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Active Shooter Drill Hosted By Altoona School

Photos And Text
By Bruce A. Tomaselli

Active shooter drills.

A sad reality for school children, teachers and administrators in today's world.

Just imagine for a moment.

It wasn't that long ago that a student's biggest worries involved tests, peer pressure, and where they were going to meet after school.

Students, today, must be prepared for violence by way of weapons. Holy Trinity Catholic School, Altoona, hosted Pro - Active Securities active shooter training for its teachers and administrators on Friday, March 2. They will use this information to train their students.

"Rhonda Seymour, Cathy Damiano, a few teachers and I attended a training session held at the Altoona Convention Center last year," said Elaine Spencer, principal. Seymour and Damiano are vice - principals. "They teach you to identify safe places, areas in your school and classroom that can be safe to hide," Spencer said. Seymour said the school has been proactive in its approach, and this event was scheduled before the recent shooting in Florida.

Jesse Moyer, Tom Read, and Brad Hershey, all Pennsylvania State Policemen from the Hollidaysburg barracks, have created a private company, Pro - Active Securities, that trains teachers and students to act in the event of an attack. The company is not affiliated with the State Police.

Moyer and Reed conducted the training session at Holy Trinity, which included the firing of an AR



DRILL: Jo-Ann Semko, assistant director of education for the Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown, participates in an active shooter simulation with Jesse Moyer, during a Friday, March 2 active shooter drill at Holy Trinity Catholic School, Altoona.

- 15, loaded with blanks, the same weapon used in the recent Florida school shooting. The ear - ringing discharge of the gun unleashed a sense of terror that those Florida students must have experienced.

"I am a parent with a child in this school and I worry about this because it can happen anywhere," said Moyer. "The Altoona - Johnstown Diocese and the teachers have made a significant effort to look out

for the best interests of their community."

Moyer, who has served overseas, is a tactical military sniper. All of the men have been well - trained to act in the event of these situa-

tions. Seymour said she has been working on bringing in this training since Catholic Schools Week, and it finally came together, with the assistance of school officials.

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Community

Health Expo

Cresson: Mount Aloysius College will host a Health Expo to encourage students and community members to spring into action as the weather warms up. The event will be held on Wednesday, March 21 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Cosgrave Student Center.

The Health Expo will offer something for all ages, from the physically fit to those trying to keep up with New Year's resolutions. Demonstrations will include Pilates exercise, great nutrition guides, meditation and calming techniques, home remedies and even a weight lifting demo!

Physical Therapy Assistant student, Jackie Horvath is spearheading the expo. "As a past professional marathoner, I know the importance of being active and understanding proper

nutrition," she said. "My intention here is to really spread the word about the importance of an equally balanced life: physically, mentally, and spiritually."

The Mount Aloysius College Health Expo is open to students and community members. executive director of Mission Integration and Community Outreach at the College, Christina Koren, emphasizes the importance of treating your body right. "We are grateful for the work Jackie, her faculty and her fellow Physical Therapy Assistant students are doing for all of us. This event," Koren emphasized, "shines a spotlight on the great efforts that Mount Aloysius College is making to improve the health and wellness of our students and our community, and sharing the link between nutrition, physical activity, and learning."

In addition to Physical Therapy Assistant, Mount Aloysius College's health related majors include: Biology, Medi-

cal Imaging (which includes Ultrasound, radiography and x ray tech), Nursing associate, RN to BSN, 2+2 associate/bachelor's), Pre -Occupational Therapy (3-2), Osteopathic Medicine (4-4 bachelor/doctorate), Pre-Physical Therapy (4-3), Pre-Physician Assistant (3-2), Pre-Chiropractic, Pre-Dental Medicine, Pre-Health, Pre-Pharmacy, Med Lab Tech, Med Assistant, and Surgical Technology.

Ham Radio Honors Saint

Bedford:

In the Summer of 1998, Ted Figlock, M.D. WIHY of Taunton MA and fellow amateur operator Lloyd B. Roach K3QNT of Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish, Bedford co -founded a weekly ham radio net (on air meeting) called the Saint Maximilian Kolbe Radio Net. Dr. Figlock and Roach discovered that Maximilian Kolbe was the only canonized Saint to hold an amateur radio license. 75 Years



SACRIFICE BEADS: Denise and Peter Kreckel, 2017 recipients of the Prince Gallitzin Cross Award, visited Saint Patrick School, Newry, to show students in religion classes how to make Saint Theresia Sacrifice Beads for use in Lent. Mr. and Mrs. Kreckel helped the students fashion the beads, and gave them prayer cards to explain how to use them when doing good deeds during the day. The students pictured with Mrs. Kreckel are Amelia Svitana and Jonathan Litzenberger.

after Kolbe's death, Figlock and Roach decided to commemorate the saint's achievements by creating a "Special Event Station" dedicated to the memory of the "Saint of Auschwitz."

In August of 1941, Conventual Franciscan Father Maximilian Maria Kolbe stepped out of a line of prisoners in blistering heat at Auschwitz concentration camp and offered to substitute his life for that of a condemned Polish Sergeant Francis Gajowniczek. The SS Deputy Kommandant Lagerfuhrer of the Nazi prison camp, Karl Fritsch agreed to the exchange and con-

demned Kolbe to a starvation bunker. Having survived two weeks of deprivation of food and water, Kolbe was finally killed by phenol injection and died on August 14. Because of that selfless act of divine love, Father Kolbe was canonized on October 10, 1982 by Pope John Paul II, with August 14 designated as his feast day. Now thousands of ham radio operators around the world pray to Saint Maximilian as their adopted patron.

(Continued On Page 3.)

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



HOLY HOUR
SUNDAY, APRIL 8TH
AT 4:00 PM

**Exposition and Benediction of
the Blessed Sacrament**

**The Chaplet of Divine
Mercy in Song**

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In The Alleghenies

Nominations Sought For Gallitzin Cross Award

Nominations are now being sought for the 2018 Prince Gallitzin Cross Award.

This year's awards dinner will be held Saturday, June 2 at the Calvin House, 2135 Plank Road, Duncansville. A 5:00 p.m. social hour will precede the 6:00 p.m. dinner.

Nominees for the award may be ordained, religious or lay. Nominees are members of the diocesan family who have imitated the evangelizing spirit of the Prince - Priest of the Alleghenies.

Those nominated should be:

- - of the Roman Catholic tradition in their living out of the Christian life to which Jesus calls us;

- - they are to be fully initiated into the Church; that is to say, have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist;

- - they are to be members of a particular parish faith community within the diocesan

(Continued From Page 2.)

Father Kolbe held doctoral degrees in philosophy and physics. His technical skills enabled him to build and operate the most technically advanced multimedia operation in Europe. In 1938, while operating his famous Niepokalanow (City of Mary) Monastery near Warsaw, Fr. Kolbe applied to the Polish government for a short wave radio license. The call sign SP3RN (Stacja Polska 3 Radio Niepokalanow) was assigned to the station. By 1939, Niepokalanow's hundreds of Franciscan brothers and priests working in spartan conditions were shipping over a million print publications a month, including 180,000 devoted exclusively to children. By 1940, Father Kolbe was planning to build a televi-



THE PRINCE GALLITZIN CROSS AWARD

Church of Altoona - Johnstown;

- - they are to be eligible to receive and avail themselves of the Sacraments of the Church;

- - they are to be presently, or have been previously, active through some form of ministry

sion station and a private airport at the facility.

In July of 2016, the Federal Communications Commission issued a special American call sign K3M to celebrate the anniversary of Maximilian Kolbe's martyrdom. Roach encouraged members of the Saint Maximilian Kolbe Net to participate in the Special Event activity. When finalized, dozens of K3M stations from Maine, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New Hampshire, Virginia, New York, Maryland, North Carolina, Rhode Island, Alabama, Michigan, Ohio, Louisiana, Texas, Connecticut and Ontario, Canada participated in the week-long celebration.

The Saint Maximilian Kolbe Radio Net meets every Sunday at 2200 UTC on 14.341 kHz and 2400 UTC PM on 3814

or service to God's people either on a parish or a diocesan level.

