

The Catholic Register

Official Publication Of
The Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown

Volume 92, No. 4 Published Bi - Weekly (USPS 094 - 280)

www.dioceseaj.org June 26, 2017

Archbishop Gregory Of Atlanta:

Bishops 'Can Never Say We Are Sorry Enough' For Tragedy Of Clergy Sexual Abuse

By Sean Gallagher
Catholic News Service

INDIANAPOLIS (CNS) -- Standing before some 200 bishops from across the country, Atlanta Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory said that "we can never say that we are sorry enough for the share that we have had in this tragedy of broken fidelity and trust" in the clergy sexual abuse crisis in the Catholic Church.

He made this sober observation in a homily during a June 14 Mass at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis on the opening day of the U.S. bishops' spring meeting.

The liturgy was a response to a call from Pope Francis to episcopal conferences around the world to observe a "Day of Prayer and Penance" for survivors of sexual abuse within the church.

Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, was the principal celebrant of the Mass and spoke about the pope's call at the start of the liturgy.

"Today, there is a special urgency to our prayer," Cardinal DiNardo said. "The Holy Father



CNS Photo/Sean Gallagher, *The Criterion*

ARCHBISHOP GREGORY: Atlanta Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory delivers the homily during Mass June 14 at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis during the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' annual spring assembly.

has asked that all episcopal conferences offer a Day of Prayer and Penance for victims and survivors of sexual abuse.

"In solidarity with our brother bishops around the world, we acknowledge the sins that have occurred and ask for-

givenness from and healing of those who have suffered abuse at the hands of those who should

have been protecting and caring for them."

At the end of the Mass, the bishops, in a sign of penance, knelt while praying a prayer of healing and forgiveness for the victims of sexual abuse in the church.

"At this Mass," Archbishop Gregory said in his homily, "we bishops humbly and sincerely ask for the forgiveness of those who have been harmed, scandalized or dispirited by events that, even if they happened many years ago, remain ongoing sources of anguish for them and for those who love them."

The liturgy took place 15 years after U.S. bishops, in response to revelations about the clergy sexual abuse crisis in the church, approved the "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People," which expressed the responsibility of Church leaders to reach out to abuse victims and offer them means for healing and reconciliation.

Archbishop Gregory was USSCB president at the time of the charter was approved in 2002.

(Continued On Page 10.)



SAINT JOHN GUALBERT: Celebrating First Holy Communion at Saint John Gualbert Cathedral Parish, Johnstown, pictured at left, were (left to right) First row: Damien Byer (server), Emma Concannon, Laken Loya. Second row: Levi Giffin (server), Dominic Byer, Hayden Gates, Brady Page. Third row: Rachel Hall (server), Heather Jezeskie (coordinator), Father James Crookston (rector), Joan Cammarata (director) and Nancy Sottile (catechist). Celebrating Confirmation (at right) are (left to right) Madison Hanson, Rachel Hall, Bella Hauger, Namita Gallo and Jensen Delawder.



SAINT MONICA: Saint Monica Parish, Chest Springs, celebrated First Holy Communion Sunday, April 30. Taking part were (left to right) First row: Megan Eckenrode, Mia Crowell, Ellie Mae Kerfonta, Lilly Karlheim. Second row: Colvin Mallory, Maximus Watt, Mason Young, Mitchell Weiland, Colten Karlheim. Third row: Bonnie Hite (catechist), Carmelite of the Word Sister Linda LaMagna (director of religious education). Third Order Regular Franciscan Father Christopher Lemme (pastor) and Deacon Steve Luke.



HOLY FAMILY, COLVER: Holy Family Parish, Colver, celebrated First Holy Communion Sunday, May 7, and Confirmation Tuesday, May 16, Pictured at top are (left to right) First row: Rylee Miller, Clairissa and Samantha Hill. Second row: Sister of Saint Ann Anna Maria Lorenzon (catechist) and Father Bernard Grega (pastor). Pictured at bottom are (left to right) Austin Stockdill, Sister Anna Maria and Samantha Spacht.



SAINT AUGUSTINE: Celebrating First Holy Communion at Saint Augustine Parish, Dysart, on Sunday May 7 were (left to right) First row: Levi Link, Katie Weakland, Rachel Nelen, Grace Hock, Mason Kline. Second row: Lucas Snyder, Max Wendekier, Jaydon Ivory, Lilli Carnicella, Levi Kline, Karter John. Third row: Barb Lewis (catechist), Jane Stoltz (director of religious education), Third Order Regular Franciscan Father Christopher Lemme (pastor), Deacon Steve Luke and Carmelite of the Word Sister Linda LaMagna (pastoral minister).



In The Alleghenies



OUR LADY OF THE ALLEGHENIES: Our Lady of the Alleghenies Parish, Lilly, celebrated Confirmation Thursday, May 11. Pictured are (left to right) First row: Monsignor John Sasway (pastor), Madison Clinemyer, Taylor Tomlinson, Julia Myers, Servant of the Sacred Heart Sister Theresa Marie (director of religious education). Second row: Deacon Sam Albarano, Brock Talko, Jamil Flores, Dallas Hite and Dominic Stiffler. Not pictured are Olivia Sawinski, Stephanie Wheeler, Dominic Hall, Tanner Perrone and Dillion Tremel.



WILMORE MAY CROWNING: Saint Bartholomew Parish, Wilmore, celebrated May Crowning Sunday, April 30. Crowning the statue of Mary was Kelly Miller (left), attended by Tricia Sauter. Father Joseph Nale is pastor, and Diana Frantz is director of religious education.

Music

Choral Institute

Hollidaysburg: Registration is now open for participation in the 2017 Choral Institute of the Academy of Sacred Music. Hollidaysburg native Robert Long will lead singers and choral directors from throughout Central Pennsylvania in the art of choral singing. The choral intensive workshop consists of three evening rehearsals from July 9 – 11 immediately followed by performances on Wednesday evening in Altoona and Thursday evening in State College.

The Academy of Sacred Music will celebrate its 20th anniversary by performing favorite sacred choruses from our history. Soloists include Dorothy Liller, alto, and James White, bass - baritone. Asa Carns will accompany the group on piano and organ.

The public is invited to attend the Choral Institute's "Open Rehearsal" with free admission on Wednesday, July 12, at 7:00 p.m. at Saint John the Evangelist Church in Lakemont, Altoona.



90TH ANNIVERSARY: The 90th anniversary of Sain Therese of the Child Jesus Parish, Altoona, was celebrated Sunday, April 23. Mass was followed by dinner in Father Kelley Hall. The parish was established on January 11, 1927 by Bishop John J. McCort, and Father Thomas Kelley was named the first pastor. Father D. Timothy Grimme is the current pastor.

The Choral Institute Choir will perform on Thursday, July 13, at State College Presbyterian Church in the Central Pennsylvania Festival of the Arts with admission via an ArtsFest button.

Registration for singers is \$40.00 before June 30. To register or request additional details, please e - mail the Academy at academyofsacredmusic@gmail.com.



BEDFORD MAY CROWNING: Second grade student and First Communicant Kaytlen Romagnino crowned the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary when May Crowning was celebrated at Saint Thomas the School, Bedford.



