet the most critical needs of clients, while helping to allocate funding throughout the year.

"I think that if people knew more about Catholic Charities and how money is being spent, they would be willing to make that type of contribution without batting an eye," said Stoehr.

Growing up in a modest home allowed Stoehr to be

thankful for his family's comfortable income. It allowed him to come to the realization that if you have the means, you should be giving to those who need a helping hand.

"If someone is down and out, it is up to us to help him," said Stoehr.

Stoehr has always felt a strong sense of responsibility towards giving back to the community in any way he can. He even translated his love of giving into a career by becoming a lawyer. Stoehr is known to go above and beyond for his clients; giving them the best representation possible. Because of this, he has earned many prestigious awards, including Pennsylvania Super Lawyer and Best Attorneys of America.

As a current Duncansville resident and St. Michaels of Hollidaysburg member, Stoehr and his wife Jan feel a very strong obligation to give, and that any person who needs assistance should not be turned away.

"It's very good that if somebody has a need, Catholic Charities tries to meet it, regardless of their background," he said.

Stoehr is a proud donor of Catholic Charities and is looking forward to the expansion of Guild of Guardians. Learn more about Guild of Guardians, and how you can extend your support throughout the year, at

[www.catholiccharitiesaj.org](http://www.catholiccharitiesaj.org).

## Faith Fuels Passion to Serve

### Clients Find Support and Comfort in Case Manager Michelle Johnston

*"Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need"*  
(Matthew 6:33)

This is the philosophy of Altoona Catholic Charities Case Manager Michelle Johnston. She is a firm believer that God provides for all of His children, even during their toughest situations. This strong sense of faith has fueled the passion for her work.

"I strive to always remember my blessings and hope that I can offer professional support to the people of Blair County," said Johnston.

Before coming to Catholic Charities, Johnston graduated with a B.S. in Psychology from Penn State. She then held positions as a Therapeutic Staff Support, Delinquency Prevention Counselor, and Truancy Court Counselor, which have given her valuable experience and knowledge that she found to be very useful in her current role.

"I learned ways to identify a crisis and appropriate ways to deescalate a crisis as well," she said.

Johnston is currently in her fifth year as case manager in the Emergency Financial Assistance (EFA) program with Catholic Charities. In this position, Johnston assists the

people of Blair County by coordinating services that help meet people's basic needs and necessities in times of great need, especially those facing eviction, termination, and lack of heat.

*"I have learned that God is a deep-rooted source of comfort and support during the troubled times for the majority of the individuals and families we serve."*

"It gives people hope to know that there is a place to call when they are in trouble," said Johnston. "They know that we are rooting for them to get back on their feet."

When asked about the most meaningful part of being a case manager, Johnston says it is the knowledge of the reality that Catholic Charities is the charity arm of the church. Every person that walks through their door is in need of something, and Johnston finds great joy in being able to provide for them.

"You grow as a person daily, and I have learned that God is a deep-rooted source of comfort and support during the troubled times for the majority of the individuals and families we serve," she said."

## Need Help?

Call or visit a Catholic Charities location near you.

### Main Office Locations

#### Blair, Bedford & Huntingdon Counties

1300 Twelfth Avenue  
Altoona, PA 16601  
Phone: (814) 944-9388

#### Centre & Clinton Counties

213 East Bishop Street  
Bellefonte, PA 16823  
Phone: (814) 353-0502

#### Cambria & Somerset Counties

321 Main Street, Suite 5G  
Johnstown, PA 15901  
Phone: (814) 535-6538

### Homeless Shelter

#### Martha & Mary House Cambria County

899 Bedford Street  
Johnstown, PA 15902  
Phone: (814) 254-4413



## Question Corner

By Father Kenneth Doyle  
Which Knee Is Right  
For Genuflection?

**Q.** Growing up, I was always taught to genuflect with the right knee. But now I see more and more people using their left knee. Has there been a change that I am not aware of? Is it permissible to alternate knees? (Johnstown, Pennsylvania)

**A.** Right is right. According to the General Instruction of the Roman Missal, "a genuflection, made by bending the right knee to the ground, signifies adoration, and therefore it is reserved for the Most Blessed Sacrament" (No. 274).

The custom was formally approved by the Roman Catholic Church in the early 16th century. (Note that it is only practiced in the Western Church; Eastern Catholics and members of the Orthodox Church use instead a profound bow as a sign of their deep reverence.)

Genuflection on the left knee was used to pay honor to kings and emperors (and, at certain times in the church's history, to the bishop of one's

diocese), but the right knee is reserved to God alone as a sign of divine worship.

I can't resist revealing one further thought when I receive a question like this one. I wonder if it really matters a lot to God whether someone uses the right knee to genuflect or the left -- especially when, according to the United Nations, about 21,000 people in the world die each day from hunger. I believe that God pays more attention to our hearts than to our knees.

**Q.** The other day I was told that if a baby, born to Catholic parents in a Catholic hospital, is in danger of dying, it is routine practice for a nurse -- or whoever is available -- to baptize the baby as soon as possible. But what if the parents are members of some other Christian tradition -- or no religion at all?

Would their permission be needed? (I knew a nurse many years ago, a Catholic, who worked in the nursery of a non-denominational hospital. She

never told me in so many words, but I got the idea that she made a practice of baptizing any baby whose condition was uncertain.) (Davenport, Iowa)

**A.** Ordinarily, the sacrament of baptism is administered only by a bishop, priest or deacon. An exception is made when death is imminent. In that case, the Code of Canon Law indicates that baptism may be administered by anyone who has the proper intention (No. 861).

Ordinarily, too, the permission of at least one parent is necessary for a child to be baptized (No. 868); but again here, there is an exception: In danger of death, the sacrament may be administered against the parents' wishes.

St. Thomas Aquinas taught in the Summa Theologica that children of Jews and unbelievers should not be baptized against their parents' wishes and that to do so would be "contrary to natural justice."

## A More Human Society

(Continued From Page 8.)

Under such pressure -- or because it agreed with the ACLU -- the Obama administration in 2011 ended the leading role of the Catholic bishops' Migration and Refugee Services agency in serving victims of human trafficking. The government's chief contract went instead to two secular groups that could not help these vulnerable people as effectively.

