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Tribute To Monsignor Timothy P. Stein On Pages 8 & 9

Ebensburg Holy Name First Grade School To Utilize School Resource Officer

Photos And Text By
Tony DeGol

“An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.”

Students at Holy Name School in Ebensburg can learn about that famous statement from Benjamin Franklin in history class, and – more importantly – they can see it in action throughout the entire campus.

The school has become the first Catholic elementary school in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown to have a School Resource Officer (SRO). The full time, armed officer – an employee of Gittings Protective Security in Ebensburg – began his duties on Monday, April 30.

“Monsignor (David) Lockard (Pastor of Holy Name Parish) and I were looking for ways of making sure our students and staff felt safe here at Holy Name School and that while they were in school, parents felt safe and confident that they sent their child to a school that was going to educate them and protect them while they were here,” said principal Robin McMullen.

A discussion with the school council resulted in ideas flowing.

Dean Gittings is the parent of a current Holy Name student and two former students and a member of the council. He is also the President and CEO of Gittings Protective Security.



THUMBS-UP FOR SAFETY: New Holy Name School Resource Officer Donald Gray spends time with students during his first week on the job. Holy Name is the first Catholic elementary school in the Diocese to have a full-time SRO. Officer Gray will integrate with the school community and look for ways to create a safer environment. Pictured (left to right): Noah Ray, Jillian Schoop, Lydia Sheehan, Officer Gray, Rocco Barra, and Natalie Rossman.

“He offered great advice on what we could do to safeguard our students that didn’t require any expense at all,” McMullen noted. “We know those are things we can do right now, but we needed to look into ways to protect everyone that involved monetary costs like a School Resource Officer.”

The council unanimously approved the idea, added McMullen.

A School Resource Officer is very different from a security guard at the door.

“A School Resource Officer is integrated with the entire community,” stressed Gittings. “He is smiling and talking with the children, he is interacting with the staff and the parents, he is constantly on the move and just looking for every way he can make the facility safer – always

looking for potential threats or safety hazards and, in general, looking for ways to make the place a safer environment.”

After only a brief time on the job, SRO Donald Gray already feels like part of the school family.

“What I’ll be doing is interacting with the children, faculty, and administration and working with them to make sure everyone feels

safe and more-or-less be a buddy for the kids, a friend, a counselor,” Gray stated.

In fact, keeping an eye on the students while they are outside the building is just as important as a secure interior.

“When the kids are getting on and off the bus I’m out there watching all around the parking lot, watching traffic, watching people walking on the sidewalk – anything that seems out of place – to make sure the kids get into school or on the bus safely,” said Gray. “Also when they go out to the playground, I try to be out there with them, interacting with them, and just watching the situation, making sure everything is okay.”

Holy Name, which has more than 320 students in pre-kindergarten through grade 8, has been proactive with safety measures for years. Among the steps taken long ago were updated fire and security systems, panic alarms, and a camera/video system.

At a time when safety at all schools in America seems to be under a microscope, Holy Name leaders feel the time is right to enhance what is already in place.

“The School Resource Officer is, I think, the most important step they’ve made yet because they’ve got an active, thinking, human be-

(Continued on Page 10.)

FORMING CLERGY AND LAITY

Adult Enrichment
 Christian Initiation (RCIA)
 Evangelization
 Lay Ecclesial Ministry
 Priests' Vocations
 Ongoing Formation of Priests and Deacons

NURTURING OUR YOUTH

Campus Ministry
 Educating Youth
 Sacramental Preparation
 Youth Ministry

**CARING FOR THE POOR
AND STRENGTHENING FAMILIES**

Catholic Charities
 Family Life
 Fulton County Catholic Mission
 Mandeville Diocese, Jamaica

Evangelization Remains Mission In Diocese For 223 Years

**2018 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE**

Making Christ A Home In Your Heart

By Pam Seasoltz

Director of Stewardship and Development

**2018 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE**

Making Christ A Home In Your Heart

Nurturing Our Youth

Campus Ministry, Educating Youth, Sacramental Preparation, Youth Ministry

100% of your gift supports 14 ministries like **Evangelization!**

Evangelizing is a word that packs a powerful message: to preach the good news of Jesus Christ.

In the eight counties that comprise the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown — Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Centre, Clinton, Fulton, Huntingdon and Somerset—the total Catholic population is 84,309.

A story of Faith, Hope & Charity.

In 1795, prince, priest, and missionary, Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin came to the Allegheny Mountains to answer a sick call and stayed for 45 years 'evangelizing' to the settlers of McGuire's Settlement, now called Loretto.

Evangelization still remains the Diocese's mission 223 years later. Today, all 87 parishes tend to active and non-active Catholics with evangelization teams, small prayer groups, and outreach ministries. Bringing the good news of Jesus into every human situation is especially evident in the lives of those impacted by the 14 ministries centered on Caring for the Poor and Strengthening Families; Nurturing our Youth; and Forming Clergy and Laity.

This fall, as we experience ARISE Together In Christ, a parish-centered journey to foster one's personal spiritual growth with Jesus, Father Gallitzin's seeds of evangelization continue to grow and prosper in our Diocese.

Attributed to the Apostle of the Alleghenies, "Let us own one place wherein a man can live a hearty, vigorous, joyous hearted Catholic life."

Your support today will help continue and strengthen our mission to evangelize—providing your friends, family, neighbors and community the spiritual opportunities to experience a real and personal relationship with Jesus.

The Catholic Ministries Drive exists to serve the parishes and the people of our Diocese. The 14 ministries that benefit from your generosity rely on this annual campaign—as 100% of donations supports them directly. From Sacramental preparation to our sister Diocese in Jamaica, no single parish could accomplish all that that is offered by these ministries. **Making Christ a Home in Your Hearts** reminds all of us that at the center of our lives as Catholics is love. The Catholic Ministries Drive is a concrete way to live out your faith and to express your love for those in need of spiritual, physical, and emotional support.

Your gift can be mailed to the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, P.O. Box 409, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648;



placed in your parish offertory; or made online at www.dioceseaj.org

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In The Alleghenies



CONFIRMATION CLASS: Members of the Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish, Altoona, Confirmation class (pictured left to right) are: Brennan DeLeo, Justin Beck, Jacob Hunter, Julia Wise, Matthew Furrer, Nicholas Collin Vrabel; and Seth Shanneyfelt. Debbie Bartley is the director of religious education. Monsignor Timothy P. Stein was pastor.



GONGLOFF MAKES FIRST COMMUNION: Colin Gongloff of Saint Demetrius Parish in Gallitzin, made his First Communion. Pictured (left to right) are: Michelle Mentzer, Second-grade teacher; Gongloff, and Father Albert Ledoux.

Prayer

Loretto: Saint Francis Friary, will celebrate a special Pentecostal Mass at 7 PM on Saturday, May 19. It will be held at the Mount Assisi Friary, 141 Saint Francis Drive.

Colleges

Cresson: The Mount Aloysius College Department of Justice, Law, and Society again ranked in the 90th percentile as a group. Graduating Criminal Justice students are tested in each year by completing the ETS Major Field Test.

In the area of Critical Thinking and the Law, Mount Aloysius graduates tested in the 98th percentile. The Field Test compared Mountie grads against approximately 4500 students in more than 100 programs across the United States.

Mount Aloysius also announced that it has partnered with the South Central Pennsylvania Area Health Education Center (AHEC). As society grows older, the need for healthcare professionals continues to explode. The collaboration will offer overnight summers camp where high school students can explore a variety of medical professions first-hand. The 16th Annual Healthcare Careers Awareness Camp will take place on Sunday, July 8 through Friday, July 13 on the Mount Aloysius Campus.

Interested students must submit an application, a written state-

ment explaining why they wish to pursue a healthcare career, and two letters of recommendation. They must be forwarded to the South central PA AHEC office by May 21, 2018.

Students and their parents can call the South Central, PA AFEC office at (814) 344-2222 to learn more.

