



The Catholic Register

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Service Project Helps Teens Bond At SHYCON



SET RECORD: The students attending this year's Annual Senior High Youth Conference (SHYCON), packed a record number of meals - - 40,000 - - as part of the Rise Against Hunger Foundation, an international hunger relief organization to help those in need. The need is especially great this year because of the storms and other disasters. The annual SHYCON, sponsored by the Altoona - Johnstown Diocese was held on Sunday, October 22 at Saint Francis University, Loretto.

Photos And Text
By Bruce A. Tomaselli

The theme for this year's Senior High Youth Day (SHYCON) was illuminated by the inspirational presentation of keynote speaker, ValLimar Jansen of Southern California.

"Called To Be A Disciple: How Will You Answer" was the theme for this year's event held Sunday, October 22 at the Stokes Center on the campus of Saint Francis University in Loretto. The annual day is attended by students in grades nine through 12.

Bishop Mark L. Bartchak celebrated Mass. He was assisted by priests of the Diocese. He also put on a hair net and helped the students pack meals for Rise Against Hunger, a non - profit international hunger relief organization that distributes meals to victims of natural disasters around the world.

"It's always awesome to be among all of those kids packing the meals, Bishop Mark said. "I enjoy just watching them having such a good time singing and dancing to the music that's playing while they are assembling the meals. They put a lot of energy into it."

The Bishop said that once they got the packing system down they were able to exceed their goal, and packed over

40,000 meals. "The kids put forth a lot of energy, he said, which enabled them to set the new record. The activity also gives them an opportunity to meet other kids from around the Diocese. It's nice to see how quickly they are to accept each other."

The students had a great time with it last year because "it is a hands - on approach to helping others," said Francine Swope, diocesan director of Youth Ministry and coordinator of the event. "The students like packing meals because they feel they are doing something directly affecting those in need, and they can see the results of their work."

Swope and her staff was excited because the students were able to pack over 40,000 meals this year, well over their intended goal.

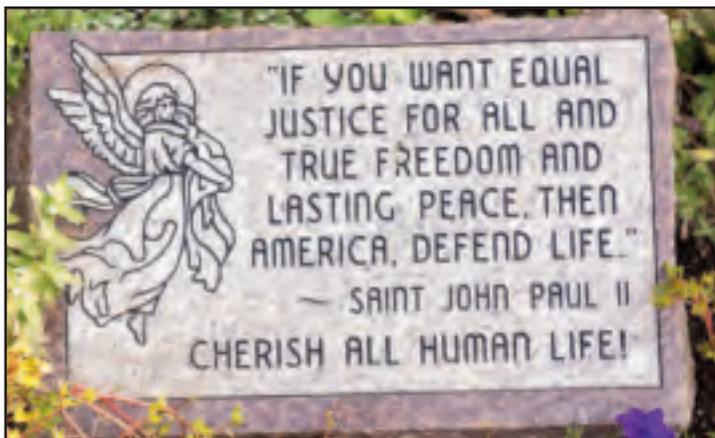
ValLimar Jansen engaged the 800 teenagers with her high - energy presentation. The students responded immediately to ValLimar's message, and were up out of their seats singing, dancing, clapping and interacting with each other.

"We are called to be disciples, and we say yes to God's call," Jansen said. "We are learning to conform to the image and likeness of God, and to be disciples of that mission."

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SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DEPAUL: The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul’s Saint Bernard Conference, Hastings installed several new members at Mass Friday, September 29. Pictured are left to right) Sonny Consiglio, SVDP Executive Director, Shirley Murphy, Veronica Rogal, Benedictine Father Thaddeus Rettger (pastor) Bernadette Dillon, Conference President and Mary Kay Shank. A social was held following the Mass. (Right) Tony DeGol, diocesan Secretary for Communications, interviews students from the Saint Vincent de Paul Divine Mercy Youth Conference, Johnstown, at the October Produce to People distribution for an upcoming segment of “Proclaim.” The students helped distribute produce and grocery item to some 800 people in the Johnstown area. The food is provided by Feeding America and the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. Students assist with the project monthly during the school year.



RESPECT LIFE MONUMENT: In celebration of October as “Respect Life Month,” parishioners of Saint Theresa of the Child Jesus Parish, Johnstown, dedicated a “Memorial to the Unborn.” Funding for the memorial, located in a garden adjacent to the church’s main entry, was raised by the parish and the Knights of Columbus Council 10409. Pictured at right are (left to right) Father Francis P. Balestino; servers Joshua and Matthew Bence; Franciscan Father Bernard Karmonocky, pastor; and members of the Knights of Columbus, All Saints Assembly 0954, color corps: James Muir, Frank Bazyk, admiral and color corps commander; John George; Joe Burgo; Harold Smyder; Don Schrum, navigator; George Hickey; and Tony Ream, color corps district marshal.

Adult Enrichment

Carmelites Offer Programs

Gallitzin: The Carmelite Community of the Word has announced their schedule of Opportunities for Enrichment for Fall 2017:

- - “Anxious for Noth-

ing: Finding Calm in a Chaotic World – A Four Week Book Study.”

We live in a time of great turmoil. Anxiety over what is happening in our world, our country, our church, our homes and family can be overwhelming. “Anxious For Nothing” invites readers to delve into Philippians 4: 6 - 7. Join us for a

prayerful consideration of this book written by Max Lucado. Each session will include a DVD presentation and opportunity for reflection and conversation.

The program will be held on Mondays: Nov. 6, 13, 20, 27, from 9 – 11:30 a.m. or 6- 8:30 p.m. The program will be offered in both time frames only if sufficient registrations are received. Pre - registration is required by today, Monday, October 30.

Cost of program: \$25.00; Study Guide: \$7.00; Optional Cost of Book: \$15.00.

- - “Overnight Retreat –

Living the Christmas Story, Then and Now” – December 1 - 2, 7:00p.m. Friday to 3:00 p.m. Saturday.

Meet and engage in prayerful reflections with the people of the original advent. Discover these powerful figures as they respond to God’s plan and allow oneself to recognize something of oneself in each character. Retreat includes presentations, time for reflection and prayer and conversation. Meals and housing included. Retreat fee: \$40.00 per person, \$55.00 for married couples. Pre - registration is required by Monday,

November 27, with a non - refundable deposit of \$15.00 per person. Reservations are limited to 10 participants with private rooms.

Sessions and retreats will be held at Carmelite Community of the Word Incarnation Center, 394 Bem Rd., Gallitzin PA.

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

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In The Alleghenies

(Continued From Page 2.)

Higher Education

National Recognition

Cresson: Mount Aloysius College has once again received the annual merit award from the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA) for achieving a 100 percent pass rate on the Certified Surgical Technologist (CST) examination for the latest group of graduates from the program. Graduates obtaining national certification as a CST demonstrate, by examination, understanding of the basic competencies for safe patient care in the operating room. The CST is

widely recognized in the health care community as the foremost credential for Surgical Technologists in the nation. The CST is required for employment within many local, state and national health care organizations.

Mount Aloysius President Tom Foley noted that the complexity, pace, and expectations of the modern operating room demand exposure to Surgical Technology training that is detailed and very realistic. "Health care providers and their patients rely on surgical technologists whose skills support those of their fellow medical professionals in the operating room," said Foley.

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VISIT HISTORIC CHURCH: On Monday, October 9, students from Saint Benedict School, Carrolltown, visited Saint Joseph Mission Church, Hart's Sleeping Place. Mass was celebrated by Benedictine Father Jude Brady. The church is the oldest existing church in Cambria County. It was dedicated October 10, 1830, and this year marks its 187th anniversary. It is one of the county's historical landmarks, and was built at Hart's Sleeping Place and Indian Trading Post along the Kittanning Trail. The Servant of God Father Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin and Benedictine Father Peter Henry Lemke were the first priests to celebrate Mass at the church. Musicians for the Mass were (left to right) First row: Devan Wasser, Aydin Swander, Seth Cunningham. Second row: Kimberly Lallemand and Sister Diana Polanco of the Sisters of Saint Ann.



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**Saint Mary's
Christian Mothers -
LCBA Branch 1290**

Spaghetti Dinner and Basket Raffle

Sunday, November 12

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

\$8.00 - Adults

\$5.00 - Children Ages 5 - 10 years

Children Under 5 years eat free

**Saint Mary Memorial Hall
1420 4th Avenue, Altoona**

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Point Of View

How do they do it?

I've asked that question countless times over the past several weeks as first responders and (extra)ordinary volunteers have jumped right in to help in the aftermath of recent, devastating hurricanes and earthquakes in the Caribbean, Mexico and the United States.

With no or severely damaged infrastructure and limited resources, these brave men and women have and still are performing amazing acts of heroism as they dig, carry and ferry by boat scores of men, women, young and old.

From the outside, such feats seem nearly impossible. When a place is fractured, as these islands and cities are, it can be easy to become lost or injured (or worse). The theaters in which rescue efforts take place are more dangerously chaotic than linear, so one can let his or her guard down, adding crushing stress on top of already-excruciating exertion.