The immediate issue was that the Catholic agency would not refer victims needing health care solely to doctors providing abortions -- though the anti-trafficking legislation, sponsored by pro-life leader Rep. Chris Smith (R - New Jersey), was never intended to promote abortion.

So the Catholic Church has much to lose or gain from this case. So do the millions of people helped every year by faith-based organizations. It would not be unconstitutional to pray for wisdom on the part of our judges.



## For The Journey

By Effie Caldarola  
A Moral Duty  
To Serve Refugees

Imagine that you are languishing in a foreign jail alone. You don't know a soul in this strange country.

If you return to the homeland from which you have escaped, your life is in immediate danger. Your wife and children have fled to yet another foreign country, and you wonder when or if you will ever see them again.

Hoping to be granted asylum, you exist in limbo in a cell, waiting, frightened and solitary, for the labyrinthine legal system to chew you up and eventually spit you out.

This is the reality for many undocumented individuals in the U.S.

And this is where my friend Ruth comes in. Ruth is part of a ministry of presence that a Sister of Mercy has developed in Omaha, Nebraska.

For whatever reason a Somali or a Guatemalan or an Afghan might seek refuge, if they are undocumented they can end up in jail. Our system has no other solution. Ruth and her associates are there simply to be a friend while the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the courts battle over what to do with this stranger in a strange land.

A foreign language skill can be helpful in Ruth's work, but not necessary. Friendship is maintained through smiles and constancy.

Ruth and her Middle Eastern friend are fortunate in that he speaks perfect English and is well-educated.

"I told him he can share with me his most precious possession -- his story," she said.

He told her that in all the months he has waited in jail, she has been his only friend. She has sustained him by her visits and cards, and her willingness not to "fix" the situation -- although she did help find a donor who would pay for some legal expenses -- but simply to be a listening presence.

The United Nations says the 21st century has produced the greatest state of displacement of peoples in recorded history -- 65.3 million people on this earth have been forcibly displaced from their homes at the end of 2015. Sometimes they have fled to another part of their country. Often they have had to flee its borders.

Ruth's friend, who has been in jail for months, was initially granted asylum, but a higher court has remanded his case back to the lower court. The prospects aren't good and he has no idea where he will land if he is put on a plane and expelled from the U.S.

What can we do? Pope Francis says we have a moral responsibility to be part of a solution to this huge problem.

We have a duty "toward our brothers and sisters who, for various reasons, have been forced to leave their homeland: a duty of justice, of civility and of solidarity," he said earlier this year.

What does this mean? It means we foster a conversation of civility about immigrants and refugees, even when it's not comfortable to do so in our present political climate. We can urge our bishops and our parishes to speak out more forcefully.

We can support what our local parishes are doing to help refugees. Often our local Catholic Charities are involved in refugee resettlement, and they need household goods, furniture, food, sometimes transportation to English classes.

Jesuit Refugee Service or Catholic Relief Services need our donations for their work with the displaced worldwide.

If every Catholic in the U.S. responded in some way to Pope Francis' pleas, we would go a long way toward standing in solidarity with the stranger in our midst.

Blessed Blandine  
Merten  
1883 - 1918  
Feast - May 18



Maria Merten was the ninth child in a devout German family. She taught school for six years until 1908, when she and a sister entered the Ursulines near Ahrweiler. She took the name of an early Christian martyr, and in 1913 added a fourth vow at her consecration to religious life: She offered herself as a willing sacrifice to Christ. But Blandine soon contracted tuberculosis, and in 1916 entered a sanitarium at the Ursuline convent in Trier, where she died. Calm and cheerful as she faced prolonged suffering, she wrote, "I want to love God more than any creature has ever loved him." She was beatified in 1987.

# Catholic Charities Will Hold Recognition Dinner, Present Annual Awards, May 31

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown will hold its annual Recognition Dinner, Wednesday, May 31, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the ballroom of the Altoona Grand Hotel.

The winners of the 2017 Monsignor William M. Griffin Humanitarian Award and the Matthew 25 Youth Humanitarian Award. Winners will be honored during the event.

The Monsignor William M. Griffin Humanitarian Award is given to individuals demonstrating a significant, long-term commitment (professional or volunteer) to serving the poor, marginalized, and most vulnerable within our diocesan community. This year's winners include: Donald Belsey (Sacred Heart Parish, Altoona), Mary Lou Waugerman (Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish, Bedford), and Millie Bodenschutz (Holy Name Parish, Ebensburg).

**Donald Belsey** is a member of Sacred Heart Parish, Altoona.

As director of the Saint Vincent DePaul Society's Assumption Chapel Food Pantry, Donald organizes and supervises volunteers to help the pantry run at optimal efficiency. In his more than ten years as Director, Donald has grown food donations from \$300,000 to more than \$1 million annually.

"Don has great supervisory skills as well as a heart for serving the poor," said Third Order Regular Franciscan Father Joseph Lehman of Saint Francis University, Loretto.

**Mary Lou Waugerman** belongs to Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish, Bedford.

Mary Lou is a founding member of the Saint Thomas Conference of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul.

Over the last 13 years she has worked diligently to sustain the conference operation, promote its growth, and provide direct comfort and assistance to those in need in rural Bedford County. She is a faithful volunteer, serving as a role model for incoming volunteers.