Healthcare

Hollidaysburg: The Hollidaysburg Knights of Columbus will hold a Hand-In-Hand Barbecue on Sunday, June 19 at the Knights of Columbus Home. This is the 39th year the project will support Shriners Hospital for Children in Philadelphia.

High Schools

Ebensburg: From 5-6 PM Thursday, May 24th, Bishop Carroll Catholic High School will host an activity and athletic fair for all interested junior high students and parents. Administrators, moderators, coaches, and students will be on hand to answer questions and provide information. A pizza and movie party will begin at 6 PM for all students in 6th - 8th grades. For more information, please call the school at 472-7500 or e-mail Mr. Nagy at jnagy@bishopcarroll.org.

Elementary Schools

Altoona: Holy Trinity Catholic School has a number of activities

planned for the next few months. At 9:30 AM on Wednesday, May 18, at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, the school community will celebrate a special May Crowning Mass to celebrate, Mary, the Mother of Jesus.

Their Second Annual Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, June 2 at the Maria Parish Center. Persons wishing to donate items can do so from now until the end of May.

Novena

Loretto: The fifth Novena of 2018 to Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Saint Therese (the Little Flower) offered by the Discalced Carmelite Nuns will begin on Tuesday, May 22 and end on Wednesday, May 30. All intentions submitted to the nuns will be remembered with the special Novena prayers following the daily sacrifice of the Mass in the Chapel.

Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament will be held at 4 PM Sunday and every First Friday of the month. Everyone is welcome to attend the Benediction followed by the veneration of the relic of Saint Therese of the Child Jesus of the Holy Face.

Those who desire to share in the graces and blessings of these nine days of prayer, and in the private prayers of the Carmelite Nuns during the Novena, are requested to send their petitions to

Mother Prioress, Discalced Carmelite Monastery, P. O. Box 57, Loretto, PA 15940.



OUTDOOR MASSES: Father John D. Byrnes, JCL, JV (right) distributes Communion at an outdoor Mass at Our Lady of the Alleghenies Shrine in Loretto. The 2018 outdoor Mass season begins on Memorial Day weekend and continues through Labor Day weekend on September 27. Father Byrnes is Rector of the Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel. The Masses are held at 7 PM. The first Mass of the season will be held on Sunday, May 27, and will continue through Labor Day Weekend on September 2. Please bring a lawn chair. In case of inclement weather, the Mass will be celebrated inside the Basilica of Saint Michael The Archangel.

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Point Of View

Amid The Fray

By Greg Erlandson
A Little Boy Meets A Pastor

A remarkable video of Pope Francis answering a young boy's deeply personal question was posted by Catholic News Service recently.

It moved many viewers to tears.

It also moved some Catholics to fits of sarcasm and anti-papal gibes, which left me wondering: What is happening to some of our pew mates?

The video was produced by Robert Duncan and showed a visit by Pope Francis to a sprawling, decrepit housing complex on the outskirts of Rome. During these visits, the pope often takes questions from the children.

On this visit, a young boy named Emanuele, perhaps 9 or 10 years old, approached the microphone. But nerves got the best of him, so the pope asked him to "come and whisper it in my ear." That scene alone was quite touching, as the little boy buried his head into the pope's shoulder and whispered his question.

But then the pope, with Emanuele's permission, told the crowd that Emanuele's father was dead. A nonbeliever, he'd had his children baptized, however. The weeping boy wanted to know if his father was in heaven.

The pope gave a moving response, praising the little boy for his courage, and saying that his father was a good man. "That man did not have the gift of faith, he wasn't a believer, but he had his children baptized. He had a good heart," the pope said. "God is the one who says who goes to heaven."



He then told the children that God has "a father's heart. God has a dad's heart."

The pope reassured little Emanuele. "Does God abandon his children?" The children in the audience shouted no. "There, Emanuele, that is the answer," the pope told the boy. "God surely was proud of your father, because it is easier as a believer to baptize your children than to baptize them when you are not a believer. Surely this pleased God very much."

With such a young and grief-stricken boy, this was not a moment for high theology. In that district of Rome, who knows how his father lost his life. The children there have seen more of life's cruelty than most their age. The pope's message was that God was a loving

father. That he did not abandon his children. That he loved them.

The reaction to the video of this encounter has been quite positive. Surprisingly, however, there has been a strong minority who felt this was more evidence that the pope was not up to snuff when it comes to doling out doctrine.

Some thought it was a contrived photo op. Perhaps Emanuele was an actor, like those student activists after the Florida high school shooting who were accused falsely of being crisis actors.

Others accused the pope of teaching error: "Unfortunately, the pope lied. According to the Bible, his dad, as a nonbeliever, is in hell."

"This pope did not tell the boy the truth," wrote another.

Such certainty about who is or is not in hell is not entrusted to anyone in the church, as the Catechism of the Catholic Church rightly explains. And no pastor of any sort would crush the heart of a little boy who had lost his father. Yet today in social media such discourse -- and worse -- is, unfortunately, quite common.

In his newest apostolic exhortation, "Rejoice and Be Glad," Pope Francis warns about "networks of verbal violence."

"Even in Catholic media, limits can be overstepped," he said.

A little boy in Italy encountered a pastor at a moment of great worry and sorrow. For this, all of us should be able to put down our brickbats for a moment and rejoice and be glad.

In Light Of Faith

By Robert Christian



Welcoming Young Families To Church

Many people have assumed that once millennials started to grow older and have kids, a large number would return to the church or become more actively engaged. This has not materialized -- the numbers are troubling. And there are certainly many reasons why, from changing social norms to mistakes the church has made.

As the church prepares for the upcoming synod on "Young people, faith and vocational discernment" and looks to "encounter, accompany and care for every young person without exception," it would be helpful to consider what more the church could be doing to welcome and support young families.

In its preparation, the church has identified a central concern: the exclusion and isolation of many young people. Social atomization has accelerated rapidly, as communal bonds have frayed. Many young people move away from family and friends for new jobs or other opportunities, sometimes across the country. Digital communities have not replaced the social bonds and support we need to flourish as persons.

Parents with young children are not exempt from experiencing the costs of these changing dynamics. In some cases, the sense of isolation can be worse, particularly for stay-at-home parents. Critical forms of support have disappeared. Â

These changes have fostered an extreme individualism that intensifies isolation and alienation, further damaging the social fabric and diminishing the appeal of a church that is communitarian at its core. At the same time, many reject this ideological individualism, yet live in a world that is shaped by it and find few viable alternatives for living differently.

The church must offer an alternative. And it must not just teach it, but live it -- fostering a sense of welcome, belonging and community.

Perhaps the biggest challenge is to eliminate the feeling and ex-

perience of anonymity. A number of my friends have spoken to me about the isolation of attending Mass week after week without knowing anyone else. This can be particularly true when you're one of the only young adults present.

Strong young adult groups that create social bonds and foster mutual support are very valuable in remedying this. But it is important for these groups to not just cater to single people or those without children. Social events can't just be going to bars or always scheduled at times when it is difficult for parents to bring their kids or slip away from home. Retreats or small groups could offer child care to help parents who cannot afford to constantly hire a babysitter.

Parishes can also create small groups specifically for parents, ideally where child care is available. Parents might find advice, assistance, friendship and spiritual development in such groups. Â

Something that is critical is for the whole community to welcome young children to Mass. Every week after Mass, our priest hunts down our kids for high-fives and a quick chat. He makes it clear that he sees us and that he is glad we are there.

Priests can follow Pope Francis' lead by making it clear that mothers are free to feed their babies as they wish and that a fussy baby at Mass is a blessing, not a problem. Some parishes even put this in the bulletin.

Finally, working to make Catholic schools more affordable can help to support families and foster community. Catholic schools are not perfect, but they are valuable in passing the faith along. In addition, they connect families to one another, not just kids to the church.

These are just a few of many possibilities..