Also, with so many hands on deck, so many agencies involved in these activities, it's a wonder those responding don't all tangle together instead of radiating upward and out in coordinated, effective effort.

Yet, despite the hardships and obstacles, these groups of true heroes work together effectively and seemingly without pause.

Again, "How do they do it?" And is there anything that we can learn from these very public group efforts that might help us when we endeavor to carry out projects in groups, too?



Living Well

By Maureen Pratt

Learning From First Responders

Unfortunately, I cannot be on the ground in Mexico or Texas to ask my question. But I have paid close attention to the images and interviews throughout the recent news coverage, and through it, I've come across some pieces of insight that, when sewn together, provide a kind of tapestry of an answer.

The first of these is that, from first hurricane warning to last and in the aftermath of the earthquake, the rescue workers' priority is life. Saving life, preserving life, finding life and taking that precious life to safety. There's no identification check, no quotas -- just absolute focus on life.

Sometimes when we put a group together to achieve a goal, we forget that each segment of the project and each task is carried out by a person, worthy of respect and, yes, safety, too. (A good reminder when we think about festooning high places in church with garlands at Christmas!)

Another lesson I've gleaned is that, although there are "big picture" tasks in any group (leaders, for example), no job is lowly because it enables that big goal to be achieved. I remember one interview with a woman at a shelter in Houston who was

absolutely joy-filled at her job -- sorting and folding donated clothing for the refugees from Hurricane Harvey. Although her job might seem menial, it was part of a chain of assignments that would eventually lead to someone sopping wet being able to have dry clothes.

In all we seek to accomplish, if each person in a group is aware of and committed to the end goal, everyone can work with one another respectfully and joyfully, too!

The third lesson is twofold: The people who take on the awesome task of rescue, recovery and rebuilding are human. They need external support (prayer, encouragement, resources) and intervals of rest. And, although they do the hard labor, the presence of faith, hope and love weaves throughout.

Faith, that the skies will clear, the earth will still and the work will eventually become easier.

Hope, that one more handful of rubble, one more ferry ride across floodwaters will make a difference.

And love, that life is precious at every time and place, and, when passed from rescuer to rescued, from participant to observer, will never die.



Another Perspective

By Monsignor Timothy P. Stein
As Certain As Death And Taxes

As Election Day draws closer, taxes are in the headlines -- on the federal and state levels, the county, the city, the school district. Taxes, Mark Twain said, are one of the two things that cannot be avoided, the other being death.

Taxes serve a useful purpose. They enable governments to do for us, collectively, things that we couldn't do on our own, individually. Taxes work to serve the common good. They remind us that we are part of a community and that we are responsible for the welfare and well - being of one another,

Taxes have always been a contentious issue, as we saw in last weekend's gospel. In Israel, during our Lord's time, paying taxes was a serious matter. The taxes were being imposed by the Roman Government -- a foreign power that had invaded the Jewish homeland. To pay your taxes was to collaborate with the enemy. Tax collectors -- as Saint Matthew himself was before he met Jesus -- were the worst kind of collaborators; they were profiting from their collaboration -- lining their own pockets at the expense of their own countrymen. Yet, it is Matthew the tax collector who writes about Jesus paying taxes, and records Jesus saying "Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God."

As we in the Universal Church celebrated Mission Sunday, last week, and heard Pope Francis call for an Extraordinary Mission Month to be celebrated next year, we were asked to contribute to the financial welfare of the Church in mission lands, prompting us to recall again what I said about why we pay taxes -- so that a governing body can do for us, collectively, things that we couldn't do on our own, individually. Taxes, or in this case, a financial contribution to the work of the Church, serve the common good and remind us that we are part of a community and that we are responsible for the welfare and well - being of one another.

That's why we are asked to contribute to the Church on the parish level, the diocesan level, and the universal level -- so that we can give visible witness of our accepting our responsibility to the other members of the community. All that we have and all that we are came to us as a free gift of love from God's hands. When we contribute to the Church we are repaying to God what belongs to God.

The Church is a missionary Church. Through the centuries it has been missionary men and women who have planted the seeds of the faith in foreign lands and have built up the Church. Germany was evangelized by Saint Boniface and missionary monks and nuns from England. Ireland, which sent out thousands of missionaries over the years was evangelized by the Roman missionary Saint Patrick. Our own nation was evangelized initially by French and Spanish clergy. When we contribute to the work of missionaries we are showing our gratitude for what others have done for us; we allow this great work of evangelization to continue by giving back to God what He first gave to us.

Harvey Weinstein's Not Alone

By Greg Erlandson
Catholic News Service

Harvey Weinstein is a pig.

It's not language I would normally use in a column, but the cascade of revelations about his treatment of women and men, most particularly his twisted and apparently constant sexual advances, demands a blunt assessment. The accusations that have toppled this modern-day film mogul make for disturbing reading every morning at the breakfast table.

The exposure of his predatory bullying in this age of predatory bullies has had at least a few benefits, however.

First, it has ignited an explosion of confessions on the part of women in the entertainment as well as other professions. I might say all professions. The #MeToo hashtag makes for harrowing reading, a rolling tide of upsetting, at times horrifying, anecdotes that can easily fill the reader with a deep despair for man's inhumanity to woman.

While many of us, God willing, make our way through our days without harassing or being harassed, it is clear that many of our sisters (and some of our broth-

ers) are not so fortunate. That so many have felt it necessary to remain silent for so long speaks not just to fear of the abuser's retaliation, but also to the fear that the rest of us will turn away.

As we Catholics have seen in the clergy sexual abuse crisis, this fear is not unfounded. Of course we must be sensitive to the risk of false allegations, which is why we need due process, but not no process or a sham process.

Second, the Weinstein scandal is a reminder that no party or ideology is somehow immune to such behavior. Weinstein was a great supporter of liberal causes and portrayed himself as feminism's friend.

We've seen hypocrisy among so-called pro-life politicians and so-called progressive politicians, among both blue and red. We as a nation even gave a pass to highly offensive "locker room talk" by a presidential candidate (though as an adult I have been in many locker rooms and not heard such language).

Third, one is left to marvel at all the self-righteous prattle and exaggerated breast-beating that is spilling out of Hollywood in the wake of Weinstein's rapid fall. This is an industry that has helped to hypersexualize our nation. The steady coarsening of humor, the increasingly

graphic scenes, the relentless titillation embedded in everything from "family comedies" to historical epics, suggest that reality is a nonstop orgy.

Fantasy is increasingly portrayed as reality, and the impact on our culture has been predictably devastating -- not just in the dens of the sophisticates, but in the suburbs and the small towns, in rural and urban areas. We are drowning in the fantasies of a thousand Harvey Weinstens.

All of this is a reminder of our fallen nature. While "reality TV" is not real, sin is. The great insight of Christian realism is that we are all sinners. It is only the sin of pride that makes us think we are somehow immune to its corruption.

This realism is what undergirds the solid pastoral wisdom in the church about avoiding temptation -- not putting ourselves into situations of moral risk. We are all adults, it is true, but that makes it all the more important that we recognize the temptation to reduce others to our fantasies and needs.

For all of us, single or married, chastity is a virtue worth pursuing, even though that surest antidote to piggy behavior sounds terribly old-fashioned. Recognizing the God-given human dignity of all our sisters and brothers is what is demanded of men (and women also) if we are to take a stand against the further Weinsteining of America.

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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

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(717) 264-4444
Winservices.org

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Centre County

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Ccwrc.org

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

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
Victimservicesinc.org

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.



SCOUTS' EMBLEM MASS: The Annual Boy and Girl Scouts Emblem Mass was celebrated by Bishop Mark L. Barchak Saturday, October 14 at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Altoona. Thirty-five boys and girls were recognized during the celebration. The Pope Paul VI Unit award, given to a chartered organization that has provided a top quality program encompassing religious, vocational, and educational aspects of scouting under Catholic auspices was presented to Pack 383 from Our Lady of Victory Parish in State College, Brent Laskowski, Cubmaster. For information about religious awards, scouts may contact Denise Kreckel at pharmcanoe@aol.com or Claudia Reed at cmr820@aol.com.

(Continued From Page 3.)

"Mount Aloysius students studying surgical technology benefit from extremely realistic simulators used extensively in their first year. Our clinical partners tell us that exposure to this level of simulation really sets these students apart when they reach the clinical setting during their second year in our Surgical Technology program. This excellent pass rate once again

reflects student commitment and focused faculty guidance. We're very proud of their accomplishment."

Amanda Minor, chairperson of the College's Surgical Technology Department noted that the renovation of Pierce Hall — soon to be rededicated as the Learning Center for Health and Science Technology — will further enhance the College's Surgical Technology learning area, as well as modernizing and ex-

panding learning space for all Mount Aloysius health sciences. "When completed in Fall of 2018," added Ms. Minor, "The Learning Center for Health and Science Technology will contain nearly 27,000 square feet of renovated space and add nearly 20,000 square feet of new space for students studying health sciences at Mount Aloysius College."