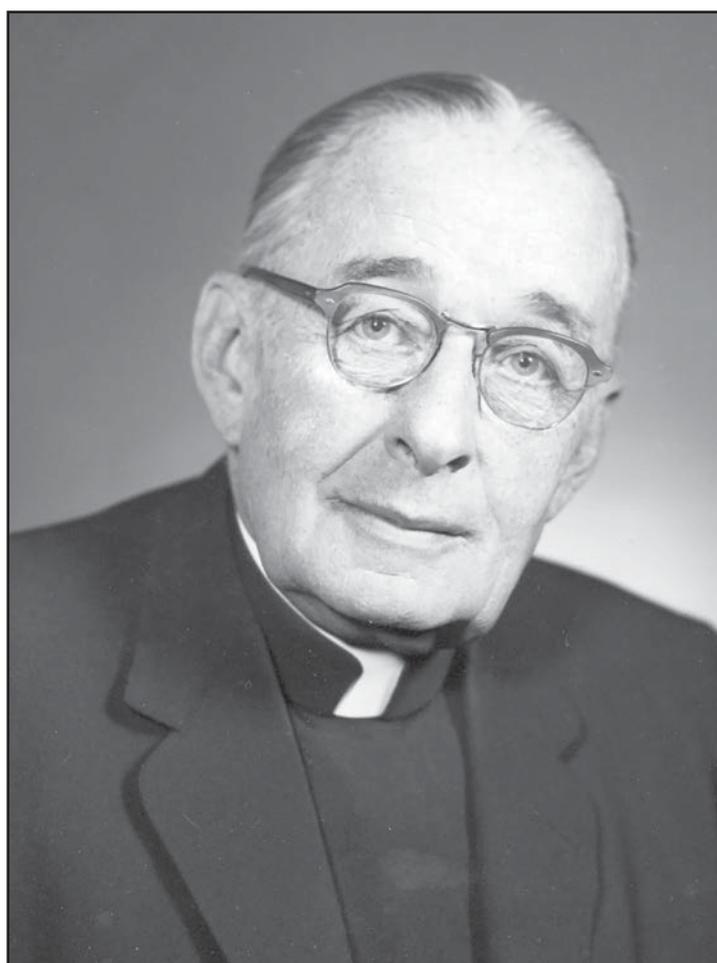
Mary Lou's commitment to serving the most vulnerable extended to her professional life as well. During her long career as a reading specialist in the Spring Cove School District, she undertook the challenging specialized training to become a Reading Recovery teacher. In this vocation she provided intensive instruction for the 20 percent of lowest achieving first grade students in the school district.

"Through her volunteer work and her professional career, Mary Lou exemplifies the qualities set forth in Matthew 25, that is, a sustained dedication to the welfare of the disadvantaged and vulnerable," noted Judy Plummer, of the Saint Vincent DePaul Society, Saint Thomas Conference.

**Millie Bodenschutz** is a member of Holy Name Parish, Ebensburg.

A member of the Cambria County Habitat for Humanity, she has helped build homes for the last 10 years. She is active in Catholic Daughters, having served as treasurer and financial secretary. Millie worked diligently for the Haiti Mission, collecting items for the poor in Haiti and traveled to Haiti with her daughter to help the poor.

Active with Ebensburg's Saint Vincent DePaul Society Conference for over twenty years, she has been heavily involved with both in the store and the food bank. She assists the Sisters of the Carmelite Com-



MONSIGNOR WILLIAM M. GRIFFIN

munity of the Word in Gallitzin, and supports and assists in most parish activities at Holy Name, including festivals, food collection for the poor, the Angel Tree, Holy Name School Endowment, dinners, fundraisers, and Bible School. She also serves as a Eucharistic Minister.

"Millie's consistent efforts in being there and helping national and local communities make her deserving of this award," stated Sandra Inzana, vice regent of Ebensburg, Court 680 of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas and president of the Holy Name Saint Vincent DePaul Society Conference in Ebensburg.

The Matthew 25 Youth Humanitarian Award is given to elementary and high school students for demonstrating exceptional service to their communities, specifically to the poor and needy. This year's winners

include: Marissa Smilnak (11th grade, Hollidaysburg Area Senior High School), Danielle Miller (12th grade, Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School), Ryan Allen Statler (12th grade, Windber Area High School), Emmalee Mizera (3rd grade, Jackson Elementary School), Kathleen Price (12th grade, Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School), and Samuel Penna (6th grade, Divine Mercy Catholic Academy - - East Campus).

**Marissa Smilnak** is in the 11th grade at Hollidaysburg Area Senior High School and is a member of Saint Mary Parish, Hollidaysburg.

Marissa volunteers each Sunday in the summer with Batter's Up, a baseball league for persons with disabilities at the Miracle League field - - specially made for people with disabilities so they can get on the field. She greets players and helps

organize games. She is also active as an Arc Drama Troupe mentor, meeting once a week to help people with intellectual disabilities practice acting skills and build confidence in their acting abilities.

"I have learned that a person is better defined by their abilities," she said.

**Danielle Miller** is in the 12th grade at Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School, Altoona, and is a member of Saint John the Evangelist Parish in Lake-  
mont.

At Saint John, Danielle is a Catechist for second graders preparing for their First Holy Communion, Eucharistic minister, and a station leader at vacation bible school.

Four times a year, Danielle volunteers for Love Feast, providing hot meals for hundreds of less fortunate in downtown Altoona. She also volunteers weekly for the Mountain Lion Backpack Program, providing elementary children in the Altoona Area School District when other resources may not be available to them. The organization provides meals for 1,300 children every Thursday.

"It is clear to see that Danielle is doing God's work. She is always willing to help and is never without a smile," said Mary Haenig, director of religious education at Saint John the Evangelist Parish.

**Ryan Allen Statler** is in the 12th grade, Windber Area High School and a member of Saint Anthony of Padua Parish.

Since age 14, Ryan has been training to be a firefighter. He has logged more than 695 training hours and assisted with more than 244 calls. He holds multiple certifications, and spends many hours assisting with elementary and secondary school fire safety programs, mentoring children and teens in the rules of being safe, and giving fire truck tours.

(Continued On Page 11.)

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# Catholic Charities Announces Award Winners

(Continued From Page 10.)

He has also been involved with Saint Anthony Parish's mission trip to rural Appalachia, where he helped the team paint and repair a rural church in one of America's poorest areas. The group also visited homes for the aged, sharing food, prayers, and fellowship.

Ryan is also active with Scouting, achieving the rank of Eagle Scout in 2016. He is a certified lifeguard and instructor of basic first aid classes. He assists with placing American flags on the gravesites of veterans and helps with the Memorial and Veteran Day programs in the area. As a member of the Windber High School National Honor Society, Ryan helps with community food drives and dinners. He also helps with Saint Anthony of Padua parish festivals.

Roxann Newcomer, director of religious education at Saint Anthony of Padua Parish said "What is 'above and beyond' for most teens is everyday commonplace for Ryan. His respect for all human life is a tangible quality and service to his fellow man is not just an abstract ideal."

**Emmalee Mizera** is in the 3rd grade at Jackson Elementary School and belongs to Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Parish, Revloc.

Nine - year - old Emmalee has dedicated her young life to helping those in need in Cambria County. She noticed that book choices were limited in her school library, and organized a book drive for the school.

