

'You shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.' – John 8:32

# The Catholic Free Press

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WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

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## Three to be ordained priests Saturday

Four men are scheduled to be ordained at a special Mass at 10 a.m. June 23 at St. Paul Cathedral.

The three men to be ordained priests are Deacons Alan J. Martineau, from Spencer, and Javier Julio De Arco and Victor Sierra López, both from Colombia.

One man Juan-Sebastian Sanchez Guzman, also from Colombia is to be ordained a transitional deacon, in preparation for priesthood.

Following the ordination Mass there is to be a light reception in the Cenacle on the

lower level of the cathedral. It is being hosted by the Serra Clubs North and South, with assistance from the Knights of Columbus Council 13575 of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish. All are welcome to attend the Mass and reception.

The ordination can be watched live on the Diocesan website, [www.worcesterdiocese.org](http://www.worcesterdiocese.org), by clicking on the Livestream link.

Following are biographies of the men being ordained.

Deacon Julio was born in 1979 in Puerto Libertador, Cordoba, in Colombia. He stud-

ied at Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana in Medellín and prepared for the priesthood for the Worcester Diocese at Holy Name of Jesus House of Studies in Worcester and St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore. Last June he was ordained to the transitional diaconate.

His first Mass is at 10:30 a.m. Sunday at St. John, Guardian of Our Lady Parish, 80 Union St., Clinton, with a public reception following in St. John's gym, 149 Chestnut St. Another Mass of Thanksgiving is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. July 1 at St. Gabriel, the Archangel Parish,

151 Mendon St., Upton, with a public reception following.

He is to go to Colombia July 2-31. Aug. 1 he is to become associate pastor of St. Mary Parish in Shrewsbury.

Deacon Martineau was born in Springfield in 1991 and grew up in Mary, Queen of the Rosary Parish in Spencer. A graduate of St. John High School, he began his college studies at Assumption College. He completed undergraduate work as a Basselin Scholar at Theological College of Catholic

SEE ORDINATION, 7

### ORDINATION

#### TO PRIESTHOOD

Deacons Javier Julio De Arco, Alan J. Martineau and Victor Sierra Lopez

#### TO TRANSITIONAL DIACONATE

Juan Sanchez Guzman

#### WHEN

10 a.m. June 23

#### WHERE

St. Paul Cathedral  
15 Chatham Street, Worcester, MA

### Deacons, first class



TANYA CONNOR | CFP

Deacon William A. Bilow Jr., director of the Office of the Diaconate, congratulates Deacon Raymond J. Bosse, of the diocese's first class of permanent deacons at Saturday's 40th anniversary celebration.

## Road to priesthood takes deacon from Colombia to Worcester

Second in a series about the journeys of the men being ordained priests June 23.

BY TANYA CONNOR  
THE CATHOLIC FREE PRESS

Doing psychotherapy with victims of civil conflict in Colombia showed him the importance of priestly ministry.

Tomorrow he is to be ordained a priest for the Worcester Diocese. And he has a goal for his priesthood, connected with the date of his first Mass.

Deacon Javier De Jesus Julio De Arco tells this story of his journey to this day.

Son of Belarmina De Arco and the late Olegario Julio, he was born Aug. 16, 1979 in Puerto Libertador, Cordoba in Colombia. He has three brothers and four sisters.

He graduated from German Gómez Peláez High School in 1999.



Julio

While in high school he joined a Catholic movement called Benposta Nación de Muchacho, he said. They sent him to Avre Institute in Montería, Córdoba, where he got a bachelor's degree in psychotherapy in 2002.

He worked with the movement, doing psychotherapy with children victimized by the conflict among groups that were trying to take over the country.

I realized that most of the people in that moment, they needed spiritual help; it was not only psychological, he said. And I saw many priests helping them and how that spiritual help worked on them.

SEE ROAD, 7

## Joyful reunion

### Diocese marks 40 years of permanent diaconate

BY TANYA CONNOR  
THE CATHOLIC FREE PRESS

WORCESTER Permanent deacons were challenged to promote family life and go out into the world, fired by the examples of Jesus and local clergy.

Father Warren Savage was speaking for the 40th anniversary of the permanent diaconate in the diocese Saturday at St. Joan of Arc Parish.

A priest of the Diocese of Springfield, he was keynote speaker at a dinner at which Worcester's bishops, and deacons celebrating significant anniversaries of ordination, were given certificates of appreciation.

Among attendees were two of the permanent deacons from the 20 who were ordained in the first class, June 24, 1978.

About 60 deacons assisted at the Mass celebrated by Bishop McManus and several priests. They renewed their commitment to diaconal service and blessed and applauded their wives. The choir was made up of some of the wives, one of their daughters, and the wife of a deacon candidate.

At Mass you could feel the power and the strength of all the voices of the deacons and their wives, said Deacon Thomas J. Varney.

SEE DEACONS, 7



TANYA CONNOR | CFP

Permanent deacons file out of the Mass at St. Joan of Arc Saturday as their wives and others watch.

## Bishops OK directives, abuse charter revisions

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (CNS) New medical directives governing health care partnerships and revisions to the charter on the protection of young people were approved during the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops spring general assembly.

During their June 13-14 meeting, the bishops also approved what is described as a pastoral response to Asian and Pacific Island Catholics and, after a long discussion, they decided to supplement their quadrennial document on Catholic participation in public life with a short letter, a video and other supplementary materials.

The meeting opened with a statement decriing Attorney General Jeff Sessions' decision that asylum seek-



McManus

ers fleeing domestic or gang violence cannot find protection in the United States.

At its core, asylum is an instrument to preserve the right to life, the bishops statement said. They urged the nation's policymakers and courts to respect and enhance, not erode, the potential of our asylum system to preserve and protect the right to life.

Sessions' decision elicits deep concern because it potentially strips asylum from many women who lack adequate protection,

SEE BISHOPS, 6

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Pray - Reflect - Act: Ways to observe Religious Freedom Week, June 22-29. 6

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# Pope: Aborting children with birth defects is like Nazi eugenics program

BY JUNNO AROCHO ESTEVES | CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY (CNS) Pope Francis denounced the practice of administering prenatal tests to determine birth defects that often lead to abortions, comparing it to the Nazi-era eugenics program that determined what lives were worth keeping or eliminating.

Children are God's greatest gift and should be welcomed as they come, as God sends them, as God allows, even if at times they are sick, the pope said June 16 during a meeting with members of Italian family associations.

I have heard that it is fashionable or at least common to do certain examinations in the first months of pregnancy to see if baby is not well or has some kind of problem. The first proposal in that case is, 'Should we get rid of (the baby)?' The killing of children. And to have a more tranquil life, an innocent is done away with, he



CNS | MOHAMMED BADRA, EPA

**An unnamed child with a rare congenital birth defect called esophageal atresia is seen in Damascus Countryside Specialized Hospital in Douma, Syria, Oct. 11, 2017.**

said departing from his prepared speech. The pope recalled, as a boy, being taught in school about the Spartans, who when a boy or girl was born with malformations, they would take them to the top of the

mountain and throw them over to protect the purity of the race.

Despite the atrocious nature of that practice, he continued, the practice of eugenics continues today because the protocol of many doctors many, not all is to ask, Is something wrong (with the child)?

The term eugenics was coined in the 1880s by Francis Galton, a half-cousin of Charles Darwin, and the concept centered on the belief that the human race needed to be protected from those deemed unfit or feeble-minded.

Most notably, the idea rose to prominence in Nazi Germany with the passing of the Eugenic Sterilization Law in 1933, which ordered doctors to sterilize anyone suspected of suffering from hereditary disease.

The policy is believed to have been the precursor to the Nazi's Final Solution, resulting in the genocide of an estimated 6 million European Jews.

I say it with pain. In the last century, the whole world was scandalized by what the Nazis did to protect the purity of the race. Today, we do the same, only with white gloves, the pope said.

Pope Francis also highlighted the importance of marriage preparation to strengthen couples and the need for a catechumenate for marriage, just as there is a catechumenate for baptism.

Marriage and having a family, he added, is a beautiful adventure and a gift from God that is sometimes treated as if it were a lottery.

Some people say: Let's do it. If it goes well, it goes well. If not, we'll erase everything and try it again. This is superficiality on the greatest gift that God has given to all of humanity: the family, the pope said.

Although today's world there exist diversified families, he added, the human family in the image of God, man and woman, is the only one.



CNS PHOTO | YOUSSEFF BADAWI, EPA

Children buy toys from a vendor in Douma, Syria, June 15.

## Peaceful areas of Syria offer friar hope

BY DOREEN ABI RAAD  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

BEIRUT (CNS) For a Franciscan friar on a mission from Rome, a visit to peaceful areas in Syria provided a glimpse into a window of hope for the war-torn country.

I have met people full of hope, full of activity. I can feel it, they want to live, they want to continue with their lives. They want peace, Father Hugo Mejia, mission secretary of the Capuchin Franciscan Friars and general counselor of the order, told Catholic News Service June 14 in neighboring Lebanon after returning from a four-day visit to Syria.

On his journey from Lebanon to the Syrian border, through Damascus and south to the province of Sweida, the Peruvian priest traveled through those parts of Syria without incident. There were many Syrian army checkpoints, but typically when it was known that priests were in the car, they were welcomed through, he said.

Spending a night in the Old City of Damascus, the capital, Father Mejia was impressed with its liveliness.

There's a lot of activity. Businesses, hotels were open. I didn't imagine that, an absolutely normal life. He said he found the people open and

**'I have met people full of hope, full of activity. ... they want to live, they want to continue with their lives. They want peace.'**

**Father Hugo Mejia**  
mission secretary, Capuchin Franciscan Friars

friendly.

In Sweida, 70 miles south of Damascus, where he spent the remainder of his visit, the priest noted that there are a few problems in the area, but mostly it is in peace, even though some areas as close as 6 miles away are occupied maybe by ISIS, maybe rebels, we don't know exactly.

The timing of Father Mejia's visit offered him a different perspective of Syria than he had expected.

It is true that in these days things have changed a lot. It's not like it was a few weeks or months ago. We hope that it's going to stay this way, he said of the normalcy he experienced.

Yet Father Mejia is not necessarily optimistic about the prospect of peace in the near future because of the proxy war being played out in Syria.

It's not only up to the government of Syria, he said, noting that there are many other countries (operating) inside Syria, with varied interests.

It's a complex situation, he said.

He said Syrians told him their government is supporting its citizens.

During his visit, Father Mejia noticed government-sponsored free universities, free schools, hospitals, as well as wonderful roads, parks and places to have fun.

A largely Druze area, Sweida has a Christian population of about 10 percent. A sole Franciscan Capuchin priest serves 170 families. Seven priests from Byzantine rites serve more than 500 families in towns near Sweida, and all eight priests support each other, Father Mejia said.

I would be happy if we could send more friars, but that depends on the future of the country, Father Mejia said.

He said Sweida Christians told him: We pray to God. We want peace.

And they want to stay in their country because they love it.

### BRIEFS

#### Argentina moves closer to legal abortion

MEXICO CITY (CNS) Argentina's bishops expressed disappointment with the approval of an initiative that moves the South American country closer to legalizing abortion. But the bishops also pledged to review their social ministries to better attend to youth and women.

The country's lower house of congress voted 129-123 to approve the initiative, which decriminalizes abortion during the first 14 weeks of pregnancy. The initiative now goes to the country's senate.

This decision hurts us as Argentines, the bishops conference said in a statement. But the pain for the abandonment and the exclusion of innocents must be transformed into strength and hope, to continue fighting for the dignity of all human life.

The close June 14 vote on the abortion issue reflected division in Argentine society, according to observers in the majority Catholic county. The law won support in big cities, but was opposed in the provinces.

#### French church groups to change migrant attitudes

PARIS (CNS) The French church has launched a program to combat anti-migrant and anti-Muslim attitudes amid reports of tensions among Catholics.

It is to resist the rise of tensions and hostilities within the Christian community that our movements have decided to work with the French bishops' conference to find ways to help Christians rise above these fears and face the migrant question calm and dispassionately, said a June 7 statement on the conference's website. It said the program is a response to papal appeals, requests from the bishops' pastoral agency for migrants, as well as the church's charitable agency, Caritas; Jesuit Relief Services; and Terre Solidaire, a French development nongovernmental organization.

We salute the engagement of numerous Christians in welcoming and integrating migrants, and we encourage them to strive for a change of attitudes, the statement said.

#### Most fundamental human right is hope, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) The theory that well-being will automatically flow down to everyone from the riches of the few is a lie, Pope Francis said.

The beatitudes show the way, he said, because they show that holiness doesn't concern just the soul, but also the feet for going toward our brothers and sisters, and the hands for sharing with them.