Mount Aloysius College educates Surgical Technologists using realistic operating room simulators located on campus. Surgical Technology students become familiar with operating room procedures and expectations well before joining other professionals performing surgical cases in actual clinical settings.

The Surgical Technology program at Mount Aloysius College is nationally accredited the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP). The Surgical Technology Department faculty/professors at Mount Aloysius College have a combined total of more than 55 years of clinical and teaching experience in the field.

(Continued On Page 11.)

Letters To The Editor

Editorial's Tone Was 'Perfect'

Dear Monsignor Stein,

I just wanted to commend you for another fine editorial—the one you wrote for the October 2 Catholic Register editorial. You are so right in calling attention to the words of Francis DeSales ("I have made a pact with my tongue, not to speak when my heart is disturbed") and in noting that "There is much to be said, when offering criticism, to offering it in a gentle, friendly manner. Criticism offered from a base of love has much more chance of being effective than that offered from bitterness or hate."

It reminded me of the same sentiment often articulated by Martin Luther King, Jr.. As he said in a sermon he gave to his congregation in 1957, after his return from a trip to the newly formed nation of Ghana, the point of dissent "is the creation of the Beloved Community. The aftermath is redemption and reconciliation. Let us fight passionately and unrelentingly for justice and peace. But let us never fight with falsehood and violence and hate and malice, but always with love. . . . Oh my friends, our aim must not be to defeat [those who oppose social justice] . . . but to defeat the evil that is in them. Our aim must be to win [their] friendship. . . . That is the thing that Ghana teaches us: that all people are brothers and sisters under God, not enemies."

I'll try to keep those ideas in mind—including on any occasion when I happen to disagree with one of your columns!

The tone of your editorial was perfect. Thanks again.

Jack Selzer
Good Shepherd Parish
State College

The Father Martin Controversy

Dear Msgr. Stein,

This is reference to Oct. 2, 2017, **Catholic Register** "For The Journey" by Effie Caldarola.

It appears that there is praise given to Fr. James Martin, who has been pushing for homosexual marriage. According to the Church, the sin of homosexuality is intrinsically disordered and contrary to the natural law. They close the sexual act to the gift of life cc2357. End of debate! Fr. Martin says that chastity is not required of homosexuals. Again, the Catholic Catechism #1832 chastity is one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit. Also, cc #2348 All the baptized are called to chastity. The Christian has "put on Christ" the model for all chastity. We read in the Encyclical of Pope St. John Paul II, in The Splendor Of Truth, in chapter I Freedom and Law #44 "It follows that the natural law is itself the eternal law."

Why, I ask, do some feel a need to extol a priest, who dis-sents from Church teaching?

To Jesus through Mary,

Kathleen Clapper
Altoona

Holiday Boutique

Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 2700 Broad Avenue

November 4, 2017 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Pancake & Sausage Breakfast 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM

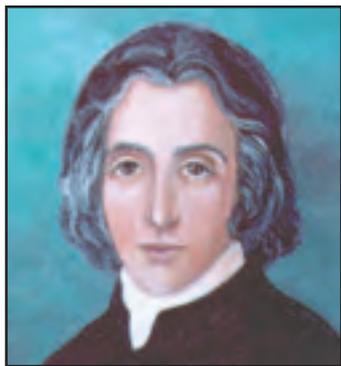
Again This Year: Margaret Cooney's Sweet Rolls

Lunch Served 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Meatball Sandwiches - Hot Dogs w/Kraut
Homemade Chicken Noodle/Vegetable Soup & Chili
Potato Salad, Homemade French Fries, Haluski
Soda, Coffee & Tea, Chicken Patina Soup, Chili Dogs

Pictures With Santa From 11 AM to 1 PM

Crafts, Christmas Crafts
Bake Shoppe, Kids Christmas Carnival
Baskets Galore, Prize-a-rama
COLLECTIBLES AND GIFTS, Food For Thought
BOOKS, JEWELRY & Sister Basil's Lollipops



A Prince In The Service Of The Great King

The Servant Of God
Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin
1770 - 1840

Pope Recognizes Two More Guatemalan Martyrs

By Junno Arocho Esteves
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Francis advanced the sainthood causes of nine men and women, including a Franciscan priest who championed the land rights of farmers in Guatemala.

During an Oct. 10 audience

with Cardinal Angelo Amato, prefect of the Congregation for Saints' Causes, the pope recognized the martyrdom of Italian Father Tullio Merluzzo, a Franciscan priest who died alongside Luis Obdulio Arroyo Navarro, a Guatemalan layman who belonged to the Third Order of St. Francis.

A recognition of martyrdom



FATHER TULLIO MERLUZZO

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**

priest of collaborating with rebel forces and threatened his life.

His superiors, fearing for his life, relocated the priest to another parish, in Quirigua. However, he was ambushed and murdered along with Arroyo Navarro after returning from an evening catechism class July 1, 1981.

Father Merluzzo and Arroyo Navarro's deaths occurred several weeks before the martyrdom of Blessed Stanley Rother of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, the first martyr born in the United States. Beatified Sept. 23, Blessed Rother was gunned down July 28, 1981, in the rectory of his church in Santiago Atitlan, Guatemala.

The pope also signed decrees acknowledging the heroic virtues of four men and three women, including Brazilian Father Donizetti Taveres de Lima, who was known for his holiness and service to the poor and the sick, and Polish Sister Elizabeth Rose Czacka.

Despite losing her sight at the age of 22, Sister Czacka founded the Franciscan Sisters Servants of the Cross and dedi-

cated her life to helping the visually impaired.

If the pope also recognizes a miracle attributed to their intercession, they would be beatified. Another miracle is needed for canonization.

The other decrees approved by Pope Francis Oct. 10 recognized the heroic virtues of:

-- Ukrainian Capuchin Father Seraphim Kaszuba, 1910-1977.

-- Spanish Father Magin Morera Feixas, 1908-1984, former superior general of the Congregation of the Sons of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

-- Spanish Sister Maria Lorenza Longo, founder of the Capuchin Poor Clares. She also founded the Hospital for the Incurables in Naples, Italy. She was born in Spain in 1463 and died in Naples in 1539.

-- French Sister Frances of the Holy Spirit, 1820-1882, founder of the Franciscan Sisters of the Holy Spirit.

-- Francesco Paolo Gravina, 1800-1854, an Italian prince who founded the Congregation of the Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent.

means the two can be beatified, a step toward sainthood, without a miracle attributed to their intercession.

Born in Vicenza, Italy, in 1929, Father Merluzzo was ordained in 1953 by Cardinal Giuseppe Roncalli, the future St. John XXIII.

Seven years after his ordination, Father Merluzzo was sent to the Guatemalan department of Izabal, where he helped run several schools and hospitals as well as served as pastor in several parishes.

Many priests and religious in Guatemala became targets during the country's 1960-1996 civil war as government forces cracked down on leftist rebels supported by the rural poor.

Father Merluzzo sought to help poor farmers regain property they were forced to abandon. However, this angered the local military, which accused the

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Word of Life



The Pope Teaches

By Pope Francis
The Lord's Prayer

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- To pray the Lord's Prayer and believe what one is reciting takes real courage, Pope Francis said.

One must be bold "to truly believe that God is the father who accompanies me, forgives me, gives me bread, is attentive to everything I ask," Pope Francis said in a filmed conversation about the Our Father.

The Italian bishops' television station, TV2000, was to begin airing a nine-part series Oct. 25 featuring Pope Francis' conversation with Father Marco Pozza, an Italian prison chaplain and theologian. A long trailer for the program was released Oct. 18.

The original idea for the project was that Father Pozza would explain the Our Father phrase by phrase and discuss its meaning and implications with a handful of famous Italians from the world of culture and entertainment.

But, the priest told reporters at a news conference, when he told one of the prisoners in Padua about it, the man said, "If he knew about it, Pope Francis would participate, too."

"At first, I didn't take it that seriously," Father Pozza said, "but then I wrote to the pope." A few days later the pope phoned him and the project was transformed.

In the program's trailer, Pope Francis ponders whether most people who recite the Our Father really believe any of it.

"We say that we are Christians, that we have a father, but we live -- I won't say like animals -- but like people who don't believe either in God or in humanity," the pope says. Not only do people act as if they have no faith, but "we live not in love, but in hatred, competition and wars."

Pope Francis asked if believers really could say that God's name is "hallowed" in "Christians who battle each other for power" or who "don't care for their own children?"

Christians pray the Lord's Prayer and do so together -- saying "our" even when they pray alone -- because they know the effort required to truly believe and to try again each day to demonstrate their belief, the pope said. "That is why it is so beautiful to pray together, because we help each other to try."

In addition to the television program, Pope Francis' conversation with Father Pozza will be published as a book, which will be released in Italian in late November.

In the preface, the pope writes that Jesus gave his disciples the Lord's Prayer not simply as a formula for addressing God, but also so they would learn how to live as God's children and as brothers and sisters to one another.