Using her sewing talent to create blankets, she donates homemade blankets to babies and children entering the Martha and Mary House homeless shelter. She has also organized supply drives for the shelter and helped make baked goods for residents and attendees during a recent open house at the shelter.

Emmalee is also active in her school orchestra and serves

as Junior Communication Officer for her 4H Club. She has also been nominated for the Atoms Scholar Program.

"From a young age Emmalee has used the talents that God has given her to bring joy, comfort, and happiness to all she meets," said Danielle Bowers, director/lead case manager, Martha and Mary House, Johnstown.

**Kathleen Price** is in the 12th grade at Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School, Altoona, and a member of Sacred Heart Parish.

While required to perform only 25 service hours for her school's service program, Kathleen has given over 200 hours of service at UPMC Altoona. Despite an extremely busy academic and extracurricular schedule, she participated in the Relay for Life, Making Strides Against Breast Cancer, and has given service to the Hollidaysburg YMCA and the new Teen Shelter in Altoona. She helped to form and totally revitalize Bishop Guilfoyle's school service program by serving as Student Service Coordinator, getting students involved monthly and serving alongside them at the Mountain Lion Backpack Program.

Her focus on the Backpack Program, Teen Shelter and other local services to the most needy in the community shows a true understanding of the principle of subsidiarity in Catholic social teaching, and this overflows to all of her other service - related activities, big and small.

"Kathleen is a highly motivated, thoughtful, caring young Catholic woman who has made service to others a priority in her walk with Christ," said Robert A. Sutton, theology instructor and campus minister at Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School.

**Samuel Penna** is in the 6th grade at Divine Mercy Catholic Academy - - East Campus, Johnstown, and a member of Saint Patrick Parish.

Samuel is an advocate for the students in the school as well as an advocate for the community, serving the poor through the Society of Saint Vincent DePaul, the Interfaith Community Food Pantry, and the homeless in Pittsburgh.

For the past six years Samuel has held a baseball game birthday party, asking friends and relatives not to give him birthday presents, but to bring donations for local food pantries. Samuel's party typically attracts nearly 50 players of all ages, and has raised thousands of dollars and countless food donations that he shares equally with Saint Vincent DePaul and the Interfaith Community Food Pantry.

"Sam Penna is an exceptional young man among his peers at school and in the community. When his teacher, Vicki Reilly speaks of him, her eyes swell with tears of joy and pride. This is a person who is well beyond his years in understanding the needs of the poor and the people he interacts with every day," stated Mary Jo Podratsky, vice - principal of Divine Mercy Catholic Academy, East Campus.

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Photo By Monsignor Timothy P. Stein

**THE REVEREND PRINCE DEMETRIUS GALLITZIN**

## Prince Gallitzin Cross Awardees Named

(Continued From Page 16.)

**Monica L. Ludwig** is a member of Saint Nicholas Parish, Nicktown.

Monica is noted for her spirit of hospitality, serving as chair of the funeral luncheon committee, is a member of the card committee which sends messages of sympathy or encouragement and congratulations to parishioners, and is a member of the hospitality committee. She is a member of the Legion of Mary, assists in the parish office, is a cantor and sacristan, and is chair of the parish picnic. Monica serves as Confirmation director, and according to Benedictine Father Michael Gabler, pastor, "is willing to help with any need of the parish."

**Carmela Magistro** is from Saint Therese Parish, Johnstown, and according to Franciscan Father Bernard Karmanocky, pastor, "has dedicated her life to her church and her community."

While active with many civic and professional organizations, Carmela "has found time to dedicate many hours to Saint Therese Parish," as music director, chair of the annual festival, and serves as a member of the liturgy committee and as chair of the parish finance council.

**Irene Matse** is a member of Holy Family Parish, Hooversville.

For over 25 years Irene has served as chair of the parish prayer chain and the prayer group. She is a lector and a substitute religious education teacher. She has served on par-

ish council and the liturgy committee, and is "head chef" in the parish hall, organizing meals for a variety of events. "Her loving kindness is not only church - centered," said Conventual Franciscan Father Karl Kolodziejewski, pastor, "but is also very family and community - centered. She is just starting her 82nd year of life, and I hope and pray that God will watch over her, so she can share her love for God with others."

**Donna Stoy** is a member of Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish, Ashville.

"Donna has been instrumental in helping our parish to be so vibrant, especially where the lives of our young parish members are concerned," said Father Robert P. Reese, pastor. "As our religious education director, Donna is very dedicated to making our program vibrant through her constant devotion. Teachers in our program, and specially parents and the students themselves, are all greatly appreciative of her efforts to make our religious education program effective and relevant for the young of our parish family, in the day and age in which we live." Donna also shares her love for the faith as director of the parish's R.C.I.A. program.

The awards dinner will begin with a social hour at 5:00 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6:00. The deadline for obtaining tickets is Friday, May 19.

For more information contact the Diocesan Administration Center at (814) 695 - 5579.

# Father Solanus Casey Recalled As Beloved Friar Who Showed Mercy To Others

By Mike Stechschulte  
Catholic News Service

**DETROIT (CNS)** -- Sixty years after his death, Capuchin Father Solanus Casey is on his way to sainthood.

Pope Francis announced May 4 that Detroit's beloved friar, who earlier had been named venerable, met the requirements for beatification and will be named "blessed" -- the second U.S.-born man to achieve such a designation and the first person from Michigan.