May the beatitudes teach us and our world to not be wary of or leave at the mercy of the ocean waves those who leave their land, hungry for bread and justice; may they lead us to not live in excess, devoting ourselves to the advancement of everyone, kneeling with compassion before the weakest, he said June 15.

#### Suspect arrested in Philippine priest's murder

MANILA, Philippines (CNS) Philippine authorities announced June 15 that they had arrested their prime suspect in the killing of Father Richmond Villalor Nilo, reported ucanews.com.

The suspect, identified as Adell Roll Milan, was arrested in San Isidro June 14, the same day Father Nilo was buried.

A witness reportedly identified Milan, an alleged former drug user and hitman, as having shot the priest June 10. Authorities said police have also identified the vehicles used by the gunman and his accomplices, ucanews.com reported.

Father Nilo was shot and killed by motorcycle-riding gunmen at a village chapel in Zaragoza while he was about to celebrate Mass. He was the third priest and the second in Nueva Ecija province killed in six months.

#### Admit how little you know, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) Scientists and people of faith always must admit they don't know everything, and they must never be afraid to explore and discover more, Pope Francis told astronomy students and experts.

As people who love what we do, we can find in our love for this universe a foretaste of that divine love which, in contemplating his creation, declared that it was good, he said June 14.

The pope spoke to dozens of young astronomy students who were taking part in a monthlong summer school sponsored by the Vatican Observatory.

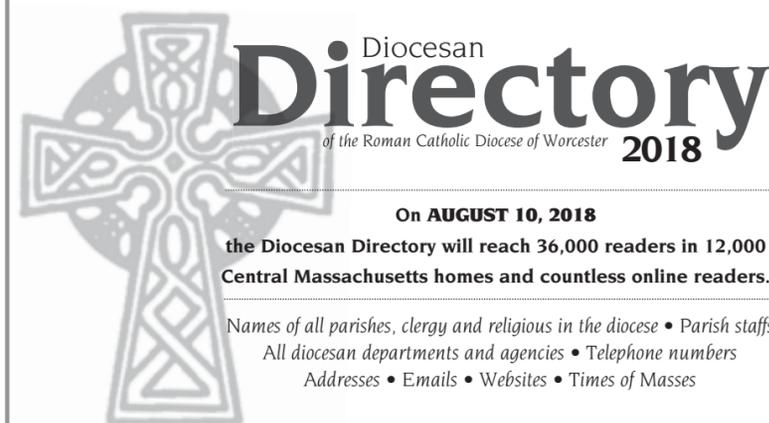
#### Peruvian organization wins human rights award

LIMA, Peru (CNS) A human rights organization co-founded by a Maryknoll sister has won the Letelier-Moffitt human rights award for its work with indigenous farmers high in the Andes Mountains of Peru.

The organization, Human Rights and Environment, based in Puno and known by its Spanish initials as DHUMA, teaches people to defend their rights under Peruvian and international law and provides legal defense in cases of rights violations, according to Maryknoll Sister Patricia Ryan, 71, who grew up on Long Island, New York.

DHUMA, founded in 2007 by Sister Ryan and others who formerly worked in the human rights office of the Catholic Prelature of Juli in Peru's Puno region, recently won a landmark ruling that indigenous communities must be consulted before the government can grant mining concessions on their lands.

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## 500 British priests support 'Humane Vitae'

MANCHESTER, England (CNS) Nearly 500 British priests have signed a statement in support of the papal encyclical that forbade married couples from using contraception.

They said the prophetic warnings contained within Humane Vitae, (Of Human Life) published by Blessed Pope Paul VI July 25 1968, have proved to be accurate.

We propose discovering anew the message of Humane Vitae, not only in fidelity to the Gospel, but as a key to the healing and true development of our society, they said in the statement sent to the London-based Catholic Herald magazine June 14, ahead of the 50th anniversary of the encyclical's publication.

The statement said Humane Vitae represented a reaffirmation of central aspects of the church's traditional teaching on human sexuality, including that the conjugal act was always open to procreation and always unitive.

**BRIEFS**

**Michigan pastor named bishop of Salina, Kansas**

WASHINGTON (CNS) Pope Francis has named Msgr. Gerald L. Vincke, pastor of Holy Family Parish in Grand Blanc, Michigan, as bishop of the Diocese of Salina, Kansas.

Bishop-designate Vincke, 53, is a priest of the Diocese of Lansing, Mich. In 2016, the pope named him a missionary of mercy. He was one of more than 1,000 religious-order and diocesan priests who received a special papal mandate to preach and teach about God's mercy during the 2015-16 Holy Year of Mercy.

His appointment was announced June 13 in Washington by Archbishop Christophe Pierre, the Vatican nuncio to the United States.

The bishop-designate was introduced as the newly appointed bishop of the Salina Diocese just one day after the 19th anniversary of his ordination as a priest.

I want to thank the Holy Father for his confidence in me, Bishop-designate Vincke, 53, said during the June 13 news conference. He will be installed Aug. 22.



Vincke

**Bishop Kicanas wins CPA England award**

GREEN BAY, Wis. (CNS) Bishop George F. Kicanas accepted the Catholic Press Association's 2018 Bishop John England Award June 14 by praising the work of the Catholic press and stressing how critical Catholic journalism is to the church's message getting out to the world.

Presented annually, the award recognizes publishers in the Catholic press for the defense of First Amendment rights, such as freedom of the press and freedom of religion. It is the CPA's highest award for publishers.

Bishop Kicanas retired as head of the Diocese of Tucson, Arizona, last October after 14 years as its shepherd. He was appointed Tucson's coadjutor in 2002 and became head of the diocese a year later. As Tucson's bishop, he was publisher of the diocesan newspaper, which was called The New Vision for many years and is now called Catholic Outlook.

**Trenton bishop decries mass shooting at festival**

TRENTON, N.J. (CNS) No motive can justify these ongoing, seemingly relentless acts of gun violence plaguing our cities, Bishop David M. O'Connell of Trenton said after a mass shooting took place in the early morning hours of June 17 during a city arts festival.

The epidemic of gun violence has struck once again, this time close to home, he said in a statement.

Gunfire broke out at 2:45 a.m. June 17 during a 24-hour festival called Art All Night Trenton 2018. Police confirmed June 18 that 22 people had suffered gunshot wounds. Of that number, a 13-year-old boy and three other people were hospitalized and remained in critical condition.

Police also said there were three suspected shooters. One identified as Tahajj Wells, 33, was killed. Two other suspected shooters also were shot.

**Allegation against McCarrick found credible**

WASHINGTON (CNS) Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick, retired archbishop of Washington, said June 20 he will no longer exercise any public ministry in obedience to the Vatican after an allegation he abused a teenager 47 years ago was found credible.

Bishop James F. Checchio of Metuchen, New Jersey, where Cardinal McCarrick served as its first bishop, said in a statement the same day that he had been advised that Cardinal McCarrick himself has disputed this allegation and is appealing this matter through the canonical process.

While shocked by the report, and while maintaining my innocence, Cardinal McCarrick said in his statement, I considered it essential that the charges be reported to the police, thoroughly investigated by an independent agency and given to the Review Board of the Archdiocese of New York. I fully cooperated in the process.

**Stolen Columbus letter returned to Vatican Library**

VATICAN CITY (CNS) With the help of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, a 15th-century copy of a letter Christopher Columbus sent to his royal patrons describing the riches of the New World has been returned to its rightful owner—the Vatican.

The rare eight-page document, estimated to be worth \$1.2 million, had been secretly replaced with a forgery, while the true document eventually ended up in the hands of a U.S. collector from Atlanta.

The late Robert Parsons had purchased the piece for \$875,000 in the United States in 2004 in good faith, unaware it had been stolen.

Callista Gingrich, U.S. ambassador to the Holy See, and representatives of the Department of Homeland Security and its investigations division presented the original copy during a ceremony June 14 at the Vatican Library. Archbishop Jean-Louis Brugues, head of the Vatican Library and Vatican Secret Archives, and Msgr. Cesare Pasini, the library's prefect, also attended the ceremony.

**Executive order halts family separation policy**

BY MARK PATTISON  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON (CNS) President Donald Trump signed an executive order June 20 that halts his administration's family separation policy for families who have crossed the U.S.-Mexico border illegally.

The executive order seeks to work around a 1997 consent decree that bars the federal government from keeping children in immigration detention even if they are with their parents for more than 20 days. The executive order instructs the attorney general to seek federal court permission to modify the consent decree.

The crisis was spawned when Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced a zero tolerance policy for border crossers. Under the policy, adults would be charged with a felony rather than a misdemeanor for crossing the border. Under federal statute, those charged with felonies cannot have their children detained with them.

The government earlier in June said 1,995 minors had been separated from 1,940 adults who had crossed the U.S.-Mexico border, although some minors had crossed without their parents or adult kin.

The policy and its upshot stirred some of the most hostile reaction yet of any Trump initiative.

Hours before the executive order was signed, Pope Francis said he stood with the U.S. bishops, who had condemned the family separation policy, which has led to children being held in government shelters while their parents are sent to federal prisons.

Mexico's bishops likewise decried the policy. Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen was heckled



Casa Padre, an unaccompanied minor shelter, is seen in Brownsville, Texas, June 18.

CNS | CALLAGHAN O'HARE, REUTERS

June 19 while she dined at a Mexican restaurant in the Washington area.

Every living former first lady and the current first lady, Melania Trump herself an immigrant from Slovenia expressed their sorrow, or a stronger emotion, at the sight of children being separated from their parents.

My wife feels strongly about it. I feel strongly about it. I think anybody with a heart would feel strongly about it, Trump said during the June 20 signing ceremony in the Oval Office, with Nielsen and Vice President Mike Pence flanking him.

I don't like the sight or the feeling of families being separated, Trump added. This will solve that problem and at the same time we are keeping a very strong border.

Even so, the executive order is not necessarily a panacea. It allows the

Department of Homeland Security to detain families together under present resource constraints. The temporary detention policy also is only in effect to the extent permitted by law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

Pence criticized those who make a false choice between being a nation of laws and showing compassion.

We expect the House to act this week. We expect them to do their job, Nielsen said. The House is considering two immigration bills, although neither dealt in particular with the family separation policy.

You will have a lot of happy people, Trump said as he signed the executive order. What we have done today is we are keeping families together.



CNS | BOB ROLLER

Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Ky., speaks June 13 during the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' annual spring assembly in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

**Bishops get update on religious freedom**

BY DENNIS SADOWSKI | CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (CNS) Challenges to religious freedom continue to emerge and the U.S. Catholic Church will remain steadfast in addressing them to serve the common good, Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, told the spring assembly of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

In his report as chairman of the bishops' Committee for Religious Freedom, the archbishop said June 14 that such efforts are rooted in a vision to protect human dignity and support family and the gift of sexuality.

We propose this vision with passion for the good of individuals and for the good of our nation, the archbishop said.

While some challenges have been overcome, such as the contraceptive mandate in the Affordable Care Act that forced religious institutions and people of faith to violate their faith, it does not mean they have ended, he said.

These issues will continue. They continue in health care. They continue in marriage and family, in life issues. Certainly challenges, perhaps of a different sort, in the welcome of immigrants and refugee families.

Perhaps the greatest challenge is what we might call what's happening in the court of public opinion, Archbishop Kurtz said. Public polling tells us in many ways people 60 years of age and older often appreciate the threats to religious freedom, but younger generations do not.

**600 Catholic institutions sign climate declaration**

WASHINGTON (CNS) Caring for creation goes hand-in-hand with the mission of helping retreat-goers connect with God at the Jesuit Retreat House in Parma, Ohio.

The center's tree-shrouded grounds that filter the sound of nearby traffic in the middle of Cleveland's largest suburb offer a home for wildlife and a respite for those seeking a quiet place to pray.

The beauty of these grounds and the care of these grounds is our responsibility, Rick Krivanka, executive director at the retreat house, told Catholic News Service June 18, the third anniversary of the release of Pope Francis' encyclical on care of the earth, Laudato Si', on Care for Our Common Home.

I believe every act we take in terms of care for the earth, even countless

acts that are never seen, make a difference, he said, in explaining the retreat house's support for the newly released Catholic Climate Declaration.

Made public on the encyclical's anniversary, the declaration serves as a moral call to action on the environment and urges President Donald Trump to return the United States to the Paris climate change agreement.

About 600 Catholic institutions had signed the declaration, said Dan Misleh, executive director of the Catholic Climate Covenant, which developed the statement and released it during a June 18 teleconference.

Archdioceses and dioceses, colleges and universities, schools, health care institutions and religious communities are among the organizations that had signed the declaration.

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## All quiet on the Holy Cross campus

To the Editor:

Several weeks have passed and it appears that Professor Liew of Holy Cross College isn't going to publicly retract his immoral and blasphemous writings about Jesus. And, other than stating that they strongly disagree with his views, it appears college administrators are not going to make any strong, public statement re-affirming Jesus' true moral character. Are they afraid of offending the LGBTQ community on campus and/or losing government funds?