"Jesus shows us what it means to be loved by the Father and reveals to us that the Father wants to pour out on us the same love that from eternity he has had for his son," the pope said. "I hope that each one of us, as we say, 'Our Father ...,' increasingly discover that we are loved, forgiven and bathed by the dew of the Holy Spirit so that we in turn are able to love and forgive every brother and every sister."



ONE MORE TIME: Siblings who entered religious life from Holy Cross Parish, Spangler -- Benedictine Father Patrick and Sister of Mercy Mary James, are pictured with their mother, Margaret McKivigan. The photo was taken sometime after Sister Mary James entered the convent at Mount Aloysius in Cresson in 1926, and prior to her death in 1945.

As old as the poem "The Sorcerer's Apprentice" is, its lesson is very apropos for our technological age.

Upon leaving his workshop, an old sorcerer appoints his apprentice to clean it. Tired of fetching pails of waters, the apprentice, who is not fully schooled in magic, magically employs a broom to fetch water.

The floor is suddenly flooded with water that the apprentice cannot stop. To counter this, he splits the broom, but in doing so, a number of brooms appear fetching water at twice the speed. The old sorcerer finally returns and breaks the spell. He then states that powerful spirits should be controlled only by the master himself.

One look at our age of technology reveals we have entered it hook, line and sinker. Once hooked on technological gadgets, we tend to desire even faster and more improved ones. Often there is a feverish pitch to be the first to purchase them.

Undoubtedly, technological advances have saved lives and reduced laborious tasks. And no doubt they represent progress and the best of humanity's creativity. But the fate of sorcerer's



The Human Side

By Father Eugene Hemrick
To Be, Or Not To Be Addicted

apprentice raises a serious question: how to maintain control.

In the book, **Habits Of The Heart**, Robert Bellah and colleagues studied the foundations of America built on democracy and freedom. In a section on freedom we read, "Freedom turns out to mean being left alone by others, not having other people's values, ideas or styles of life forced upon one, being free of arbitrary authority in work, family and political life. What it is that one might do with that freedom is much more difficult for Americans to define."

One way to define it is to see the magnificent breakthroughs in science as releasing powerful spirits that need control of a master.

I ride public transportation. More often than not, almost everyone on a bus will have their heads bowed and eyes fixed on their phones. I have also experienced cyclists riding single-handed while texting.

Some would contend technological advances like these help us better put our lives in order. This may be true, but the bigger question is who is controlling whom?

Do we "have to be" on our phones continuously or do we employ moderation? Do we have governing rules or feel we have freedom to do whatever we desire? Are we not awash in the new age of technology in need of innovative mastery?

The fate of sorcerer's apprentice raises a serious question: how to maintain control.

\$250,000 Endowment Challenge Launched for the Paterno Catholic Student Faith Center

An anonymous donor has approached Father Matthew Laffey, O.S.B., director of Catholic Campus Ministry for Penn State University Park campus, with \$250,000 and a challenge for others to match that amount by December 31. The lead gift and additional contributions will create a new permanent endowment for maintenance and preservation needs of the Suzanne Pohland Paterno Catholic Student Faith Center, located on Park Avenue in State College.

The new permanent endowment will be administered by the Independent Catholic Foundation. Endowment principal will never be spent, but the Foundation’s Board of Trustees will approve a percentage of investment income to be made available annually for maintenance and capital repairs of the Faith Center.

Although the 20,000 square-foot Paterno Catholic Student Faith Center



was dedicated just five years ago, it has fast become the hub of Catholic evangelization initiatives for students, faculty and staff at Penn State’s main campus. The donor’s foresight will allow the endowment principal to take advantage of current investment growth and will minimize the surprise of major repairs in the future.

Contributions can be mailed to the Independent Catholic Foundation, 3618 Fifth Avenue Suite 1, Altoona, PA 16602, Attn: Paterno Faith Center Challenge. Individuals interested in donating appreciated securities should contact the Foundation by phone or e-mail or download transfer instructions from the “Give Now” webpage at icfdaj.org.

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THE MISSION OF THE INDEPENDENT CATHOLIC FOUNDATION IS TO BE A VEHICLE FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE BODY OF CHRIST TO PROVIDE FINANCIALLY FOR THE MINISTRIES OF HIS CHURCH AND ENSURE THE PERPETUATION OF HIS MINISTRY FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS.

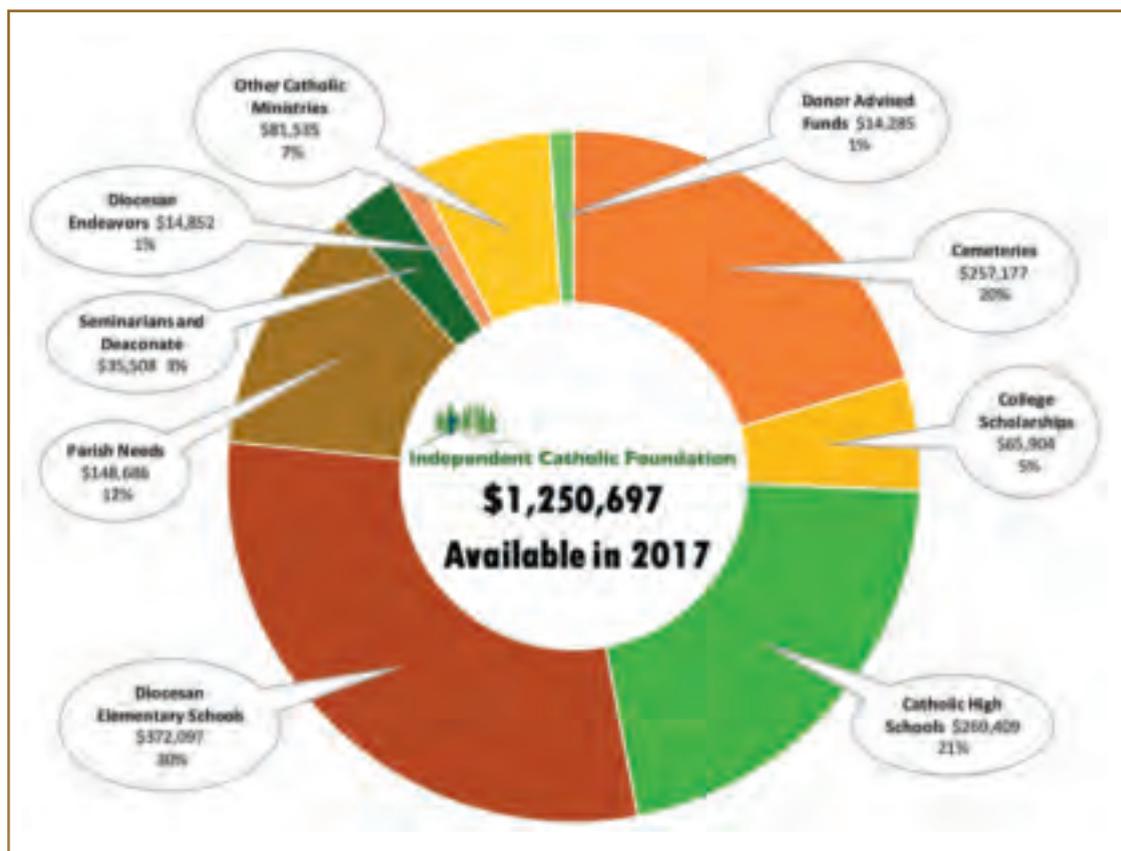
The Independent Catholic Foundation

From the President and Executive Director

As we greet the crisp and cooler days of fall, we're excited to visit again through this edition of the FOCUS. It has been a busy time since we visited in early summer. This edition of the newsletter is about "New Ideas". We feature several instances of what is possible when faith, finance and creative thinking come together. We ended the fiscal year on June 30th having had another great fiscal year. We were blessed with almost \$900,000 in contributions to new or existing endowments, and for the first time in the Foundation's history had assets under management of over \$29 million. This milestone was achieved through the above mentioned contributions and significant investment returns of over 12%, with all funds being invested according to our Catholic values. This year's distribution availability of over \$1.2 million was a record. We are humbled by this success and pray that God continues to smile on our efforts. We hope you enjoy this edition of the newsletter and trust it provides insight on how you can remember your parish or favorite Catholic ministry in your estate planning. Please visit our newly redesigned web-site www.icfdaj.org for some gift planning ideas. Additionally, details of our annual audit will soon be there as well. Please feel free to contact our office or any Trustee to discuss how we may be of service. Thanks.



Jim Carrieri, President
Bill Hiergeist, Executive Director



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is a Permanent Endowment?