I am blessed to serve as the Director of Child and Youth Protection for the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown. The position tasks me with the responsibility of implementing safe environment plans throughout our diocese and ultimately being accountable to all stakeholders.

One of the main differences between responsibility and accountability is that responsibility can be shared while accountability cannot. To be accountable, an individual is answerable for an activity or a decision. Individuals can share responsibilities to complete a task.

As parents, we teach our children to be accountable for their actions and take ownership. We do our best to encourage all family members to be responsible to themselves and to each other.

Pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown and the U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania, in March of 2017, an Independent Oversight Board (IOB) was created and five individuals were appointed to oversee processes and procedures for the Office of Child and Youth Protection.

The team of experienced volunteers in child abuse prevention include:

- James W. Brown (IOB Chair), former Chief of Staff to both U.S. Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr. and Pennsylvania Governor Robert P. Casey.
- Walter "Pete" Carlson, former criminal investigator for the Pennsylvania State Police. Extensive experience in investigating and helping prosecute



Safe Environment Accountability And Responsibility

By Cindy O'Connor

child abuse cases, served as Chief of Detectives for Lackawanna County DA and lecturer on the subject of child abuse protection.

- Eileen Dombo, PhD, LICSW, Associate Professor and Assistant Dean of the National Catholic School of Social Service at The Catholic University of America. Dr. Dombo is a practicing psychotherapist, authored and lecturer on trauma, child sexual abuse and mental health treatment. She is also the Chair of the Child Protection Advisory Board for the Archdiocese of Washington, DC.

- Mary Herwig, practitioner in the field of Formative Spirituality. She provides spiritual formation counseling. She is an advocate for child protection in all its forms, including for those who have suffered child abuse. She experienced abuse herself as a young child.

- Jerry Johnson, former United States At-

torney for the Western District of Pennsylvania

leading to the prosecution of thousands of criminal cases, including

- those involving child abuse.

Recently, I had the opportunity to meet with the members of the Independent Oversight Board and our youth protection consultant, Les Nichols. The meeting was focused on the review of the past, present and future of youth protection within the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown. It is an honor to work with a team of multi-talented individuals. Our collective mission is to grow and increase our safe environment efforts. Our discussion highlights included policy review and revisions, increasing communication efforts, national background checks, and upgrading data management and victim/survivor support and resources.

In an effort to move the safe environment initiative forward, we ask everyone to also share in the responsibility of holding the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown accountable to maintain a high standard of all processes necessary for youth protection.

I pledge my commitment to continue to reach out to parish safe environment coordinators, our schools and youth programs within our diocese offering support and guidance to ensure the safety of our children, youth and vulnerable persons.

I invite you to contact me should you have any questions or inquires on youth protection and safe environment efforts within our diocese. I can be reached at (814) 695-5579, extension 2621 or via email at coconnor@dioceseaj.org.

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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

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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

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.

Pennsylvania Primary Election Guide -- 2018

The Pennsylvania Primary is on Tuesday, May 15, 2018. The United States House and Senate, Governor, and State House and Senate are among the races that will be on the ballot.

In partnership with the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference, dioceses throughout Pennsylvania invited candidates to respond to questionnaires focusing on issues important to Catholic voters.

The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown does not endorse candidates. The candidates' responses are simply to help voters make an informed choice.

Below are responses from candidates for United States Senate and Pennsylvania Governor. Responses from candidates in other races are on the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown website at www.dioceseaj.org.

Governor/Lieutenant Governor

NOTE - The following candidates did not respond:

For Governor - Thomas W. Wolf (D), Scott R. Wagner (R), and Laura Ellsworth (R)

For Lieutenant Governor - Michael J. Stack (D), John K. Fetterman (D), Raymond Sosa (D), Kathleen M. Cozzone (D), Nilofer Nina Ahmad (D), Jeffrey A. Bartos (R), Kathleen Ann Coder (R)

- What is your position on legislation that would provide direct grants to parents to choose the schools that they believe are best suited for their children, including non-public schools?

MANGO (R) **SUPPORT**

IREY VAUGHAN (R) **SUPPORT**

LUKSIK (R) **SUPPORT**

- Which statement reflects your position most accurately?

a. I support legalized abortion.

b. I oppose legalized abortion in all circumstances.

c. I oppose legalized abortion, except when the life of the mother is in danger or the pregnancy is a result of rape or incest.

MANGO (R) **c.***

** I believe one act of violence does not justify another. However, building a Culture of Life requires consensus, and I would allow exceptions as Governor.*

IREY VAUGHAN (R) **b.**

LUKSIK (R) **c.***

** I have no exceptions. A child is a child.*

What is your position on legislation that would add state restrictions to existing federal prohibitions concerning the hiring of undocumented immigrants or providing healthcare or government services to the undocumented immigrant?

- MANGO (R) **SUPPORT***

** While I support legal immigration, I strongly oppose sanctuary cities because they are dangerous, violate the law, and provide protections not afforded to all Pennsylvanians.*

IREY VAUGHAN (R) **SUPPORT**

LUKSIK (R) **SUPPORT***

** They are not undocumented, they are illegal; it is inherently unjust to say that only some people must obey the law.*

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nancyrosevincent@gmail.com

U.S. Senate

NOTE: James J. Christiana, III (R) and Joseph J. Vodvarka (R) did not respond.

1. What is your position on providing a federal tax credit to businesses that donate to scholarship organizations that provide scholarships for middle and low-income students at private and religious schools in grades kindergarten through 12?

CASEY (D) **OPPOSE***

** I do not support such a tax credit. Businesses can already deduct charitable contributions.*

BARLETTA (R) **SUPPORT**

2. Which statement reflects your position most accurately?

a. I support legalized abortion.

b. I oppose legalized abortion in all circumstances.

c. I oppose legalized abortion, except when the life of the mother is in danger or the pregnancy is a result of rape or incest.

CASEY (D) **c.***

** I am a pro-life Democrat, which means I am in favor of policies that support women and children before and after birth. This means making a commitment to protect programs like WIC, Pregnant Women Support Act, SNAP, Medicaid, and the Nurse-Family Partnership.*

BARLETTA (R) **c.**

3. What is your position on legislation that would permit undocumented immigrants who have lived in the United States for a number of years, have worked and built a life in our country, and who do not have criminal records to register with the government and take steps to earn legal status?

CASEY (D) **SUPPORT**

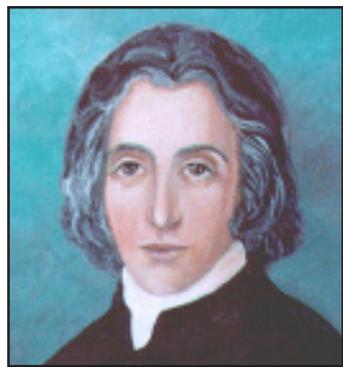
(Continued on Page 12)

Catholic Charities Johnstown Office Bellefonte Office

EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE CASEWORKER

These part-time positions are based upon 17.5 hours per week. Duties include providing assistance to clients by performing a comprehensive financial intake and assessment, including budgeting and community referrals. Candidates must have a Bachelor's degree in a related field and two years of practical experience or a total of ten years of related field and two years of practical experience or a total of ten years of related experience. Additional qualifications and responsibilities can be seen at www.dioceseaj.org.

Resumes must be submitted by May 18, 2018 to 927 South Logan Blvd., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648; Attn: Human Resources.



A Prince In The Service Of The Great King

The Servant Of God
Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin
1770 - 1840

Hungarian Youth Pastor Will Be Beatified As Martyr

By Jonathan Luxmoore
Catholic News Service

WARSAW, Poland (CNS) -- A young Hungarian priest who was lured into a forest and beaten and stabbed to death is to be the latest East European martyr declared blessed by the Catholic Church.

Father Janos Brenner, who died in 1957, will be beatified May 1. He was just two weeks shy of his 26th birthday when he was murdered.