According to Professor Liew, the Son of God was a cross-dresser, a drag-king with queer desires, not sure if he was a man or woman, doing a striptease at the Last Supper and having sadistic/masochistic sex with his Father during his crucifixion. Professor Liew also wrote that the centurion, whose servant Jesus cured, was having homosexual sex with the boy.

Professor Liew's writings also cast aspersions on Jesus' Father, since whoever has seen me has seen the Father. The Father and I are one. And also upon Joseph and Mary: Didn't they teach Jesus proper moral values by word/example and by the lives of holy men/women in the Old Testament? If Professor Liew wrote equally about Abraham, Moses, Islam's Allah and Mohammed, an international outcry would erupt. Would administrators still argue academic freedom?

Academic freedom in Catholic colleges must be conscientiously exercised under the authority of the pope/bishops and in line with official Roman Catholic teachings. Otherwise, Catholic colleges would be Catholic in name only and indistinguishable from non-Catholic/secular schools.

At the April 7th demonstration in front of Holy Cross College, a sophomore counter-demonstrator, who chairs Pride (an organization supporting LGBTQ faculty and students on campus) held a sign, I (heart symbol) my drag Jesus.

Professor Liew's views are obviously influencing students and faculty on campus, but unfortunately, not to Repent of sin and believe.

Respectfully in Christ,

FATHER ANTHONY KAZARNOWICZ  
FORT BRAGG, NORTH CAROLINA

## Defend Jesus at all cost

To the Editor:

As a practicing Catholic in the Diocese of Worcester as well as a graduate of Assumption College, I am appalled and utterly offended at Father (Philip) Boroughs' (president of the College of the Holy Cross) response or lack thereof to the highly offensive writings of Holy Cross professor, Tat-siong Benny Liew (Liew). Father Boroughs' silence and utter failure to defend our Savior, Jesus Christ, is abhorrent and against his priestly vows. Likewise, I find his academic freedom argument as justification for Liew's blasphemous writings to be cowardly at best.

Father Boroughs is first and foremost a priest and his position as a college president comes a distant second. As a priest, his primary responsibilities are to shepherd the faithful, teach and pass along the teachings of Jesus Christ and to defend, at all cost, Jesus Christ. Please explain to me how his actions accomplish this? If Mr. Liew spoke about Father Boroughs' mother in the way he spoke about Jesus Christ, would Father Boroughs remain silent? Would he justify Liew's views based on academic freedom? I highly doubt it.

While I understand that Father Boroughs has responsibilities to different constituencies as a result of being the president of Holy Cross, his ultimate responsibility is to our Savior, Jesus Christ. I'm afraid in this situation, Father Boroughs failed miserably in exercising his responsibilities. Thankfully for Father Boroughs, Jesus Christ is forgiving and I pray that he has mercy on him and gives Father Boroughs the strength to stand up and defend him. God Bless.

ROBERT STILES  
SHREWSBURY

A large balloon is seen as Pope Francis greets the crowd during his general audience in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican June 13.

CNS PHOTO | PAUL HARING

## Teaching on the commandments

Dear Brothers and Sisters,  
Good morning!

## POPE FRANCIS

Today, we shall begin a new series of catecheses on the theme of the commandments.

The commandments of the law of God. To introduce it, let us draw from the passage just heard: the encounter between Jesus and a man he is a young man who, on his knees, asks Jesus how he can inherit eternal life (cf. Mk 10:17-21). And in that question is the challenge of every life, ours too: the desire for a full, infinite life. What must we do to achieve it? What path must we take? To truly live, to live a noble life. ... How many young people try to live and destroy themselves by following things that are fleeting.

Some think that it would be better to extinguish this impulse the impulse to live because it is dangerous. I would like to say, especially to young people: our worst enemy is not practical problems, no matter how serious and dramatic: life's greatest danger is a poor spirit of adaptation which is neither meekness nor humility, but mediocrity, cowardice.

Is a mediocre young person a youth with a future or not? No! He or she remains there, will not grow, will not have success. Mediocrity or cowardice. Those young people who are afraid of everything: No, this is how I am. ... These young people will not move forward. Meekness, strength, and not cowardice, not mediocrity.

Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati he was a young man used to say that one must live, not just get by. The mediocre just get by, living by their life force. One must ask the heavenly Father, for today's young people, for the gift of a healthy restlessness. But, at home, in your homes, in every family, when a young person is seen sitting idle all day, at times mom and dad wonder: is he sick; is something wrong? and they take him to the doctor. The life of young people is about moving forward, being

restless, healthy restlessness, the capacity not to be content with a life without beauty, without colour. If young people are not hungry for an authentic life, I wonder, where will humanity end up? Where will humanity go with young people who are idle and not restless?

The question of that man in the Gospel passage that we have heard is inside of each of us: how can we find life, life in abundance, happiness? Jesus answers: You know the commandments (v. 19), and cites part of the Ten Commandments. It is a pedagogical process, by which Jesus wishes to lead to an exact place; in fact it is already clear, from that man's question, that he does not have a full life; he seeks more and is restless. Thus, what does he need in order to understand? He says: Teacher, all these I have observed from my youth (v. 20).

How do we pass from youth to maturity? When we begin to accept our own limitations. We become adults when we relativize and become aware of what is lacking (cf. v. 21). This man is forced to acknowledge that everything he is able to do does not rise above a ceiling; it does not exceed a margin.

How great it is to be men and women! How precious our existence is! Yet, there is a truth that, in the history of the last centuries, mankind has often rejected, with tragic consequences: the truth of our limitations.

In the Gospel Jesus says something that can help us: Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfill them (Mt 5:17). The Lord Jesus gives us the fulfillment; he came for this. That man had to come to the brink, where he had to take a decisive leap, where the possibility was presented to stop living for himself, for his own deeds, for his own goods and precisely

because he lacked a full life to leave everything to follow the Lord. Clearly, in Jesus' final immense, wonderful invitation, there is no proposal of poverty, but of wealth, of the true richness: You lack one thing; go, sell what you have, and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me (Mk 10:21).

Being able to choose between an original and a copy, who would choose the copy? Here is the challenge: finding life's original, not the copy. Jesus does not offer surrogates, but true life, true love, true richness! How will young people be able to follow us in faith if they do not see us choose the original, if they see us adjusting to half-measures? It is awful to find half-measure Christians, allow me the word dwarf Christians; they grow to a certain height and no more; Christians with a miniaturized, closed heart. It is awful to find this. We need the example of someone who invites me to a beyond, a plus, to grow a little. St. Ignatius called it the magis, the fire, the fervour of action that rouses us from slumber.

The path of what is lacking passes through what there is. Jesus did not come to abolish the law nor the prophets, but to fulfill. We must start from reality in order to take the leap into what we lack. We must scrutinize the ordinary in order to open ourselves to the extraordinary.

In these catecheses we will take the two tablets of Moses as Christians, taking Jesus' hand, in order to pass from the illusions of youth to the treasure that is in heaven, walking behind him. We will discover, in each of these laws, ancient and wise, the door opened by the Father who is in heaven so that the Lord Jesus, who has crossed the threshold, may lead us to true life. His life. The life of the children of God.

## An ever-expanding horizon

Dorothy Day is the patroness of the 2018 Partners in Charity Campaign. The following is an excerpt from Michael Boover's book *15 Days of Prayer with Dorothy Day*. We will be sharing various chapters as the Partners campaign winds down. Dorothy Day was a founder of the Catholic Worker Movement. Mr. Boover lives at Annunciation House in Worcester.

*Sometimes we reach a plateau, a moment when insights and graces make us appreciate our difficulties and expand our hearts. As we set our gaze on a wider horizon, our inner landscapes also expand. This new perspective sometimes comes through synthesizing our own varied experiences, sometimes through the shared insight of a significant other. In her mid-30s, Dorothy was ready to take a higher, wider view of the political and spiritual landscape within and around her. When she prayed that she might achieve the vision of a greater love, God sent her a personal guide in the person of Peter Maurin. What can we learn from Dorothy's readiness to welcome a new vision, her willingness to entertain a wider vision?*

I pray because I am happy, not because I am unhappy. I did not turn to God in unhappiness, in grief, in despair to get consolation, to get something from God. I was praying because I wanted to thank God. No matter how dull the day, how long the walk seemed, if I felt sluggish at the beginning of the walk, the words I had been saying insinuated themselves into my heart before I had finished, so that on the trip back I neither prayed nor thought, but was filled with exultation. My very experience as a radical, my whole make-up, led me to want to associate myself with others, with the masses, in loving and praising God.

The Long Loneliness, 133

Day's life-long pilgrimage to God can help us hear the call to take a longer view of our personal histories, to appreciate the long-distance running typical of authentic Christian spiritual journeys. Dorothy can help us recognize that conversion is ongoing and that the spiritual venture is open-ended. Deep calls unto deep, the psalmist sings. A shared communion with the Christ of the ages leads us into the profoundest regions of our inner being. Peter Maurin was able to help Dorothy because he himself was well attuned to those depths. His own faith journey had taken him from his deep roots in the very soil and the folk culture of southern France to Paris, Canada, Chicago and eventually New York where the editor of *Commonweal* magazine suggested that he look Dorothy up, because they had much in common. By coincidence, ... Dorothy prayed to find a way to remain Catholic while maintaining her solidarity with and love for the poor and working people. She begged God to show her how she could alleviate the suffering of those she had come to recognize as the Body of Christ on earth. She understood that she could pray for them each day at Mass, but only in the light of Peter's vision did she realize that she could share the love of God for all with everyone.

Coming from southern France, Peter carried with him a profound sense of a sanctified and agricultural social order based on the sacramental life of the Church, an appreciation that he combined with the insight of luminaries and visionaries who had diagnosed the crisis in the West. That crisis consisted in a drive for acquisition, systemic and systematic selfishness, the neglect of cherished foundations, of misbegotten and misplaced ideals,



'15 Days of Prayer with Dorothy Day'

By Michael Boover

of disoriented masses. Peter had met Christ, whose person and Gospel brought a new day. He had become convinced that Catholic scholars would have to be more involved in the apostolate in order to blow the dynamite of the Christian evangel and thus make dynamic the gospel message. Dorothy had the energy and the intellectual acumen needed to take Peter's notion of engaged Catholic scholarship into the world. She was the answer to Peter's prayer as much as he was to hers.

Dorothy sought to put into action the new faith which she felt within, a new light and bearing for which she felt grateful. As a response, she wanted to bear the good news to America's poor and working class as a Catholic, but she did not know how to do

it. She found a way through Peter, a Catholic who shared her critique of ruthless capitalism, but with a twist. He was most gentle, deeply person-oriented, and unflappably positive. ... Peter called for round table discussions, for houses of hospitality, and for Catholic communes and agronomic universities. ... A visionary and an energetic convert came together in their mutual openness, each influencing the other through the workings of the Holy Spirit! The world has not been the same since.

"15 DAYS OF PRAYER WITH DOROTHY DAY" NEW CITY PRESS (HYDE PARK, NY, ), 168 PP., \$12.95.



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# The last of the prophets, John the Baptist

Gospel: Luke 1:57-66,80

At the Annunciation, Mary tells the Archangel Gabriel "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." With this fiat, Mary unites her will to that of God who has chosen her to be the Mother of his only begotten Son. Mary's "yes" involves her wholeheartedly carrying out his will throughout her life.

This will leads Mary to undertake a difficult journey, traveling "in haste" through the hill country of Judea to the home of her cousin, Elizabeth. There, Elizabeth acknowledges Mary as "blessed" and the mother of the Lord. Yet, Mary has come not simply to be praised by Elizabeth, but to help her in her need. This is because she is with child, though being advanced in age.

The child of Elizabeth and Zechariah would be the last of the prophets, John the Baptist. It is John who is the focus of Luke 1:57-66, 80. Our reflection upon this Gospel leads us to consider the long story of salvation history reaching culmination. With John's birth, time was rapidly coming to fulfillment, with the birth of Christ almost at hand. The story of salvation history reflects God's providential care for humanity and all of creation.

The Gospel begins with verses 57-58. Here, St. Luke notes that Elizabeth bore a son which caused her "neighbors and relatives... (to) rejoice with her." The reason for this rejoicing was because "the Lord had shown his great mercy toward her." "The Dictionary of The Bible" teaches us that "the first blessing uttered upon man in the first creation account was to be fruitful, to multiply and to fill the earth." The text continues by stating that in biblical times "a large family was a blessing from God" while "childlessness was a curse and a great sorrow." This is why the birth of John to Zechariah and Elizabeth was seen by members of their community as evidence of God's mercy being shown them.