SAINT GREGORY: Saint Gregory Parish, Macdonaldton, celebrated Confirmation Sunday, April 23. Pictured (left to right) are Ben Helinski, Sloane Vogt, Brooke Cornell, and Noah Kalp. Capuchin Franciscan Father Stephen Shin is pastor.

THE CATHOLIC REGISTER SERVING THE DIOCESE OF ALTOONA - JOHNSTOWN	Subscriptions: \$8.00 Parish Based \$18.00 Individual	Publisher: Most Reverend Bishop Mark L. Barchak
	Periodical Class Postage Paid At Altoona PA and other mailing offices. Postmaster send change of address to: 925 South Logan Boulevard (USPS 094 - 280)	Editor: Rev. Msgr. Timothy P. Stein
Published Bi - weekly at 925 South Logan Boulevard Hollidaysburg PA 16648	Member Publication Of The Catholic Press Association	Secretary: Frances M. Logrando
Phone (814) 695 - 7563 FAX (814) 695 - 7517		

Point Of View

Blessed Cardinal John Henry Newman once wrote that "to be deep in history is to cease to be Protestant." Cardinal Newman, a notable convert to the faith, was commenting on the essential role the Catholic Church has played throughout civilization -- and his belief that in order to take history seriously, one has to wrestle with the truth claims of the church.

As a former Protestant, much of Cardinal Newman's sentiments ring true to my experience. In some respects, it was my introduction to the Fathers of the Church that first steered me in the direction of Catholicism. But almost a decade later, I can also attest to the fact that the seeds of conversion require more than a mere history lesson.

In the spring semester of my sophomore year of college, I found myself studying abroad in Paris. Frustrated by the divisions within Protestantism and exploring the history and tradition of the Catholic faith, I decided to spend my Sundays in Paris bouncing to different Catholic parishes.

It was a convenient way to feed my love of art and architecture -- but it also served as an unexpected introduction to another kind of beauty -- the liturgy.

Attending my first Mass at the age of 19 was a peculiar experience. The bells and smells were all new to me, as were the collective prayers. But most striking were two other facets of the Mass: the centrality of the sacraments and the reverence in which the Mass was celebrated.



In Light Of Faith

Attending Mass Led To My Conversion By Christopher White

In Protestant churches, the peak of the service is the homily (or the sermon as most Protestants refer to it). And let's be clear: Good preaching matters when it comes to spiritual nourishment. But as I soon discovered, the pinnacle of the Mass is the consecration and reception of holy Communion.

As the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches, the Eucharist allows us to "unite ourselves with the heavenly liturgy and anticipate eternal life, when God will be all in all." The discovery of ordinary things becoming extraordinary things forever shifted the way I thought about what it meant to attend a church.

And then there was the beauty of the reverence of the Mass. The rituals and rhythms of the liturgy served as a guide to enter into deeper communion with God. Outside, the streets were noisy and my life unfocused. Inside, the liturgy channeled my focus on higher things.

It's for that reason the preparatory document for the 2018 Synod of Bishops on "Young people, faith and vocational discernment" reminds us that "in an increasingly noisy society that offers a plethora of stimuli, one fundamental objective in the pastoral care of young people is to provide the young with opportunities to enjoy the value of silence and contemplation and to receive formation in understanding one's experiences and to listen to one's conscience."

After that semester in Paris, it would be another three years before I finally entered in full communion with the church. The history books and theology, they all mattered and were certainly formative in my experience. But I'll always remain most grateful for the discovery of the beauty of the Mass, where in the company of saints and sinners alike, I could focus on what mattered most.

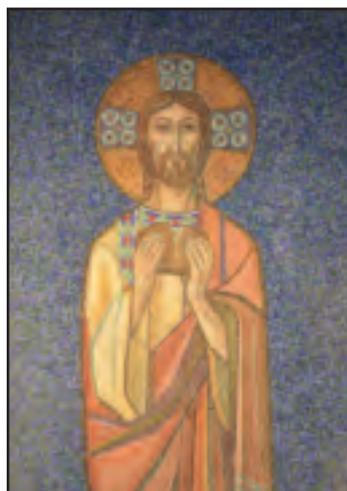


Photo By Monsignor Timothy P. Stein



Another Perspective

Blind And Toothless? No! By Monsignor Timothy P. Stein

London is my favorite city. Since 1985 I have been making annual trips to that wonderful old town on the banks of the River Thames. I am a firm adherent to the words of author Samuel Johnson (1709 – 1784): "When a man is tired of London, he is tired of life."

Sadly, these days I do find myself tired of London. Not tired of the London of the Royal Family and Hatchards Bookstore, my beloved church of Notre Dame in Leicester Square, nor the London where the Anglican Westminster Abbey and the Roman Catholic Westminster Cathedral of the Most Precious Blood stand as twin sentinels at either end of Victoria Street. I am not tired of the London of Hyde Park, Green Park, Saint James' Park and the West End Theatre district. No, I am tired of the London that has become a place of terrorism and tragedy -- a place rarely out of the evening news or the morning headlines. My heart breaks for what my beloved city has become.

In March a terrorist killed a police officer and a number of civilians in an attack on Westminster Bridge and Parliament Square. In early June, a similar attack targeted people on London Bridge and in Borough Market. And in the early morning hours of June 19, a particularly heinous attack was directed at Muslim worshippers leaving the Finsbury Park Mosque following late night prayers for the holy month of Ramadan. The first two attacks were committed by men identified as Muslims showing their allegiance to ISIS. The attack in Finsbury Park was a retaliatory strike, carried out by a white Welshman who shouted "I want to kill all Muslims" and "I've done my bit."

All three of these attacks were directed against peaceful people who were simply, quietly, going about their business. The attack on the mosque congregation was all the sadder for the fact that it targeted a group of people who had gathered near a bus stop to give first aid to an elderly man who had collapsed from heat exhaustion. Like good Samaritans, they were tending to a neighbor in need. Their act of kindness was met with an act of hate.

The morning after the Finsbury Park attack, we read from the fifth chapter of Saint Matthew's gospel where Jesus says "You have heard that it was said 'an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. But I say to you, offer no resistance to one who is evil.'" Jesus condemned the sort of thinking that sent that man plowing his vehicle into a crowd of Muslim worshippers who were tending to a sick old man. Jesus plainly states that that kind of action, that kind of thinking is wrong! We have to take His words to heart as terror keeps rearing its ugly head in our world.

When I read the gospel that morning, I remembered a line from the musical "Fiddler On The Roof." The Jews have just been notified that they are being evicted from their homes in the village of Anatevka. One of the men quotes "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth," and tries to incite his neighbors to rise up against the Tsar's troops. But Tevye, the dairyman, the hero of the show says "And what good will it do when the whole world is blind and toothless?" Indeed. What good will it do?

In the midst of all of the terrorist acts in London, another tragedy hit the embattled city, in mid - June, when the Grenfell Tower apartment building became a towering inferno killing dozens of men, women and children. People of all ages, races and religions lived there. And when the alarm was sounded and the scope of the devastation became clear, people of all ages, races and religions responded, flooding community centers, churches and mosques with donations of food and clothing and other necessities for those who had been left homeless in the tower and in the surrounding neighborhoods.