"The communist dictatorship sought to trample on the faith and

frighten the church, subduing and quenching the light emanating from it," Bishop Janos Szekeley of Szombathely said in a statement on the diocesan website.

Father Brenner had been a Cistercian novice, but when the communist government banned religious orders in 1950, he entered a diocesan seminary. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1955.

Bishop Szekeley said Father Brenner had adopted a Cistercian motto, "Burn and give light," in his ministry, and had run afoul of Hungary's communist regime for his work among young people and rural families.

"His fate shows how another deadly enemy for dictatorships is the nation -- the nourishing bonds which bind us to our ancestors, our mother-tongue, land and culture, and to the community where people plan and dream about their future together," the bishop said.

Assigned to a parish in Rabakethely, near the Austrian border, he attracted regime hostility during a wave of repression following the 1956 Hungarian Uprising and narrowly survived an attempt to kill him on his motorbike.

On the night of Dec. 14, 1957, he rejected his bishop's offer of a safer post. He was found by villagers in the roadside forest the next morning with 32 stab and boot wounds. Parishioners were barred from attending his burial.

During the 1989 collapse of communist rule, a chapel was dedicated on the site of the priest's death.

In an April 13 statement, the diocese said the beatification Mass, to be concelebrated by Cardinal Angelo Amato, prefect of the Vatican's Congregation for Saints' Causes, and Hungary's Catholic primate, Cardinal Peter Erdo, would be moved from Szombathely's Cathedral Square to a park west of the city because of the large numbers wishing to attend.

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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Diocese Announces 10 Gallitzin Cross Winners

Ten individuals will receive the 2018 Prince Gallitzin Cross. The award is given annually to individuals who exhibit the "evangelizing spirit" of the Prince-Priest and Servant of God Demetrius Gallitzin. This year's recipients are:

* Deacon Thomas Buige, Saint John Vianney Parish in Mundy's Corner

* Michael Fedele, Saint Joseph Parish in Renovo

* Reverend Bernard Karmonocky, OFM, Pastor of Saint Therese and Saint Anne Parishes in Johnstown

* Joseph Masciangelo, Most Holy Trinity Parish in Huntingdon

* Pauline Minor, Saint Michael Parish in St. Michael

* John Rita, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Altoona

* James Seiler, Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona

* Jane Stoltz, Saint Augustine Parish in Dysart

* Carolyn Sylvester, Saint Demetrius Parish in Gallitzin

* Angela Zinobile, Saint Mary Parish in Shade Gap

The awards will be presented at a dinner on Saturday, June 2 at 5:00 p.m. at the Calvin House in Duncansville. The deadline for tickets is Wednesday, May 23. Tickets are \$40. Please contact Mrs. Jeanne

Duffy at the Diocesan Administration Center in Hollidaysburg for reservations at (814) 695-5579 or jduffy@dioceseaj.org.

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"What a Pharmacy Was Meant To Be"

Friends And Colleagues Remember Former Editor

By Bruce A. Tomaselli

What is the measure of a person's life?

Can it even be quantified? That would prove an exhausting and empty exercise.

Were they intelligent, amiable, rich, poor, or maybe indifferent?

Perhaps the true measure of a life lies in what they have left in the hearts of those they left behind.

Editor Monsignor Timothy P. Stein passed from this life on Friday, April 20, 2018, after 29 years as editor of this newspaper. He served as pastor of Saint Mary Immaculate Conception Church since 2004, a parish he grew to love.

Monsignor Stein was sure of two things in his short life; he wanted to serve as a priest of God, and he wanted to extend the Gospel message through his ministry of journalism.

In each of those ways he touched our lives and continues to live on in our hearts.

With a photographic memory not much escaped him. Often he would lead the lunch table in a chorus of television theme songs from shows of his boy hood--Green Acres, Hogan's Heroes, and on goes the list.

Like all of us his daily persona landed somewhere between saint and sinner. He lived as an average person with great love for Christ and the Church he served. His wish was not to be placed above, but to be walking this journey right along side all of us.

He had an amazing ability to recall and recite large portions of TV shows we all watched, and discussed at work the next day. Royalty was one of his hobbies and reciting genealogical lines of monarchies rolled off his tongue as easily as the lyrics to Broadway show tunes.

"From the beginning I knew his favorite topic was royal families of Europe and in particular England," said his mentor and good friend Monsignor William R. Rathgeb, judicial vicar of the Greensburg Catholic Diocese.

Monsignor Tim met Monsignor Rathgeb at the Newman Center while a student at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania from where he graduated with a degree in Journalism. "He spent so much time at the Center people thought he lived here," joked Monsignor Rathgeb, who Monsignor Stein



Emily Kinley with her proud Uncle Tim during a visit to Maryland



Monsignor Timothy P. Stein officiated the wedding of his niece, Laura, and her husband, J. Tyler Catalini.

It has been a deflating few weeks for us here in The Catholic Register office. We have lost an editor and friend. After working together for over 33 years we slowly evolved into a small family unit. We've shared our problems and triumphs, hopes, and dreams. We've lived through the loss of loved ones and the birth of new life. We are grateful that we have had the opportunity to walk this road together.

Bruce Tomaselli, Manager

Frances Logrando, Administrative Assistant

chose to deliver his Homily at the funeral Mass.

"I traveled with him to London on many occasions, usually in the month of November for Remembrance Sunday. I have seen the Queen of England many times, much more than I have seen the president of the United States," smiled Monsignor Rathgeb.

Monsignor Stein was a proud native of Saint Bartholomew Parish in Wilmore, and was ordained to the priesthood in 1984 at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament by Bishop James J. Hogan. He was appointed pastor of Saint Mary's in 2004. Prior to that assignment, he was Pastor of Saint Monica Parish in Chest Springs of which he had many fond memories. He was appointed Chaplain to His Holiness (Monsignor) in 2001.

He also served as parochial vicar at Sacred Heart and Saint John The Evangelist Parishes in Altoona, and Saint Michael the Archangel Parish in Hollidaysburg. He was a member of the Catholic Press Association of the U.S. and Canada, where he served on the Board of Directors from 1998-2001, and as treasurer from 2000-01.

Monsignor Stein was the son of the late Charles and Josephine (Ferramini) Stein. He is survived by his sister, Elizabeth Kinley and her

husband, Michael Kinley, of Jefferson, Maryland; nieces Laura Catalini and, husband J. Tyler; and Emily, his niece residing in California; Eleanor, his great niece, his aunt, Virginia Ferramini, of Altoona; and great uncle Frank Benfatta of Altoona.

He had a great fondness for the Sisters of Mercy. His great aunt, Mercy Sister Mary Bernard Shryock was a member of the order. An avid reader he knew the complete history of the order. He shared many stories of his aunt and the Sisters of Mercy.

Monsignor Tim prepared his plans for his funeral and Bishop Mark L. Bartchak was "struck immediately how he wanted it to be simple and uplifting. It was a particular focus represented in the Liturgical vestment in which his body was clothed; the same vestment he wore for his first Mass as a newly ordained priest. The theme is the Cross and Crown," said the Bishop.

Bishop Mark explained that it was an appropriate theme because Monsignor Stein embraced whatever cross the Lord gave him in his own life. "He made a conscious decision to embrace the cross of Jesus Christ through which our Lord redeemed the world.

"I am grateful to Monsignor Stein for his priestly service in Altoona-Johnstown and the pastoral



Monsignor Tim with his buddy, Father Daniel O'Neill, following his ordination in 1984.

care he provided to the people in his parish community.

"I miss him. I know his brother priests miss him, his co-workers miss him, and his parishioners miss him. May God comfort those who mourn him, and may God grant our brother, Tim, the glorious crown for which he yearned."

Father Dan O'Neill, pastor of Saint Peter's Parish in Somerset, was a friend of Monsignor Stein from the beginning. He taught him religious education at the church in Wilmore. When he joined the seminary he ministered at the former Saint Joseph Church in Portage, where Fr. O'Neill was an assistant, and Father John Miller, pastor.