The ministry or service of the nominees is to have contributed to the growth of this diocesan Church as judged on the basis of the gospel of Jesus, the evangelizing spirit of Father Gallitzin, the teachings of the Church, and the guidance of the Holy See and this Particular Church as given through various decrees and letters.

In a special way, those who have kept alive the memory of the Servant of God Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin may be considered.

Nominations must be submitted to Teresa M. Stayer, chancellor of the Diocese, by Friday, April 20.

The deadline for obtaining tickets to the awards dinner is Friday, May 18.

For further information, contact Mrs. Stayer at (814) 695 - 5579.

kHz. The frequencies were chosen to remind everyone of the feast day of August 14, 1941. The Saint Maximilian Kolbe Net welcomes any licensed amateur radio operator with a General Class license or higher. "This net is dedicated to the devotion of the Blessed Mother. This was important to Saint Max and it's important to us," asserts Roach. Among and in addition to many

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(1 block east of Somerset Hospital)

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members of the Knights of Columbus, the net includes three physicians, two Catholic priests and four ordained Permanent Deacons. Saint Maximilian Kolbe is the patron saint of the addicted, the Pro - Life movement, families, prisoners and ham radio operators. To learn more about the Saint Maximilian Kolbe Net, visit www.saint-maxnet.org.

Higher Education

ROTC

Cresson: Mount Aloysius College and the United State Army Reserve Officer Training Corp have formed a partnership to recruit, train, educate and commission officers for all components of the United States Army. Students are being accepted now for Fall Semester 2018. This partnership will be

an enduring, multi-year effort to offer increased opportunities for Mount Aloysius College students to serve their country upon completion of their degrees.

Army ROTC prides itself on training and educating students using a hands-on, student-centric approach. Students in Army ROTC will learn how to become leaders through a combination of classroom, physical training, extracurricular activities, simulated combat environments, and fully-funded resident programs offered during the summer. Army ROTC operates under the same principles and values of Mount Aloysius College to develop leaders of character with an eye towards a greater purpose; service to our communities and to the nation.

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Accord Medical-Legal Mediation and Consulting Services Nancy Rose Vincent RN, MEd. (plus doctoral work) CLNC

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nancyrosevincent@gmail.com



DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

MARCH 30 - APRIL 8, 2018

7:00 PM STATIONS	Good Friday Evening
3:00 PM Novena Prayers	Holy Saturday Afternoon
7:00 PM Solemn Vespers	Easter Sunday
7:00 PM Mass	Each evening (Mon.-Fri.)
8:00 AM Mass	Easter Saturday Morning
3:00 PM Divine Mercy Sunday Devotions - April 8th	Reconciliation/Confessions on Sunday April 8th

Prayer Intentions may be sent to:

Sr. Mary Joseph Calore, Parish Secretary
ST. FRANCIS XAVIER ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
211 POWELL AVENUE, CRESSON, PA 16630

THE CATHOLIC

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Point Of View

Our greatest spiritual teachers can be our nearest and dearest. The familiar ones with whom we share sinks and sheets and silverware.

I don't mean that all families are full of prophets, pastors or professors. But the simple fact of bumping up against each other's needs and flaws can teach us volumes about humility, forgiveness and faith.

All of which come in handy during Lent.

This year as I prepared for the season's practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, I realized three truths my children have taught me about parenting and Lent.

The first: You don't have to do everything.

Parents today feel pressure to give their children every opportunity. Kids have become overscheduled, their activities overspecialized.

Take youth sports, for example -- now a year-round industry of travel teams, elite coaches and offseason training starting with the youngest players. Meanwhile, the widening gap between rich and poor means that many get left behind, lacking the resources that allow a lucky few to play the game or join the club.

Whenever our family opts for less instead of more, I feel the nagging tug of guilt. What if our kids can't play high school sports because they didn't start as preschoolers? What if they miss out because we couldn't afford all the music lessons, summer camps and extracurricular activities?



Faith At Home

By Laura Kelly Fanucci
Three Truths Parenting
Taught Me About Lent

Yet contrary to popular wisdom, I find that the less we fill our family calendar, the more peace and contentment we feel.

Likewise, Lent can turn into a competition -- with ourselves or others. The Olympics of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

But less can be more for the spiritual life, too. Picking one or two simple practices often bears more fruit than trying to do it all.

The second: What matters is faithfulness, not success.

It is not wrong to desire good for our families. But if we start to lust after idols of success, we can lose sight of God.

No one is handing out trophies at the end -- to kids or parents. No state championship, college scholarship, top-notch job, big house or comfortable retirement can guarantee joy or fulfillment for us or our children.

"We are called upon not to be successful, but to be faithful," said St. Teresa of Kolkata. Her wisdom reminds us that society's end goal is not the ultimate good.

So, too, for Lent.

If we inverted our view of Lent -- not as a win-or-lose contest but as a slow walk toward God -- we might discover what looks like failure is actually faithfulness if we keep trying.

The third: God is in control, not you.

Parents are no more in control of their child's life than their own, despite our secret wishes, our deepest prayers and an entire industry of parenting experts, books and solutions.

We can give our children love, comfort, instruction and discipline as they grow. But we cannot shape them into our own creation or save them from the world (or themselves).

Only God can do that.

Lent is the same: a journey of humility. Not a do-it-yourself project of self-fulfillment, but a gift of growth to be received with head bowed. An invitation to turn back to the God who created us.

The plans we made must be set aside to take up the unexpected direction in which God leads.

This is often the case in families, too. Marriage, parenting and caregiving -- indeed, every relationship between humans -- ask us to surrender our desire to control to serve another in love.

This Lent, remember the ones closest to you. They may hold the truths God is waiting to teach.



Another Perspective

By Monsignor Timothy P. Stein
Saint Joseph:
A Man Wrapped In Silence

A classic, well-loved book about the Blessed Virgin Mary, written in the form of an epic poem, is entitled **A Woman Wrapped In Silence**. Very few words of Our Blessed Lady are recorded in Sacred Scripture; there is her "yes" to the Father's invitation to be the mother of His Son, and her words of advice at the wedding feast at Cana -- "Do whatever He tells you to do." Silence is characteristic of Mary's presence in her Son's life, and so the title of the book is apt.

It's even more apt to refer to Mary's husband, Saint Joseph, as a man wrapped in silence. We celebrate the solemnity of Saint Joseph today, and must note that there is not one word of his recorded in the Bible. We know that he was of the House of David and that his home was in Nazareth. We don't know when or where he died. We know him only as a carpenter, a just man, an upright man who was attentive to God's word and God's will. But in his silence, Saint Joseph speaks to us and inspires us with his good example. He reminds us that it is more important to listen than to speak, to be faithful to your dreams, and to place yourself lovingly and trustingly in God's hands, letting God take the lead, instead of trying to lead the parade yourself.

Saint Joseph is far and away my favorite saint. Some of my happiest times in ministry have been spent in parishes named for him: as a seminarian at the former Saint Joseph Parish in Portage, and as a transitional deacon at Saint Joseph Parish in Renovo. I am a proud graduate of the Pontifical College Josephinum -- "The School of Saint Joseph." For most of my four years there I was the sacristan of Saint Joseph's Oratory -- the chapel located in the building where we theology students lived. I was invested as a Monsignor on March 19, 2001, the Solemnity of Saint Joseph. Saint Joseph is my father and my friend, and a model of all that I would like to be. I strive to learn from his silence.

Silence is not my strong suit. My tongue can flap a mile a minute. My mother used to ask me "Were you vaccinated with a phonograph needle?" Whether I'm talking or writing, I tend to be impressed by the sound of my own voice, and enamored with the power of my own thoughts. I need to learn from Saint Joseph to sit down, shut up, and listen. There is much to be heard in the silence. It's in the silence that God speaks.

Joseph of the New Testament, like Joseph of the Old Testament, was a dreamer. God spoke to Saint Joseph in a dream, when He manifested to Joseph the truth about Mary and the child she was bearing. Joseph had dreamed of a life with Mary at his side as his wife. He dreamed of the home they would share and the children they would raise. God showed him that that dream would be fulfilled, but in ways that Saint Joseph would never have dared dream of. By being faithful to his dream, Joseph opened himself to an outpouring of God's grace.