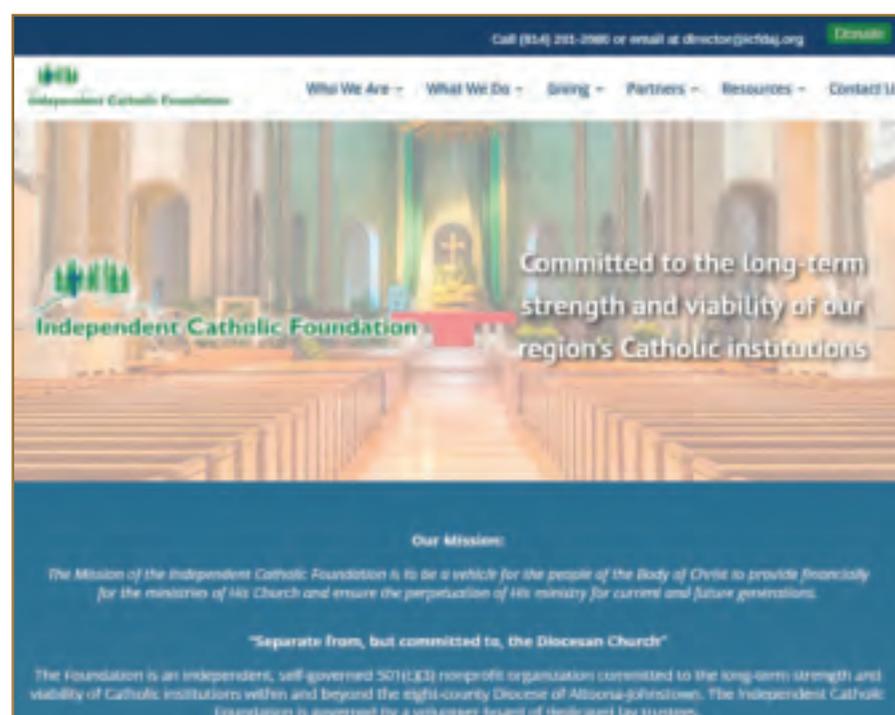
What is the minimum contribution required to create a Permanent Endowment with the Independent Catholic Foundation?

How does the Independent Catholic Foundation invest the principal of a Permanent Endowment?

How does the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown benefit from the Independent Catholic Foundation?

Can I create a Permanent Endowment for a Catholic organization beyond the boundaries of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown?

You will find answers to these questions and more on our all-new website at www.icfdaj.org.



New Endowments



Slovenian Savings & Loan recently honored Bill Tomasovich with a scholarship endowment to benefit Bishop McCort students.

New Endowment for Sacred Heart Parish, Altoona

Created by a generous donation by a parishioner to celebrate the life of, and to honor her husband. This endowment will support the general needs of the parish as determined by the pastor and the parish finance council.

St. John Gualbert Parish Endowment

Created from a parishioner's bequest to provide for general needs of the parish as determined by the pastor and the parish finance council.

David R. and Violet M. Bunk Scholarship Endowment for Bishop McCort Catholic HS

Acknowledging the grace and blessing that God has bestowed on them throughout their life together, and on the occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary, David and Violet are honored to aid students and their families in pursuing a quality education in a faith-based Catholic environment. Their hope and desire is that this scholarship will enable future generations the motivation and life skills to live a life worthy of our calling in Jesus Christ.

William S. Tomaskovich Scholarship Endowment for Bishop McCort Catholic HS

Created by the Board of Directors of Slovenian Savings & Loan Association to celebrate its commitment to education and to commemorate the presidency of Bill Tomasovich, he being only the third president in the 102-year history of the savings and loan.

St. John the Evangelist Parish (Everett) Education Endowment

This endowment will support the educational needs of the parish as determined by the pastor and the parish pastoral council. Funding was provided by a parishioner.

Memorial contributions of any amount can be made to existing endowments at any time. All gifts become part of the designated endowment's principal and are tax deductible to the fullest extent permitted by law.

STREAM Endowment for Divine Mercy Catholic Academy

Divine Mercy Catholic Academy (DMCA) located in Johnstown is the new Catholic elementary school "system" consisting of three campuses - elementary locations in Geistown and Westmont, plus a middle school within the current Bishop McCort Catholic High School building. Through the generosity of a single deeply committed donor, DMCA has received a major gift, to underwrite a new state-of-the-art STREAM Program for grades Pre-K through 8 for two academic years. STREAM is an extension of STEM, a curriculum that centers on **S**cience, **T**echnology, **E**ngineering, and **M**athematics. DMCA's program expands those core elements to include **R**eligion and **A**rt. This initiative will include LEGO® Education in Pre-K through Grade 8. Divine Mercy Catholic Academy's volunteer Board of Directors is in the process of establishing an endowment with the Foundation to provide annual income specifically to help fund the STREAM initiative. Please contact the Foundation for additional information on how you can contribute to this important endowment for the benefit of Catholic education.

Welge Scholarships Announced

The 2017 Adelaide G. (Heverly) Welge Scholarships have been awarded to three Blair County young adults who are entering their junior or senior year (third or fourth year) of college. The Welge Scholarship was established in 1995 to honor Ms. Welge by awarding aid to college juniors or seniors who were recommended by their pastors in all Blair County parishes (except for St. Matthew Parish, Tyrone, which has its own substantial scholarship program). Each has received a \$500 scholarship.

Brennan Nale

St. Michael the Archangel Parish, Hollidaysburg
Duquesne University

Jordan Rhone

St. Mary Parish, Altoona; Penn State University

Emily Ritchey

St. Thomas More Parish, Roaring Spring
Seton Hill University

Year End Gift Opportunities

A year-end gift to one or more of our permanent endowments in honor or memory of a family member or friend helps fulfill our mission of providing for Christ's ministries for the benefit of current and future generations. The following are a few year-end giving pointers to consider:

- Make gifts on or before December 31 to take advantage of charitable gift benefits for the 2017 tax year.
- Donating appreciated stock or mutual fund shares may provide greater tax savings than if you were to write a check.
- If you are age 70-1/2 or older, you can make a charitable distribution from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA). Such gifts count towards your required minimum distribution and are tax-free.
- Designate the Independent Catholic Foundation as beneficiary of an insurance policy that is no longer needed.
- Join our St. Simon Society with a \$1,000 gift – half of which supports our current needs with the remaining half being invested into the Foundation's permanent endowment for future administrative support. (Additional details on our website at www.icfdaj.org.)
- Help Catholic Campus Ministry for Penn State reach its Challenge goal (see page 1).
- Create a permanent endowment with us with \$10,000 or a donor-advised fund with \$25,000.

To designate your year-end charitable gift to one or more of our endowments, please visit the "Permanent Endowments" page of our website at www.icfdaj.org.

"Even a seemingly small act of generosity can grow into something far beyond what we could ever imagine."

Henri Nouwen

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John J. Wolf
Cathedral, Altoona



Stasko Joins Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees elected William D. Stasko to serve a three-year term effective July 1, 2017. Bill is a native of Johnstown where he attended Visitation of the B.V.M. Catholic Grade School and Bishop McCort Catholic High School. He earned a BS in Accounting from Saint Vincent College, Latrobe. A Certified Public Accountant since 1986 and Registered Financial Representative since 2004, Bill owns his own CPA firm in Westmont and previously served as controller of retail accounting for Glosser Brothers Inc. Bill and his wife Trudi are members of St. Clement Catholic Church. They have been married for 31 years and have raised four children. He is active in his parish, the Knights of Columbus, and is President of "Mom's House."

Please Note

In all instances it is advisable to speak with legal counsel, a Financial advisor and/or a tax consultant. No information contained in this newsletter or on the Foundation website should be considered legal advice.

For more information:

Individuals, businesses, organizations or parishes are welcome to inquire about the Independent Catholic Foundation by contacting any Trustee or our office. The Executive Director can be reached at the Foundation office. Please visit our web-site at www.icfdaj.org. All inquiries are held in the strictest confidence.

Bill Hiergeist, Executive Director (814) 201-2080 (814) 201-2092 (fax) (E-mail address) Bill@icfdaj.org
3618 Fifth Ave., Suite 1 • Altoona, PA 16602

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Separate from, but committed to, *the Diocesan Church*

The Foundation is an independent entity – legally separate from the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown – committed to the long-term strength and viability of Catholic institutions within the eight-county diocese. The Foundation is overseen by a board of trustees comprised of lay men and women. The Diocese (as a legal entity) and the Diocesan Bishop have no role in the management of the Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization [a public charity]. Endowment funds are owned by the Foundation and can not be attached for Diocesan operating funds or any needs of the Diocese.



Question Corner

By Father Kenneth Doyle Nutrition, Hydration And Feeding Tubes

Q. Could you clarify the church's position on refusal of food and hydration when making out health care directives and living wills? (Also, is it true that once a feeding tube has been inserted, it cannot be removed before death?) (Levittown, Pennsylvania)

A. The overriding principle in Catholic teaching is that one is obliged to use ordinary means to preserve his or her life but is permitted to forgo extraordinary means. In most situations, artificial nutrition and hydration would be considered ordinary means.

And so, the Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services published by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops state, "In principle, there is an obligation to provide patients with food and water, including medically assisted nutrition and hydration for those who cannot take food orally" (No. 58).

However, particular cir-

cumstances may override this presumption, and if the provision or continuation of medically assisted feeding would cause significant discomfort, it becomes morally optional.