"I was honored to preach at his first Mass," said Father O'Neill. "I remember him as someone who had a way with words, a great love for the Church especially its tradition and history."

He said he knew his background in journalism would serve the diocese well. "I never let him forget the time he sang Elton John's 'Crocodile Rock' at a parish party at St. Bartholomew," said Father Dan laughing at the recollection. "I never let him forget that. Of course, he had a standard reply to me."

Father O'Neill of Irish decent, and Monsignor Tim's great love for English Nobility inevitably clashed, and led to some interesting discussions, he remembers.

When it came down to it, "Monsignor Stein was a good friend, a good man, and a good priest. He made a positive difference in our diocese," said Father O'Neill.

And, there were those he worked closely with on a daily basis including, Tony DeGol, diocesan Secretary for Communications. "Some of my fondest and most memorable conversations with him involved a mutual passion--vocations."

"He loved sharing what his parish was doing to encourage and support vocations, including a different family each week taking home a chalice and praying for young men and women to answer the call."

DeGol said Monsignor Tim was proud that the Saint Mary parishioners embraced the effort, and even though no one from the parish was entering ordained or consecrated life, he pointed out that the parish was seeing an increase in weddings. Said, Tony, "marriage is also an important vocation, and he realized that the parish's prayers



Monsignor Stein Baptized his great niece, Eleanor, on December 18, 2016



'Fryer Tim' breaded and fried the fish every year at the popular Saint Mary Lenten dinners

were being answered in a different way."

Father Mark Begly, pastor of Saint Michael parish in Johnstown, and Our Mother of Sorrows Parish in Johnstown, was ordained with Monsignor Stein. He said that even though they didn't attend the same seminary, they would periodically get together to discuss their lives as priests in the diocese.

"For awhile we would actually meet monthly to share our thoughts together," Father Mark said. "Unlike me, Monsignor Tim always thought of being a priest. He once told me he had the priesthood in mind for as long as he could remember."

"He loved being a priest and he loved this diocese. He will be missed and may he continue to pray for us and we will continue to pray for him."

Monsignor Rathgeb recalled that Monsignor Tim knew what his goal was. It was to be with God with all of his wrinkles, frailties, sins, and weaknesses. "He believed strongly that he participated with the death and resurrection of the Lord," said his dear friend. "He had no doubt in his mind that there was a dwelling place for him with the Lord."

Monsignor Tim was an excellent writer and his column, "Another Perspective" always received a lot of positive feedback. If readers couldn't remember anything else in the paper, they remembered what Monsignor wrote about in the last issue of The Catholic Register.

Shortly after Monsignor Tim's passing Deacon Gene Neral, former director of the Permanent Diaconate Office, brought a copy of a column Monsignor wrote. Deacon Gene said it was his wife's favorite column.

Wrote Monsignor Stein, "Among the beautiful words and phrases of our Order of Christian Funerals, none strikes me with greater force than the words from the first Preface for a Funeral Mass: 'Lord, for your faithful people, life is changed, not ended.'"

"I have come to recognize the truth of the words of our funeral Liturgy in my life. On those bleak, black days when I committed Dad and Mom's remains to their final resting places, I could not believe that things could ever be better and brighter."

"Now I look at my life and see that gradually, imperceptibly, my life has changed, not ended. I am happy, healthy, whole. I miss my parents, but I do not grieve for them, for their lives have not ended, their lives, too, have changed."



SAFETY INSIDE AND OUT: Among the duties of new Holy Name School Resource Officer Donald Gray are keeping an eye on students on the playground (above) and making sure doors are locked and secure throughout the building. Gray is an employee of Gittings Protective Security in Ebensburg, which is working with Holy Name to enhance security measures.

(Continued From Page 1.)

ing looking for threats at all times," Gittings concluded.

Bob Fatula, Director of Threat

Preparedness and Training for Gittings, is also working closely with McMullen to implement other security improvements.

Over the summer, he said the focus will be additional emergency planning.

He also pointed out that situational awareness is key to a more secure campus.

"These educators were taught how to facilitate and educate, but

unfortunately now they have to learn how to protect," he mentioned.

Fatula travels to other schools and sees what is being done to ensure safety.

"Holy Name is doing a great job," he assured. "Their plans are efficient, they're updated, and they are continuously searching for new answers. What are the new things that we can put in place to protect these kids? And it's a constant conversation between myself and principal



RESOURCE OFFICER DONALD GRAY

McMullen about how to do that."

McMullen said most students and parents are reacting positively to the changes. She points out that the measures are a work in progress.

"The steps we have in place

now aren't steps that are solid and in stone," she emphasized. "They can always be improved. There are ways to always make it better, make it safer, and here at Holy Name, we will continue to do that."

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Mount Aloysius Names Dr. Patricia Ireland Provost

Doctor Patricia Sodano Ireland, Ph.D., Dean of Undergraduate Students at Saint Joseph's College, Standish, Maine, will serve as the Mount's Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost. She has served as Dean at Saint Joseph's since 2014.

Mount Aloysius College President, Tom Foley said, "The Title is the highest academic position at the college. The Mount Aloysius community is fortunate to have attracted an academic professional of Ireland's stature. She begins her tenure on July 1.

"Reviewing her accomplishments as an academic, an administrator, and as a humanitarian-it is clear that we found someone who is committed to optimizing educational quality and access, and to bettering our world," Foley said.

Dr. Ireland Earned a Bachelor



DR. PATRICIA SODANO IRELAND

of Arts degree in Theology and Sociology, and the Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry from Boston College.

She earned a Master of Divinity degree from Andover Newton Theological School in Newton Center, Mass., and her Master of Philosophy and Doctorate in Theology from Drew University in Madison, N.J.

Dr. Ireland, a prolific writer and teacher, lists eight presentations on a variety of subjects including: Humility in The Life of Mother Teresa, Vatican II and the Laity and the Spiritual Life in the new Evangelization. Her publications include Guardian of Pure Heart: Saint Augustine on the Path To Heaven, and Open Forum: Pastoral Confession, among others.

Dr. Ireland founded the Catholic Volunteers of Africa in 2009. The organization develops volunteer service programs for college-age students in a variety of communities on the African Continent.

Mount Aloysius was recently named as one of the 100 Best Value College's in the United States.



CONFIRMATION CLASS: Members of the Saint Kateri Tekakwitha Parish, Spring Mills, Confirmation class pictured (left to right) are: Olivia Hudgson, Ryan Johnson, Isabella Racette, and Father George Jakopac, pastor.

Priest Celebrates 25th Anniversary



**FR. ANANIAS BUCCIONE
O.S.B.**

Father Ananias Buccione, O.S.B., a monk of Saint Vincent Archabbey, is celebrating the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood this year. He is a graduate of both Saint Vincent College, 1988, and Saint Vincent Seminary in 1991.

He was ordained a priest on May 29, 1993 at Saint Vincent Archabbey Basilica. Father Ananias has spent the past 16 years as pastor of Queen of Peace Church in Patton.

He is known for his baking and culinary artistry. Often referred to as the "bread priest," he has taught his parishioners to use their talents to benefit their parish and communities.

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CONFIRMANTS: Members of the Queen of Archangels Parish, Clarence, Confirmation class pictured (left to right) are: Chelsea Butterworth, Austin Markle, Tessa Cingle, Madison Jones, Brittany Young, and Father Michael Wolfe, administrator.

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Word of Life



The Pope Teaches

By Pope Francis

All Life Deserves Defense

VATICAN CITY (CNS) --

When Pope Francis insisted that the lives of the unborn and of the poor are “equally sacred,” he was not trying to shift the focus of Catholics from fighting abortion to fighting poverty, he was trying to show they are part of the same battle, said Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia, president of the Pontifical Academy for Life.

The life of the unborn must be “promoted and defended with great determination and given an effective priority,” the archbishop told Catholic News Service.