In verses 59-64, the "eighth day" after John's birth arrives and it is time to formally name him. "The Catholic Bible Dictionary" states that this was done in accordance with the Law which said "he that is eight



SUNDAY'S  
GOOD NEWS

Father  
Michael N.  
Lavallee

days old among you shall be circumcised...so (God's) covenant shall be in your flesh as an everlasting covenant." The naming of a child was considered especially important because, as "The Essential Guide to Biblical Life and Times" shows us "in the biblical view, a person's name is not arbitrary but reflects something of a person's true identity." "The Dictionary of The Bible" tells us that the name John means "God is gracious."

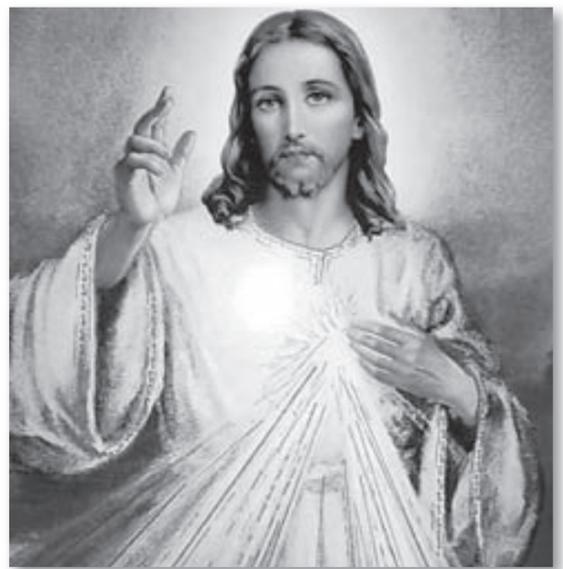
It was earlier, when the Archangel Gabriel appeared to Zechariah, that he explained to him what the purpose of John's life would be. In Luke 1:17, Gabriel explains "(John) will go before him (Christ) in the spirit and power of Elijah to turn the hearts of fathers toward

children and the disobedient to the understanding of the righteous, to prepare a people fit for the Lord." Through these words, then, Gabriel describes John's prophetic mission to prepare the earth for the Messiah's coming.

The Gospel concludes in verses 66 and 80. St. Luke notes that John's birth causes "fear" to come "upon" the neighbors of Zechariah and Elizabeth because they recognized that God was powerfully at work among them. In verse 80, St. Luke states that John "was in the desert until the day of his manifestation to Israel." This suggests that prior to his public ministry, John followed the familiar pattern of the holy men of Israel in the ages before him who sought out God's presence in the southern desert.

May our meditation upon the birth of John the Baptist give us confidence in God's providential love and mercy.

FUNDAMENTALS  
OF CATHOLICISM



CHRISTOLOGY

## What is redemption?

BY FATHER KENNETH BAKER, SJ

In the last essay we saw that Jesus' bloody death on the cross on Calvary was a true and proper sacrifice. At this point we might ask, "Why did Jesus die?" or "What was the purpose of his violent and sacrificial death?" Questions such as these lead us to the notion of "redemption" and "reconciliation" with God.

Because Jesus is both God and man, all of his activities have redemptive value for us. Nevertheless, the culmination of his redemptive activity is to be found in his sacrificial death on the cross. For, it was by his death, freely and lovingly embraced in obedience to the will of the Father, that Jesus accomplished our redemption.

The official teaching of the Church is that, by his sacrifice on the cross, Jesus redeemed us and reconciled us with God. In 1562 the Council of Trent taught that Jesus offered himself to the Father on the altar of the cross in order to accomplish for us "an everlasting redemption."

This teaching, of course, is merely a repetition of a truth that is often stated in the New Testament. Thus, Jesus says in Matthew 20:28, "The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom (or redemption) for man." And St. Paul says in Romans 5:8, "What proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners." That Jesus redeemed us from our sins by his death is a recurring theme in the letters of Paul. "Both Jew and pagan sinned and forfeited God's glory, and both are justified through the free gift of his grace by being redeemed in Christ Jesus who was appointed by God to sacrifice his life so as to win reconciliation through faith" (Rom 3:23-24).

Modern Americans often find it hard to understand clearly what is meant by the word "redemption." But it is both useful and important to grasp the idea involved in "redemption" since it is such a fundamental aspect of our Catholic faith. After all, two of the most common titles attributed to our Lord refer to this mystery; they are "Redeemer" and "Savior."

The word "redemption" means the buying back, or ransom, of a slave or captive in order to secure his freedom. In this sense it means almost the same thing as "liberation." The biblical use of "redemption" to signify the saving action of God with regard to his people has made it the term par excellence for expressing the meaning of the cross of Christ.

What has Jesus saved us from? By his sacrificial death he has liberated us from the slavery of sin (Titus 2:14), death (2 Tim 1:10) and the devil (Col 1:13). Jesus asserts the atoning power of his death at the Last Supper: "For this is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins" (Mt 26:28).

Sin is the big obstacle. Because of the sin of Adam and Eve, a sin which is confirmed and repeated by the personal sins of mankind, a barrier was set up between man and God. Because of the sin of Adam, death, and all the evils related to it, entered into the world. As long as sin remained, there was enmity or hostility between man and his Creator. Jesus Christ came into the world to break down the barrier, to remove the enmity and to reestablish peace and harmony between man and God. How did he do it? Certainly the Incarnation and all the acts of Jesus' life are part and parcel of our redemption, but it was specifically his sacrificial death out of love for us that accomplished our redemption. As Paul well says in Romans 5:10, "When we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, we were still enemies; now that we have been reconciled, surely we may count on being saved by the life of his Son." The same idea appears in Colossians 1:20, "It has well pleased the Father through him (Christ) to reconcile all things to himself, making peace through the blood of his Cross."

Closely related to the notion of redemption is the idea of "reconciliation." That idea appears in four major Pauline texts in the New Testament. I suggest that you get out your Bible and look them up: 2 Corinthians 5:18-20; Colossians 1:20-22; Romans 5:10-11; Ephesians 2:11-16. But reconciliation is not just the result of redemption; it was operative during the whole life and death of Jesus, for Paul says that "God was in Christ, reconciling the world with himself" (2 Cor 5:19). When we have been finally reconciled with God, we are in a state of peace and harmony with him. The lesson is that God loved man, took the initiative and delivered him from the slavery of sin. He did this by sending his beloved Son into the world to die and to atone for the mysterious evil of sin.

St. John expresses this idea beautifully in 3:16-17, "Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved."

**Next week:** JESUS DIED NOT FOR HIMSELF BUT FOR ALL MEN: "We should not forget, however, that even though salvation is available to all, each one must freely accept it by faith in Jesus Christ and by keeping his commandments."

## Why is religious liberty so fragile?

The Fortnight for Freedom, which we've been celebrating each year at the end of June and beginning of July has recently been reconfigured. Beginning this year, Religious Freedom Week is to be held annually June 22-29. The observance is a bit shorter, but no less important. This year's theme is "Serving Others in God's Love."

With our Supreme Court lawsuit over the HHS contraceptive mandate, we Little Sisters of the Poor have been at the center of this issue. I've always suspected that at the root of the religious liberty controversies of the last few years is an inherent distrust or even disrespect for traditional religious beliefs.

My suspicion was confirmed by the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision in the case of a Colorado baker who declined to create a cake for the wedding of two gay men. The baker prevailed before the Supreme Court because the justices felt that the state's treatment of his case demonstrated "elements of a clear and impermissible hostility toward the sincere religious beliefs that motivated his rejection."

The court's majority opinion called for the resolution of such cases with tolerance and due respect to sincere religious beliefs, but they also indicated that this must be done without subjecting gay persons to public humiliation.

The Supreme Court Justices got it right - in a pluralistic society like ours all parties should be treated respectfully and with dignity.

Why is religious liberty so fragile today? I believe it is indeed because of the hostility toward sincere religious beliefs that hides just below the surface in so much of our public discourse. But ours is not the first generation where religion has been held in contempt.

This year my religious congregation of Little Sisters of the Poor is celebrating the 150th anniversary of our arrival in the United States. In the years before our Sisters came to America, our country had seen a violent wave of anti-immigrant, anti-Catholic rhetoric. The Know-Nothing Party launched a frenzy that led to mob violence, the burning of Catholic property - including a convent in Charlestown, Mass. - and the killing of Catholics. This violence was fed by claims that Catholics were destroying the culture of the United States.



GUEST  
COMMENTARY

Sister  
Constance  
Veit, Isp

The influence of the Know-Nothings eventually waned - due to the Civil War and the difficult period of Reconstruction - probably the ugliest period of our nation's history. This is the environment into which seven Little Sisters of the Poor, none of whom spoke English, set foot in Brooklyn, N.Y., on Sept. 13, 1868.

Incredibly, despite their strange black mantles and foreign ways, our Little Sisters never faced discrimination. Quite the contrary - they were embraced and supported by Catholics and non-Catholics alike.

Several years later one of the most popular secular newspapers in the country published a story on the Little Sisters that included this endorsement: "This charity is

entitled to the heartfelt support of a benevolent public. It asks but the simplest assistance and guarantees the largest good."

Within four years the congregation had established 13 homes for the elderly - and that was only the beginning. What was the secret of their success? Baltimore's Archbishop Martin Spalding hit the nail on the head: "The Little Sisters of the Poor are called to do a great deal of good in America," he said, "not only among the poor, but also among the rich; for words no longer suffice - works are necessary."

Our first Little Sisters in America opened hearts and doors not with words, but through the eloquent witness of their charitable works.

So, let's get busy "Serving Others in God's Love!"

- Sister Constance Veit is director of communications for the Little Sisters of the Poor.

'Jesus Christ came into the world to break down the barrier to remove the enmity and to reestablish peace and harmony between man and God.'

## Clergy - laity collaboration model

BY KRIS CORREIRA

GUEST COMMENTARY

“Holding fast to this deposit the entire holy people united with their shepherds remain always steadfast in the teaching of the Apostles, in the common life, in the breaking of the bread and in prayers, so that holding to, practicing and professing the heritage of the faith, it becomes on the part of the bishops and faithful a single common effort.”

- *Dei verbum*

Bishop McManus opened his comments after the film Fatal Flaws recently by saying that the laity has been a disappointment since the Vatican II call to be more active in influencing the culture with the values of the Gospel and the teachings of the Church. He could safely make those comments before a room filled mostly of people very active in the pro-life movement, and several deacons, people like myself that share his frustration. One thing the room had few of were priests.

Far too many complicated reasons exist for the general lethargy among the laity and pastors to even list. Instead, I offer a very successful collaboration that occurred at Christ the King Parish between the clergy and the laity, including the bishop himself, for the Fatal Flaws event, and in combatting the legalization of physician assisted suicide

(PAS) in general.

Witness for Life started in 2012 after the narrow defeat of legalized PAS by Roger and Joyce Dubuque, parishioners at Christ the King, knowing we would face the issue again; Bishop McManus gave them the seed money to start. At the same time, Msgr. Thomas Sullivan began the well-attended Novena to St. Joseph to pray for the seriously and terminally ill, and to stop PAS. Initially, Msgr. Sullivan went to the meetings, but no longer needs to; during our current meeting times, he is offering Mass at the Jewish Healthcare Center. Both our deacons, Michael Chase and Joseph Baniukiewicz, are on the board. He reads and responds to board and mailing list emails, giving advice and help.

Meanwhile, the laity, with help from Father Donato Infante and Father James Boland, carry out the work of engaging the world. Since 2012, we have organized four forums, developed the St. Joseph Initiative to contact legislators, designed banners for outdoor display, developed a Holy Hour, created a website, mailing list, and social media with various print, audio, and video resources, formed collaborations with other organizations, and held one of the first showings of Fatal Flaws. As pastor, Msgr. Sullivan has implemented everything WFL

has initiated.

The efficacy of this collaboration was best demonstrated for the Fatal Flaws event. WFL organized it with Emmanuel Radio. Bishop McManus accepted our invitation to speak. Msgr. Sullivan let WFL display posters throughout the parish, placed an announcement prominently in the weekly bulletin for three weeks, noting that he was going; he announced it after all the weekend Masses, inviting parishioners to join him. As a result, 20 percent of the 200 people who pre-registered for the event were from Christ the King, far surpassing any other parish. More remarkable is that many of them would not otherwise have gone. They were impressed with both the film and the panel. They will remember the message and tell it to others in the next legalization attempt.

Witness for Life has its successes because of the Holy Spirit. This manifests itself in this multifaceted collaboration between our spiritual leaders and those of us for whom they care, "so that holding to, practicing and professing the heritage of the faith, it becomes on the part of the bishops and faithful a single common effort." All in accord with God's will for the salvation of souls.

- Kris Correia is co-chair of WFL.