Saint Joseph simply let God be God. He did not try to impose his will on God, but gave himself over completely into God's hands, letting God lead the way. In his attentive silence, waiting with love and trust for God to reveal Himself, Joseph showed that he was a strong man, a man strong enough to stand quietly on the sidelines, wanting nothing more than what God wanted.

There is much to be learned from this man wrapped in silence.

We can easily rush through life without stopping to notice very much. Always with good intentions, we try to be present in the moment until our thoughts are challenged. Periodically we are asked to become more empathetic towards a cause that is relevant and important. There are always groups asking for heightened awareness and are advocating for their cause.

The lists of causes that are promoted each year by a certain day, week or month are constantly growing. These designated times bring our attention to health conditions and trending and controversial topics that all send strong messages; planting seeds of hope for future conversations that will empower us to be more compassionate or supportive. Raising awareness is a challenge for each of us to step up if we choose to do so.

Did you know that March is Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month? This special month aims to foster a stronger sense of unity and purpose among individuals in our community that share inheritable bleeding disorders. The bleeding disorders community includes more than three million Americans who have Hemophilia, Von Willebrand Disease, and other rare bleeding disorders. These conditions prevent the blood from clotting properly which can lead to prolonged bleeding after injury, surgery, or physical trauma. They can even be deadly if not treated correctly.

Support For Survivors

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

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

Reporting Child Abuse

Bishop Mark L. 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.



Increasing Our Awareness

By Cindy O'Connor



Our youngest son is a severe hemophiliac, missing clotting Factor VIII and must be treated twice a week and requires additional treatments if he has an internal bleed. For an active, middle - school aged boy, this means a lifestyle with limitations in many events including participating in contact sports. Fortunately, this condition does not define him. There has been a lot of medical progress over the years, allowing those who live with this challenge to have more mobile and healthier lives with routine monitoring and maintenance. Unfortunately, there is still no cure.

Raising awareness or being educating about a rare disease or medical condition isn't enough to make peo-

ple healthier. The goal must be focused on advocacy. Awareness campaigns ask us to commit to the best of our abilities. Throughout the Diocese, it is our goal to improve community awareness by changing the culture and creating a shared language. We must address how we approach protecting our youth and vulnerable populations by providing safe spaces for everyone, allowing each of us to become advocates.

Additional notable cases recognized in the month of March include: National Nutrition Month, Social Worker's Month, Poetry Month, Youth Art Month, Help Someone See Month, Honor Society Awareness Month, Music in Our Schools Month, National Craft Month, Optimism Month, Poison Prevention Awareness Month and National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month.

As we continue our daily Lenten journey, now more aware of causes in the month of March, please let us think about: the youth in our parish communities and how our religious educators can present lessons integrating poetry, art, music and crafts so students can increase their faith through creative expression.

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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



Pontifical Schedule For Holy Week - - 2018

**The Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak
 Bishop of Altoona-Johnstown
 Celebrant and Presider**

Passion (Palm) Sunday

March 25 -- 11:00 a.m.

Blessing of Palm and Pontifical Mass
 Saint John Gualbert Cathedral, Johnstown

Chrism Mass

Monday, March 26 -- 11:00 a.m.

Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Altoona

Holy Thursday

March 29 -- 6:00 p.m.

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
 Saint John Gualbert Cathedral, Johnstown

Good Friday

March 30

Morning Prayer -- 9:00 a.m.
 Celebration of the Lord's Passion -- 12:00 p.m.
 Tenebrae Service -- 7:30 p.m.
 Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Altoona

Holy Saturday

March 31

Office of Readings -- 9:00 a.m.
 The Easter Vigil -- 8:30 p.m.
 Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Altoona

Easter Sunday

April 1 -- 11:00 a.m.

Mass of Our Lord's Resurrection
 Saint John Gualbert Cathedral, Johnstown



STUDENTS HONORED: Fourth and Fifth grade students at Saint John the Evangelist Catholic School, Bellefonte, participated in an annual educational contest sponsored by the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court #448. The top three winners received a monetary award, and the first place winners got their entry sent on to be judged at the state level. Pictured (left to right) are art teacher Barb Uadiski; second - place art poster winner Anna Tyson; first - place art winner Owen Dechow; first - place essay winner Ella Ladlee; third - place art winner Kyle Klimek and Catholic Daughters local representative Diane Klimek. Also pictured is Father George Jakopac, pastor.

(Continued From Page 3.)

Graduates of Mount Aloysius and the Army ROTC program earn more than their diplomas; they earn their commissions as second lieutenants. They will be eligible to serve in over 18 different career fields, including nursing, logistics, mil-

itary police, aviation, and combat arms. Additional opportunities for education beyond Mount Aloysius College also exist, including scholarship-funded programs in law, medicine, and divinity.

Students, or Cadets, within Army ROTC are not immediately required to make a com-

mitment to service. Instead, they are free to try out the program for the first two years of their education.

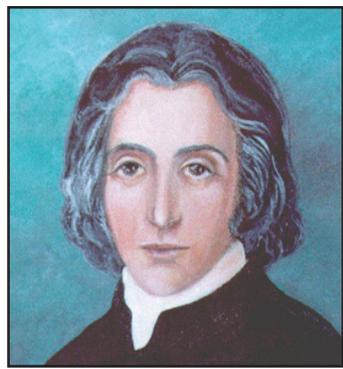
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**Anticipated Elementary Teacher(s) Positions
 Pennsylvania PK-8 Certification Required
 Full Time, Part Time, Substitutes**

The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown is anticipating several openings across all eight counties of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown for the 2018-19 school year. All candidates must submit a letter of interest, resume, the PA Standard Application OR Diocesan Teaching Application (<http://www.dioceseaj.org/education-office>), college transcripts, PA Certification, three letters of recommendation (two professional, one from pastor), current Act 151, Act 34, and Act 114 clearances, Act 168 Employment History Check, and completion of Diocesan Youth Protection Program.

Send **complete** application packets to:

**Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown
 Education Office
 933 S. Logan Boulevard
 Hollidaysburg, PA 16648**



A Prince In The Service Of The Great King

The Servant Of God
Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin
1770 - 1840

Pope Extends Feast Of Mary, Mother Of The Church, To Universal Calendar

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Francis has decreed that Latin-rite Catholics around the world will mark the feast of “the

Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church” on the Monday after Pentecost each year.

The Gospel reading for the feast, which technically is called a “memorial,” is John 19:25-31, which recounts how from the cross Jesus entrusted Mary to his disciples as their mother and

entrusted his disciples to Mary as her children.

The decree announcing the addition to the church calendar was released March 3 by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments.

Pope Francis approved the decree after “having attentively considered how greatly the promotion of this devotion might encourage the growth of the maternal sense of the church in the pastors, religious and faithful, as well as a growth of genuine Marian piety,” the decree said.

Cardinal Robert Sarah, prefect of the congregation, noted in a brief commentary published the same day, that Blessed Paul VI in 1964 had formally bestowed the title of “mother of the church” on Mary, but that recognition of her maternal care for the church and for believers had already spanned centuries.

“The feeling of Christian people through two millennia of history has cultivated the filial bond which inseparably binds the disciples of Christ to his Blessed Mother in various ways,” the cardinal said.

The church calendars of Poland, Argentina, St. Peter’s Basilica and some religious orders already set aside the Monday after Pentecost as the feast of Mary, Mother of the Church.

Honoring Mary as mother of the church on the day after Pentecost also highlights for Catholics that Mary was present with the disciples on Pentecost, praying with them as the Holy

Prayer For Father Gallitzin’s Intercession

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

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

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

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

+ + +

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CNS Photo/Paul Haring

MOTHER OF THE CHURCH: A mosaic of Mary as Mother of the Church is seen above Saint Peter’s Square at the Vatican in this April 13, 2011, file photo. Pope Francis has instituted a new Marian feast honoring Mary as mother of the church. It will be celebrated every year on the Monday after Pentecost.

Mary, Mother of the Church, is the principal patroness of the Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown. The local Church has traditionally kept the feast on May 27, the anniversary of the day upon which the Diocese - - originally called the Diocese of Altoona - - was established in 1901.