In “Rejoice and Be Glad,” his apostolic exhortation on holiness, Pope Francis wrote that living a Christian life involves the defense of both the unborn and the poor, and he criticized what he termed the “harmful ideological error” of thinking one’s own cause is the only important one.

“Our defense of the innocent unborn, for example, needs to be clear, firm and passionate, for at stake is the dignity of a human life, which is always sacred,” Pope Francis wrote. “Equally sacred, however, are the lives of the poor, those already born, the destitute, the abandoned and the underprivileged, the vulnerable infirm and elderly exposed to covert euthanasia, the victims of human trafficking, new forms of slavery, and every form of rejection.”

Pope Francis’ words reminded many people of the “seamless garment” approach to life issues promoted by the late Cardinal Joseph L. Bernardin of Chicago. While applauding its recognition of the sacredness of all human life, some people criticized the approach, saying it could give people a mistaken impression that, for example, the church teaches abortion and capital punishment are equally serious sins. Others worried that some Catholics would claim their defense of life in

one area meant that they did not have to pursue the protection of life in other areas.

But “Pope Francis has reaffirmed that abortion is evil without mincing words,” Archbishop Paglia said. At the same time, he asks that “the pro-life commitment be enlarged.”

The pope’s words in the exhortation reflect the same vision the pope had in renewing the statutes and membership of the Academy for Life, he said; the pope believes “true support for life cannot be limited to isolated moments of its existence, but also must promote the conditions of justice and peace” life needs to thrive.

What Pope Francis is telling Catholics, he said, is “to be pro-life always, in every situation and everywhere, not only in one moment, in one country or one aspect. Rather than watering down Catholics’ commitment to ending abortion, the archbishop said, attention to defending life at every stage and in every circumstance “should make us stronger, including in effectively combatting the absurd prospect of abortion.”

By putting together abortion, euthanasia, hunger, immigration, the death penalty, weapons trafficking, war and other serious issues, he said, Pope Francis makes it clear that all human life always must be defended.

A prophetic pro-life stance, Archbishop Paglia said, “has no limits,” while an “ideological approach” zeroes in on particulars. “Ideology moves the mind, while prophecy moves the mind, but also the heart and the hands because it dares to dream of a future that is beautiful for everyone.”

“We must never do death’s job,” the archbishop said. “Never.”



ONE MORE TIME: This photo advertising Camp Cathedral in 1963, showed some young boys in the Arts and Crafts Cabin. The week-long camp, located at Blue Knob State Park, was open to children from eight to 15 years of age. The camp was sponsored by the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese.

Governor And U.S. Senate Races

(Continued from Page 6)

BARLETTA (R)

DID NOT INDICATE*

* *Before we discuss what to do with people in our country illegally we must secure our borders, end the diversity visa lottery, end chain migration, and prove to the American people that this problem will not happen again.*

What is your position on efforts to pass legislation (i.e., the Federal Employment Non-Discrimination Act) that would make sexual orientation and gender identity or expression protected classes that are equivalent to other protected classes (e.g., race, religion, sex, etc.)?

CASEY (D)

SUPPORT

BARLETTA (R)

OPPOSE

4. Which statement reflects your position most accurately?

5. a. Congress should maintain federal funding for the Medicaid program to strengthen it as a safety-net for low-income, elderly and disabled people.
6. b. Congress should cap federal funding and issue block grants for Medicaid giving more responsibility to the states.

CASEY (D)

a.

BARLETTA (R)

b.** *I support an improved Medicaid program that gives states the flexibility to provide*

Question Corner

By Father Kenneth Doyle

Pastor's Role In Visiting The Sick Is A Duty

Q. I read your column every week in our archdiocesan paper, and I have a question for you. What is the role of the parish priest at the time of the serious illness and death of a parish member?

A. I recently lost my husband after a long illness, the last several months of which he was not able to attend Mass. The priest never inquired about him, called him or came to visit. And he never got in touch with me after my husband's death.

A parishioner had told the priest that my husband's condition was getting worse and that perhaps he should call. According to her, the priest told her that it was not his place to reach out to us, but our place to reach out to him. (Louisville, Kentucky)

A. A parish priest's duty is to care for the sick. Nothing could be clearer than that. The church's Code of Canon Law says this:

"In order to fulfill his office diligently, a pastor is to strive to know the faithful entrusted to his care. Therefore he is to visit fami-

lies, sharing especially in the cares, anxieties and griefs of the faithful, strengthening them in the Lord. ... With generous love, he is to help the sick, particularly those close to death, by refreshing them solicitously with the sacraments and commending their souls to God" (Canon 529.1).

So if the priest you speak of actually said that it was not his place to reach out to a parishioner who was seriously ill, I respectfully -- but strongly -- disagree. He may have been concerned about not wanting to "frighten" the person by showing up unannounced, but that issue is resolved simply -- by calling the family ahead of time to ask if the individual might welcome a visit. If yours is a large parish, I am not surprised that the priest did not notice your husband's absence immediately -- but, as you said, he was alerted to the situation.

I do know, from my own experience, that with the shortage of priests (in most U.S. parishes right now a single priest can serve hundreds, even thousands, of parish-

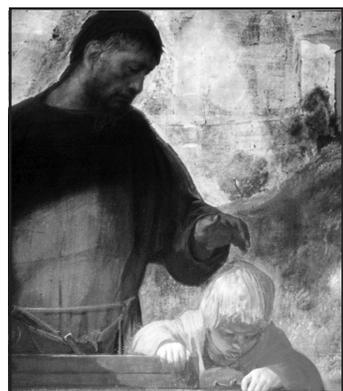
ioners), it is difficult for a priest to get around to see everyone he wants to -- but a seriously ill parishioner would automatically jump to the top of my "must do" list. So I am truly sorry for what happened in your case, and I apologize on the church's behalf.

As for a follow-up visit or call after your husband's death, that is an excellent practice. With some parishes doing upward of 100 funerals a year, a single priest cannot always do this, but in a number of parishes there is a "bereavement team" that visits a grieving family and can alert the priest to particular situations that need his attention.

Q. I am having a difficult time with the pastor we have here in our parish. He is not a native American, has a strong accent and is very difficult to understand. I feel it is unfair that, because of this, our deacon has to preach so often, and I fear that we may be losing some of our youth as a result. I continue to attend Mass every weekend and am just hoping that something can be resolved. (Virginia)

A. Certainly parishioners have a right to, and expect to, hear often from their pastor. So I agree that it is not appropriate for him to be replaced most of the time by a deacon as the homilist.

What if, instead, your pastor wrote the homily for most Sundays and had it read by the deacon? (That way the congregation would understand it more readily, but it would be explained to them that the message itself came from the pastor.) Also, have you thought about communicating your concern to your parish council -- or even to the pastor directly?



Joseph The worker

First Century

Feast May 1

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

For The Journey

By Effie Caldarola
The Need For Apologies



When former first lady Barbara Bush died recently, memories of her good qualities abounded.

In a culture where females are pressured to think a face-lift is just a matter of time and slimness is non-negotiable, she was an attractive natural with a matronly figure and soft white hair.

A champion of literacy and a woman devoted to family, she was also known as being "ferociously tart-tongued" according to her daughter-in-law, first lady Laura Bush. That's not always a bad thing, but it didn't serve her well in 1984.

That year, Geraldine Ferraro was the Democrats' candidate for vice president, the first woman ever nominated to a major party ticket, running with presidential hopeful Walter Mondale. They were up against President Ronald Reagan and his vice president, Barbara's husband George H.W. Bush.

In a highly publicized remark, Mrs. Bush referred to Ferraro as "that 4 million dollar ... I can't say it, but it rhymes with rich."

The requisite canned apologies were quickly rendered and accepted, but the remark lingered in my idealistic young mind as catty and beneath the dignity of a presidential race.

Of course, decades later, when we've become accustomed to degrading name-calling at the highest level, Mrs. Bush's comment seems tame indeed. Nevertheless, it lingered.