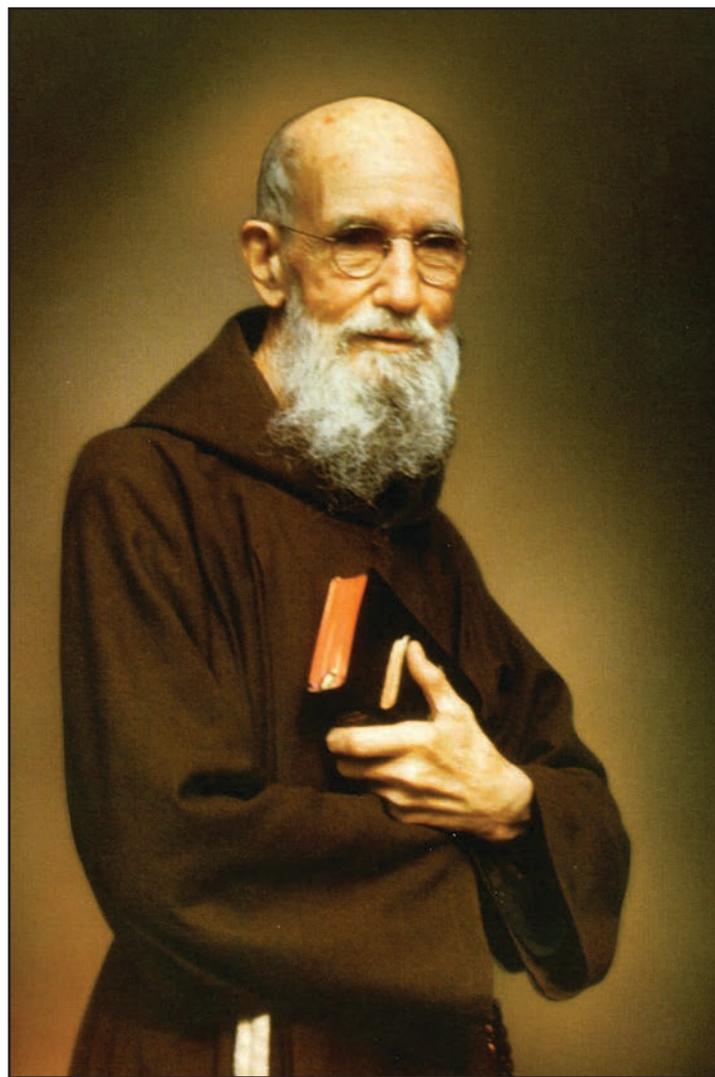
Although Father Casey was born in Oak Grove, Wisconsin, in 1870, he spent most of his adult life and ministry in Detroit, caring for sick, poor and downtrodden people and lending a listening ear and caring heart to the thousands who came to him for counsel, wisdom and aid.

Among the hundreds, if not thousands, of healings attributed to Father Casey during and

after his lifetime, Pope Francis recognized the authenticity of a miracle necessary for the friar to be elevated from venerable to blessed after a review by the Vatican's Congregation for Saints' Causes was completed earlier this year.

"The beatification of Father Solanus Casey is an incomparable grace for the church in the Archdiocese of Detroit and for the whole community of Southeast Michigan," Detroit Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron said in a statement. "He is an inspiration to all us Catholics -- and to all -- of the power of grace to transform one's life."

The miracle needed to raise Father Casey to blessed involved a woman with an incurable genetic skin disease. The woman was visiting friends in Detroit and stopped at Father Casey's tomb to pray for others' intentions. After her prayers, she felt the strong urging to ask for the friar's intercession for her-



CNS Photo

FATHER SOLANUS CASEY O.F.M. CAP.

self, too, and received an instant and visible healing.

The miraculous nature of her cure was verified by doctors in her home country, in Detroit and in Rome, all of whom confirmed there was no scientific explanation.

In a blessed coincidence -- or perhaps not -- Father Casey himself died of a skin disease in 1957.

The beatification, which will take place during a Mass in Detroit later this year, is the final step before sainthood. A declaration of sainthood requires a second miracle attributed to Father Casey's intercession.

Capuchin Father Michael Sullivan, provincial minister of the Capuchin Franciscan Province of St. Joseph in Detroit,

said the friars were elated with the news.

"Long before we knew and loved Pope Francis, we had the example of Father Solanus, who lived the Gospel of mercy," Father Sullivan said. "Known for his compassion and simplicity, he drew many thousands to God. Rather than call attention to himself, he taught people to thank God for his blessings. We are overjoyed at the news that Father Solanus' holiness is recognized by the Holy Father."

Not only did Father Casey teach others to thank God, but he often urged them to thank God "ahead of time" for the blessings they were yet to receive -- an admonition adopted often by Archbishop Vigneron and others invoking the friar's memory.

Born Bernard Francis Casey Nov. 25, 1870, Father Casey was the sixth of 16 children to Irish immigrants Bernard James Casey and Ellen Elizabeth Murphy. He enrolled at St. Francis High School Seminary near Milwaukee in 1891, but because of academic limitations, he was advised to consider joining a religious order instead.

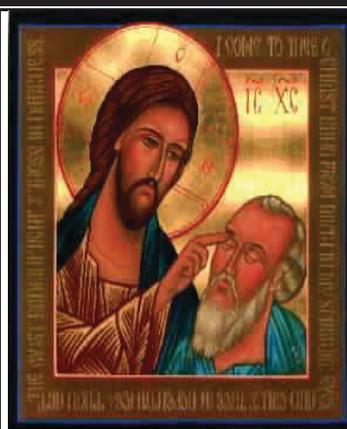
After reflecting before a statue of Mary, he felt the urging to "go to Detroit" and heeded this advice, joining the Capuchin order in 1897. He was given the religious name Solanus.

Although he continued to struggle academically, Father Casey was at last ordained in 1904 by Milwaukee Archbishop Sebastian G. Messmer as a "simplex priest," meaning he could celebrate Mass but could not preach doctrinal sermons or hear confessions.

After serving for two decades in friaries and churches in New York, Father Casey was transferred back to Detroit in 1924, where he began working as the porter, or doorkeeper, of St. Bonaventure Monastery.

It was in this role -- which eventually became the title of a 1968 biography written by James Patrick Derum, **The Porter Of Saint Bonaventure's** -- that Father Casey cemented his reputation for holiness and compassion. Charged with greeting those who came to the monastery's doors, Father Casey conducted well-attended services for the sick and became known for his gentle, wise counsel and genuine concern for those who sought his aid. He helped establish the Capuchin Soup Kitchen in 1929 to feed hungry people during the Great Depression, a work that continues in Detroit today.

(Continued On Page 13.)



## HEALING MASS

**Tuesday**  
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**CELEBRANT**

**CATHEDRAL OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**  
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**"I came so that they might have life and have  
it more abundantly." John 10:10**

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**MUSIC LED BY CATHEDRAL PRAYER GROUP MUSIC MINISTRY**

(Continued From Page 12.)

By the time of his death July 31, 1957, devotion to Father Casey had grown to the point that more than 8,000 people attended his funeral.