# BISHOPS: Spring meeting approves directives

FROM PAGE ONE

the bishops said. "These vulnerable women will now face return to extreme dangers of domestic violence in their home country."

Just after the opening prayer, Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, USCCB president, read the statement from the dais, and the bishops voiced their support.

In his remarks, Cardinal DiNardo said he joined Bishop Joe S. Vasquez of Austin, Texas, chairman of the bishops' Committee on Migration, "in condemning the continued use of family separation at the U.S.-Mexican border as an implementation of the administration's zero tolerance policy."

"Our government has the discretion in our laws to ensure that young children are not separated from their parents and exposed to irreparable harm and trauma," the cardinal said. "Families are the foundational element of our society and they must be able to stay together."

"Separating babies from their mothers is not the answer and is immoral," he added.

The bishops voted 183-2 with two abstentions to revise ethical and religious directives governing key moral questions when Catholic and non-Catholic institutions are preparing to cooperate or merge.

## ETHICAL DIRECTIVES

Under development since 2015, the changes are limited to Part 6 of the "Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services" developed by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Bishop McManus of Worcester, chairman of the bishops' Committee on Doctrine's Subcommittee on Health Care, told the assembly the new directives will help bishops decide whether a health care partnership can occur under the church's moral teaching.

The revisions offer more specific guidance to health care administra-

tors confronted with an increasingly complicated business environment and widespread consolidation within the industry.

The bishops also approved changes in language to clarify several articles of the "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People." The changes are the first since 2011 as the work to update the document took several years longer than planned to wind through the review process established by the bishops.

The vote was 185-5 with one abstention to enact the changes.

Bishop Timothy L. Doherty of Lafayette, Indiana, chairman of the Committee for the Protection of Children and Young People, presented the changes, saying that they will strengthen protections for young people.

A provision changing the review of the charter from every two years to seven years was among the approved changes.

The changes generally tighten requirements for all individuals working with children and add wording to individual articles of the charter or clarify terms used in the document.

## GUARD AGAINST COMPLACENCY

In the lead up to the vote, Francesco Cesareo, chairman of the National Review Board, and president of Assumption College in Worcester, cautioned the bishops to guard against complacency in carrying out the charter's requirements. He urged them to "never waver" in their commitment to protect minors and vulnerable adults from sexual abuse.

Cesareo said signs of complacency surfaced in some dioceses and parishes as auditors compiled an annual report on compliance with the charter during the period July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017. While progress is being made as the number of allegations during the period declined from the two previous years, he cautioned the bishops to remain vigilant.

"Despite the progress we have made in the church

and the ongoing efforts of dioceses, many among the faithful and in society at large question the commitment of the church, and, in particular the bishops, in addressing the sexual abuse of children," he told the assembly.

## PASTORAL NEEDS

In another vote, the bishops accepted a new document focused on guiding the American church in addressing the pastoral needs of Asian and Pacific Island Catholics.

Adopted 187-2 with two abstentions, "Encountering Christ in Harmony" is meant to provide support and offer ideas for ministry to the nation's nearly 3 million Asian and Pacific Island Catholics.

Bishop Oscar A. Solis of Salt Lake City, chairman of the bishops' Subcommittee for Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs, told the assembly the document addresses the fastest growing minority community in the United States church.

"Asian and Pacific Islanders are ready for pastoral engagement in the church's mission of evangelization," he said.

"Our approval of this document is indicative of an essential pastoral outreach to the mission of the church in the United States. It's a response to the call of Pope Francis to go to the peripheries to proclaim the Gospel," he added.

The document has been in the works for more than two years.

The bishops engaged in an 85-minute discussion before agreeing to develop new supplementary materials and a video to complement its long-standing document guiding Catholic participation in public life.

## FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP

The new materials were proposed by a working group that included the chairman of USCCB committees that work on public policy issues. They would supplement the bishops' "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship" and will "apply the teaching of Pope Francis to our day."

The document traditionally has been updated and released about a year before the presidential election every four years with its last update in 2015. The new materials are expected to be completed in time for the bishops to approve them at their November 2019 general assembly.

The bishops heard a planned pastoral letter addressing racism is on schedule for a November vote during the bishops fall meeting.

Bishop Sheldon J. Fabre of Houma-Thibodaux, Louisiana, chairman of the bishop's Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism, said the pastoral letter is on schedule for a November vote when the bishops reconvene in Baltimore.

He said drafts of the document have been reviewed by various parties and that their suggestions have been incorporated into it. The document will focus on contemporary concerns affecting Native Americans and African-Americans and the "targeting" of Hispanics with racist language and actions, he said.

# Pray - Reflect - Act

## Ways to observe Religious Freedom Week

The beginning of summer anticipates our national observance of Independence Day, and provides a timely opportunity for Catholics to think more deeply about the importance of religious freedom as a fundamental human right. We can easily take this freedom for granted, so as the Catholic Church in the United States celebrates Religious Freedom Week from June 22-29, we have a special opportunity to learn more about what it means to be faithful Catholic citizens and how the ministries of our beloved Church have served all people in a myriad of ways for generations. This is important because our mission to serve others in God's love is often threatened, and this has serious implications for all of us today as well as for generations to come.

America's founding fathers fought valiantly to protect and defend religious liberty, even enshrining the right to religious liberty in our very Constitution. It is imperative that this legacy of faithful service that the American Church has lived out for so many years be preserved, protected, and fostered in the hearts of the next generation.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Religious Liberty has provided us with some practical ways to participate in this observance of Religious Freedom Week. Each day offers a particular prayer intention and includes a reflection on that theme accompanied by suggestions for concrete actions we can take. The full PRAY-REFLECT-ACT series is available at [www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek](http://www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek) where you can download a helpful page with more information for each day of the week.

The following is a summary of each day's theme.

**JUNE 22:** The feast of Saints Thomas More and John Fisher

These great saints and patrons of religious freedom were martyred for standing up for the sanctity of marriage. They remind us that ignoring conscience cannot be the condition placed on people of faith for service in the public square.

➔ *Prayer intention: For the protection of religious freedom in America and around the world.*

**JUNE 23**

As the need for adoption and foster care services increases, Catholic agencies who have a long track record of excellence are being shut down because of government intolerance of religious views. We are reminded of the suffering of vulnerable children and work to protect the freedom to serve.

➔ *Prayer intention: For children waiting to be placed in a loving home, and for the caregivers who selflessly serve those children; that they will find strength and support from the Church.*

**JUNE 24:** The Solemnity of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist

St. John the Baptist was not afraid to preach the truth of the Kingdom of God. We too are called to share the joy of the Gospel with others. We are reminded to rely on the Holy Spirit to give us the courage, opportunity, and freedom to always witness to the truth.

➔ *Prayer intention: That the Holy Spirit would give us the courage to bear witness to the truth of the Gospel, even in the face of social and legal pressure.*

**JUNE 25**

Even in the 21st century, Christians in the Middle East and other parts of the world are persecuted, tortured, and killed for their faith in Jesus. We are reminded to be grateful for the freedoms we do have and the importance of helping those who suffer persecution through our prayers and actions.

➔ *Prayer intention: For our sisters and brothers in the Middle East; that through the intercession of the Apostles, who established these most ancient churches, Christians and all religious minorities would be freed from violent persecution.*



**JUNE 26**

The Church provides exceptional service and plays an indispensable role in our nation's immigration and refugee resettlement system. But because the Church refuses to facilitate abortion for these vulnerable ones, they are denied funding for their work. We are reminded that when we defend religious freedom, we defend the right to refuse to make immoral choices.

➔ *Prayer intention: That the Lord would protect all migrants and refugees, and that all who work with people on the move would be free to serve.*

**JUNE 27**

Catholic healthcare ministries are a vital part of the fabric of our nation. Yet many Catholics and other people of good will continue to suffer for their deeply held religious and moral beliefs. The Little Sisters of the Poor are still dealing with litigation issues. Nurses like Cathy DeCarlo have been threatened with firing and traumatized by being forced to participate in abortions in violation of their conscience. The pervasive threats to our mission of caring for the sick remind us that we must advocate vigorously for conscience protection since the task of medicine is always to care and never to kill.

➔ *Prayer intention: That nurses, doctors, therapists, and all ministers of healing would be strengthened by the Holy Spirit in their imitation of Christ's compassion and care for the sick.*

**JUNE 28:** The feast day of Saint Irenaeus, Bishop and Martyr

Education is a central aspect of the Church's mission, and Catholic schools have long played a leading role in ensuring that all children have access to quality education. Religious schools need the freedom to operate in accordance with their Catholic convictions for the good of all people and for a stronger society. We are reminded to pray and act in defense of this freedom to live and teach our faith.

➔ *Prayer intention: That Catholic schools would have freedom to teach and bear witness to the truth about God and God's creation.*

**JUNE 29:** The Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles

Religious Freedom is for everyone. It is rooted in human nature and is a fundamental human right. It is more than simply freedom to worship. It also means freedom to serve all people, not because they are Catholic, but because we are. We are reminded to appreciate the opportunity to love and serve as is our mission, and to work diligently for the protection of this fundamental right.

➔ *Prayer intention: That we would work to build a culture that recognizes and respects the dignity of all people.*

You can participate in Religious Freedom Week individually, with your family, or by hosting a gathering of friends or fellow parishioners. There are many possibilities! Pray the rosary, spend time at adoration, start a study group on one of the Church's teaching documents, or watch a movie, such as "A Man for All Seasons" on the life of St. Thomas More. For a list of suggestions for personal or parish use, along with prayers and intercessions, visit [www.worcesterdiocese.org/religiousfreedomweek](http://www.worcesterdiocese.org/religiousfreedomweek).

May our observance of Religious Freedom Week be blessed and bear good fruit for the Lord and for our nation, that we may continue to build a Culture of Life and a Civilization of Love.

- Allison LeDoux, Respect Life Office, Diocese of Worcester.

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# DEACONS: Challenged to promote family life and go into world

# ORDINATION: Saturday

FROM PAGE ONE

In his homily, Bishop McManus made a connection between the deacons and Elijah and Elisha, who called people to conversion.

He told the deacons their vocation is a gift and a mystery, a grace given to some men.

Talking about the importance of embracing Christ's cross, the bishop said Elisha had to leave the only life he knew to accept his prophetic vocation. He said deacons and their wives and families have made great sacrifices too and thanked them.

You cannot give what you do not have, Bishop McManus said, and urged the deacons to read the Word of God and love the Eucharist.

He called for building up the Body of Christ and praying for an outpouring of grace that you and I will have that disposition of service.

Father Savage also urged them to service.

Being in Jesus is being in joy, he said. Look joyful. Perhaps the joy in your face will attract people to what's inside.

He said Jesus taught, prayed and served the needs of the poor, which is now called ministry of the Word, ministry of worship and ministry of service.

Deacons, you are the mustard seed, he said.

You're part of a big tree, but yet you're still a seed, planting for the future. He talked about the importance of them working with others, doing things in communion.

He challenged them to show love to the world and bring all the birds to the tree. The Church has always been in the ministry of evangelization, he said. He said Jesus did most of



Deacon Roland R. Michaud, of the diocese's first class of permanent deacons, smiles as he holds his certificate of appreciation. At right is Deacon William A. Bilow Jr., director of the Office of the Diaconate.

TANYA CONNOR | CFP

his ministry outside the synagogue.

You spend most of your time in Church where? he asked, and answered, In the world.

Some might say, But I'm near retirement, he said. But, he countered, We have an ageless Holy Spirit.

Father Savage said they are to lead people to holiness, to where they can encounter Jesus, and are to be visible.

Visibility means it's a way of life—the love, the compassion, that emanates from your being, he said. Prayer and their wives help with that, he said.

He said people need to see them as good husbands and fathers.

Very few deacons get up and talk about family life, and very few are involved in marriage preparation, he said. He said the bishop shouldn't have to pay anyone to do marriage preparation, given all the deacons available.

When we lose the family, we lose the Church, he said. The Church depends

**'Being in Jesus is being in joy. Look joyful.'**  
**Father Warren Savage**  
 Diocese of Springfield

upon you to promote the domestic Church. He asked how people will recognize the table at Church if they don't experience family meals at home.

Challenging them to reach out to the poor, Father Savage told of being a student at Assumption College and working with Msgr. Francis J. Scollen, now pastor of St. Peter Parish and St. Andrew the Apostle Mission.

He lived more on the street than he did in the rectory, Father Savage said.

He also mentioned working with Msgr. Edmond T. Tinsley at McAuley

Nazareth Home for Boys and Bishop Harrington in Urban Ministry.

I know more about Worcester than you do in the streets, he said, and said the majority of priests were in the streets then.

He spoke of the importance of welcoming the stranger, paying attention to the widow and eradicating global poverty and racism.