Spirit descended. Cardinal Sarah said that Mary, “from the awaiting of the Spirit at Pentecost, has never ceased to take motherly care of the pilgrim church on earth.”

Along with the decree and his comments, Cardinal Sarah also published in Latin the specific liturgical texts for use on

the memorial at Mass and in the Liturgy of the Hours.

Bishops’ conferences “will approve the translation of the texts they need and, after receiving their confirmation, will publish them in the liturgical books for their jurisdiction,” the cardinal said.

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The Pope Teaches

By Pope Francis
Redemption Is Free

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Mass isn't a paid arrangement for salvation but rather the commemoration of Christ's sacrifice of his life, given freely to all, Pope Francis said.

Christians can make a silent prayer during Mass or donate money to offer a Mass for a loved one who is in need or passed away, but should never feel obliged to make a payment, the pope said at his weekly general audience at the Vatican March 7.

"Nothing! Understood? Nothing! You do not pay for the Mass! The Mass is Christ's sacrifice, which is free. Redemption is free. If you want to make an offering, do it. But you do not pay for it! This is important to understand!" he said.

Pope Francis held the audience in the Vatican's Paul VI hall due to forecasts of rain for Rome. The Vatican also opened St. Peter's Basilica to accommodate the overflow, with giant screens set up in the basilica so the people could follow the audience.

However, despite predictions of dreary weather, the sun brightly peered through the clouds above St. Peter's, which the pope noted after the audience, when he went to the basilica to greet and bless those inside.

"Today, we thought the rain was coming, but who can understand Rome? The weather in Rome is like that," he said.

In his main talk, the pope continued his series on the Mass, focusing on the eucharistic prayer, "the central moment" in which Christians relive "what Jesus himself did at the table with the apostles at the Last Supper."

"In this solemn prayer, the church expresses what it does when she celebrates the Eucharist and the reason why she celebrates it, that is, to make communion with Christ truly present in the consecrated bread and wine," the pope said.

The eucharistic prayer, he explained, is composed of several formulas, beginning with the preface, "an action of thanksgiving for God's gifts" followed by the acclamation of "holy."

"It is beautiful to sing, 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord.' It is beautiful to sing it so that the entire assembly unites their voice with those of the angels and saints to praise and glorify God," he said.

During the consecration, he added, the bread and wine become the body and blood of Christ; it is "the mystery of faith" that all Christians must believe in.

"We should not have strange thoughts such as 'How can this be?' It is the body of Christ, and that's it. Faith; faith helps us to believe, it is an act of faith. But it is the body and blood of Christ," the pope said.

Pope Francis said that through the eucharistic prayer, Christians "learn three attitudes that should never be missing from Jesus' followers:" to give thanks always and everywhere, to make one's life a gift of love and to build communion in the church and with everyone.

"This central prayer of the Mass educates us, little by little, to make of our whole life a 'Eucharist,'" the pope said.



ONE MORE TIME: In 1958, members of the Secular Franciscan Order joined Third Order Regular Franciscan Father Francis Mastrovito, in celebrating the golden jubilee of Saint Anthony of Padua Parish, Windber.

Grief comes in many forms: losing a valued heirloom, a job or a home filled with beautiful memories. The list of heartbreaks is unending. However, losing a loved one with a whole life ahead of him or her pierces the very depths of our heart.

How do we support a grief-stricken person?

First, understanding grief's five stages is imperative: denial, anger, bargaining, depression and acceptance. Each stage possesses demanding challenges for mending a wounded spirit. To understand them is the foremost means for lending support.

Our human spirit is often taken for granted when riding high. When crippled, it can leave us crying out: "What did I do to warrant this?" Feelings like this leave us with the choice to give up on life or fight to amend it and enlist support. In struggles like this, a supportive friend is precious.

Supporting a grief-stricken person comes with a price. When we commiserate with



The Human Side

By Father Eugene Hemrick
Words For
The Grief - Stricken?

another, we take on their pain. Commiseration requires heartfelt understanding of the depths of pain and touching it. When we touch it, it says, "I don't know all you're suffering, but I am trying to understand it to be one with your suffering."

When I was a young priest, I received an emergency call in the middle of the night. Upon arriving, I saw a dazed police officer sweating effusively. In another room was a doctor with a crib-dead baby. The mother was crying hysterically because she felt responsible for the tragedy. Those around her tried to console her with no success.

Suddenly a woman entered the room, went to the mother

and held her in her arms without saying a word. With that hug, she quietly absorbed the mother's pain and quieted her.

Words of commiseration are consoling, but without heart they limp and need a heartfelt hug: the tender power for soothing sorrow.

As much as grief has no time limit for healing, it can result in paralysis if healing never comes.

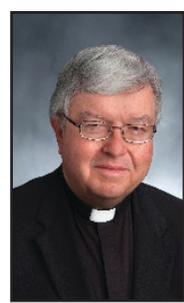
Poet and songwriter Patti Smith reminds us how to get over the hump of sorrow: "Grief starts to become indulgent, and it doesn't serve anyone, and it's painful. But if you transform it into remembrance, then you're magnifying the person you lost and also giving something of that person to other people, so they can experience something of that person."

How very true it is: A life ended is enabled to live on thanks to the gift of remembrance.

Understanding grief's five stages is imperative: denial, anger, bargaining, depression and acceptance. Each stage possesses demanding challenges for mending a wounded spirit. To understand them is the foremost means for lending support.

Question Corner

By Father Kenneth Doyle
Communion From The Cup



Q. My friend told me that in her parish, which is a large one, only one section of the church is offered the blood of Christ. Her pastor believes that adding more eucharistic ministers would create a traffic jam. If they are going to distribute holy Communion from the chalice, shouldn't all be given the opportunity? (Henderson, Nevada)

Q. We moved recently to Texas from Georgia and found a Catholic parish near our new home. We noticed, though, that holy Communion is not received from the cup. When we asked about it, we were told that it is a "training issue" and unlikely to change.

As a retired military family, we have traveled throughout the U.S. and have never encountered a Mass where the precious blood was not offered. I know that not everyone chooses to partake, but I thought it was an integral part of the Mass. Is this something that can be decided

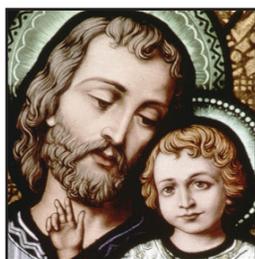
by the individual parish? (Houston)

A. In 2002, the U.S. Catholic bishops issued a document titled "Norms for the Distribution and Reception of Holy Communion under Both Kinds."

In it is expressed a clear preference for the availability of the Eucharist under the forms of both bread and wine. Since both the bread and the chalice were given to the disciples at the Last Supper, "sharing in both eucharistic species reflects more fully the sacred realities that the liturgy signifies" (No. 11).

The bishops note that Communion under both species was

In the Diocese of Altoona - Johnstown, the restoration of offering the cup to the faithful will take place at the Mass of the Lord's Supper, Holy Thursday, March 29.



Saint Joseph
First Century
Feast - March 19

The husband of Mary, the mother of Jesus, and the legal father of Jesus according to Jewish law, Joseph is a model of humility and obedience to God's will. He followed God's instructions, given by angels in dreams, and took the pregnant Mary into his home as his wife, protected her and Jesus from the child's birth in Bethlehem through the family's sojourn in Egypt, and provided for them as a carpenter in Nazareth. This feast, which was celebrated locally as early as the ninth century, became a universal feast in the 16th century. Pope Pius IX named Joseph patron of the universal church in 1870; he is also the patron saint of carpenters, the dying and workers.

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standard practice for at least the first thousand years of the church's history. As to the occasions on which both species are now to be available, the norms leave that determination up to local bishops and, in the absence of any general diocesan guidelines, to the pastor of a parish.

The norms and the General Instruction of the Roman Missal highlight that the Eucharist must always be distributed in an orderly and reverent manner and that care should be taken to ensure that "there is no danger of profanation of the sacrament or of the rite's becoming difficult because of the number of participants" (GIRM, No. 283).

The norms do make it clear that the distribution under both species is not a mandatory part of the eucharistic celebration and that Christ is fully present when received under the species of the bread or of the wine alone, noting that some communicants may be able to receive one species only because of illness and that the whole church receives

only the host in the Good Friday liturgy.