“Over the years the fame of Father Solanus has extended around the world, and now has devotees in 27 countries,” said Capuchin Friar Larry Webber, who, with Capuchin Brother Richard Merling, is a vice postulator for Father Casey’s beatification and canonization cause. “Thousands of favors attributed to the intercession of Venerable Solanus have been reported to the office of the cause for sainthood of Father Solanus.”

Officials began collecting and organizing material for Father Casey’s cause in 1976, and by 1983, an official archdiocesan investigation was opened into the life and virtues of the priest. During this phase, 53 witnesses gave sworn testimony to his heroic virtues, and the next year their testimonies were sent to the Vatican.

As part of the process, Father Casey’s tomb was opened July 8, 1987, and his remains were moved to their current resting place inside the north transept of St. Bonaventure’s Chapel.

Led by Capuchin Brother Leo Wollenwebber, a three-volume “positio” was presented to the Vatican congregation, which affirmed Father Casey’s heroic virtues in 1995. On July 11, 1995, Father Casey was named “venerable” by St. John Paul II, allowing for public devotion and advancing the cause for beatification.

Twenty-one years later, Sept. 22, 2016, a panel of medical experts approved a miraculous healing attributed to Father Casey. A panel of theological advisers concurred Jan. 19, paving the way for the Vatican congregation to recommend beatification to Pope Francis.

“This declaration means that the local church, here in Detroit and in Capuchin Franciscan fraternities around the world, may offer prayers and Masses invoking the intercession of Father Solanus,” Brother Merling said.



CNS Photo/L'Osservatore Romano

**POPE MEETS FRANCISCAN LEADERS:** Pope Francis meets with the superiors of the four main men’s branches of the Franciscan family at the Vatican April 10. From left are Marco Tasca, minister general of the Conventual Franciscans; Mauro Johri, minister general of the Capuchins; Fathers Michael Perry, minister general of the Order of Friars Minor; and Nicholas Polichnowski, minister general of the Third Order Regular.

## Franciscans Ask Pope To Allow Brothers To Be Elected Leaders

By Cindy Wooden  
Catholic News Service

**VATICAN CITY (CNS)** -- The superiors of the four main branches of the Franciscan friars formally asked Pope Francis for permission to allow their communities to elect brothers to positions of leadership in their communities.

“With us Pope Francis is looking at the possibilities for moving this project forward,” Father Michael Perry, minister general of the Friars Minor, told Vatican Radio. “We left a letter as a formal request for a dispensation” from canon law requirements that in most religious orders with both priests and brothers only a priest can be elected to the top leadership offices.

Father Perry met the pope April 10 along with the Capuchin minister general, Father Mauro Johri; the Conventual Franciscan minister general, Fa-

ther Marco Tasca; and the Third Order Regular minister general, Father Nicholas Polichnowski.

Father Tasca told Vatican Radio that Pope Francis brought up the terrorist bombings in Egypt April 9 and “confirmed with great determination” that he would visit Egypt at the end of April as planned. They also spoke of the ongoing violence in Syria and the presence of Franciscans, who continue to minister there and in other regions where tension and violence are a daily occurrence.

But, Father Perry said, “we mostly spoke about the steps we are taking to create communion among us, among the different orders of the Franciscan family.”

The four different branches, he said, are working together to reunite their institutes of higher learning in Rome and have a variety of cooperative projects in the Holy Land.

“In addition,” he said, “we have spoken of the importance of the possibility of allowing

lay friars to serve in an ordinary way in our respective orders.”

The rules governing eligibility for leadership in religious orders with a strong mix of brothers and priests -- especially if those orders, like the Franciscans, were founded without distinction between lay and ordained -- has been going on since the Second Vatican Council.

The council’s decree on religious life said, “Monasteries of men and communities which are not exclusively lay can, according to their nature and constitutions, admit clerics and lay persons on an equal footing and with equal rights and obligations, excepting those which flow from sacred orders.”

Still, for orders in which most members are priests, the Vatican has insisted that ordination is a requisite for “the power of governance.” It has vetoed the election of brothers as superiors of orders that have more priests than brothers as members, even

when the order’s constitutions do not insist the superior be a priest.

At the Synod of Bishops on religious life in 1994, the question was raised repeatedly. Franciscan Father Hermann Schalluck, minister general of the Friars Minor at the time, told the synod that his order was founded by a layman, St. Francis of Assisi, who was never ordained a priest. The charism of the order was not tied to ordination, but to a life of following the Gospel in a radical way.

The equal footing of lay and ordained friars, he said, should mean they both could be called to leadership roles. And he asked the Vatican that the possibility be “officially and juridically” recognized.

Responding to the synod members’ propositions in 1996, St. John Paul II said, “A special commission has been established to examine and resolve the problems connected with this issue; it is necessary to await this commission’s conclusions before coming to suitable decisions in accordance with what will be authoritatively determined.”

The study appears to have been interrupted. In December 2015, the Vatican issued a document on the identity and mission of religious brothers. At the time, Archbishop Jose Rodriguez Carballo, secretary of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, said his office would ask Pope Francis for an ad hoc commission to study the question.



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# Now Showing

## 'The Promise' Sheds Light On Little - Known Armenian Genocide

By Joseph McAleer  
Catholic News Service

**NEW YORK (CNS)** -- The relatively little-known genocide of the Armenian people by the Ottoman Turks 100 years ago is brought into sharp focus by "The Promise" (Open Road).

Taking his cue from epics like "Doctor Zhivago," director Terry George ("Hotel Rwanda"), who co-wrote the screenplay with Robin Swicord, melds an important history lesson with a tender love story. Viewers will emerge with newfound knowledge of the enormity of the holocaust (1.5 million people killed between 1915 and 1922) while appreciating its profound impact on individuals and families.

The story begins in Constantinople (modern-day Istanbul) in 1914. World War I is on the horizon, and the formerly



CNS Photo/Open Road Films

**THE PROMISE:** Charlotte Le Bon and Christian Bale star in a scene from the movie "The Promise." 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.

mighty Ottoman Empire, which once controlled vast areas of Asia, Africa and the Middle East, is crumbling.

Michael Boghosian (Oscar Isaac), an idealistic medical student from a small Armenian village in southern Turkey, is entranced by the cosmopolitan city, and especially by Ana Khesarian (Charlotte Le Bon), a vivacious artist and fellow Armenian.