Those people didn't choose to become blind and toothless. Rather they stood together to do what they could for their neighbors. That's what Jesus would have us do.

And that's the London spirit I'll never grow tired of.

Building Healthy Relationships: Engaging Youth In The Conversation

By Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape (PCAR)

Childhood and adolescence are times of growth, development, and discovery. During these time periods, young people establish values and beliefs that follow them into adulthood. Let's talk about how your children can develop positive values and beliefs about relationships.

The development of sexuality begins at an early age. Influenced by their peers, their parents, the media, and their communities, children develop attitudes and behaviors related to sex by adolescence. However, some of these perceptions of sexuality can be unhealthy or unrealistic.

According to a national study, one in four girls and one in six boys will be sexually assaulted before they turn 18 years old. Understanding healthy sexuality can help prevent sexual violence. We can create this understanding by addressing gender stereotypes and gender discrimination promoting healthy personal relationships, and supporting young children to feel empowered to ask questions about their bodies.

Demonstrating healthy personal boundaries with

your child when they are young is important, and can start with simple acts, like respecting and supporting your child's autonomy and right to make choices about their own body. For example, don't force your child to hug someone who they don't want to hug. Encourage your child to respect the choices of others and support respectful interactions—for example, tell your child to ask an individual for permission before giving hugs or holding hands. Teach your child the correct names for all of their body parts, including their genitals—having this information empowers your child to know and understand their body better during phases of development.

During late adolescence and teenage years, parents of young adults can influence how teens develop healthy attitudes about sexuality. Parents can support their child's growing sexuality by engaging them in open, honest conversations. Talk openly and continuously about sexuality and body development—reassure them that puberty is a natural process. Encourage them to talk about their own concerns related to sexuality, and practice how you would respond to questions that would make you uncomfortable—what would you say if your

child told you they were sexually active; how would you explain puberty to your child?

Look for opportunities in social media and pop culture to continue the conversations about healthy relationships—when watching TV together, point out examples of positive relationships and have discussions about relationships that seem negative. Remember that your children are learning from what they see and hear in pop culture and in their communities. Talk frequently about consent—inform your teen that consent cannot be given if pressured from someone else. Advise them that consent must be given from all partners within the context of sexual relationships and indicates a healthy agreement between partners.

Having conversations with your children related to their body development and sexuality can be challenging and sometimes scary for parents. Local rape crisis centers can provide valuable resources and information about supporting children and adolescents through the development process. We encourage you to talk with your child and help them build a path to creating healthy relationships.

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

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

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

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

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



Photo By Tony DeGol

RELIGIOUS JUBILARIANS: Men and women religious celebrating their jubilees were guests of Bishop Mark L. Bartchak and vicar for religious Conventual Franciscan Father Anthony Francis Spilka at dinner at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona on Wednesday, June 7. Pictured are (left to right) First row: Carmelite for the Aged and Infirm Sister Joachim Anne Ferenchak, Carmelite of the Word Sister Marjorie McGuire, Sister of Saint Ann Letizia Lo'Re, Carmelite for the Aged and Infirm Sister Ann McCartney. Second row: Bishop Mark, Third Order Regular Franciscan Father Terrance Adams and Father Anthony Francis. The jubilarians were all marking their 50th anniversary.



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL: Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Altoona, celebrated First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 13. Taking part were (left to right) First row: The following children received Eucharist: Isabella Caracciolo, Emma Marasco, Gianna Fiore, Meya Inman, Aaden Aveni, Gavin Weyandt. Second row: Isabella Caminiti, Aythan Hockenberry, Evan Schimminger, Bayla Miller, Brianna Bougher. Third row: Maurie Querry, Milena Barr, Alyssa Hite, Rocco Cacciotti. Fourth row: Sharon Vaughn (catechist), Third Order Regular Franciscan Fathers Terrence Smith (parochial vicar) and Frank Scornaienchi (pastor) and Karen Snowden (director of religious education).

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Maryknoll Priest, Chest Springs Native, Is Diamond Jubilarian

Maryknoll Father Gerald J. Nagle, a native of Chest Springs, celebrated the 60th anniversary of his ordination on Sunday, June 25. He was one of 21 Maryknollers to commemorate his ordination to the priesthood or Final Oath as a Maryknoll Brother in ceremonies held at the Maryknoll Society Center in Ossining NY.

After ordination on June 8, 1957, Father Nagle was assigned to development work in Chicago, Milwaukee and Seattle.

"There is much work to be done in this vast area to make Maryknoll and the missions appreciated and loved," said Father Nagle about his development assignment.

In 1965, Father Nagle was assigned to the Philippines. He worked in the Maryknoll Prelature of Tagum in Eastern Mindanao, serving in the parishes of Lupon and Manay in the Province of Davao Oriental. In 1972, he became the coordinator of the lay leadership program for "lay deacons" in the Prelature of Tagum. In 1976, he volunteered to be the chaplain for the Tribal

Filipinos for the Prelature. In 1977, he became the coordinator of the Philippine Lay Mission Program that he directed for the next 10 years.

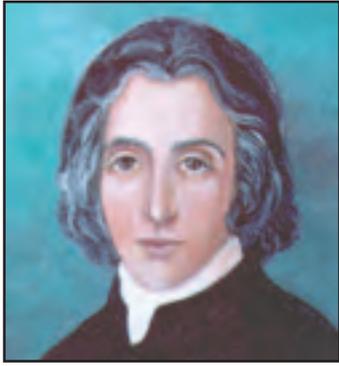
Father Nagle returned to the United States in 1987 to serve in Maryknoll's Development Department. In 1988, Father Nagle was appointed director of development. He was assigned to Maryknoll's San Francisco House in 1993, where he served for five years before returning to Maryknoll, New York.

Father Nagle was born September 15, 1930, in Chest Springs. He moved with his family to Saint Augustine, where he attended Saint Augustine Public School (1941-1944). In 1948, after graduating from the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus OH, he entered Maryknoll. Father Nagle holds a bachelor's degree in philosophy from Maryknoll College, Glen Ellyn IL (1952), and a master's degree in religious education from Maryknoll Seminary in Ossining (1957).

Father Nagle was assigned to the Maryknoll Senior Missioner Community during 2001.



SAINT THOMAS MORE: First Holy Communion was celebrated by Saint Thomas More Parish, Roaring Spring, Sunday, May 7. Pictured are (left to right) First row: Cole Marks, Caden Troy, Gage Marks, Lizzie Hazenstab. Second row: Judy Noland (catechist) and Father Leo Lynch (pastor).



A Prince In The Service Of The Great King

The Servant Of God
Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin
1770 - 1840

Archbishop Is Lithuania's First Beatified Soviet - Era Martyr

By Jonathan Luxmoore
Catholic News Service

WARSAW, Poland (CNS) -- A Lithuanian archbishop who was murdered with a lethal injection after 16 years in prisons

and labor camps was to become the first Catholic martyr from the country's communist era to be declared blessed.