My own experience leads me to believe that most parishes in the U.S. make both species available at most liturgies.

As to the specific concerns expressed in the two letters above, I would think that the "training issue" is far from insurmountable and that the necessary spiritual and practical preparation can often be handled in a single two-hour workshop; and that the opportunity to receive under both species, when offered, should in fact be made available to the entire congregation.

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



For The Journey

By Effie Caldarola
The Serious Consequences
Of Loneliness

I woke up one morning to the news that the British had created a ministry of loneliness. I have to admit, I chuckled. It seemed a particularly English thing to do.

With all the problems in the world -- global warming nearing a catastrophic tipping point, North Korea threatening the U.S. mainland, the Middle East in another implacable dispute -- my first reaction was, "You're kidding, right?"

But, no, it's no joke. And it appears that loneliness is a serious problem, even a public health issue.

The New York Times quotes Vivek Murthy, the former United States surgeon general, as saying that loneliness and social isolation "are associated with a reduction in life span similar to that caused by smoking 15 cigarettes a day." It's apparently worse than being obese.

Who's lonely?

We might jump to the conclusion that the elderly and those living alone are the ones who suffer most, but research shows that social isolation can extend to anyone who feels disconnected. High schoolers often feel that lonely angst, and so can people in an unhappy, noncommunicative marriage. You may be surrounded all day by fellow workers in cubicles, but you can still experience loneliness.

The culprits may be our increasing reliance on social media, scanning our screens rather than getting together for a night of socializing with the neighbors. Increasing urbanization means we may not even know our neighbors. Family doesn't live down the block anymore; we're lucky if our kids stay in the same state.

When I first met my husband's family, I was struck by the social cohesion of their Italian neighborhood. In a large East Coast city, both of his parents were from large recent immigrant families who all still lived in the neighborhood.

Being a Midwesterner, I didn't really know what a "tenement" was until I saw the large two- or three-story homes with an uncle on the ground floor and grandma in the apartment on the second floor. That pattern was repeated all over the neighborhood.

Everybody knew the baker who sold the crusty Italian bread on the corner. Everybody knew what part of Italy the hairdresser's family came from.

No doubt people can still feel lonely in an environment where you are within walking or close driving distance of 80 relatives, but it's hard not to find someone in that crew to connect with emotionally. It's the kind of environment you might flee when you're an independent 20-year-old but view with lonely nostalgia when you're 50. It's hard to replace.

The Midwestern small town where I grew up had no tenements, but it too had its social cohesion, its Saturday nights downtown, its altar societies, bridge clubs and Knights of Columbus. If you weren't somebody's cousin, you were his or her cousin's cousin.

I wonder what the average age is today of the altar society or the parish Knights. I have a hunch it's shifted upward.

We need to challenge ourselves to be connected. Invite the neighbors over. Put down the remote and the phone and laugh with someone.

Our parish has a visitation program, and I've signed up to visit someone who, despite her youthfulness, has physical challenges that keep her institutionalized.

I also have a very perky 100-year-old friend, formerly from my Midwestern hometown, who encourages me to visit her in her nearby apartment.

I'm not doing these ladies a favor by visiting them. They're doing me a favor, keeping me in social communion with what Martin Luther King Jr. once described so beautifully as "the beloved community," a community of justice, love and connection that keeps us happy and healthy.

School Personnel Learn About Security Measures

(Continued From Page 1.)

“Awareness of people and your surroundings is key in being prepared for such an incident,” she said.

Pro - Active Securities teaches the principles of Run, Hide, Fight, as developed by Homeland Securities. They teach strategies and tactics that can be used in the classroom when faced with an active shooter.

Said Seymour, “Since the Florida tragedy especially, parents have begun to ask us questions about our own security. We have already placed additional security cameras around the school and issued swipe cards to unlock doors. Even the elementary students have been asking questions, and the middle school students are posing pointed questions that we need to answer.”

There are two phases to the training; classroom instruction and mock drills with active shooter

scenarios. Preparation is most important before an incident occurs. There are many things that need to be discussed with the teachers and students such as having an escape plan, designating a safe hiding place - - does it have locks or phone locations.

The men said you need to be prepared to fight and have a plan that is practiced. The acronym OODA Loop, which means you need to observe, orient yourself to the situation, decide what you are going to do, and act. The Loop was developed by US Air Force Colonel John Boyd.

According to Homeland Security the first and primary response to an active shooter is to evacuate. If that is not possible find a safe place to hide. Only if your life is in imminent danger should you take action against the active shooter.

It is important to remember when the police arrive to follow all of their commands. Your hands



PROTECTION: Jesse Moyer of Pro- Active Securities explains workings of an AR-15 at a training session held on Friday, March 2 at Holy Trinity Catholic School, Altoona. Teachers and administrators learned how to protect their classrooms in the event of an active shooter incident.

should be raised and visible, and you should make no sudden movements. You should remain calm and not yell, scream or try to grab and officer. Until the shooter is identi-

fied everyone is a suspect.

Spencer said this type of training helps to build confidence in one’s ability to act in such a situation. “I’m sure every school in American is having this same conversation. Figures show that 60% of these type incidents are over by the time the police arrive. We have to be able to think on our feet.”

The teachers and administrators thought it was a very revealing and informative class. “There’s a broad answer to how to prepare for an active shooter,” Moyer said. “Awareness and being prepared are so important. It’s a horrible fact that today people can find themselves in such a situation.”

Go to Saint Joseph with your needs.

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Saturday, March 17, 5pm
Sunday, March 18, 5pm
Monday, March 19, 7pm

Saint John Gualbert Cathedral
117 Clinton Street, Johnstown PA

Confession after evening Mass on March 17 &18. Saint Joseph Table Reception at SJGC Activity Center immediately following the closing Mass on March 19.

Mark the petition; fill in name (optional); place in petitions basket. Please place my petition before Saint Joseph during the Triduum.

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Catholics Celebrate Nation's Newest Cathedral, Growth Of Church In South

By Dan McWilliams
Catholic News Service

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (CNS) -- The Diocese of Knoxville dedicated the country's newest cathedral March 3 during a special Mass in which prelates and parishioners celebrated the growth of the Catholic Church in this region of the United States.

Bishop Richard F. Stika greeted the gathering of more than 1,000 with a simple phrase after the three-year building project: "Well, we made it."

Five cardinals, 21 bishops, more than 100 priests, 58 deacons, and 39 men and women religious took part in the three-hour dedication Mass along with more than 800 East Tennessee Catholics.

"Isn't it amazing what can be done with generous offerings, some buckets of paint, slabs of marble, and months of work?" Bishop Stika asked

"But in a few moments -- depending on how long I preach -- this building, this house, this combination of man-made materials and nature's creation, will be a church, a home, a cathedral," the Knoxville bishop said. "Why? Because we dedicate, we consecrate, we set apart for God this space, this sacred space, dedicated under the title the Cathedral of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus."

Bishop Stika issued a warm welcome to the hundreds attending the dedication Mass, calling it a historic day in the life of the Catholic Church in East Tennessee.

"Praise be Jesus Christ," he said. "To those visiting us on this special day, welcome to East Tennessee and welcome to the Diocese of Knoxville, which comprises all of East Tennessee. Welcome to Rocky Top, a land surrounded by majestic mountains and lakes galore. Welcome to history and beauty. A warm Southern welcome to you all."

The rite of dedication was attended by religious and laity from the diocese, from around the country, and even from around the world.