Never mind that Michael has made a promise of marriage to Maral (Angela Sarafyan), who awaits him back home. Nor that Ana is seeing firebrand American journalist Chris Myers (Christian Bale), who's in Turkey to document the war.

Michael and Ana fall in love. But their plans for the future are spoiled when Turkey joins the war on the German side, and decides to embark on a campaign of ethnic cleansing.

Up to this point, Muslim Turks and Armenian Christians have long lived together in relative harmony. All that changes, surreptitiously at first, as Turkish soldiers force Armenians from their homes. Most are shot outright; some are marched into the desert to prison labor camps. As Armenians, Michael and Ana are targeted. Chris attempts

**Viewers will emerge with newfound knowledge of the enormity of the holocaust (1.5 million people killed between 1915 and 1922) while appreciating its profound impact on individuals and families.**

to report on the killings and inform the world, but is arrested.

"The Promise" follows the travails of each character as the slaughter intensifies. Chris' plight attracts the attention of the real-life American ambassador, Henry Morgenthau (James Cromwell), who sounds the alarm.

Remarkable courage, perseverance and their unwavering Christian faith sustain the victims against all odds. "Our

revenge will be to survive," Ana tells Michael.

Despite the warnings below, given its potential to raise awareness of a historical tragedy -- one that the Turkish government, to this day, has never acknowledged -- "The Promise" is probably acceptable for mature adolescents.

The film contains scenes of wartime atrocities and violence, a nongraphic, nonmarital sexual encounter and brief crude language. 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.

## Coming Up On 'Proclaim!'

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

**May 21** -- As we salute Saint Michael School in Loretto as our Proclaim! School of the Month, a family will discuss what they love about the school and Catholic education.

**May 28** -- On this Memorial Day weekend, Saint Mary Parish, Altoona, pastor Monsignor Tim Stein and parishioner Dot Oberneder look ahead to a special Memorial Day tradition at the parish.

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**Sunday Mass**  
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**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

## May They Rest In Peace



### Jozef Kovacik

Jozek Kovacik has died at his home, in Slovakia.

He was the father of Father Jozef Kovacik, pastor of Saint Matthew Parish, Tyrone.

The Funeral Mass for Jozef Kovacik was celebrated by his son, in Slovakia.

### Carole L. Gibboney

Carole L. Gibboney, 77, died Thursday, May 4.

She was the mother of Deacon Donald Gibboney, in diaconal service at Most Holy Trinity Parish, Huntingdon.

She was born December 19, 1939, and was educated in the Scranton Public Schools. She was a graduate of Lackawanna Trail High School.

The Funeral Mass for Carole L. Gibboney was celebrated Monday, May 8 at Most Holy Trinity Church, Huntingdon. Committal was at Greenlea Cemetery Jackson Township McAllevey's Fort.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Huntingdon County Humane Society 11371 School House Hollow Road Huntingdon PA 16652.



**Sister Charlene Kelly  
R.S.M.**

Sister Charlene Kelly, 85, a member of the Mid - Atlantic Community of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, died

Saturday May 6, at Mercy Center Dallas, after a brief illness.

Sister Charlene was born May 14, 1931 in Newry, the daughter of the late Pius and Ethel (Costlow) Kelly.

Sister Charlene graduated from Mount Aloysius Academy in Cresson, and received her degree in Elementary Education at Misericordia University, Dallas, and her Masters degree from Marygrove College, Detroit, MI.

She entered the Sisters of Mercy in Dallas, on September 8, 1949 and professed her vows March 12, 1952.

Sister Charlene ministered in primary education in the Dioceses of Altoona - Johnston, and Scranton, and Brooklyn and Rockville Center NY. She was principal of Northern Cambria Catholic School, Spangler.

For 24 years, Sister Charlene was the registrar and academic advisor at Mount Aloysius College, Cresson.

Sister Charlene returned to Mercy Center in Dallas in 2015.

Surviving are her sisters and brothers, Gladys T. Glunt, Sister Jane R.S.M., Constance Dolinski, all of Newry, Mary E. Hetrick of East Freedom, Dolores R. Simpson and Eileen M. Hileman both of Duncansville, Rebecca Elias of Strongsville OH, Louis F of Duncansville, Richard T. of Harrisburg, Gerald E. of Staatsburg NY, and John P. of Medina OH.

She was preceded in death by a sister Charlene, and brothers Patrick and Michael.

The Funeral Mass for Sister Charlene Kelly R.S.M. was celebrated Tuesday, May 9 in the Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament at Mercy Center. Committal was made in the Sisters' Cemetery at Mount Aloysius.

Memorial Contributions may be made to the Sisters of Mercy, Mercy Center, P.O. Box 370, Dallas PA 18612.

**The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment shall touch them. They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead; and their passing away was thought an affliction and their going forth from us, utter destruction. But they are in peace.**

-- Wisdom 3: 1 - 3



**TRANSFIGURATION MAY CROWNING:** Transfiguration Parish, Conemaugh, celebrated May Crowning on Sunday, May 7. Taking part were (left to right) First row: Shaun Ocipa, Elsa Strazisar, Madison McCleester, Father Robert Hall (pastor). Second row: Nolan Wyrwas (altar server), Bryce McCleester, Nicholas Jasper and Matthew Jasper (altar servers).



**PERFECT ATTENDANCE:** Transfiguration Parish, Conemaugh, honored its religious education students who had a perfect attendance record for the 2016 - 2017 school year. Pictured are (left to right) Brady Kovalchik, Bryce McCleester, Elsa Strazisar, Louise Brezovic (director of religious education), Colin Markiewicz, Jessica Thomas, and Nicholas Jasper.

## In The Alleghenies

*(Continued From Page 6.)*

### Outdoor Masses

**Loretto:** Father John D. Byrnes, and the parish family of the Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel, invite the faithful to join them each Sunday evening, beginning May 28, at 7:00 p.m., for Mass at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Alleghenies. Worshippers are asked to bring a

lawn chair. The outdoor Masses will continue through Labor Day Weekend, September 3.

In case of inclement weather, Mass will be celebrated in the Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel.