In such situations, one must weigh the benefits and burdens, and here the intention is paramount: If the intention of removing a feeding tube is to end the patient's life, that would of course be immoral; but if the intention is simply to discontinue a burdensome treatment that is not being assimilated by the patient and is instead causing significant discomfort, it would certainly be moral to remove it.

In making these difficult end-of-life decisions, I have found a helpful resource to be www.catholicendoflife.org, a website produced by the New York State Catholic Conference. And if I were formulating an advance directive (or guidance for my health care proxy), I think that I might include language something like the following, offered by the National Catholic

Bioethics Center:

"I wish to follow the moral teachings of the Catholic Church and to receive all the obligatory care that my faith teaches we have a duty to accept. However, I also know that death need not be resisted by any and every means and that I have the right to refuse medical treatment that is excessively burdensome or would only prolong my death and delay my being taken to God."

Q. I recently attended a funeral Mass for a friend - - not at my own parish. The pastor informed the family of the deceased that there could be no eulogy given in church -- before, during or after the funeral Mass. They were quite upset because they had already asked a family member to deliver the eulogy.

What is the official position of the church, or is it up to the discretion of the local pastor? (Mayfield, New York)

A. The pastor may have been referring not to canon law but to the Order of Christian Funerals, which is the church's guidebook for such celebrations. The guidebook does say that "there is never to be a eulogy" (No. 27). But that section is meant to offer guidance to the priest-celebrant with regard to the homily.

It reminds the celebrant that a Catholic funeral is not to consist in the glorification of the deceased (even less, the "canonization"); the funeral Mass instead is meant to use the scriptural readings to highlight the redemptive power of Christ's resurrection, to pray for the deceased and to comfort the mourners by reminding them that eventual reunion awaits in heaven.

The same Order of Christian Funerals says in a later section that "a member or a friend of the family may speak in remembrance of the deceased before the final commendation begins" (No. 170). Some dioceses have their own regulations, limiting the length of those remarks. (Three or four minutes would be typical.)



For The Journey

By Effie Caldarola Life's Unfinished Symphony

Fall has arrived. A heavy fog hangs over the city like a damp blanket that someone took out of the dryer too soon.

People love spring for good reasons: There's rebirth, renewal, the return of light and warmth.

But fall has its gifts. We look forward to hunkering with a good book. Mornings on the patio yield to hot coffee inside after the early morning walk.

We lean toward contemplation, and that's a good thing. Flowers fade, leaves fall, we think about the end of things, and remind ourselves that, for the believer, endings are temporary.

Father Karl Rahner, the Jesuit theologian, said that we eventually learn "that here, in this life, all symphonies remain unfinished."

I find those words immensely consoling. The older I get, the more I realize that life doesn't work out in the perfect and idealistic way I once envisioned. It doesn't work out that way in my life, nor for this weary world in which we struggle.

As we age, the path ahead narrows. There are fewer roads from which to choose, and the "roads not taken" sometimes haunt us. In our youth, perhaps we'd hoped we'd have everything wrapped up by now. Not so.

Thinking of symphonies reminds me of my mom, who loved music and was always singing around the house or in the car. She grew up in the Depression, and came of age in World War II. She loved to dance and knew all the old songs.

When she died, we chose the hymn, "How Can I Keep From Singing?" for her funeral. Mom's life went on in "endless song," and I think she heard the "far-off hymn that hails a new creation."

That hymn was unfinished, however, and I think its melody rises above what St. Paul, in Romans 8, describes as creation groaning as if in childbirth. My mom's melody lingers in our hearts, and creation continues to groan, awaiting birth.

Another Jesuit, Father Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, expressed sentiments similar to Father Rahner's when he said, "Give Our Lord the benefit of believing that his hand is leading you, and accept the anxiety of feeling yourself in suspense and incomplete."

There it is again, incompleteness, unfinished business that will remain that way even as we take our final breath. These men are telling us: Do not fear lack of a resolution. Don't think it's all up to you. Trust God.

Years ago, I attended a discussion on depression and anxiety, led by a priest who himself had experienced deep depression. While sharing, one of the men attending said something that stayed with me.

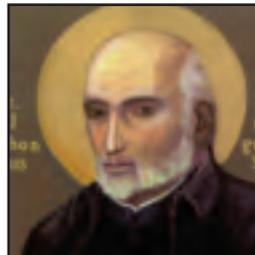
In speaking of anxiety - - perhaps the anxiety of which Father de Chardin speaks - - this young man said he grappled in life with "the Woulda, Coulda, Shoulda Brothers." These "brothers" taunted his psyche with their relentless suggestions that his choices were wrong, that he should have done something else, could have made a better decision, would have been more successful on another road.

Father de Chardin suggests we need to give the Lord the benefit of believing he's leading us. If we make a mistake, God has a new plan for us.

Inevitably we ask, Am I making a difference? Am I on the right path? We place trust in God's hand leading us, and move into the contemplation to which fall beckons.

History is full of unfinished symphonies, of people whose lives, however well-intentioned, didn't accomplish what they'd hoped. In the end, it's about finding a place with God and accepting our incompleteness in a world still groaning for the birth of justice.

Saint Alphonsus
Rodriguez
1533 - 1617
Feast - October 30



Alphonsus had to leave school when his father, a wealthy wool merchant in Segovia, Spain, died. He was put in charge of the family business at age 23, but it declined. He married and had children, but within a few short years lost his mother, wife, daughter and son. He was introduced to the practice of daily meditation by his sisters. And, when he tried to join the Jesuits, he initially was rejected as too old and uneducated. But, in 1571, he was accepted as a lay brother, and served as doorkeeper at the Jesuit college in Majorca for 45 years. Alphonsus mentored St. Peter Claver and others, and is the subject of a sonnet written by another Jesuit, the priest-poet Gerard Manley Hopkins.

SHYCON Speaker Calls Youth To Be Disciples



HAVING FUN: Young people had a great time participating in the presentation given by SHYCON keynote speaker, ValLimar Jansen. Jansen has toured professionally and has delivered her spiritual message throughout the United States and abroad. She has written contemporary Christian music along with her husband, Frank.

Peace before us, peace behind us, peace under our feet, peace over and around us, peace in us.

George Cingle, a member of Queen of Archangel Parish in Clarence really enjoyed Jansen's morning presentation.

"I think she is awesome. She speaks with a lot of passion and she got our attention." Cingle is an 11th grade student at Bald Eagle Area High School.

Emma Murgas, another member of Queen of Archangels Parish, agreed with Cingle and added "she is a lot of fun." Emma said she was having a good time and enjoying the day. She is a senior at Bald Eagle Area High School.

Paul Liebal of Saint Patrick Parish in Newry, said he "really liked the energy of Jansen's presentation. She's very upbeat and kept everyone into it." Liebal is a student at Altoona Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School.

Jansen reiterated that we are all created in the image of God, and God has a plan and purpose for all of us. We should recognize the presence of God in every person.

"We are called to be disciples," Jansen said. "Discipleship is discerning God's purpose for each of us. We are missionary disciples and we should invite people to join us on our journey."

She said, without Jesus we can do nothing. Jesus is always

there even in the difficult parts of that journey.

He told us, "he who believes in me will never die," reminded Jansen. "We were all called to be His disciples at Baptism."



Photo By Tony DeGol

HELPING HAND: Sporting a hair net, Bishop Mark lends a hand to Sally Kolar (left), religious education instructor at Saint Michael Parish in Saint Michael, and Carson Kunrod, also from Saint Michael Parish, as they packed meals for the Rise Against Hunger Foundation. Students packaged close to 40,000 meals to help those in need.

(Continued From Page 1.)

Jansen has sung and toured professionally throughout the United States, Saint Kitts, Jamaica, Saint Maarten, Switzerland, France, Germany, Belgium, Italy, Scotland, Israel, and Japan. She has also played the role of Beneatha, with the Broadway Touring Cast, in the European premier of "Raisin."

Said Swope of Jansen, "You can see all of these kids opening up to Val. They are singing and having a good time. They really do get her message." She said the large group activities

(games) are going over real well with the high school students. "The games give them a chance to unwind and have some fun. I think that's important."

Jansen said that Pope Francis encourages us to go forth and proclaim Jesus to the world. He said, "We must be a witness to the love of God and be a channel of peace to the world."

She had the students put their hands together to represent the Temple of the Holy Spirit and taught the students a prayer for peace written by the Navajo Nation:



CERTIFICATION CEREMONY: Thirty - three participants of the Lay Ecclesial Ministry Formation program were honored Thursday, October 12 for completing tracks in Basic Lay Ministry and Advanced Tracks in Christian Initiation Team Ministry, Liturgical Foundations, Tribunal Advocate and Hospital Ministry at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona. Betty Rosmus of Most Holy Trinity Parish, South Fork was also recognized for 35 years of service as a Religious Education Catechist. Bishop Mark L. Bartchak presided over Evening Prayer and the Ceremony of Certification. A reception was held in the Cathedral Hall for the participants, their pastors and guests.