The beatification ceremony for Archbishop Teofilus Matulionis, who died in 1962, was held June 25 in Vilnius, the Lithu-

Prayer For Father Gallitzin's Intercession

O God, light of the faithful and shepherd of souls, who sent Servant of God Demetrius Gallitzin to serve God's people in the Allegheny Mountains, feeding your sheep by his words and forming them by his example, pour out your Spirit to sow seeds of truth in people's hearts and to awaken in them obedience to the faith.

May the Gospel continue to be preached and the Sacraments bring power and grace to the faithful. By the example of this man of faith, Demetrius Gallitzin, may your people advance in the path of salvation and love.

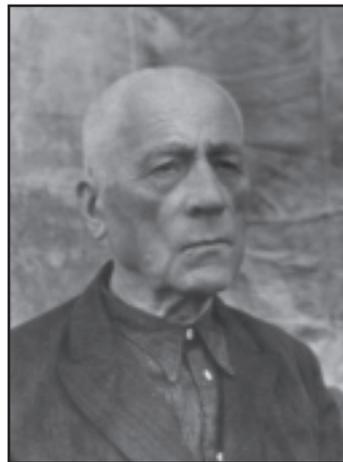
Confident of your faithfulness to us, we humbly ask you, our God, to grant us the favor of (name your intention).

May Christ's saving work continue to the end of the ages, and may we feel a more urgent call to work for the salvation of every creature. We pray this, as did your priest Demetrius Gallitzin, through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

+ + +

Kindly send information about favors granted to:

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



CNS Photo/Diocese Kaisi

BLESSED TEOFILIUS MATULIONIS

anian capital. About 30,000 people including bishops and priests from abroad attended.

"Besides being our first Soviet-era martyr recognized by the universal church, he'll also be the first Lithuanian beatified on native soil," said Archbishop Gintaras Grusas of Vilnius, president of Lithuania's bishops' conference.

Archbishop Matulionis' "radical belief" in "seeking the truth at any cost" offered an attractive message, especially for young people, who will take part in a two-day youth festival before the ceremony, the prelate told Catholic News Service June 8.

"Given current tensions in our part of the world, his call to remain at peace and follow the divine will, knowing God always gives us the gifts we need,

remains highly relevant," Archbishop Grusas said.

"Witnessing to one's faith doesn't necessarily mean going as far as death. There are also lighter forms of persecution happening daily in our societies, which it also requires courage to face," he said.

Born in 1873 in Kudoriskis in northeastern Lithuania, Archbishop Matulionis was ordained in St. Petersburg, Russia, in 1900, and took charge of the city's St. Catherine Church in 1910 after parish work in neighboring Latvia.

Jailed for three years during the 1923 trial of Archbishop Jan Cieplak and other Catholic clergy, he was secretly made a bishop six years later following his release, but then sent without trial to the Solovki prison on the Solovetsky Islands in the White Sea.

Archbishop Matulionis was allowed to return to Lithuania in a 1933 prisoner exchange, and helped propagate the devotion to the Sacred Heart while working as a military chaplain. He also visited Lithuanian parishes in the United States.

Appointed bishop of Kaisiadorys in 1943, he was arrested in 1946 for refusing to collaborate with Lithuania's Soviet occupiers and sent to several prisons only resuming episcopal functions secretly when freed in 1956.

He was raised to archbishop by Pope John XXIII in 1962, but was refused Soviet permission to attend the Second Vatican Council, and died Aug. 20, 1962 from a lethal injection, which was believed administered by a KGB police nurse following a brutal beating in his apartment.

The sainthood cause was launched in 1990 after Lithuania's independence from Soviet rule, and completed by a papal decree on his martyrdom in December 2016.

In an April 13 pastoral message, the Lithuanian bishops' conference said Archbishop Matulionis had "lived the Easter message" and that he had consistently shown "peace, confidence and goodness," even to his persecutors.

Archbishop Grusas said the martyred prelate had

"offered up his sufferings for the conversion of Russia," while also "moving the church forward" by instructing clergy to remain with their flock even if it meant persecution and exile.

He suggested that Archbishop Matulionis invitation from the pope to attend Vatican II appeared to have been the "last straw" for Lithuania's Soviet rulers.

The last Lithuanian to be beatified, Bishop Jerzy Matulewicz-Matulaitis, who lived from 1871 to 1927 and was the founder of the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, was declared blessed in Rome by St. John Paul II in 1987.

The church also is seeking the beatification of Bishop Vincentas Borisevicius, who was shot in 1946 for alleged links with underground fighters, and Archbishop Mecišlovas Reinys who died in a Russian prison in 1953.

The cases of martyred Catholics have been documented by a governmental Genocide and Resistance Research Center, established in 1997.

Archbishop Grusas said, however, that beatifications had been delayed by a lack of canonically trained experts in the Lithuanian church following Soviet rule. He said with recent funding and technical support he hoped the cases of other martyrs could be brought forward.

"We're dealing with recent history, but as we rebuild our church, we're gaining the resources and expertise we need," he told CNS.



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Word of Life



The Pope Teaches

Poverty Requires Action By Pope Francis

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- People cannot sit back and be indifferent or unresponsive to growing poverty in the world as a privileged minority accumulates "ostentatious wealth," Pope Francis said.

"God created the heavens and the earth for all; yet sadly some have erected barriers, walls and fences, betraying the original gift meant for all humanity, with none excluded," the pope said in a message for the first World Day of the Poor.

The World Day of the Poor -- to be marked each year on the 33rd Sunday of Ordinary time -- will be celebrated Nov. 19 this year and will focus on the Apostle John's call to love "not with words, but with deeds."

There are so many forms of material and spiritual poverty that poison people's hearts and harm their dignity, the pope said in his message, and "we must respond with a new vision of life and society."

Too often Christians have taken on "a worldly way of thinking" and forgotten to keep their gaze and goals focused on Christ, who is present in those who are broken and vulnerable.

An admonition by St. John Chrysostom "remains ever timely," the pope said, quoting: "If you want to honor the body of Christ, do not scorn it when it is naked; do not honor the eucharistic Christ with silk vestments and then, leaving the church, neglect the other Christ suffering from cold and nakedness."

"Poverty has the face of women, men and children exploited by base interests, crushed by the machinations of power and money," he said. "What a bitter and endless list we would have to compile were we to add the poverty born of social injustice, moral degeneration, the greed of a chosen few and generalized indifference."