You can't be a priest or a deacon and not like people, he said. Because everybody's a mystery, you can't judge people. Walk with great reverence and respect everywhere.

It was a great celebration, said Denise Briggs, whose husband, Roy, is a deacon. Being happy and joyful that's what it's all about.

I like being able to see a lot of the deacons I normally don't get a chance to see, said her husband.

Nissa Gadbois, whose husband, Brian, is a deacon, expressed a similar sentiment: These events are the best ever—it's like a family reunion.

# ROAD: Serving the Lord without counting the cost

FROM PAGE ONE

There is a point when people involved in Benposta are asked to make a three-month retreat, then decide whether to pursue priesthood, lay celibacy or marriage in the Catholic Church, Deacon Julio said. Those on retreat worked on a farm to get their own food each day, prayed and read Scripture together and visited people living nearby.

We went to share the Gospel with them, to share our experiences with them, and we played with the children—teenagers soccer, volleyball, he said.

I felt that God was calling me to become a priest in order to help people that needed spiritual help, he said. After the retreat, I was ready to go to seminary.

He contacted religious communities and seminaries and in 2005 entered the Missionary Servants of the Holy Trinity. He was with them for seven years, earning his bachelor's in philosophy from Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana in Medellin in 2007 and taking two years of theology.

When I was in Colombia with them, the experience was absolutely amazing, he said. Each day they went

to work with people in neighborhoods.

In 2010 he did his novitiate in Mexico, receiving spiritual formation, but not doing ministry.

He realized he was called to something other than religious life, he said. So he left the community, but remains in contact with them. (He just made his pre-ordination retreat with them at the Shrine of St. Joseph in Stirling, New Jersey.)

In 2012 and 2013 he provided religious education and spiritual formation in parishes for the Archdiocese of Medellin. In 2013 he completed his bachelor's in theology from Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana.

His spiritual director, Father Fernando Bernal, told him the Worcester Diocese was seeking candidates for priesthood.

I said, Well, I don't speak English, but I will try, Deacon Julio said. It wasn't easy, but I'm so happy here.

He said he was interviewed by Skype with a translator's help and came here on Jan. 12, 2014 from a place where it is always summer.

It was my first time in the U.S. and the weather was awful, he said. But to see snow for the first

time was amazing. It was wonderful. I played outside the whole day, like a child. Other Colombian seminarians at Holy Name of Jesus House of Studies in Worcester played in the yard there too, and they took photos, he said.

His troubles weren't limited to the weather.

My first day at Clark University was terrible, Deacon Julio said. Everybody in the classroom spoke English except me.

When I came here I couldn't say any word in English and I couldn't understand any word in English. His classmates in this English-language class had been here awhile, he said. After class each day one of them his angel told him what had been said.

In 2016 he went to St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, finishing several months ago.

Bishop McManus ordained him a transitional deacon June 3, 2017 in St. Paul Cathedral. From January to May 2018 he served as a transitional deacon at St. Gabriel, the Archangel Parish in Upton.

His other parish assignments were St. John, Guardian of Our Lady, Clinton; Our Lady of the Lake, Leominster, and Our Lady of Providence, Worcester.

Anticipating his ordination Deacon Julio said,

I'm excited. I can't wait I have been waiting for a long time.

## Pew report says young adults worldwide less religious than older adults

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A study by the Pew Research Center found that young adults worldwide are generally less religious than older adults by a variety of measures.

The study, which drew upon previous surveys by Pew, concluded that this was true regardless of the predominant religion in the country, its level of economic development,

or its level of religiosity. It defined young people as those under 40 years of age and older people as those 40 or older.

The study noted projections indicate countries whose populations are growing fastest are very religious, while countries projected to have shrinking or stagnant population levels tend to be less religious.

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FROM PAGE ONE

University of America in Washington, D.C., and pursued studies in philosophy and theology at the Pontifical North American College in Rome. He was ordained to the transitional diaconate at St. Peter's Basilica in September 2017. He is to be associate pastor of St. Anne Parish in Shrewsbury before returning to Rome in the fall for graduate studies.

He is to celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving at 2 p.m. Sunday at Holy Family Parish/St. Joseph Church, 35 Hamilton St., Worcester.

Deacon Sierra was born in Santo Domingo, Antioquia, Colombia in 1989. He studied at Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana in Medellin and prepared for the priesthood for the Worcester Diocese at Holy Name of Jesus House of Studies in Worcester and St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore. He was ordained to the transitional diaconate in December 2017.

His Masses of Thanksgiving are at 4 p.m. tomorrow at Holy Family of Nazareth Parish, 750 Union St.,

Leominster; 10:30 a.m. Sunday at St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, 19 Winter St., Milford, and 7 p.m. Sunday with the Brazilian community at Holy Family Parish/St. Joseph Church, 35 Hamilton St., Worcester.

June 26-July 31 he is to be in Colombia. Aug. 1 he becomes associate pastor of St. Augustine Parish in Millville and Good Shepherd Parish in Linwood.

Mr. Sanchez was born in Itagüé, Antioquia, Colombia in 1988. He studied at Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana in Medellin and has been preparing for the priesthood for the Worcester Diocese at Holy Name of Jesus House of Studies in Worcester and St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore.

He is to assist at Masses of Thanksgiving at 5 p.m. tomorrow at Our Lady of the Lake Parish, 1400 Main St., Leominster, and at 10 a.m. Sunday at Good Shepherd Parish, 121 Linwood St., Linwood. Receptions follow both Masses.

He is to do diaconate ministry at Our Lady of the Lake beginning Aug. 1.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARYKNOLL MISSIONER

On his morning rounds in Anlong Kngan, Cambodia, Father Wynne gives a blessing to Oun Sophat, 76.

## Maryknoll Father Wynne celebrates 50th jubilee

Maryknoll Father Robert F. Wynne of Worcester is celebrating his 50th anniversary as a priest.

He will be one of 36 Marknollers who will celebrate their ordination as priests or taking their final oaths as brothers in ceremonies June 24 at the Maryknoll Society Center in Ossining, N.Y.

Father Wynne was born April 14, 1938 in Worcester. He attended St. Stephen Elementary School, graduated in 1955 from St. Stephen High School, and earned his bachelor's degree in philosophy in 1963 from Maryknoll College in Glen Ellyn, Ill. In 1968 he earned a master's degree in religious education from the Maryknoll School of Theology in Ossining. He was ordained a priest June 8, 1968.

He served in parishes in Hawaii. In 2007 he began serving in Anlong Kngan, a resettlement village in Cambodia.

His ministry is focused mostly on health services and education. Along with a Maryknoll Lay Missioner, he established an outreach program for abandoned elderly, providing them with meals, transportation to doctor appointments and hospitals, medication, health and hygiene instruction, and social outings.

He also oversees tutoring classes for students who are falling behind, and he provides impoverished students with meals, school uniforms, books, supplies and school fees.

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## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL / SUMMER PROGRAM LISTING

**ST. MARY SCHOOL - WORCESTER:** Summer camp runs June 25-August 24, 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. with extended day available 7a.m.-5:30 p.m. at \$35/day at 50 Richmond St. Each week is themed and daily activities include sports, music, cooking, arts & crafts, theater and field trips. For information contact stmcamp@stmaryshigh.org or visit stmarysworcester.org.

**OL OF PROVIDENCE-WORCESTER:** VBS will be held June 25-29, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and July 9-13, 1-5 p.m. for children in grades 1-11, at St. Bernard Church, 236 Lincoln St. Registration is \$10/family by calling the office 508-755-3820.

**ST. JOHN - WORCESTER:** "Camp" will be held at St. John's Ascension Campus, 48 Vernon St., for children entering grades 1-7, June 25-29, 9 a.m.-noon at no cost. The theme will be "Set Sail with the Holy Trinity" to Ireland with St. Patrick to learn about God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Register online at stjohneworcester.org.

**MARIE ANNE CENTER - WORCESTER:** The summer program for children entering grades 2-6 will run July 9 - August 2, Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m.-noon, in the lower level of St. Bernard Church, 236 Lincoln St. Activities include, swimming on Wednesdays, outdoor and indoor play, reading, music, crafts and movies. There is a registration fee of \$50/child (financial assistance is available) Contact Monde Jean-Pierre at 508-425-9254 for information.

**OL OF PROVIDENCE-WORCESTER:** Teen Week will be held July 9-13, 4-7 p.m. at St. Bernard Church, 236 Lincoln St. Registration is \$10/family by calling the office 508-755-3820.

**MARY, QUEEN-SPENCER:** The VBS program "Sky" for ages 4-10, will be held July 16-20, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. for \$40, or 9 a.m.-5 p.m. for \$100 at 7 Church St. For information or to register call 508-885-3111 X 105 Mon.-Wed.

**ST. GEORGE-WORCESTER:** Vacation Bible Camp will be held for children enrolled in their religious education program, July 16-20, 9 a.m.-noon, 38 Brattle St., at no cost. The theme will be "Set Sail with the Holy Trinity" to Ireland with St. Patrick to learn about God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Contact kfuller217@gmail.com for information.

**ST. JOSEPH-N. BROOKFIELD:** A Hawaiian themed VBS will be held July 16-20, 9 a.m.-noon for ages 4 yrs.-entering 6 grade, at 27 Mt. Pleasant St. (older children can sign up as crew leaders) The cost is \$20/child and \$10/siblings. To sign up, call the CCD office at 508-867-9302.

**ST. MARY-UXBRIDGE:** The VBS program Shipwrecked will be held July 16-20, 9 a.m.-noon., 77 Mendon St. Call the faith formation office at 508-278-3777 for registration forms.

**OL OF MT. CARMEL-WORCESTER:** Summer programs run Tuesday-Thursday at 28 Mullberry St. on the following weeks: July 17-19, July 24-26, July 31-Aug. 2, 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. (8:30 drop off available for a fee) for 4-10 yr-olds. There is no charge, but a donation of \$25/child is suggested. Tuesdays are Trip day and trips are \$10/child. Sign up in advance by contacting joan\_dargenis@yahoo.com or the office at 508-753-5001. A July 11 trip to Water Country for children and adults at \$35/p.p. (bus and admission) is an additional offering.

**ST. MARY-MILFORD:** The VBS program "Splash Canyon" will be held July 23-27, 9 a.m.-noon. for K-grade 6, at 17 Winter St. Cost is \$35/child or \$75/family. Visit stmarymilford.org/vacation-bible-school for information and for registration forms.

**ST. ROSE OF LIMA-NORTHBOROUGH:** The VBS program "Shipwrecked-Rescued by Jesus" will be held July 23-27, 9 a.m.-noon, for children entering K-5, at 244 W. Main St. Visit stroseoflima.com/vacation-bible-school for registration forms or contact Susan McGoldrick at 508-393-6444.

**ST. ROCH-OXFORD:** The VBS program "Shipwrecked-Rescued by Jesus" will be held July 23-27, 8:15 a.m.-1:15 p.m. at 334 Main St. A donation of \$30 includes a light lunch daily. Register at strochoxford.com/vbs

**ST. BERNADETTE-NORTHBOROUGH:** The VBS program "A Radical Ride on the Wings of Prayer!" will be held July 30- Aug. 3, 9 a.m.- noon, for children ages 5 -11, at 266 Main St. The cost is \$60/child (\$150 family maximum). The registration deadline is July 15th. For information, to register, or to volunteer, contact Ginny Boland at ginnyboland@stb-parish.net or 508-393-7445. Registration forms are online at stb-parish.org/vbs.

**OL OF THE LAKE-LEOMINSTER:** The VBS program "Shipwrecked-Rescued by Jesus" will be held July 30-Aug. 3, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at St. Bernard's Elementary School, 254 Summer St., Fitchburg. Contact, Beth Souza at esouza1011@comcast.net or 978-534-6704.

**ST. JOHN-CLINTON:** Catholic "Camp" for children K-5 will be held July 30-Aug. 3, 9 a.m.-noon, in the gym, 149 Chestnut St. The cost is \$10/child with a max of \$30/family. Contact the parish at 978-368-0366 for information or to register.



HANNAH G. SNELL | CFP INTERN

## St. Anthony bread at St. Anthony's and St. Stephen's

**FITCHBURG –** At St. Anthony of Padua Parish's final novena Mass, June 12, Father Juan S. Ramirez, pastor, and others blessed baskets full of 150 rolls. Parishioners were encouraged to give the bread to those who were unable to attend the Mass, in celebration of St. Anthony and the spirit of giving instead of receiving. On the altar, from left, are Deacon Salvatore Tantillo, Father Ramirez, Father Leo LeBlanc from St. Mary Parish in Grafton, and Father Robert Brusco.

**BLESSED SACRAMENT-WORCESTER:** Vacation Bible Camp will be held August 6-10, 9 a.m.-noon for grades 1-8, 555 Pleasant St. It is free and bring a friend!