INSTALLATION: Father David Peles, pastor of Saint Benedict Parish, Johnstown installs Divine Mercy Catholic Academy students in the school's Society of Saint Vincent DePaul Youth Conference. The installation took place at Mass, Thursday, October 12.



SORROWFUL MYSTERIES: On Sunday October 1, the Religious Education students of Saint Bartholomew Parish, Wilmore, attended the Living Rosary, and saw the ninth and tenth grade Confirmation candidates portray the Sorrowful Mysteries. Father Joseph Nale is pastor, and Diana Frantz is director of religious education.



HONORED: Adelyn Myers, a third grade student at All Saints Catholic School, Cresson, won second place in her division of the PA State Bus Safety Poster Contest. She received her award at the Governor's Residence in Harrisburg.

(Continued From Page 6.)

The Mount Aloysius Surgical Technology Program enjoys an excellent job placement rate. The demand for Surgical Technologists is expected to rise 15 percent from 2014 to 2024, an increase of 14,700 jobs accord-

ing to the National Bureau of Labor Statistics. The average median wage for a surgical technologist in the state of Pennsylvania is \$43,210.

Honored

Cresson: Mount Aloy-

sius College Professor and In - House Counsel, Attorney David Andrews was honored as the 2017 recipient of the President's Award for Distinguished Career Achievement by the Pennsylvania School Board Solicitors Association. The Award, which recognized Attorney Andrews'

lengthy and impressive career, was presented at the Solicitors Association's School Law Workshop in Hershey Pennsylvania.

Mount Aloysius College President Tom Foley applauded the Association's choice of Attorney Andrews. "Attorney

Dave Andrews has applied the same level of dedication to his work at Mount Aloysius College as he has throughout his distinguished career serving the area's students in our regional school districts," said President Foley.

(Continued On Page 12.)

(Continued From Page 11.)

“He is a fine teacher, an excellent coach of the Mount Aloysius Mock Trial Team, and a state-of-the-art general counsel.”

Attorney Andrews graduated from Dickinson School of Law in 1977 and began a long and distinguished legal career. Andrews served as Solicitor for the City of Johnstown, Pa. and numerous school boards in central Pennsylvania. Andrews served as a Blair County assistant district attorney and an adjunct settlement judge for the

U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania.

Before joining Mount Aloysius College as professor and in-house counsel, Attorney Andrews was the founding member of the Andrews and Beard Law Firm and taught at several colleges throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. He also served as board member and chairman for the Juniata College Board of Trustees.

The Pennsylvania School Board Solicitors Association’s President’s Award honors an attorney who has contributed to Pennsylvania School Law

through achievement at the highest levels of professional accomplishment and who has dedicated his or her energy and talent to the Association and its members.

The Pennsylvania School Board Solicitors Association President, Patrick J. Faneli, Esq., presented Andrews with the award in Hershey on Wednesday, October 18.

Prayer

Womens’ Day Of Prayer

Gallitzin: The Sisters of



OLV DAY SERVICE PROJECT: Charlie Malerich, a second grade student at Our Lady of Victory Catholic School, State College, helped vacuum Our Lady of Victory Church as part of his class’ participation in the OLV Day Service Project Friday, October 6.

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NOVEMBER 26

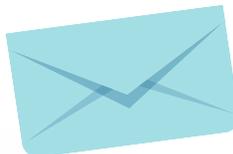
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the Carmelite Community of the Word are offering a “Womens’ Day of Prayer” Saturday, November 11, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the CCW Incarnation Center, 394 Bem Road.

The Carmelite Community of the Word is a Religious Institute of Diocesan Rite, primarily women of prayer, rooted in the tradition of Carmelite Spirituality, who actively engage in ministerial labors in the Altoona - Johnstown Diocese.

The Sisters extend an invitation to women of all ages to join them for a sacred time with each other and with our God, praying for the intentions of our world, our church, and personal needs and discernment.

Please register to attend by Monday, November 6.

For more information or to register for this event, please contact Sister Margie McGuire at (814) 472 - 8315 or email:margiemc12@gmail.com.

Visit the Sisters’ website at www.ccwsisters.org or on Facebook.

Day Of Reflection

Portage: The Sister Servants of the Most Sacred Heart

of Jesus invite all women to a day of reflection, with the theme “Rooted in gratitude,” on Saturday, November 11 at Saint Joseph Convent, 1872 Munster Road.

The day officially begins at 9:00 a.m. and concludes at 3:00 p.m. but participants are welcome to join the Sisters for Mass at 8:00 a.m.

Please register by Wednesday, November 9 by contacting Sister Jacinta sisterjacinta@gmail.com or (814) 886 - 4459. Donuts and coffee, sandwiches and soup will be served. Suggested donation is \$15.00.

Schools

OLV Day

State College: Each year the students, staff, faculty and administration of Our Lady of Victory Catholic School celebrate OLV Day. This event commemorates the feast of the patroness of OLVCS: Our Lady of Victory or Our Lady of the Rosary. This year, this school-wide celebration took place on Friday, October 6.

(Continued On Page 13.)



Bishop's Appointment

Father Leo Arnone, Pastor of Saint Aloysius Parish, Pastor of Saint Francis Xavier Parish, Cresson, and Pastor of All Saints School, all in Cresson, also serves in the United States Navy as a reservist. Some time ago he was informed of the Navy's intention to call him up for active duty and deploy him overseas for a year.

In order to allow this deployment to take place, Bishop Mark L. Bartchak has authorized the following changes in assignment:

- - Effective November 24, 2017, Father Leo F. Arnone has been released from his current diocesan assignments in order to serve as fulltime Chaplain to the United States Navy for the proposed one - year deployment;
- - In his absence, Father Matthew A. Reese has been assigned Administrator of Saint Aloysius Parish, Administrator of Saint Francis Xavier Parish, and Administrator of All Saints School, all in Cresson. Father Reese will continue to serve as the Diocesan Director of Vocations.

Pastoral coverage for Saint Joseph Parish, Williamsburg, where Father Reese has been serving as pastor, will be announced along with further fall clergy assignment changes at a later date.

Please keep Father Arnone and Father Reese in your prayers.

students raced, along with OLV Church clergy and OLVCS faculty, a 1 mile route. Eighth graders, Josh Hersbine and Alexa Adams came in first for the boys and girls, respectively. All students wore a "Walk-A-Thon" t-shirt, the logo for which was created by 6th grader, Erin Hulburt. The inspiration for the logo is the school's year - long theme, "Follow the Son."

The Walk - A - Thon is OLVCS's only school - wide fundraiser through which funds for important school - wide and classroom-specific endeavors, including technology upgrades, are raised. Thanks to the tireless efforts of Walk - A - Thon committee co - chairs, Heather Lukac and Kelly Kurpekis, the event once again surpassed the goal, raising over \$79,000 for Catholic education!

This year OLV Preschool teamed up with OLVCS to have OLV Day activities. During the week prior, OLV Preschool students created projects that ben-

efited area groups. On OLV Day students enjoyed a carnival hosted by OLVCS 8th graders and walked in the Walk - A - Thon. OLV Preschool raised \$8448 to support their student needs and new classroom programming.



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Photo By Tony DeGol

VINCENTIAN AWARDS: The Altoona - Johnstown Council of the Saint Vincent DePaul Society sponsored its annual Mass and dinner Sunday, October 15 at Saint Francis University, Loretto. Benedictine Archabbot Douglas Nowicki of Saint Vincent Archabbey and Saint Vincent College and Seminary Latrobe was the celebrant and homilist for the Liturgy and the guest speaker at the dinner. The Society, which is celebrating 400 years of Vincentian Charism, honored four volunteers for their service. Pictured (Left to right): Sonny Consiglio, Executive Director of the Altoona - Johnstown Council of the Saint Vincent DePaul Society; Ozanam Humanitarian Award recipients Dave Taddy, Rose Dickson, and Betty Griffith; and Top Hat Award recipient Gerald Baxter.



Photo By Tony DeGol

FORMATION MILESTONES: Four candidates for the Permanent Diaconate reached milestones in their formation. Bishop Mark L. Bartchak celebrated a Mass at on Saturday, October 21 at Saint Mary Parish in Hollidaysburg with the Institution of Lector and Acolyte. Pictured (left to right): Allan Duman, Lector; Christopher Conner, Acolyte; Bishop Mark; Deacon Michael Russo, Director of the Permanent Diaconate; John Roth, Acolyte; and Jerome Nevling, Lector.

(Continued From Page 12.)

The OLV Day celebration began with all students and faculty attending Mass at Our Lady of Victory Church. The Mass was celebrated by Father Neil Dadey, and students took on roles as greeters, lectors, and altar servers. One of the highlights of the Mass was when 6th

grader, Sofia Mauro, played the Ava Maria on the violin accompanied by OLVCS music teacher, Sherry Capozzi, on the piano.

Following Mass, students and faculty engaged in a variety of service activities. These activities ranged from making paper crosses for RCIA candidates (Kindergarten students), to cleaning the OLV Church (2nd

grade students), to decorating and filling birthday bags for clients of the State College Food Bank (5th grade students), to creating activity boxes for troubled teens living at Stormbreak Shelter (7th grade students).