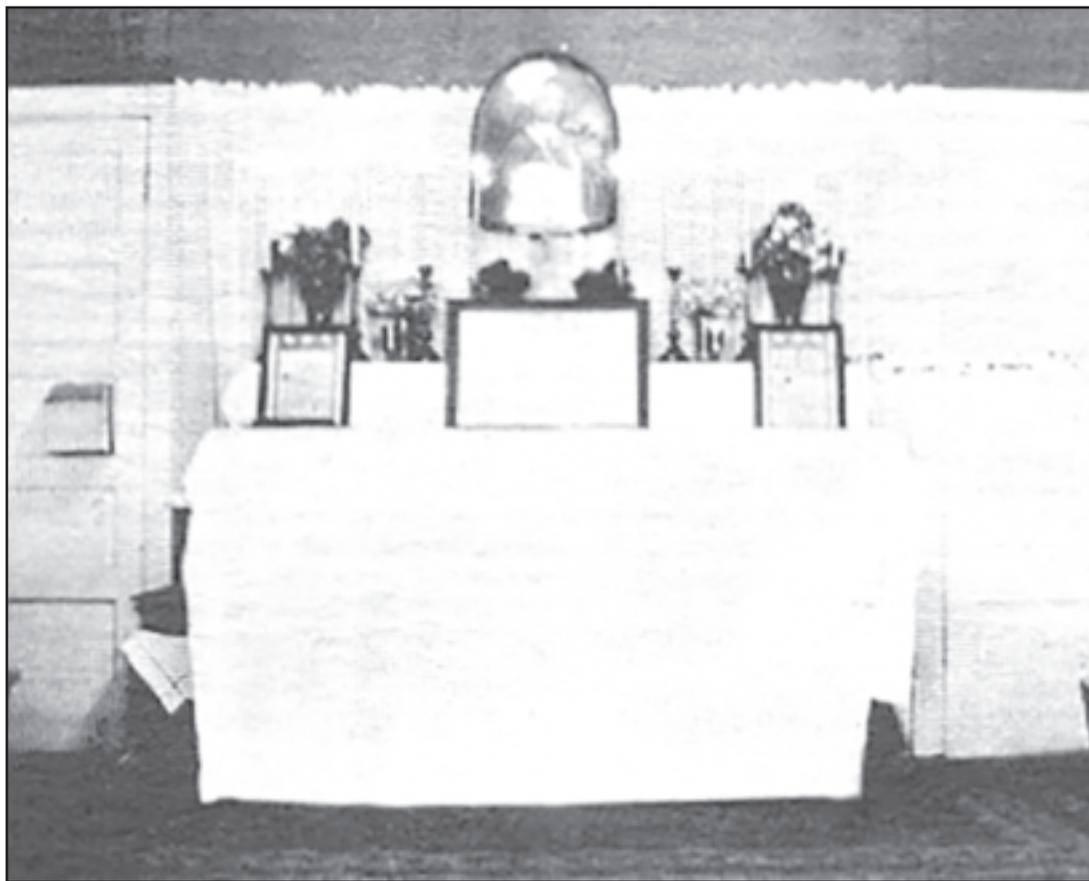
"Tragically, in our own time, even as ostentatious wealth accumulates in the hands of the privileged few, often in connection with illegal activities and the appalling exploitation of human dignity, there is a scandalous growth of poverty in broad sectors of society throughout our world," Pope Francis wrote. "Faced with this scenario, we cannot remain passive, much less resigned."

Christians must reach out to the poor as Christ did and commanded, the pope said. The poor, in fact, "are not a problem, they are a resource" rich in dignity and God-given gifts that can help Christians better understand the essential truth of the Gospel.

"Blessed, therefore, are the open hands that embrace the poor and help them: They are hands that bring hope," he said. "Blessed are the hands that reach beyond every barrier of culture, religion and nationality and pour the balm of consolation over the wounds of humanity. Blessed are the open hands that ask nothing in exchange, with no 'ifs' or 'buts' or 'maybes': They are hands that call down God's blessing upon their brothers and sisters."

Pope Francis said a good role model was his namesake, St. Francis of Assisi, who kept his gaze fixed on Christ so as to be "able to see and serve him in the poor." The pope took the name of this saint during the conclave that elected him in 2013 after another cardinal told him, "Don't forget the poor."

"If we want to help change history and promote real development, we need to hear the cry of the poor and commit ourselves to ending their marginalization," the pope wrote in his message.



ONE MORE TIME: When Saint Therese of the Child Jesus Parish was established in Altoona on January 11, 1927, Mass was celebrated in a store room at 1903 Fourth Street, donated by George Shaeffer of Shaeffer Stores. A picture of Saint Therese over the altar honored the parish's patron saint. The first Mass in the present church was celebrated on Christmas Day, 1927.

Dan Kucera was a Benedictine monk, teacher, college president, abbot, archbishop and cherished friend who returned to God May 30, 2017.

After I returned from my studies at the University of Notre Dame, my bishop, Romeo Blanchette, laughingly said, "Now what do I do with you?"

"I would like to develop a religious education institute at St. Procopius College in Lisle, Illinois," I replied.

He smiled and replied, "You've been away too long, it's now Illinois Benedictine College. Go ahead and do it."

I immediately made an appointment with Father Dan, the college president, and discussed my plan.

"You have my full support," he pledged. Not only did he support me, but he taught me another side of education I hadn't learned at Notre Dame.

He was a builder who had expanded campus facilities, and also built a new monastery. To accomplish this, he became a fundraiser. As glamorous as fundraising may seem, it isn't, be-



The Human Side

Remembering A Beloved Friend

By Father Eugene Hemrick

cause it requires long-night dinners, persistence and convincing donors.

Dan knew his business, was straightforward and deeply dedicated to education. Most of all, he succeeded because he was less a businessman and more a Benedictine priest.

Some resisted his building campaigns because they feared poor economic times. Why then, for example, go forward and build facilities for students where they can congregate when not in class? To Dan, these facilities were important because it is here where informal education is at its best: students comparing notes and teaching each other outside the classroom.

Education requires first-rate advisory boards that challenge,

are creative and fundraise. A prominent college likewise needs a faculty that works together and especially contributes to school spirit. This was Dan's responsibility, which he fulfilled par excellence. The college exuded the Benedictine spirit with monks, lay teachers and students mingling together.

He could also be tough in volatile situations. Yes, there were times disagreements ended in shoutouts, but never lasted and life carried on. I know as fact because I had one with him.

How I ever became involved with a Benedictine college, monastery and monk who befriended me is still a mystery. I do know I thank God for a cherished friend whose beautiful spirit lives on in me.



Question Corner

By Father Kenneth Doyle
Cellphones Revisited

Q. Recently a reader complained about irreverent behavior in church prior to Mass, including cellphone use. As part of your response, you stated that cellphone use is always inappropriate. Judging behavior is also ugly behavior, at least as repugnant as irreverence.

I use my cellphone prior to Mass while seated in church. I read the day's Scriptures along with meditations on those readings from several sources. (I particularly like the daily reflections from the University of Notre Dame and from the Jesuit community.) I will continue this practice despite anyone's misplaced judgments. (City of origin withheld)

Q. I take issue with your recent comments on cellphone usage in church, as appeared in your column in **Our Sunday Visitor**. I fully agree with the inappropriateness of talking or texting before, during or even after the service is over.

However, using the Laudate

app, I read the daily Scriptures, the Loreto Litany (after saying the rosary) and a number of other prayers before Mass. It never really occurred to me that what I do quietly on my cellphone is offensive to others. (Lawrenceville, Illinois)

A. The letters above are indicative of those that arrive each week in response to this column. (Did you notice -- as I did -- a slight difference in tone between the two letters?) Such letters are valuable, serving to fill out my own answers and offering observations that cannot be included in a few short paragraphs.

The original question had complained about people talking and laughing on cellphones -- or texting -- before Mass (in fact, during exposition of the Blessed Sacrament). I did offer my own view that "the use of cellphones is never proper in church -- whether to speak or to text."