**ST. GABRIEL-UPTON:** The VBS program "SonWest Roundup" will be held Aug. 6-10 at 151 Medford St., Contact Mary Lee Siple msiple54@gmail.com to sign up.

**ST. THERESA-BLACKSTONE:** The VBS program "Splash Canyon" will be held Aug. 6-10, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., 630 Rathbun St. The cost is \$25/child, entering K-6. Register by July 1, call Paula Ryan at 508-883-2435.

**ST. LUKE-WESTBOROUGH:** Westborough's Ecumenical VBS program "Shipwrecked-Rescued by Jesus" will be held Aug. 6-10, 9 a.m.-noon at the First United Methodist Church, 120 W. Main St. The cost is \$30 or \$60/family, ages 3-grade 6. Contact VBSwestboro@aol.com or Dianne Patrick, 508-366-8509.

**SACRED HEART-HOPEDALE:** The VBS program "Shipwrecked-Rescued by Jesus" will be held Aug. 13-17, 9 a.m.-noon and the VBS Mass Aug. 19 at 9:30 a.m. at 187 Hopedale St. To register visit vbspro.events/p/events/fcfd61. The cost is \$40/child, \$75/two children, \$95/3 or more children.

**ST. JOHN PAUL II-SOUTHBRIDGE:** The VBS program "Shipwrecked-Rescued by Jesus" will be held Aug. 13-17, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Ministry Center, 279 Hamilton St. Call the Youth Ministry Office, 508-765-3704 to register.

## UPCOMING

**GIRLS' BASKETBALL CAMP:** Holy Cross Girls Basketball Day School will be held July 19-22 for girls ages 8-15 at the Luth Athletics Complex, 1 College St. It will feature lectures by Coach Bill Gibbons of the HC Team along with daily games, contests, fundamentals, friendships and fun. Information or to apply, call 508-793-2534.

## WEEKLY EVENTS NOT LISTED TO MAKE ROOM FOR VBS LIST

## SATURDAY JUNE 23

**OUTDOOR FLEA MARKET:** Holy Cross Church, E. Templeton will hold its annual outdoor vendor/crafter/flea market at 8 a.m.-2 p.m. in the church parking lot, 25 Lake St., rain or shine. For information contact Dian Kodys at 978-939-5532 or Sandie Hill at 978-939-8227

**SUMMER FESTIVAL:** St. Roch Parish, Oxford, will hold its Summer Festival, 8 a.m.-8 p.m., 332 Main St. Activities include; auctions, raffles, crafts, homemade baked goods, a garage sale, plant sale, and fried dough, and strawberry shortcake. Lunch will be served from 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. For information contact Teri at 508-987-8987.

**THRIFT SHOP-CLOSING:** St. Stephen Thrift Shop, 20 Hamilton St., Worcester, is holding a Going Out of Business Sale. Everything must go. Store hours are Tuesday - Thursday: 9 a.m.- 2:30 p.m. and Saturday: 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. and will close July 31.

**THRIFT SHOP LEICESTER:** The New 2 You/Deja New-Marketplace, 759 Main St. is open Saturdays 9 a.m.-noon, Tues. 5-7 p.m., Wed. 9 a.m.-noon, Thurs. 3-6 p.m. There is a farmers market on Thursday and a furniture annex in the Old St Joe's Church.

**ORDINATION MASS:** Ordinations to the Priesthood and the Transitional Diaconate will be held at 10 a.m. at St. Paul Cathedral, 15 Chatham St., Worcester. The public is invited to attend. Bishop Robert McManus will ordain three men to the priesthood, Deacon Alan Martineau, Deacon Javier Julio and Deacon Victor Sierra. Bishop



TANYA CONNOR | CFP

**WORCESTER –** Joey Charbel Jreij, Samphina Zinnah and Julius Jimenez, students at St. Stephen Elementary School, admire the bagels they received for the feast of St. Anthony June 13 at St. Stephen's Church. Members of the congregation here and at three other sites received St. Anthony's bread and holy cards, thanks to the devotion of St. Stephen parishioner Louis Tripodi and donations from The Bagel Inn in Holden. Father John F. Hamm, who helps at St. Stephen's, led the congregation in blessing the bread and read about the tradition of giving alms in response to St. Anthony's intercession.

McManus will also ordain Mr. Juan Sanchez Guzman to the transitional diaconate.

**CHICKEN BBQ-BROOKFIELD:** St. John Parish, E. Brookfield, will hold its chicken BBQ at 5 p.m. at 121 Blaine Ave. Purchase tickets at \$12/adults and \$5/children, by calling 508-867-3738.

## SUNDAY W JUNE 24

**LEGION:** The Legion of Mary, Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary Praesidium for Vietnamese, will meet weekly, 12:30 p.m., in Our Lady of Vilna Church Hall, 151 Sterling St., Worcester.

## MONDAY JUNE 25

**DIVORCED SUPPORT:** St. Joseph Parish Divorced Catholics Support Group will be held the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month, 7-9 p.m., in the K of C Room in the back of the church, 10 H Putnam Road Ext., Charlton.

## TUESDAY JUNE 26

**KNITTING MINISTRY-MILFORD:** The Hands to Work Knitting Ministry of St. Mary of the Assumption, 17 Winter St. is in need of additional knitters. Meetings are held the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month from 10-11:30 a.m. or work from home (material provided). Contact the parish office 508-473-2000 for more information.

## WEDNESDAY OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP JUNE 27

**HOLY HOUR:** Our Lady of the Rosary Parish will hold a Holy Hour for Life, Marriage, and Religious Freedom, monthly at noon, with scripture, rosary, adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in the church, 23 Fales St., Worcester.

**OL OF PERPETUAL HELP CELEBRATION:** The Diocesan Haitian Catholic Ministry will celebrate Mass at 7 p.m. at St. Joseph Church, 35 Hamilton St., Worcester on the Feast of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, the patroness of Haiti. A reception will follow. All are welcome!

**FATAL FLAWS-GARDNER:** The documentary, "Fatal FLAWS, Legalizing Assisted Death," will be shown as part of Religious Freedom Week 7-9 p.m. at Holy Spirit Chapel, 50 Lovewell St. Discussion after the film will be led by Kris Correia. It is free and open to the public. Register at witnessforlife.com or call Maura Sweeney at Annunciation Parish, 978-632-0253.

## THURSDAY JUNE 28

**BIBLE STUDY:** St. Denis Parish, Ashburnham will host an inter-denominational Bible study weekly, 6:30-7:30 p.m. in Father Lacy Hall, 85 Main St. All are welcome and includes music and prayer. For information, contact Andy at 978-855-2479.

## FRIDAY JUNE 29

**KNITTING CIRCLE:** The Religious of the Assumption will hold an Assumption Center Circle for knitting and crocheting for a cause weekly, 10-11:30 a.m., in the Assumption Center, 16 Vineyard St., Worcester. For more information call 508-767-1356 or email: center@assumptionsisters.org.

**SPANISH PRAYER:** St. Francis of Assisi Parish Spanish Prayer Group will meet weekly, 7 p.m., in the chapel, 81 Sheridan St., Fitchburg.

## SATURDAY JUNE 30

**ANGEL CONNECTION ROSARY BREAKFAST:** St. Anne Parish is hosting a Rosary Breakfast, 9-11:30 a.m. in the Hall, 20 Boston Rd., Southborough. There will be an opening prayer, breakfast followed by rosary and witness. Registration to reserve your seat is \$25 sent to Marge Oliveri/The Angel Connection, PO Box 116, Biddeford Pool, ME 04006.

## SUNDAY JULY 1

**MASS/NOVENA:** A Mass and Novena to the Divine Mercy and Our Lady of Czestochowa will be held monthly, 3 p.m., in St. Joseph Basilica, 47 Whitcomb St., Webster.

# Augustine Institute releases video series on the Eucharist

BY MAGGIE MASLAK | CATHOLIC NEWS AGENCY - EWTV

DENVER (CNA) The wealth of the Catholic Church's teachings and traditions can be challenging for many to understand, which is why the Augustine Institute has released a new video series focused on the Eucharist.

Catholicism is so vast and deep, learning it can be overwhelming, Dr. Tim Gray, president of the Augustine Institute, in an interview with CNA.

But if there is one thing that we can teach Catholics, one thing that holds all our faith together and makes it stick for folks, that is understanding God's presence in the Eucharist, Gray continued, adding that no other teaching can be so uplifting and tangible for people's spirituality than this mystery, which is why the Church calls it the sum and summit of our faith.

The Augustine Institute is a Denver-based graduate school and organization which aims to serve the Church through academic and parish programs in light of St. John Paul II's call to the New Evangelization.

The video series, titled Presence, is available for purchase and was released by the Augustine Institute as part of their sacramental video series. It follows the succession of their previous video programs on marriage, baptism, and reconciliation. The next in line was the Eucharist, Gray said.

We did not want to start with the Eucharist because we knew it was the most important, so in a sense the other sacramental programs prepared us to approach this treatment of the Eucharist so that we could give it our best treatment, Gray

continued.

The series explores the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist through its institution at the Last Supper and its role in the Catholic faith. It is available in two editions—one for personal use and one for group use in parishes.

The personal edition includes three episodes and an explanation of the Mass for children. The parish edition is aimed at sacramental preparation and catechesis and also includes an apologetics section. The series also comes with leader kits and guides, as well as a personal participant guide.

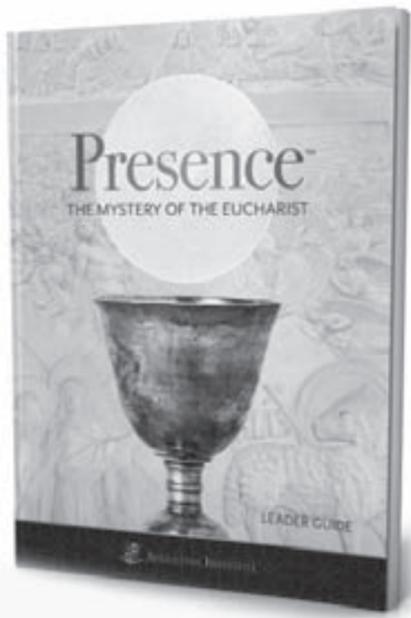
Gray explained that each episode begins with a true story that is both compelling and dramatic. His personal favorite of the series are the beginning segments of episodes two and three, which shows the incredible story of an amazing Protestant minister and Jewish woman who encounter the beauty and mystery of the Eucharist.

Gray went on to say that he hopes viewers will deepen their understanding of the Eucharist through the video series and be reawakened to the beauty of its mystery.

The Mass and Eucharist is central to Christian life, but too often we assume that everyone understands this mystery when they don't, Gray noted.

This series aims to help open eyes to understand the depth of mystery found in God's amazing presence, but also rekindle a fire for those of us who believe but need to be reawakened to the tremendous gift we have in the Eucharist, he continued.

If Catholics understand this one thing, they will not leave the Church.



## CNS national editor always wanted to tell stories

GREEN BAY, Wis. (CNS) Julie Asher is the recipient of the 2018 St. Francis de Sales Award from the Catholic Press Association of the United States and Canada.

The award recognizes outstanding contributions to Catholic journalism and is the highest honor given by CPA. It was presented during a June 15 luncheon at the Catholic Media Conference in Green Bay.

Wow. It's overwhelming, said Asher after she was handed the award.

I can confirm there was no Russian collusion on this. I had to say that coming here from Washington, she added.

Asher thanked her CNS colleagues, led by editor-in-chief Greg Erlandson, and his predecessors.

I also want to thank all of you, my colleagues in the Catholic press, for what you do every single day and what you contribute to CNS. We are all workers in the vineyard; we do it every single day to tell the story of the Catholic Church, she said.

Asher noted that she didn't come from a journalism family but said she had some ink in her blood because her father was an ink salesman and sold ink to several small newspapers in eastern Colorado and western Nebraska.

I always wanted to be a journalist and to tell stories, she said, adding that she loves what she does.

I love what we all do in the Catholic press: We tell stories of people's faith in action, explaining what

the church teaches and why, what the church says in response to the issues of the day—immigration, racism, the environment and all manner of other things.

Asher, who has been national editor of Catholic News Service for more than 20 years, coordinates all national coverage and book reviews. To many client editors, she is the first person with whom they come in contact at CNS. Asher is also the CNS intern coordinator and has mentored dozens of young students, many of whom now work at Catholic publications.



Asher

## MUSIC



CNS PHOTO | KAREN CALLAWAY, CHICAGO CATHOLIC

## Yo-Yo Ma plays for peace

CHICAGO – Cellist Yo-Yo Ma acknowledges the audience during the Concert for Peace at St. Sabina Church in Chicago June 10. When the world-renowned cellist brought his Concert for Peace to St. Sabina there was a special feature – five original works written with family members who lost loved ones to gun violence as a tribute to the people who died. They are among 24 original songs created by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's Negaunee Music Institute and Purpose Over Pain, a St. Sabina organization of parents who have lost a child to gun violence. All songs are available online at notesforpeace.org.