During the OLV Walk - A - Thon elementary students walked a marked route around the school, the Middle School

Now Showing

Cut 'Same, Different' Some Slack

By John Mulderig
Catholic News Service

NEW YORK (CNS) -- Viewers committed to scriptural values will be inclined to cut the good-hearted but uneven drama "Same Kind of Different as Me" (Paramount) some slack.

Based on real-life events, the film recounts how wealthy art dealer Ron Hall (Greg Kinnear) came to form a seemingly unlikely friendship with Denver Moore (Djimon Hounsou), a volatile but fundamentally decent homeless man.

Anxious to repair the damage a recent affair has done to his marriage, Ron reluctantly agrees to accompany his spiritually attuned wife, Debbie (Renée Zellweger), on her visits to a local soup kitchen.

There he gradually overcomes the initial (and intimidating) hostility of his future pal

-- who is first seen wielding a baseball bat while making angry threats against the other beneficiaries of the charity. He also learns the moving details of Denver's personal history.

So long as Hounsou dominates the scene, as he does while lyrically recalling his character's childhood, his redoubtable talent carries the film along.

The other headliners of the cast -- including Jon Voight as Ron's booze-sodden estranged father, Earl -- also bring formidable resumes to the project. But they prove less successful in overcoming the limitations of the script. It was adapted from the book -- penned by Hall and Moore themselves -- by director Michael Carney, Alexander Foard and Hall.

A nondenominational religious subtext and Gospel-congruent values help to hide the aesthetic blemishes. They also contribute to making the movie probably acceptable for older



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

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

Proclaim!
10:30 a.m.

A half - hour of local Church news and features

teens, despite the elements listed below.

The film contains some nonlethal violence, a scene of marital intimacy, mature themes, including adultery and racial hatred, sexual references and innuendo. 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. Barchak's segment of "Proclaim!" will include:

November 5 - - Bishop Mark welcomes Blaine Fara-baugh of Saint Benedict School in Carrolltown as part of his Student Spotlight series.

November 12 - - Jean Johnstone, Executive Director of Catholic Charities, discusses why the winter months ahead may be especially challenging for the agency.

Folklife Expert Says Halloween Traditions Began In Ireland

By Sarah MacDonald
Catholic News Service

DUBLIN (CNS) -- As the seasonal carving of pumpkins gets underway, an Irish folklife expert said there is evidence that the tradition, which is synonymous with Halloween jack-o-lanterns in the United States, actually began in Ireland.

Clodagh Doyle, assistant keeper at the Irish Folklife Division of the National Museum of Ireland, told Catholic News Service that records in the folklore archives at University College Dublin document what people traditionally did at Halloween in the past.

One tradition recorded, dating to the 19th century, is the making of Halloween lanterns, usually with a turnip but sometimes a large potato.

However, Doyle threw cold water on the likelihood of finding evidence to link a particular emigrant with taking this tradition to the U.S.

"I don't think we are going to find the direct connection, but we can definitely say they were being made in Ireland," she said.

The Museum of Country Life in County Mayo, where Doyle is based, has two examples of these lanterns as part of its exhibition on Irish customs and traditions associated with the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain, the predecessor of the modern Halloween holiday.

The ghost turnip, with its pinched angry face, was made for Halloween. The museum has a plaster cast made of the original turnip lantern, which was close to disintegration.

"The records we have for the lantern from Donegal show it was donated in 1943 by a schoolteacher in the village of Fintown, who said she was donating it because nobody was making this type of lantern anymore, though it was a tradition that was remembered in the area," Doyle explained. The

teacher's lantern dated back 40 years, which would date it to the turn of the 20th century.

Samhain's association with winter and death in nature made it a time for remembering those who had died and a time for seeking protection for the home and the family. Holy water was sprinkled on around the threshold and on the family, animals and the farm.

One Halloween tradition that has not survived is the making of small wooden or straw crosses. Four of these Halloween crosses are currently on display in the Museum of Country Life.

"I think it is was about protecting yourself from the dark season of the year, because it was a time of death for everything on the land," Doyle explained.

Halloween also was known as "ghost night" or "spirit night," when the souls of the dead were expected to return to the family home. This, Doyle points out, was linked to the remembrance of the faithfully departed on All Souls' Day, Nov. 2.

"There was a belief that the dead of your family might want to come home on that night, so people set out a place or food as a welcome to them," Doyle said. "People believed that there were a lot of souls of the dead walking around, trying to find their way, and that not all of them were going to be good -- there could be evil spirits too."

Halloween was also a favorite time for divining the future. Marriage divination was especially popular. Often, a



CNS Courtesy Photo

HALLOWEEN: A 19th century jack-o-lantern from Fintown in County Donegal, Ireland, is part of a display at the Museum of Country Life in County Mayo, Ireland.

ring was put into the traditional bairin breac cake, and whoever received the lucky slice was destined to be the next to marry.

But 77-year-old Father John McHale of Enniscrone parish in County Sligo told CNS that, when he was a child growing up in North Mayo, he did not like the divination side of Halloween.

"It wasn't nice, but it was common. They would bring out a saucer of clay and other things like the bairin breac with the ring in it. The one we all dreaded was the clay, as it was supposed to predict death."

For children, the feast was mostly about games, while the young adults went about at night playing tricks on one another or on neighbors.

One side of Halloween that is no longer popular is the sacrament of confession.

"Practically to a person, all the adults went to confession

that evening because they were doing the plenary indulgence for the Holy Souls on Nov. 2," said Father McHale.

He said he thinks that, as the standard of living in Ireland has improved, Halloween has become far too commercial and laced with imports from the U.S.

"I never heard the expression 'trick or treat' when I was growing up," he said.

"And I never heard of evil spirits being around on Halloween night; what I did hear related to the souls of the family that needed prayer, because of the strong belief in purgatory and a belief in the power of indulgences to set them free from purgatory. You had that duty to make sure that you prayed for the souls of the dead on Nov. 2."

Pontifical Mission Society World Mission Sunday October 22, 2017 One Sunday for the World!



This day is set aside for Catholics worldwide to recommit themselves to the deepest identity of the Church in Mission through prayer, sacrifice and financial assistance..

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Pope Says Being Christian Means Being Missionary



CNS Photos/Tony Gentile, Reuters

MISSION SUNDAY ANGELUS: Pope Francis leads the Angelus from the window of his studio overlooking Saint Peter's Square Sunday, October 22 at the Vatican.

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Catholics must make a real effort to share the Gospel with all people, fighting "the recurring temptation" that leads some to focus only on internal church matters or to be pessimistic about evangelization efforts, Pope Francis wrote.

"May the Good News that in Jesus forgiveness triumphs over sin, life defeats death and love conquers fear be proclaimed to the world with renewed fervor and instill trust and hope in everyone," he wrote in a letter encouraging preparations for an "extraordinary missionary month" to be celebrated in October 2019.

The Vatican released the letter Oct. 22, World Mission Sunday, as Pope Francis was reciting the Angelus with visitors gathered in St. Peter's Square.

"I exhort everyone to live the joy of mission by witnessing to the Gospel in the areas where they live and work," Pope Francis said. "At the same time, we are called to support with affection, concrete aid and prayer the missionaries who have set off to proclaim Christ to those who still do not know him."

The pope told visitors in the square, "It is my intention to promote an extraordinary missionary month in October 2019 with the goal of increasing the passion for the church's evangelizing activity 'ad gentes,'" a phrase meaning "to the nations" and used to describe missionary activity focused on people who still have not heard the Gospel.

The special missionary month will coincide with the centennial of a major document on missionary activity issued by Pope Benedict XV. "In 1919, in the

wake of a tragic global conflict (World War I) that he himself called a 'useless slaughter,' the pope (Benedict XV) recognized the need for a more evangelical approach to missionary work in the world, so that it would be purified of any colonial overtones and kept far away from the nationalistic and expansionistic aims that had proved so disastrous," Pope Francis wrote.

The document, and the Second Vatican Council 50 years later, emphasized how missionary activity is essential to the life of the church, Pope Francis said. And St. John Paul II noted how Christians' mission to spread the Gospel could be seen as having just begun.

To be Christian is to be missionary, he insisted. It "can no longer be enough" simply to try to keep one's parish or diocese going.

"Let us not fear to undertake, with trust in God and great courage, a missionary option capable of transforming everything, so that the church's customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channeled for the evangelization of today's world rather than for her self-preservation," the pope wrote.

Pope Francis prayed that the centennial of Pope Benedict's document and the extraordinary mission month would "serve as an incentive to combat the recurring temptation lurking beneath every form of ecclesial introversion, self-referential retreat into comfort zones, pastoral pessimism and sterile nostalgia for the past."

"In these, our troubled times, rent by the tragedies of war and menaced by the baneful tendency to accentuate differences and to incite conflict," he prayed that Gospel hope would be shared and spread all over the world.

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