I neglected to mention that there are some legitimate and laudable uses that involve nei-

ther speaking nor texting -- most notably, to reflect on the Scriptures or to read prayers in preparation for the Eucharist. So, a mea culpa from me and a thank-you to those who responded.

Q. Can priests baptize someone if they are in the state of mortal sin? My daughter was baptized by our parish priest in the 1980s. A few months later, he committed suicide. The reason given was that he was being accused of sexual abuse.

If that was true, was he allowed to baptize? And is my daughter legitimately baptized, or does she need a new baptism? (Manassas, Virginia)

A. The church has always taught that the validity of a sacrament does not depend on the state of soul of the human minister. (The technical theological language is that the sacraments act "ex opere operato" -- i.e., from the very fact of the action's having been performed.) With every sacrament, Jesus Christ is the principal actor, even when the minister is unworthy.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church expresses it this way: "From the moment that a sacrament is celebrated in accordance with the intention of the church, the power of Christ and his Spirit acts in and through it, independently of the personal holiness of the minister" (No. 1128).

That having been said, a priest of course must strive always to remain in the state of grace so that he may be a worthy representative of Christ, in whose person he acts in conferring a sacrament.

So, to answer your question: Your daughter was validly baptized and no "re-baptism" needs to take place. What you could do, though, is to offer a prayer or two for the priest who baptized her.

Had the priest been guilty of sexual abuse, it could be that he had confessed the sin and been forgiven long before he baptized your daughter. Still, though, he was deeply troubled -- and the suicide would indicate -- and could profit from your prayers.



For The Journey

By Effie Caldarola
You Are
My Favorite Customer

I was barely through the door of my neighborhood bank the other day when I heard "Ana," (not her real name), one of the tellers, call "Hi, Effie."

It's a wonderful feeling when people know and speak your name.

A few years ago, we moved from Alaska, our home for many years. As we prepared to leave, I would walk into my comforting, familiar coffee shop and the words to the old "Cheers" television theme song would come to mind: "I want to go where everybody knows my name."

Nobody wants to be a stranger. It's nice to be recognized.

But then Ana said something else: "I was just telling Michelle (another teller) that Effie is my favorite customer."

I was startled and we both laughed.

"Why," I asked, "am I your favorite customer? Do you have a lot of unfriendly customers?"

She nodded her head sadly. "You should come in and spend a day with me some time," she said.

OK, before I go on, I must establish I do not always have a sunny disposition. Just ask the customer service folks at the big-box store if I'm pleasant when I'm forced to stand in line to contest an inaccurate charge. Or ask my husband how jolly I am some mornings before coffee.

Ana's comment, however, merits reflection. Is a cheerful and polite customer becoming the exception?

Are we becoming less and less courteous as a nation?

We're all too familiar with the vile extremes of behavior lately: the white supremacist who kills two wonderful men who are defending women on a Portland train; or the death threats that are leveled against practically everyone these days, like the referee for an Elite Eight basketball game who made calls with which some fans disagreed; or the racist and misogynistic threats made against Leslie Jones, a strong and vocal black comic who happened to star in a "Ghostbusters" remake some people didn't like.

Then there are actions closer to me: my daughter's co-worker in Philadelphia, a Muslim woman screamed at from a truck ("Go home!") as she walked down the street. Or my friend Molly, who took a Syrian couple house hunting for a rental and encountered disturbing discrimination and hostility in response to the wife's hijab.

Or even in my rural Nebraska hometown, an agricultural area that was originally settled by Bohemians and Irish, but is now largely Hispanic. The athletic director there wrote a public letter lamenting the abusive treatment of his teams by visitors from other rural towns, visitors who shout ethnic slurs while hoisting Trump signs at sports competitions.

"Ana" is a beautiful young woman with ambiguous ethnicity, although her real name could be Middle Eastern and her English has the faintest hint of an accent. Is this why she deals with irascible customers? Or are people just getting ruder?

I took my own lessons away from the bank. The climate in our country may have plunged in the past few months, but we need to endeavor to make our own lives speak of respect and mercy. We need to renew our commitment to "go high" to make up for all the folks "going low."

I may register a polite complaint at the big-box store, but I'm going to be more mindful of the low-paid clerk with whom I'm interacting. I'm going to be more aware of how people view my behavior and how it affects others. I'm going to learn people's names.

We should encounter no strangers. If we are Christians, we should encounter only Jesus, in his vast variety of disguises.

Saints Peter
and Paul
First Century
Feast - June 29



These apostles share a feast as founders of the church in Rome. Peter, a Galilean fisherman chosen by Christ as one of the Twelve Apostles, became the undisputed leader of the fledgling church after Pentecost. Paul, a Pharisee and Roman citizen who had persecuted Christians, became after his dramatic conversion the church's greatest missionary, its "apostle of the gentiles." By tradition both were martyred in Rome. Their adventures are recounted in the Acts of the Apostles, and letters from them are included in the New Testament.

Bishops Express Sorrow For Sin Of Sexual Abuse

(Continued From Page 1.)

“We humbly seek forgiveness from the faith-filled people of our church and from our society at large,” he said, “and especially from those whose lives may have been devastated by our failure to care adequately for the little ones entrusted to us and for any decision that we made or should have made that exacerbated the sorrow and heartache that the entire church has felt and continues to feel -- for what we have done, and for what we have failed to do.”

The charter established church procedures to ensure the care of victims of sexual abuse within the Catholic Church; that justice be pursued for them; and the prevention of such abuse now and in the future.

Earlier in the day, the bishops heard a report on the continuing implementation of the charter and annual audits of local dioceses across the country to evaluate their compliance with it.

“They are sincere, state-of-the-art and effective,” Archbishop Gregory said of the charter’s procedures in his homily. “Nevertheless, this expression of our sorrow is far more important at this time, in this place, than any administrative process or training effort, however beneficial to the church and to the world.”

The Mass on the “Day of Prayer and Penance” was an expression, Archbishop Gregory said that “ultimately it must be the Lord himself who heals and reconciles the hearts of those who live with the pain of God’s



CNS Photo/Sean Gallagher, *The Criterion*

BISHOPS PRAY: Bishops pray during Mass June 14 at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis during the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ annual spring assembly.

law unheeded. For that grace, with sincere hearts, with con-

trite spirits and with a renewed promise to protect, we simply pray this evening.”

The bishops were joined at the Mass by many Catholics from the Archdiocese of Indianapolis as well as USCCB staff members.

Tom Spencer, a member of St. Luke the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis, worshipped at the Mass and was impressed by the

gesture of penance made by the country’s bishops.

“It was very powerful,” said Spencer after the liturgy. “I think that it’s a very powerful statement. I hope that the broader church sees it as a great effort on their part to bring about healing, to listen to the folks who have been abused and to offer our prayer and sacrifice for them to help them heal.”



CNS Photo/Sean Gallagher, *The Criterion*

CARDINAL: Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, elevates a chalice during a June 14 Mass at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis during the USCCB’s annual spring assembly.