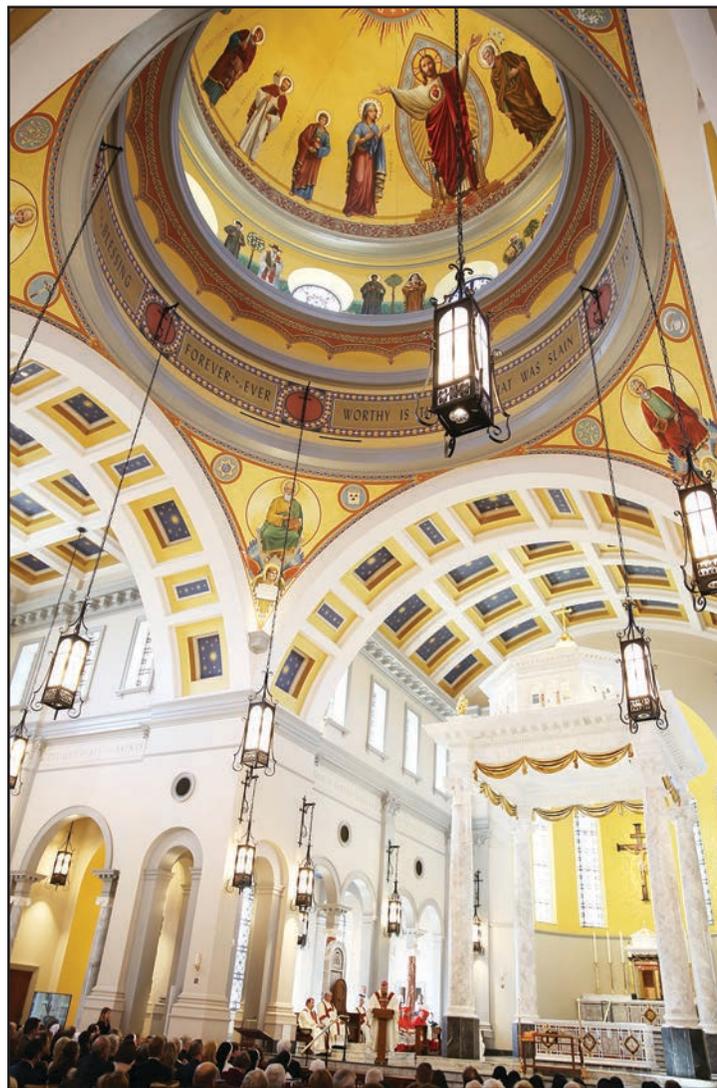
Prelates present included: Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, retired archbishop of Krakow, Poland, and longtime personal secretary to St. John Paul II; Cardinal William J. Levada, retired prefect of the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith; Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York; Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops; and Cardinal Justin Rigali, retired archbishop of Philadelphia and a Knoxville resident; and Archbishop Christophe Pierre, papal nuncio to the United States.

All seven bishops in the province of Louisville, which includes the Diocese of Knoxville, attended. Louisville Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz, the second bishop of Knoxville and Bishop Stika's immediate predecessor, played a role in the Mass, as did Bishop James V. Johnston Jr. of Kansas City-St. Joseph, Missouri. He's a Knoxville native.

Before the dedication, those in the congregation craned their necks for a look at the \$30.8 million, 28,000-square-foot structure's 144-foot-high dome, which has murals of the Twelve Apostles and 16 saints. A 25-foot portrait of Jesus with the sacred heart is the largest image in the dome.

The cathedral's art and architecture also includes a 45-foot-tall baldacchino, or canopy, over the altar, as well as a marble ciborium over the tabernacle. The 11-foot-long altar itself is made of Michelangelo Statuario marble -- from the same quarry as that used for Michelangelo's "Pieta"; four pendentives at the base of the dome featuring the four Gospel writers.

"High above us we have the apostles and Mary and Joseph," Bishop Stika said of the dome. "We have images like our fam-



CNS Photo/Stephanie Richer/Courtesy Diocese Of Knoxville

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ily photographs that remind us that saints are those like us who knew they were sinners. We call upon their assistance as they now stand before the throne of God."

Cardinal Dziwisz blessed a statue of St. John Paul, co-patron of the Diocese of Knoxville, at the new cathedral's dedication. The Polish cardinal also donated two relics of the saint to the diocese, including a stole frequently worn by St. John Paul.

Archbishop Kurtz and Bishop Johnston joined Bishop Stika in blessing the people and the walls of the church with holy water.

Archbishop Pierre read the Vatican decree formally transferring the title of cathedral from the original Sacred Heart Cathedral building to the new one.

(Continued On Page 12.)

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Cathedral

(Continued From Page 11.)

The original Sacred Heart was built as a parish church in the 1950s and seated just under 600. It served as a parish church until it was elevated to cathedral status in 1988 when St. John

Paul established the Diocese of Knoxville.

Additional steps in the March 3 rite of dedication included Bishop Stika taking formal possession of the building from the architects, the depositing of relics in the altar, and the anointing of the altar and the walls of the church.

Relics in the new cathedral

altar include those of a number of saints and blessed, such as St. Andrew the Apostle, Blessed Stanley Rother, St. Teresa of Kolkata, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and several more. Also present is a relic of the true cross of Christ, donated by Cardinal Rigali.

Bishop Stika announced plans for the new cathedral in



CNS Photo/Stephanie Richer/Courtesy Diocese Of Knoxville

KNOXVILLE CATHEDRAL DEDICATED: Prelates and others gather for the dedication Mass for the Cathedral of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Saturday, March 3 in Knoxville, Tenn. Bishop Richard F. Stika of Knoxville greeted the gathering of more than 1,000 with a simple phrase after the three-year building project: "Well, we made it."

September 2014. The original cathedral on the same site will become a parish hall.

The bishop operated a Caterpillar backhoe to break ground on the cathedral April 19, 2015.

The Diocese of Knoxville's new mother church is the second cathedral to be dedicated in the United State in less than a year. In July, the Diocese of Raleigh, North Carolina, dedicated its Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral.

Cardinal DiNardo noted how the building of three new cathedrals in a decade illustrates the dynamic growth of the Catholic Church in the southern part of the country.

Pope Francis blessed the dedication stone for the new Ca-

thedral of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Oct. 14, 2015, during a papal audience at the Vatican attended by Bishop Stika and Cardinal Rigali. Construction progressed until the final week before the dedication.

March 3 was "a magnificent day in the history of the local church. The cathedral in our tradition plays an important role not only for the celebration of the sacraments and divine worship; it's a sign and a symbol of the Church's unity," Bishop Johnston said. "This is a beautiful representation of that. It's a magnificent building, and it's going to help the local Church give glory to God for many centuries to come."

Increasing Our Awareness

(Continued From Page 5.)

Consider how we can support our aging population to be certain they are getting nutritious meals. Willingly assist those that may be challenged with their eyesight and pray for Social Workers who spend endless hours trying to bridge individuals and families to a better place in life.

Looking ahead, April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Please remember the importance of families and communities while working together to prevent child abuse. The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown is asking you to become more aware of the signs of child abuse and neglect. Seek out our youth protection awareness and mandated reporting trainings. These are available for the first time advocate or as a refresher course. To learn more about Youth Protection Awareness and Mandated Reporting, please contact Cindy O'Connor at (814) 695-5579, extension 2621 or via email at coconnor@dioceseaj.org.



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In The Alleghenies

(Continued From Page 6.)

Once they decide that Army ROTC and service in the United States Army is right for them, students may be offered a chance to serve upon graduation. There is no service requirement while in college and there is no requirement to attend Basic Training or "boot camp." Additionally, highly qualified individuals may be eligible for scholarships that cover 100 percent of tuition and fees.

Freshmen, sophomores, and rising junior students interested in the program are encouraged to contact the Army ROTC team. Opportunities also exist for graduate students with at least four semesters remaining in their academic programs. For additional information, please contact Captain Daniel Beckers at (800) 357 - 7682 or email army-rotc@iup.edu

Army ROTC at Mount Aloysius College is a satellite of the Indiana University of Pennsylvania Army ROTC program. For additional information about Mount Aloysius College contact the Admissions Office at 888-823-2220, or email them at admissions@mtaloy.edu.

Hurricane Relief

Cresson: Many college students spend Spring Break relaxing at home or head south for some fun in the sun. Not so for nearly 30 Mount Aloysius College students. With parts of Houston TX still in shambles from Hurricane Harvey; students and staff from Mount Aloysius spent the break in overalls, work gloves and hard hats.

Mount Aloysius President Tom Foley, himself a volunteer first responder during Hurricane Katrina said, "We are all very proud of the commitment of these terrific students and staff."

According to Christina Koren, executive director of mission integration and community outreach at Mount Aloysius, the Houston spring break service trip is one of the larger service

responses of the College. "The devastation in Houston is significant and we saw a real opportunity to get some families back on their feet. We're excited at the willingness of our students and staff to help out."