## BOOK REVIEW

# A look at General Lee's religious life

BY BRIAN T. OLSZEWSKI  
CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

More than 153 years after the end of the Civil War, Confederate military leaders are in the news. More precisely, monuments of them are in the news.

Amid the turmoil that has risen from demonstrations for and against the monuments, in The Religious Life of Robert E. Lee, R. David Cox provides insight into an aspect of the Confederacy's most prominent figure.

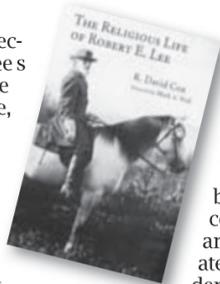
To be sure, this book will have no impact whatsoever on resolving the stay/go arguments surrounding Lee monuments. However, it provides a perspective as to how Lee, an Episcopalian, was formed in the faith, and how he applied those beliefs on matters of his day, particularly slave ownership and states' rights, and leading an army into war to main-

tain both.

To establish that perspective, Cox goes deep into Lee's life, detailing the influence of his parents and his wife, as well as other relatives and friends, and continuing that detailed narrative throughout the remainder of the general's life.

In fact, detail is an essential part of this work, maybe overwhelming at times. Nonetheless, it is critical as his source material includes scholarly historical works, and, more importantly, he draws upon the correspondence written by and received by Lee to establish what one could consider the general's faith journey.

It is from these letters that the reader sees the evolution of that faith through various stages of his life—from youth to West Point cadet



"The Religious Life of Robert E. Lee" by R. David Cox. Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co. (Grand Rapids, Michigan, 2017). 336 pp., \$26.

to military leader to husband and father to cavalry commander to leader of and defeat of the Confederate army to college president.

Readers will appreciate the attention Cox, an Episcopal priest since 1972 and a professor of history at Southern Virginia University since 2006, devotes to each of these areas, as together they provide a composite of Lee's spirituality and how it is entwined with other aspects of his life. He was not without the struggles one experiences in trying to discern the will of God and applying it to his daily life.

## ON TV/RADIO

### SUNDAY MASSES

8 a.m. Boston CatholicTV and CW 56  
10 a.m. WWLP-TV CH 22  
6 p.m. Charter CH 193  
6 p.m. Mondays (re-broadcast) Worcester CH 194  
Spanish Language: 8 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.  
Charter CH 101; Comcast CH 268; Boston CH 296

### DAILY MASSES (Monday -Friday)

9 a.m. Charter CH 193

For list of celebrants/specials: [www.worcestercatholic.com](http://www.worcestercatholic.com)

9:30 a.m. Boston CatholicTV and WBPX CH 68  
4:30 p.m. Shrewsbury Cable CH 28/328  
5 p.m. Clinton Comcast CH 99  
7 p.m. Boston CatholicTV  
7:30 p.m. WBPX CH 68

### FAMILY ROSARY

Sunday: 7 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Shrewsbury Cable CH 28/328,  
8 a.m. Clinton Comcast CH 99,  
8:30 a.m. Charter CH 193  
Monday: 7 a.m. Shrewsbury Cable CH 28/328  
Saturday: 4:30 p.m. Shrewsbury Cable CH 28/328

### CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAMMING

5:27 a.m., Morning prayer, WTAG, 580 AM and 94.9 FM  
EWTV Global Catholic Radio (24-hours)  
Emmanuel Radio, WNEB 1230 AM Worcester  
and 970 AM Southbridge  
Eternal Life Radio, WQPH 89.3 FM Fitchburg

## CATHOLIC QUIZ

### CatholicQuiz of the Week™ Nativity of Saint John the Baptist June 24, 2018

1. According to Isaiah, who is the servant through whom the LORD shows his glory to the nations?

- a. Egypt
- b. Israel
- c. Assyria

2. According to Isaiah, salvation was intended only for Israel, God's chosen people.

- a. True
- b. False

3. According to Psalm 139, where can you go to escape from God?

- a. nowhere
- b. the darkness of the abyss
- c. the netherworld

4. According to Acts, who was a man after God's own heart who would carry out God's every wish?

- a. Jesus
- b. Moses
- c. David

5. According to Luke, when did Zechariah receive his voice back?

- a. on the birthday of his son
- b. on the day of the circumcision of his son
- c. on the day of the circumcision of Jesus

6. What did Zechariah say when he finally could speak again?

- a. John is his name
- b. Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel
- c. repent and believe in the Good News

7. Where did John the Baptist live until his ministry began?

- a. in Galilee
- b. in Nazareth
- c. in the Desert

### Answers and References

- 1 • b. Israel (Isaiah 49:3)
- 2 • b. False (Isaiah 49:6)
- 3 • a. nowhere (Psalm 139:1-15)
- 4 • c. David (Acts 13:22)
- 5 • b. on the day of the circumcision of his son (Luke 1:64)
- 6 • b. Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel (Luke 1:68)
- 7 • c. in the Desert (Luke 1:80)

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Peter Lombardo



# Parish Results as of June 20, 2018

## DIOCESE OF WORCESTER

### W W W . P A R T N E R S - C H A R I T Y . N E T

Parish	Gifts received	Total amount raised	2018 goal
<b>Worcester</b>			
Cathedral of St. Paul	209	\$101,700	101,700
Blessed Sacrament	170	\$66,353	76,000
Christ the King	395	\$194,447	110,700
Holy Family	48	\$15,760	21,000
Immaculate Conception	178	\$98,830	88,500
Our Lady of Angels	209	\$47,925	57,500
Our Lady of Czestochowa	181	\$43,713	46,500
Our Lady of Lourdes	119	\$51,655	47,500
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel at Our Lady of Loreto	198	\$60,036	50,000
Our Lady of Providence	72	\$21,267	28,500
Our Lady of the Rosary	180	\$42,655	48,000
Our Lady of Vilna	N/A	\$22,800	22,800
Sacred Heart-St. Catherine	92	\$26,120	28,700
St. Andrew the Apostle	44	\$13,925	12,400
St. Christopher	108	\$20,588	33,800
St. George	286	\$100,914	100,000
St. Joan of Arc	68	\$26,030	38,000
St. John	167	\$65,423	76,600
St. Peter	141	\$58,981	50,600
St. Stephen	119	\$23,715	40,000
<b>Ashburnham</b>			
St. Denis	94	\$20,312	27,000
<b>Athol</b>			
Our Lady Immaculate	77	\$21,435	23,800
St. Francis	19	\$2,650	5,300
<b>Auburn</b>			
North American Martyrs	181	\$52,324	52,300
St. Joseph	207	\$44,460	60,700
<b>Baldwinville</b>			
St. Vincent de Paul	67	\$13,685	20,000

Parish	Gifts received	Total amount raised	2018 goal
<b>Berlin</b>			
St. Joseph the Good Provider	44	\$12,943	20,500
<b>Blackstone</b>			
St. Paul	32	\$4,215	18,000
St. Theresa	86	\$22,080	29,500
<b>Boylston</b>			
St. Mary of the Hills	162	\$59,115	51,800
<b>Charlton</b>			
St. Joseph	301	\$95,630	77,500
<b>Clinton</b>			
St. John, Guardian of Our Lady	373	\$100,580	92,800
<b>Douglas</b>			
St. Denis	151	\$43,892	39,400
<b>Dudley</b>			
St. Andrew Bobola	90	\$18,779	21,900
St. Anthony of Padua	184	\$36,442	41,300
<b>East Brookfield</b>			
St. John the Baptist	115	\$21,452	20,000
<b>East Templeton</b>			
Holy Cross	91	\$17,898	18,800
<b>Fitchburg</b>			
St. Anthony of Padua	126	\$23,997	47,500
St. Bernard	84	\$21,715	37,500
St. Francis of Assisi	84	\$9,040	20,000
St. Joseph	142	\$26,168	40,000

Parish	Gifts received	Total amount raised	2018 goal
<b>Gardner</b>			
Annunciation	222	\$48,295	65,000
<b>Gilbertville</b>			
St. Aloysius & St. Augustine	67	\$12,440	13,800
<b>Grafton</b>			
St. Philip	52	\$33,200	33,200
<b>Harvard</b>			
Holy Trinity	178	\$82,280	90,300
<b>Hopedale</b>			
Sacred Heart of Jesus	192	\$51,566	43,200
<b>Jefferson</b>			
St. Mary	267	\$82,235	73,800
<b>Lancaster</b>			
Immaculate Conception	86	\$25,285	38,000
<b>Leicester</b>			
St. Aloysius-St. Jude	64	\$35,165	31,400
St. Joseph & St. Plus	117	\$24,165	45,000
<b>Leominster</b>			
Holy Family of Nazareth	149	\$29,775	28,800
St. Anna	186	\$40,266	55,900
St. Cecilia	210	\$38,019	50,000
St. Leo	217	\$49,240	70,000
Our Lady of the Lake	221	\$57,460	65,000
Holy Trinity Evangelization Ctr	32	\$2,837	2,500
<b>Linwood/Uxbridge</b>			
Good Shepherd	149	\$30,643	40,200
<b>Lunenburg</b>			
St. Boniface	83	\$25,750	22,500
<b>Millford</b>			
Sacred Heart	315	\$52,994	71,300
St. Mary of the Assumption	273	\$75,686	100,000
<b>Millbury</b>			
Our Lady of the Assumption	81	\$27,135	20,400
St. Brigid	260	\$59,750	60,000
<b>Millville</b>			
St. Augustine	83	\$19,212	25,000
<b>North Brookfield</b>			
St. Joseph	138	\$23,194	26,400

Parish	Gifts received	Total amount raised	2018 goal
<b>North Grafton</b>			
St. Mary	162	\$51,782	65,000
<b>North Oxford</b>			
St. Ann	154	\$34,055	40,000
<b>Northborough</b>			
St. Bernadette	165	\$72,897	73,500
St. Rose of Lima	357	\$161,210	122,600
<b>Northbridge</b>			
St. Peter	88	\$54,479	33,300
<b>Oxford</b>			
St. Roch	214	\$49,495	42,800
<b>Patton</b>			
St. Columba	127	\$52,710	39,900
<b>Petersham</b>			
St. Peter	16	\$3,675	6,000
<b>Princeton</b>			
Prince of Peace	78	\$39,277	36,100
<b>Rutland</b>			
St. Patrick	151	\$45,693	61,800
<b>Shrewsbury</b>			
St. Anne	304	\$81,585	91,900
St. Mary	510	\$203,182	180,500
<b>South Barre</b>			
St. Francis of Assisi	76	\$21,915	25,000
<b>South Grafton</b>			
St. James	112	\$28,850	40,000
<b>Southborough</b>			
St. Anne	108	\$66,905	76,000
St. Matthew	235	\$85,935	71,300
<b>Southbridge</b>			
St. John Paul II	280	\$59,595	75,000
<b>Spencer</b>			
Mary, Queen of the Rosary	177	\$38,665	43,000
<b>Sterling</b>			
St. Richard Chichester	207	\$44,625	41,300
<b>Sturbridge</b>			
St. Anne-St. Patrick	220	\$48,247	53,800

Parish	Gifts received	Total amount raised	2018 goal
<b>Sutton</b>			
St. Mark	195	\$64,050	55,400
<b>Templeton/Otter River</b>			
St. Martin Mission	28	\$5,835	5,000
<b>Upton</b>			
St. Gabriel	309	\$80,733	79,600
<b>Uxbridge</b>			
St. Mary	251	\$70,224	68,800
<b>Warren</b>			
St. Paul & St. Stanislaus	32	\$15,525	18,800
<b>Webster</b>			
Sacred Heart of Jesus	88	\$18,209	40,000
St. Joseph	172	\$26,130	31,300
St. Louis	225	\$71,132	60,200
<b>West Boylston</b>			
Our Lady of Good Counsel	111	\$61,395	58,600
<b>West Brookfield</b>			
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart	76	\$19,014	33,000
<b>Westborough</b>			
St. Luke the Evangelist	283	\$115,447	142,000
<b>Westminster</b>			
St. Edward the Confessor	161	\$35,048	32,500
<b>Whitinsville</b>			
St. Patrick	145	\$33,400	50,000
<b>Winchendon</b>			
Immaculate Heart of Mary	71	\$14,547	21,300

**Parishes over goal** 38  
**Total cash and pledges received** \$4,769,312  
**Number of gifts** 15,268  
**Online gifts (600)** \$290,791  
**Total amount needed to reach goal** \$230,688

**95% of Goal**

Reached or exceeded goal

**Thank you!**