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KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION: Celebrating kindergarten graduation at Saint Rose of Lima Parish, Altoona, were (left to right) First row: Grace Garofolo, Khloe Settlemier, Evie Irwin, Fernanda Gonzalez, Ruth Stephens. Second row: Brody Kenawell, Ben Himmelwright, Michael Nardoza, Colin Ronan, Michael Ronan, Thomas Kessinger. Third row: Jennifer Crum - Waite, Alexis Youn, Father Brian Saylor (pastor) and Matthew Waite.



RESURRECTION: Resurrection Parish, Johnstown, celebrated Confirmation Tuesday, May 9. Confirmed were (left to right) First row: Jordan Thomas, Callasandra Burgan, Lea Holtz. Second row Gabriel Coleman, Logan Gagan, John Isenberg, Jeffery McKissick and Zachary Beblar.



GRADUATES HONORED: The Family Life Committee of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Altoona, honored the parish's 2017 high school graduates on Sunday, May 21. Pictured are (left to right) First row: Madeline Hott, Olivia DelGrosso, Carley Ciampoli. Second row: Third Order Regular Franciscan Father Frank Scornaienchi (pastor), Alanna Leidig, Tyler Glunt, Brandon Haun, Sophia Damiano and Third Order Regular Franciscan Father Terrence Smith (parochial vicar).

Eucharist Is Call To Unity

(Continued From Page 16.)

“The Eucharist is flavored with Jesus’ words and deeds, the taste of his passion, the fragrance of his Spirit,” he said. “When we receive it, our hearts are overcome with the certainty of Jesus’ love.”

At the same time, the pope said, the Eucharist is a reminder that Christians are not isolated

individuals but are called to receive Christ’s body together and to build up the body of the church.

“In experiencing this Eucharist,” he told those at the Mass, “let us adore and thank the Lord for this greatest of gifts: the living memorial of his love that makes us one body and leads us to unity.”

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SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST, BELLEFONTE: First Holy Communion was celebrated Saturday, April 29 at Saint John the Evangelist Parish, Bellefonte. Pictured are (left to right) First row: Cane Capparelle, Riley Santostefano, Lena Brown, Maxwell O’Leary, Connor Smithmyer, Aliyah DuBois, Joseph Gearhart, Madison Kellogg, Sean DePlato, Lauren Berkey, Nina Mayers, Sophia Decker, Zachary Lehman. Second row: Althea Helms, Quinn Park, Jamesyn Kelleher, Margaret Yurick, Bella Pereira, Samuel Clark, Abigail Hacker, Brady Wynkoop, Evan Mattern, Franceso Long, Talia Cotter, Avery Milanese, Anthony Suhy, Benjamin Clark, Braylon Litzinger, Rowan Zinobile, Harper Waite. Third row: Michelle Davis, Deacon Thomas Boldin, Father George Jakopac (pastor) and Sandy Rogus.



HOLY FAMILY, HOOVERSVILLE: Holy Family Parish, Hooversville, celebrated Confirmation Tuesday, May 9 and First Holy Communion Sunday, May 21. Pictured at left are (left to right) First row: Conventual Franciscan Father Karl Kolodziejski (pastor), Shawn Manges, Rosalee Meehleib, Tierney Diehl. Second row: Zachary Grandas, Evan Barron, Miranda Berkebile, Kristin Diehl and Dora Duncan (director of religious education). Picture at right are (left to right) First row: Ansley Stigers, Riley Shetler, Ava Mulcahy, Connor Mulcahy, Lilly Oakes, Noah Lasky. Second row: Mason Kabala (server), Father Kolodziejski, Carol Berkey (catechist), Copper Stigers and Jonathan Daniels (servers).

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HOLY FAMILY, PORTAGE: First Holy Communion was celebrated by Holy Family Parish, Portage, on Sunday, April 23. Participating were (photo at left, left to right) First row: Kendall Bednarski, Kennedy Myers, Marissa Plummer, Kaitlyn Gressick, Catherine Kordish, Kylie Hess, Vanessa Barnyak, Carter Panick. Second row: Caelynn Plummer, Nathan Phillips, Madilynn Harker, Riley Hazlett, Morgan Litzinger, Joshua Papcun, Jordan Klein. Third row: Melissa Lee (director of religious education, Melinda Harker, Jacob Harker, Third Order Regular Franciscan Father Kevin Queally (parochial vicar) and Maryellen Young (catechist). Celebrating Confirmation were (photo at right, left to right) First row: Angel Nagy, Kiley Papcun, Alexa Glista. Second row: Logan Shafer, Ryan Stohon, Lakin Kalinoski, Dylan Kopnick, Thomas Randazzo, Zeke Fox, Corbyn Haney. Third row: Robert Troxell, Makayla Klein, Rebecca Lee, Jenna Moratti, Dominic Gallo, Matthew Boast, Zachary Wiggins and Lucas Jubina. Not pictured is Michale Bartoletti.



OUR LADY OF LOURDES: Celebrating Confirmation (photo at left) at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Altoona, on Wednesday, April 19, were (left to right) Anthony Marra, Emilee Wertz, Kaitlin Burke, Kayley Burke, Karon McCloskey, Jen Worley, Carly Ebersole, Ryan Stauffer, Adam Spencer and Luke Wills. Celebrating First Holy Communion (photo at right) on Saturday, May 13, were (left to right) Cindy Shuma (catechist), Taylor Knepper, Damien Broadley, Alexandra Rosenberry and Father Clement Gardner.



SAINT DEMETRIUS: Celebrating First Holy Communion at Saint Demetrius Parish, Gallitzin, on Sunday, April 30 were (left to right) First row: Liam Statler, Aubreel Rickens, Serenity Cox, Megan Stipanovich. Second row: Michelle Mentzer (catechist) and Father Albert Ledoux (pastor).

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‘Megan Leavey’ An Inspiring True Story Of A Life Transformed

By Joseph McAleer
Catholic News Service

NEW YORK (CNS) -- Man's best friend is also a lifesaver in "Megan Leavey" (Bleeker Street), the inspiring true story of a female Marine corporal and the bomb-sniffing dog she bonded with during the Iraq War.

Leavey (born in 1983) and Rex, her trusty German shepherd, together completed more than 100 combat missions in Fallujah and Ramadi, uncovering roadside bombs and caches of weapons, before an explosion

sidelined both in 2006.

It's a supremely heroic and exciting story that transfers well to the big screen, directed by Gabriela Cowperthwaite from a screenplay by Pamela Gray, Annie Mumolo and Tim Lovestedt.

We first meet Megan (Kate Mara) before she enlists -- and her life does not make a pretty picture. A listless and depressed 20-year-old, she's mourning the overdose death of her best friend and coping with her parents' ugly divorce.

Megan lives with her haridan of a mother, Jackie (Edie Falco). Her sensitive father, Bob (Bradley Whitford), provides a



CNS Photo/Bleeker Street

MEGAN LEAVEY: Kate Mara stars in a scene from the movie "Megan Leavey." 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.

refuge from Mom's persistent nagging.

On a whim, Megan decides to jump-start her life by enlisting in the Marines. It's a huge leap from her shiftless existence to such a regimented life, and rebellious Megan butts heads often with her superiors.