Mercy Center Coordinator, Brianna Baker will lead the efforts in Houston. "I'm inspired to give back because it made me realize how fortunate we are and how important giving back to others is," Baker said. "And we decided to travel to Houston because of the devastation that happened this year with the hurricanes. The students saw the destruction and identified Houston as a place where they could really have an impact. By doing service trips like this all of us learn so much by stepping out of our comfort zone and reaching out to others who need our assistance. At the end of the day, it's about engaging in the lives of the people we meet and making as much of an impact as we can."

Mount Aloysius partnered with Catholic Charities in Houston. The group helped clean debris and reconstruct homes and buildings devastated by Hurricane Harvey. The group worked in the greater Houston area for their entire spring break.

Mount Aloysius senior Steven Niebauer, a Business Administration major from Irvona, is excited to participate in the relief effort. Niebauer has trav-

elled internationally on past service trips. "Through my time at Mount Aloysius, I have learned the importance of Mercy values and helping people in need," said Niebauer. "Whether the need is in our local community, across the country or around the world, we are fortunate to be in a position to help others and we are reminded that it is a privilege and our responsibility to do so."

Mounties proudly represented the mercy values intertwined in the college's mission. Mount Aloysius College is one of 17 U.S. colleges and universities operating under the auspices of the Religious Sisters of Mercy. Mount Aloysius College emphasizes the core values of justice, hospitality, service and mercy and these values are sewn deep into the fabric of the school.

Mount Aloysius students and staff traveling to Houston included: Allen Paul Muselman; Tyler Elliot; Zachary Chirdon; Grace Peachey; Emily Black; Dylan Mata; Samantha Oreck; Nicole Michelle Petonic; Nicholas E. Goldyn; Sara Bollinger; Steven Niebauer; Brittany Mazur; Melissa Torres; William Kanich; Abigail Brooks; Breana Kendrick; Shakari Jones; Jordan Marion; Danielle Schrifft; Iddi Kaumba; Paige Dinges; Dan Roberts; with Mount Aloysius staff Brianna Baker, Ryan Beisinger, and Chris Koren.

Play

Cresson: Mount Aloysius College Theater will present "Eurydice," by Sarah Ruhl, as their spring production. The modern retelling of the Greek myth of Orpheus and his journey to the underworld to save his wife Eurydice will be presented on Thursday, March 22 through Saturday, March 24. Curtain call will be at 7:30 p.m. each night in Alumni Hall.

"Eurydice," written in 2003, retells the myth of Orpheus from the perspective of his wife, Eurydice. The story focuses on Eurydice's choice to return to Earth with Orpheus or stay in the underworld with her father. The "father" was a theatrical device invented by playwright Ruhl. The original Greek myth has Orpheus bowing to his desires, looking back at Eurydice. Ruhl's version has Eurydice call out to Orpheus, causing him to look back. The juxtaposition of choices is the stuff of great theater and innovative stage design.

Mount Aloysius Theatre Director, Nathan Magee, noted that his choice of "Eurydice" was driven by the beautiful story it conveys. "Eurydice is a challenging show because of that combination of classic Greek with modern theatrical conventions. It moves quickly from location to location, bouncing from the Beach to the Underworld. The play also includes many special effects such as rain, and an elevator. The elements are highly theatrical, and that presents really fun problems to solve. I had the concept of us-

ing digital projections to help us show the many highly theatrical moments on stage."

"Eurydice" is a marriage of the old and new theater which will delight audience members. The cast is made up of 10 Mount Aloysius students and a plethora of support staff. The play will run with no intermission, and is approximately 90 minutes in length.

The cast of "Eurydice" is made of the following students: Eurydice, Rachel Borst; Orpheus, Alex Way; Father, Nathan Smith; Interesting Man, Seth Hull; Small Stone, Kyle Snyder and Nicole Petonic; Big Stone, Claire Kirsch and James Kealey; and Loud Stone, Courtney Moyer and Jordan Morrison.

The Production Crew includes: Stage Manager, Kolby Wasnick; Assistant Director, Pam Young; Set Designer/Projection Design, Sam Wagner; Costume Design, Jessica Davis; Lighting Design, Alice Oswald; Light Board Operator, Paige Ryan; Projection Crew, Veronica Scott and Hannah Holt; Costume Running Crew, Aubrey Anna and Rebecca Ryan; Scenic Construction and Box Office, Ian Koenig.

Admission is \$5.00. Area students at all levels may enjoy the show free of charge. For tickets call (814) 886 - 6684.

(Continued On Page 15.)

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Now Showing

'Death Wish' Remains Offensive On Every Level

By Kurt Jensen
Catholic News Service

NEW YORK (CNS) --

Even dressed up with some style and the presumption of wit, the remake of "Death Wish" (MGM) is the same nihilistic racist vigilante fantasy that the five films in the first series were years ago.

Director Eli Roth and screenwriter Joe Carnahan have set the tale of Paul Kersey, originally a New York architect played by stone-faced Charles Bronson, in Chicago, where this Kersey (Bruce Willis) is a smirking, yet highly dedicated and compassionate, emergency room surgeon whose cool professionalism overtakes any horror at the gunshot wounds he treats every night.



CNS Photo/Metro - Goldwyn - Mayer Pictures

DEATH WISH: Bruce Willis stars in a scene from the movie "Death Wish." The Catholic News Service classification is O -- morally offensive. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R -- restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.

LENTEN FISH DINNER

Queen Of Peace Parish Center in Patton (Upper Level) All Fridays of Lent (including **Good Friday**), beginning **Friday, February 16.**



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

814-674-8983 Baked Goods Available for Sale

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

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

Kersey is slow to realize a growing wave of violent crime until a home-invasion robbery in which his wife, Lucy (Elisabeth Shue), is killed and daughter Jordan (Camila Morrone) is left in a coma.

Police detectives Rains (Dean Norris) and Jackson (Kimberly Elise) are sympathetic, but so overwhelmed by the crime wave that they're not identifying any suspects. So Kersey has to learn for himself to protect what's his.

After a visit to a gun store makes it clear that any weapons he purchases there will produce a documented trail, he manages

to steal a Glock pistol from a wounded patient, and despite his lack of training, eventually tries it out when he sees a crime committed in the dark of night.

Sepulchral and gimlet-eyed in his hoodie, he's never identified as he stalks the Chicago streets, and he quickly becomes a social-media meme known as the Grim Reaper. Kelsey eventually starts making the connections that help him figure out his wife's murderers and the location of his stolen property.

The general idea presented is that Kelsey is more meticulous than vengeance-obsessed as he finds different methods to lure the criminals into traps before killing them. As surgeon, he also treats his own wounds, with

no one else any wiser.

Although not quite as racial as the first set of films -- these bad guys are heavily tattooed but very unspecific in ethnicity -- this unpleasant element is still very much present. Kelsey leads a comfortable life, and seeks direct retribution in lieu of legal justice.

The film contains a vigilantism theme, a skewed view of law enforcement, frequent gore, pervasive gun and physical violence, frequent rough language and profanities. The Catholic News Service classification is O -- morally offensive. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R -- restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.



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Coming Up On 'Proclaim!'

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

March 25 - - On this Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, a candidate for initiation at the Easter Vigil looks ahead to the joy of full communion in the Catholic Church.

April 1 - - On this Easter Sunday, students from Holy Trinity Catholic School join Bishop Mark to hear the story of Christ's resurrection.

May They Rest In Peace



agh NY; nieces and nephews, and the members of the IHM Congregation.

The Funeral Mass for Sister Mary Francine Connolly was celebrated Thursday, March 1 in the chapel of Our Lady of Peace Residence, Committal was at Saint Catherine Cemetery, Moscow.

Memorial contributions may be made to support the retired IHM Sisters c/o the IHM Sisters Retirement Fund, IHM Center, 2300 Adams Avenue, Scranton PA 18509.

In The Alleghenies

(Continued From Page 13.)

Prayer

Silent Retreat

Greensburg: A silent, individually directed, Ignatian retreat for men and women will be offered at Saint Emma's Monastery June 2 - June 8.