### Saint Joseph Mission

**Hart's Sleeping Place:** Saint Joseph's Mission Church will be open for visitation on the first Sundays of the summer months: June 4, July 2, and August 6, from noon until 3:00 p.m.

Contact Floyd and Marian Farabaugh for information, or

to schedule other visits at (814) 344 - 2601.

A Mass in celebration of Memorial Day weekend will be held at the church at noon on Sunday, May 28.

**Saturday, July 15, is the deadline for the submission of all First Holy Communion, Confirmation, May Crowning and Graduation photos for publication in The Catholic Register. No exceptions to this deadline will be made. All photos received prior to deadline will be published.**

# Eleven Named Recipients Of Gallitzin Cross Award

## Bishop Will Present Awards At June 3 Dinner

Bishop Mark L. Bartchak will confer the Prince Gallitzin Cross Award upon 11 persons during a Saturday, June 3 dinner at the Calvin House, 2135 Plank Road, Duncansville.

The award was created in 1990, the 150th anniversary year of the death of the Servant of God the Reverend Prince Demetrius Gallitzin, and is presented to those who have imitated his evangelizing spirit, or who have worked to keep his memory alive.

Awardees come from ordained, religious, or lay members of the diocesan faithful, and are fully initiated Roman Catholics who are eligible to receive and avail themselves of the Sacraments of the Church.

This year's honorees include:

**Edgar and Nancy Anna** are members of Saint Bernard Parish, Hastings.

Edgar served as caretaker of the Saint Boniface Chapel property, was chair of the picnic committee and president of the Holy Name Society. Nancy was housekeeper at Saint Boniface parish, was the teacher of the First Holy Communion class, and helped at the parish festival. When Saint Boniface Parish closed in 1995, they became active members of the Hastings parish, serving in a variety of ministries. They were nominat-

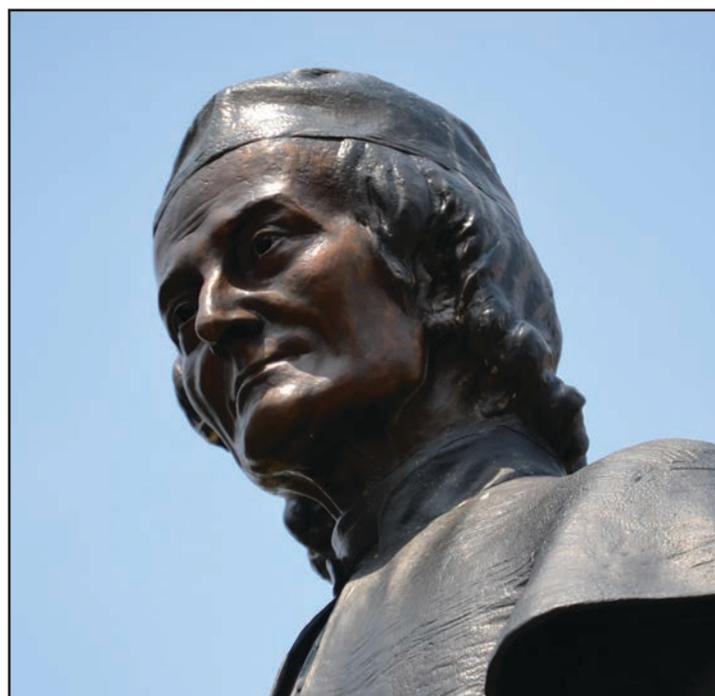


**THE PRINCE GALLITZIN CROSS AWARD**

ed by parishioners Dr. Kathleen O'Rourke, who said of them "Ed and Nancy Anna, by their quiet modeling of what a true Catholic Christian should be, have set the standard for a strong work ethic among their children and for the parishioners of Saint Bernard Parish."

**Nathaniel A. Barbera** is a member of Saint Peter Parish, Somerset.

Father Daniel J. O'Neill, pastor, said "Nathaniel A. Barbera has had a profound positive impact on both the parish and the community for generations." He and his late wife, Ann, were instrumental in founding Saint



Photos By Monsignor Timothy P. Stein

**THE SERVANT OF GOD THE REVEREND PRINCE DEMETRIUS GALLITZIN**

Peter School over 50 years ago. He was a founding member of the Independent Catholic Foundation, has served on the boards of Somerset Hospital and of Mount Aloysius College, Cresson, bringing to those positions a strong commitment to Catholic teaching.

**Father Clarence "Chuck" Bridges**, is parochial vicar at Saint John Gualbert Cathedral Parish, Johnstown, and is being recognized for his "visionary leadership" in the Diocese's television ministry, most notably the broadcast of Sunday Mass from the Johnstown Cathedral.

Said his nominator, "The

Prince Gallitzin Cross Award was created to honor and recognize those members of the Diocese who have imitated his evangelizing spirit. I can think of no one more representative of this calling than Father Clarence Bridges, who has touched the hearts, minds and souls of so many people through his efforts in the television ministry. He is truly deserving of this honor."

**Mary Jane Knisel** belongs to Saint Bartholomew Parish, Wilmore.

Mary Jane is a lifelong member of Saint Bartholomew Parish, a faith community founded by Father Gallitzin and dedi-

cated in 1840. She has served the parish in a variety of ministries, and was a founding member of the Saint Anne Society and the Parish Redevelopment Committee. She has served on parish council and is a long-time religious education teacher. Said Father Joseph C. Nale, pastor, "Mary Jane has given countless hours of her time and talents to Saint Bartholomew Parish. She is always the first person in the door and the last person to leave any parish event." Father Nale also noted her love for and knowledge of the history of the Wilmore Parish, which was featured in a 2015 broadcast of "Proclaim!" on the parish's 175th anniversary.

**Peter and Denise Kreckel** are from Saint Matthew Parish, Tyrone.

Father Jozef Kovacik, pastor, said "Peter and Denise are an extraordinary Christian Catholic couple . . . they are truly great ambassadors for Jesus Christ and the mission of the Church. Over the years they have had a tremendously positive impact on both Saint Matthew Parish and the broader community." They have been active in the Knights of Columbus and in the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, have participated in Cursillo and Disciples in Mission, and are strong Respect Life advocates, organizing and planning Tyrone's annual Respect for Life March in remembrance of Baby Agnes Doe.

*(Continued On Page 11.)*

## PERIODICAL RATE MAIL

# The Catholic Register

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