Caught urinating in public after a night on the town, Megan is nearly expelled. Her punishment is to clean out the cages of the K9 Division, the elite unit of bomb-sniffing dogs headed by Gunnery Sgt. Martin (Common).

It's dirty work, of course, but Megan perseveres -- and has an unexpected epiphany. Witnessing the strong bond between the German shepherds and their human trainers, she decides to try her hand. Overcoming cynicism

and verbal abuse from her male counterparts, Megan connects with her charge, Rex, and soon both head to Iraq.

On dangerous sorties, the duo proves its mettle, saving countless lives by uncovering land mines and exposing enemy weapons. As her self-confidence grows, Megan opens her heart further and falls for fellow Marine and dog handler Matt Morales (Ramon Rodriguez).

But fate intervenes during an ambush, when an explosion injures both Megan and Rex. Sent home to recover, Megan is devastated to be separated from her beloved canine, now reassigned.

Suffering from physical injuries as well as post-traumatic

stress disorder, Megan decides not to re-enlist. But she is determined to reunite one day with Rex and adopt him as her own.

"Megan Leavey" is a reminder of the personal sacrifices made by those who serve our country, as well as a salute to the enduring rewards of friendship.

The film contains scenes of intense wartime violence, off-screen nonmarital sexual activity, several profanities and occasional rough and 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:

July 2 -- Prince Gallitzin Cross honorees Donna Stoy of Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish in Ashville and Irene Matse of Holy Family Parish in Hooversville join Bishop Mark to discuss their service to the Church.

July 9 -- Bishop Mark welcomes Mary Lou Waugerman of Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish in Bedford and Marissa Smilnak of Saint Mary Parish in Hollidaysburg. Both were honorees at the 2017 Catholic Charities Recognition Dinner.

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SAINT ANTHONY OF PADUA: Saint Anthony of Padua Parish, Windber, celebrated Confirmation Sunday, May 21. Pictured are (left to right) First row: Christopher Weld, Katlyn Yeager, Jenna Rosa, Jaclynn Toki, Carolyn Telfer. Second row: Kelsey Buza, Madison Leitenberger, Brianna Gueatta and Jonathan Gueatta. Third Order Regular Franciscan Father Roderick Soha is pastor.



SACRED HEART: Celebrating First Holy Communion at Sacred Heart Parish, Altoona, on Sunday, May 7 were (left to right) First row: Ryleigh Stollings, Palynn Gregg, Vivienne Compton, Jacqueline Bevan, Aiden Carney. Second row: Jayda Yost, Lucas Gority, Valerie Grimminger and Logan Brownell. Father Lubomir Strecok is pastor.



SEVEN DOLORS: Our Lady of the Seven Dolors Parish, Bean's Cove, celebrated the Confirmation of Clayton Cessna (left), pictured with his sponsor, Clinton Cessna, and Father Derek Fairman (pastor).



SAINT BARTHOLOMEW: First Holy Communion was celebrated by Saint Bartholomew Parish, Wilmore, on Sunday, May 14. Pictured (left to right) are: Diana Frantz (director of religious education), Father Joseph Nale (pastor), Rosalie Faith Golden, Noah Willinsky, Adelyn Myers, Avery Myers and Deacon Richard Golden.

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Summer Schedule
Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group



All are welcome!

Mon, June 26th, Praise & Worship, 7PM, Cathedral.
Dorrie Britton— Witness Talk.

Mon, July 10th, Praise & Worship, 7PM, Cathedral.
Bob Sutton, teaching—“Eucharist and the Holy Spirit.”

Mon, July 24th, Praise & Worship, 7PM, Cathedral.
Fr. Mark Begley, teaching—“The New Evangelization.”

Mon, August 14th, Praise & Worship, 7PM, Cathedral.
Karen Wood, Witness Talk—“Miracles Still Happen.”

Mon, August 28th, Charismatic Mass, 7PM, Cathedral.
Fr. Bob Hilz, TOR—main celebrant.
50th anniversary, Catholic Charismatic Renewal.
**All meetings end with prayer ministry for healing and other concerns.*
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The Eucharist Is A Reminder Of God's Love, And A Call To Unity, Says Pope

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

ROME (CNS) -- The Eucharist is a tangible reminder of God's love, and receiving Communion is a call to work to build the body of Christ by loving others and shunning all that sows division within a community, Pope Francis said.

The Eucharist should "heal our ambition to lord it over others, to greedily hoard things for ourselves, to foment discord and criticism," he said June 18, celebrating the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ. "May it awaken in us the joy of living in love, without rivalry, jealousy or mean-spirited gossip."

Pope Francis celebrated the Mass outside the Basilica of St. John Lateran, the cathedral of the Diocese of Rome. With an almost constant breeze cooling the warm Rome day, thousands of people -- including children who made their first Communion this spring -- gathered outside the basilica for the evening Mass and for the Corpus Christi procession later from St. John Lateran to the Basilica of St. Mary Major, about a mile away.

The 2017 feast day included two major changes from past practices. First, although Italian dioceses, like many around the world, moved the feast from a Thursday to a Sunday in the late



CNS Photo/Tony Gentile, Reuters

CORPUS CHRISTI: Pope Francis holds a monstrance on the feast of Corpus Christi Sunday, June 18 at Rome's Basilica of Saint John Lateran.

1970s, the Mass and procession with the pope at St. John Lateran remained on the Thursday until this year.

Second, instead of transporting the Blessed Sacrament on a truck in the Corpus Christi procession this year, it was carried on a platform held aloft on the shoulders of four men. Eight other men carried tall poles holding a canopy over the platform, a task made more difficult by the breeze.

The truck had made its first appearance in 1994 when St. John Paul II began having difficulty walking. He and now-retired Pope Benedict XVI would ride on the truck, kneeling or sitting before the monstrance.

Elected at the age of 76, Pope Francis walked behind the truck for the 1-mile procession in 2013. But beginning in 2014, because of his difficulty walking long distances and in order to avoid drawing attention away

from the Eucharist, he met the procession at St. Mary Major instead of participating in it.

In his homily at the Mass, the pope said the Eucharist "is the sacrament of memory, reminding us, in a real and tangible way, of the story of God's love for us."

Just as the Israelites were called to remember how God led them safely through the desert, he said, "remembering all that the Lord has done for us is the

foundation of our own personal history of salvation."

"Remembrance is essential for faith, as water is for a plant," Pope Francis said.

Remembering, he said, keeps people "mindful, never forgetting who it is who loves us and whom we are called to love in return."

Pope Francis said it seems that today people's ability to remember and be mindful is weakening.

"Amid so much frantic activity, many people and events seem to pass in a whirl," he said. "We quickly turn the page, looking for novelty while unable to retain memories."

But the focus on living for the moment, he said, often means living superficially and without a focus on "who we are and where we are going."

The feast of the Body and Blood of Christ, the pope said, reaches people even in their "fragmented lives," reminding them how Christ was broken for their salvation and continues to offer himself in the "loving fragility" of the Eucharist.

"In the Bread of Life, the Lord comes to us, making himself a humble meal that lovingly heals our memory, wounded by life's frantic pace of life," he said.

(Continued On Page 11.)

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The Catholic Register

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