However, in an article after her death, I read her 1988 reflections on that comment, and it changed my perspective entirely.

"It was dumb of me. I shouldn't have said it," Mrs. Bush acknowledged. "It was not attractive, and I've been very shamed. I apologized to Mrs. Ferraro, and I would apologize again."

Now, that's genuine. Can you imagine a public figure today using the words "dumb" or "shame" to describe a mistake they had made?

Today's apologies, if ever ren-

dered, usually start with "I'm sorry if someone was offended ..." as if the real fault lies with those of us who took offense, oversensitive souls that we are.

The name-calling that marked the 2016 presidential race has never provoked any apologies, nor do many remarks that stain social media and public discourse nearly daily. The bar for civility has been plummeting from the top down, and it's trickling into everything from the comments section of social media to the comedy performed at the White House Correspondents' Association dinner.

Pope Francis recently provided a beautiful example of apology. When he visited Chile in January, he made some unfortunate remarks about victims of sexual abuse there, saying they were guilty of "calumny" for continuing to call out a bishop they feel complicit in an abuse case.

There was a huge uproar over the pope's remarks. Instead of digging in, retrenching and defending his comments, Pope Francis took criticism to heart, investigated further, and, according to Catholic News Service, "apologized for underestimating the seriousness of the crisis in Chile."

He asked for forgiveness and began to meet personally with those who had suffered from his remarks. It's almost unheard of to find such genuine public acknowledgement of error.

Perhaps because we live in such a litigious society, nobody wants to admit, "I did it." But I think it goes deeper than that. Â

The sacrament of reconciliation is neglected these days. Could one reason be a growing cultural disinclination to face the fact that we sometimes do and say shameful things? We make it complicated, giving ourselves excuses. We say "I'm sorry but ..." here's why it's really your fault. Â

It takes a humble, truthful and thoughtful person to acknowledge error publicly. It's both a gift to us, and an example we should follow.

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Now Showing

Lego Flash Super Hero Movie Teaches Strong Morals

By Mark Judge
Catholic News Service

NEW YORK (CNS) -- Combine familiar comic book figures with the memorable time-warp premise of 1993's "Groundhog Day," and you've got the delightful direct-to-video feature "Lego DC Comics Super Heroes: The Flash" (Warner Brothers Home Entertainment).

The movie, which is suitable for all, teaches strong moral lessons about self-sacrifice, personal responsibility, the value of science and the need to be conscious of what's going on around you.

"The Flash" begins with what must be the most overused trope in the comic book universe: a battle between Batman (voice of Troy Baker) and the Joker (voice of Jason Spisak). This time, however, the fight takes place in Metropolis, Superman's gleaming home town.

Ever since Batman started

hanging out with his friends at Metropolis' Hall of Justice, the city has been on the Joker's list of targets. His assault takes the form of a series of deadly laughing-gas bombs.

It's up to the Justice League -- here comprised of Superman (voice of Nolan North), Wonder Woman (voice of Grey DeLisle), Cyborg (voice of Khary Payton), Plastic Man (voice of Tom Kenny), Firestorm (voice of Phil LaMarr) and new recruit the Atom (voice of Eric Bauza) -- to thwart the Clown Prince of Crime.

But what's become of the Flash (voice of James Arnold Taylor), who ought to be fighting alongside them? He accidentally set his Justice League emergency beeper on vibrate, overslept, and has spent all morning zipping around different cities getting donuts, stopping the villains Captain Cold and Captain Boomerang and tossing down a milkshake.

Flash, whose alter ego in this outing is police scientist Barry Allen, does eventually show up to dispatch the Joker. He brushes off



LEGO FLASH--A scene from the animated movie "The Lego Flash Movie." CNS says the movie is suited to all ages, teaches strong moral lessons about self-sacrifice, personal responsibility, and the value of science. The Catholic News Service classification is A-I -- general patronage. Not otherwise rated. (CNS photo/Warner Brothers)

being late but is scolded by the other heroes. "Not everything can be fixed with speed," Batman tells him. Wonder Woman stresses the importance of always being "aware of your surroundings."

No sooner is that advice given then Flash impulsively takes off after a mysterious speedster dressed in yellow. This turns out to be Reverse-Flash (voice of Dwight Schultz), a villain from the future who can match, and even surpass, the pace of his crime-fighting counterpart.

Lured into a time loop by the newcomer, Flash ends up reliving the same day over and over while Reverse-Flash assumes his identity in the normal world. Reverse-Flash's motive for the switch is egotism. In a bid to be worshipped, he uses his speed to solve all the crime in Metropolis in short order, and kneecaps the efforts of the Justice League.

Sensing something is off, quick-shrinking hero and brilliant scientist the Atom seeks the help of Doctor Fate (voice of Kevin Michael Richardson). In the best sequence of the movie, Fate, who's endowed with a Barry White-like bass-baritone, prods Flash to perform a blues number bemoaning his troubles.

With Fate's aid, Flash embarks on a quest to escape his chronological trap and regain his powers. Throughout the varied adventures that follow, the lesson for the viewer remains the same: Even if you're the Flash, sometimes the best course of action involves slowing down, forming a plan and taking note of your environment.

That's a refreshing piece of wisdom in a comic book universe that gets louder and more explosive every summer season. And it may prove especially helpful to young people bombarded by an excess of distracting digital stimulation.

There's also a nod to science, as the Atom uses his knowledge of the molecular world to disperse toxic gas and solve the challenge of bringing Flash back to the League.

In addition to its positive messages, director Ethan Spaulding's film features beautiful animation and a fun, funny script. Some of the humor is directed at grown viewers. In Barry's apartment, for instance, there's a painting by Dutch modernist Piet Modrian, the clean squares

and rectangles of whose characteristic style resemble Legos.

Similarly, when shape-shifting Plastic Man goes on the attack in the guise of a helicopter, he hums Wagner's "Ride of the Valkyries," a reference to a famous scene in director Francis Ford Coppola's 1979 Vietnam War film "Apocalypse Now." There's also an inside joke about "The New 52," an ill-advised 2011 reboot of DC Comics that has itself since been revamped.

The Catholic News Service classification is A-I -- general patronage. Not rated by the Motion Picture Association of America.

Judge is a guest reviewer for Catholic News Service.

Sunday Mass
Broadcast Live from
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10:00 a.m. WFBG Radio, 1290 AM

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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

Coming Up On Proclaim

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

May 20 -- In the midst of this graduation season, Bishop Mark welcomes graduates from some of the Catholic high schools to celebrate the milestone and look ahead to the future.

May 27 -- Lloyd Roach, a member of Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish in Bedford, celebrates the 20th anniversary of the Saint Maximilian Kolbe Net -- one of the few Roman Catholic ham radio nets in the country.

All Mothers Need Remembered On Special Day Of Prayer

of prayers that honor the motherhood of women far and wide. Single mothers, stepmothers and godmothers. Birth mothers, adoptive mothers and foster mothers. Women suffering from infertility, miscarriage or the death of a child.

Indeed, the church counts on so many to "mother" its children -- women religious, teachers, nurses and catechists. But every year I hear from women who struggle to come to Mass on Mother's Day. They know there will be a special blessing, or mothers will be asked to stand, and their broken hearts cannot bear it.

I've heard people grumble at such suggestions. "Why do we have to make every holiday so complicated?" they ask. "Why can't we just celebrate without worrying that we're offending anyone?"

Because we are called to love our neighbor. And our neighbor is not only the proud mom who loves Mother's Day because she finally hears a word of blessing and support for her calling. Our neighbor is also the woman who prayed for children every night and never got pregnant.

Our neighbor is the single woman raising her sister's children. Our neighbor is the stepmother who feels forgotten or maligned. Our neighbor is the woman who lost a baby to stillbirth and feels invisible at church.

A mother whose only child was killed in a car crash -- can we still honor her devotion?