Retreatants may choose a 3, 5, or 7 day retreat at a cost of \$90 per night for room, board, and daily spiritual direction. Accommodations will be at the monastic guest house. The Spiritual Directors are Dr. Carrie Nickerson and Elizabeth Campbell.

Call Saint Emma's at (724) 834 - 3060 prior to May 10 to register or to request more information.

Secular Carmelites

Loretto: The Our Lady of Loretto Community of the Discalced Carmelite Seculars, meets the fourth Sunday of every month at 9:00 a.m. at the Monastery of Saint Therese of Lisieux 2101 Manor Drive.

The Discalced Carmelite Seculars are members of the Carmelite family who are Catholics from all walks of life, over the age of 18, striving to live the way of perfection in a contemplative (reflective) life of prayer through sacrificial offering for the salvation of souls. Origins of the order date back to the prophet Elijah who found God in a

gentle whisper. The 16th century reform by Saint Teresa of Jesus brought stricter provisions to the order. Discalced means "bare-foot" which implies humility and detachment. As St. Teresa said, "we are IN the world but not OF the world."

Secular Carmelites live a life in allegiance to Jesus Christ, imitating the Blessed Virgin Mary and faithfully observing the spiritual journey as laid out by the teachings and example of Saint Teresa of Jesus and Saint John of the Cross. Secular Carmelites foster a life of prayer, attend monthly meetings and receive the sacraments frequently. They pray morning and evening prayer and embrace a devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, under the title of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

The community invites those who have the desire of deepening their spiritual life through prayer to come and attend a meeting.

Anyone interested may call Nickola Wallace OCDS, President of the Community, at (814) 364 - 1494 or (717) 462 - 5138.

Cursillo

Ebensburg: Applications are being accepted for the Spring Mens and Womens Cursillo weekends held at Saint Ann Retreat Center.

Mens Cursillo #121 is April

19 - 22 and Womens Cursillo #122 is April 26 - 29.

If interested in attending, contact Mike and Juanita Kissell, Pre - Cursillo chairpersons at mjkissel73@gmail.com.

Youth

Basketball Camp

Cresson: Mount Aloysius College will help young boys and girls who love basketball hone their dribbling, passing and shooting skills this summer. Mount Aloysius Head Men's Basketball Coach, Will Cabrera, and Assistant Coach, Brian Giesler, will host two summer basketball camps in the College's 87,000 square foot Athletic Convocation and Wellness Center (AMCC).

The first session of the Mount Aloysius Summer Basketball Camp is open to boys and girls, ages six to 14 years old. The session will run from June 18 through 21. The sessions start at 9:00 a.m. and end at noon. Cost of the camp is \$100 per athlete.

The second session will be an all-day camp, held August 6 through August 9. Each day will begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude at 3:00 p.m. Campers must provide their own lunches. Cost is \$150 per athlete.

Basketball campers can

participate in both camps for a total of \$200. Each athlete will receive a camp T-shirt, great instruction and plenty of one-on-one attention.

Topics and skills covered during both sessions will include: ball-handling, shooting, movement away from the ball, basic offensive concepts, man-to-man defense, general skill development and gameplay situations.

Men's coach, Will Cabrera led the Mounties to a successful 2017-2018 season and AMCC playoff appearance in his inaugural year as the head coach at Mount Aloysius College. Prior to his time at Mount Aloysius, he was an assistant coach and recruiting coordinator at Lebanon Valley College. He also spent several summers helping coach the Bolivian Men's National Basketball team.

For more information or to register for the camp, contact Coach Cabrera at gcabrera@mtaloy.edu

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Miracles Attributed To Pope Paul VI, Archbishop Romero, Clear Way For Sainthood

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Francis has cleared the way for the canonizations of Blessed Paul VI and Oscar Romero.

At a meeting March 6 with Cardinal Angelo Amato, prefect of the Congregation for Saints' Causes, Pope Francis signed decrees for the causes of 13 men and women -- among them a pope, an archbishop, two young laywomen and a number of priests and nuns.

He recognized a miracle attributed to Blessed Paul, who, according to Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, will be declared a saint in late October at the end of the Synod of Bishops on youth and discernment. Blessed Paul, who was born Giovanni Battista Montini, was pope from 1963 to 1978.

Pope Francis also formally signed the decree recognizing the miracle needed to advance the sainthood cause of Archbishop Romero of San Salvador, martyr.

El Salvador's ambassador to the Holy See, Manuel Roberto Lopez, told Catholic News Service March 7 that the news of the pope's approval "took us by surprise."

"They told us before that the process was going well and that

all we needed was the approval of the miracle, and it turns out the pope approved it yesterday," he said.

Lopez told CNS that he was happy that Blessed Oscar Romero's canonization was imminent and that his holiness was recognized alongside one of his earliest supporters.

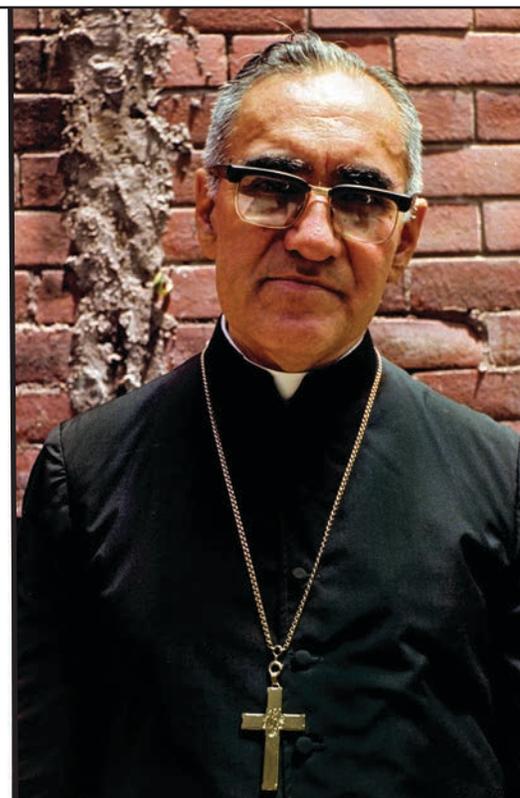
"To see that he will be canonized along with (Blessed) Paul VI, who was a great friend of Archbishop Romero and supported his work, is a great blessing," Lopez said.

The Vatican did not announce a date for Blessed Romero's canonization.

The pope also recognized the miracles needed for the canonization of: Father Francesco Spinelli of Italy, founder of the Sisters Adorers of the Blessed Sacrament; Father Vincenzo Romano of Italy; and Mother Maria Katharina Kasper, founder of the religious congregation, the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ.

He recognized the miracle needed for the beatification of Maria Felicia Guggiari Echeverria, a Discalced Carmelite from Paraguay whom Pope Francis has upheld as a model for the youth of Paraguay. Affectionately called, "Chiquitunga," she died from an unexpected illness in 1959 at the age of 34 before she could make her final vows.

The pope also recognized the martyrdom of a 16-year-old



CNS Photos/Files/Octavio Duran

TO BE CANONIZED: Pope Francis has cleared the way for the canonizations of Blessed Paul VI and Oscar Romero.

laywoman from Slovakia. Anna Kolesarova, who lived from 1928 to 1944 in the eastern town of Pavlovce, was murdered during Slovakia's occupation by the Soviet army in World War II after refusing sexual favors to a Russian soldier.

In causes just beginning their way toward sainthood, the pope signed decrees recognizing the heroic virtues of Polish Redemptorist Father Bernard Lubienski,

At a meeting March 6 with Cardinal Angelo Amato, prefect of the Congregation for Saints' Causes, Pope Francis signed decrees for the causes of 13 men and women -- among them a pope, an archbishop, two young laywomen and a number of priests and nuns.

who entered the congregation in England and then returned to Poland to re-found the Redemptorists there in the 20th century, and Sandra Sabattini, a young Italian lay woman who was active in helping the poor with the Pope John XXIII Community. She was hit by a car and died in

1984 at the age of 22.

The pope also recognized the heroic virtues of Antonio Pietro Cortinovis of the Order of Friars Minor Capuchin (1885-1984) and three Italian women -- two who founded religious orders and a laywoman who founded a lay fraternity.

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