A birth mother who did not raise her baby but gave the gift

of parenthood to another couple -- can we acknowledge her sacrifice?

A couple who has suffered a miscarriage -- can we remember their parenthood beyond what the world can see?

I believe we can: through the power of prayer.

By adding words of compassion to the blessings we add to Mass each Mother's Day, we can become the church that challenges and changes the world's limited definition of motherhood.

Mary herself was called to mother under unconventional circumstances (to put it mildly). But even when she had to give up her only child, her spiritual motherhood grew to embrace the entire world.

Her song of praise in the Magnificat did not focus only on her own life but leapt to a wider view of God's work among the poor, the hungry and those in need of mercy.

The beauty of the church is that it is big enough for all of us: the grateful and the grieving, the beaming and the broken. God's call to love our neighbor reminds us to care for those who mourn while others celebrate.

This Mother's Day, if your parish adds anything to Mass, let it be words of love as wide as our Lord's. Prayers that celebrate motherhood as a calling. Blessings that comfort the sorrowful. Petitions that pray for the living and the dead.

Words to remind us that Mother's Day is not for us alone.



By Laura Kelly Fanucci
Catholic New Service

How to widen our hearts on Mother's Day

By Laura Kelly Fanucci Catholic News Service

For mothers who have lost children.

For children who have lost mothers.

For women who long to be mothers.

For mothers who never got to meet their children.

As my husband and I are writing a book on miscarriage for Catholic couples, I've posed the question on social media: Has your parish's blessing on Mother's Day included prayers for women who long to have a child or women who have lost a child?

To my surprise and delight, readers shared beautiful examples



(CNS photo/Nancy Wiehceh)

PROUD MOM: Maureen Antwan is pictured with her sons, Anthony, left, and Kris, at Mar Abraham Chaldean Catholic Church in Scottsdale, Ariz., Kris was 4 when the family fled Iraq because of war and persecution. Anthony was born in Jordan, where the family first sought refuge.



Conner, Roth Will Be Ordained Deacons

Bishop Mark L. Bartchak will ordain two men to the Sacred Order of Deacon during a Mass on Saturday, May 26 at 10:00 a.m. at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona.

Christopher Conner, a member of Saint Bernard Parish in Hastings, is a Vice President/Small Business Portfolio Manager at First Commonwealth Bank.

He and his wife, Vickie, are the parents of four children: Josiah, Aubriannah (deceased), Lukas, and Avery.

Mr. Conner is a 1992 graduate of Cambria Heights High School. He attended the Indiana University of Pennsylvania where he earned an Associate's Degree in Computers and Office Information Systems in 1994, a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management in 1997, and a Master's Degree in Business Administration in 2013.

He is a Lector, Commentator, and Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion at his parish. He also is a member of the parish Finance Council and a Confirmation Catechist.

John Roth belongs to Most Holy Trinity Parish in Huntingdon where he is an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Lector, Greeter, and Usher.

He is a physician in the Emergency Department at Tyrone Hospital and at the Broad Top Area Medical Center. He attended Greensburg Central Catholic High School, Grove City College, and Marshall University School of Medicine.

Roth and his wife, Lisa, have four children: Danielle, Jessica, John, and Samantha.

After they are ordained, Conner and Roth will join 37 other permanent deacons serving in various ministries throughout the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown.




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Four Diocesan Priests Will Celebrate Jubilees

By Tony DeGol

Four priests of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown are celebrating jubilees this month.

Monsignor Bernard Przybocki, a senior priest of the Diocese, is marking the 60th anniversary of his ordination.

A native of Barnesboro, Monsignor Przybocki was ordained on May 24, 1958, at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona. He served as an assistant at three parishes and was Pastor of Saint Mary Magdalen Parish in Frugality/Saint Richard Mission in Blandburg, Saint John Cantius Parish in Windber, Sacred Heart Parish in Portage, and Saint Patrick and Saint Mary Parishes (merged into Saint Demetrius Parish) in Gallitzin until his retirement in 2008.

He was named Chaplain to his Holiness in 1986.

Monsignor Przybocki is the son of the late Frank and Mary (Gronska) Przybocki. He attended Saint Stanislaus School in Barnesboro, Saint Mary's High School and College in Orchard Lake, MI, and Saints Cyril and Methodius Seminary in Orchard Lake, MI.

Three priests – Father Leo Arnone, Father Sean Code, and Father Leo Lynch – are observing the 25th anniversary of their ordination. They were ordained on May 15, 1993, at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona.

Father Arnone is the Pastor of Saint Aloysius and Saint Francis Xavier Parishes in Cresson and is



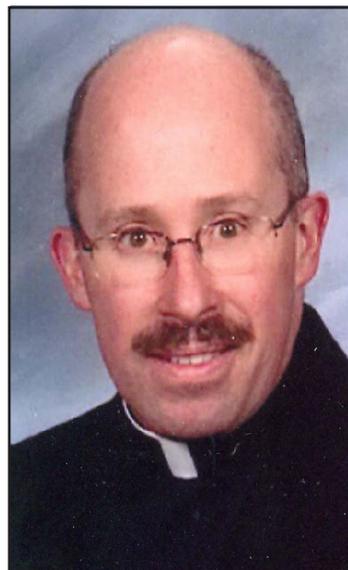
Msgr. Bernard Przybocki

currently deployed as a United States Navy Chaplain in Africa.

A native of Johnstown, Father Arnone served at various parishes and in various ministries during the early years of his Priesthood. He was also Pastor of Saint Catherine of Siena Parish in Mount Union and Saint Clare of Assisi Parish in Johnstown.

The son of Philip and the late Nancy (Kane) Arnone, he attended Cochran Junior High School, Johnstown Vo-Tech, and the Pontifical College Josephinum.

Father Code, currently assigned to Hospital Ministry and In Residence at Saint John Gualbert Cathedral in Johnstown, held several pastorates including Saint Agnes Parish in Lock Haven, Saint Andrew Parish in Johnstown, Saint Joan of Arc Parish in Frugality/Saint Thomas Aquinas



Fr. Leo Arnone

Parish in Ashville, and Most Holy Trinity Parish in South Fork/Saint Bartholomew Parish in Wilmore.

The son of the late John and Mary Louise (Pohl) Code, Father Code was born in New York and attended Bishop McCort High School in Johnstown, Saint Vincent University in Latrobe and Ohio State University. He received a law degree from Duquesne University in 1985. He attended Saint Mary's Seminary in Baltimore.

Father Lynch was born in Altoona and attended Bishop Guilfoyle High School in Altoona, Saint Francis University in Loretto, and the Pontifical College Josephinum.

His first assignment after ordination was Parochial Vicar and Episcopal Master of Ceremonies at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament



Fr. Sean Code

in Altoona. In addition to serving in several parishes and ministries, he was the Principal of Bishop Guilfoyle High School for seven years. He was Administrator of Saint Joseph Parish in Williamsburg, and currently serves as Pastor of Saint Thomas More Parish in Roaring Spring.

Father Lynch is the son of the late Leo and Matilda (Fiore) Lynch.

In celebration of their silver jubilee, Father Code and Father Lynch appeared on a recent edition of Proclaim! TV. Both spoke about the value of the Priesthood and the opportunity they and their brother priests have to be present for the key moments in people's lives.

"The priest is a unique presence in any faith community," stated Father Lynch. "There is a great value



Fr. Leo Lynch

in the Priesthood, and we all wish we had more priests, but I think that God will provide for us."

Father Lynch reminded that every time a priest gives a homily, he can impact someone's life.

"And so that's a good thing, and I think it's that presence that is very, very important in people's lives," he added.

The Priesthood is also an unpredictable experience.

"We're out there every day trying to do what we can, and fortunately people do seek us out, and so there's an opportunity to engage in those kind of relationships," stated Father Code. "How it's going to turn out, you don't know. We're joyful because most of the time it does turn out pretty well."

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