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IN BRIEF

China announces it will change its policy, allow all families 2 children

BEIJING (CNS) – China's Communist Party leaders announced they would change the nation's one-child policy, which most strictly applied to Han Chinese living in urban areas of the country. The Oct. 29 announcement was contained in a Xinhua news agency report on the Communist Party's Central Committee in Beijing. It said China would allow all couples to have two children, but did not provide additional details. The Chinese government imposed its one-child policy in 1979 to curb the growth of the population that, at that time, was reaching 972 million people. The policy most strictly applied to Han Chinese, but not to ethnic minorities around China. Han families in rural areas could apply to have a second child if the first child was a girl. In areas where the policy was enforced, parents could lose their jobs for having more than one child. Sometimes the second or third child was penalized and could not be registered, so he or she could not go to school. The one-child policy often was enforced at the provincial level, and enforcement varied; some provinces relaxed the restrictions. In a 2007 interview with Catholic News Service, Jean-Paul Wiest, research director of The Beijing Center for Chinese Studies, said some provinces provided that if each spouse was a single child, the couple could have two children. How much the policy was followed also depended on local officials, Wiest said. For instance, in some strong Christian areas, the village's chief official might be Catholic, so the policy might not be enforced.

Apostolic exhortation on the family could come soon

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, said an apostolic exhortation on the family following the recently concluded Synod of Bishops could be released soon. "I imagine that it won't take long because usually these things should be done in a relatively short time, otherwise it loses its strength a bit, its impact," Cardinal Parolin told Vatican Radio Oct. 28.

Synod had difficult moments, pope says

By Cindy Wooden

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – The first task of the Catholic Church "is not to hand down condemnations or anathemas, but to proclaim the mercy of God," Pope Francis told members of the Synod of Bishops on the family.

At the end of the synod's final working session Saturday, Pope Francis was honest about the differences of opinion present among synod participants and about the tone of their discussions sometimes exceeding the bounds of charity. But he

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framed all those differences as an opportunity for learning.

"In the course of this synod, the different opinions that were expressed freely – and, unfortunately, sometimes with methods that were not completely charitable – certainly led to a rich and lively dialogue," the pope said.

The synod, he said, was a time of trying "to broaden horizons in order to overcome every hermeneutic of conspiracy or

closed-mindedness so as to defend and spread the freedom of the children of God (and) to transmit the beauty of Christian newness, which sometimes is covered by the rust of a language that is archaic or simply incomprehensible."

"For the church," he said, "concluding the synod means to go back to really 'walking together' to bring to every part of the world – every diocese, every community and every situation – the light of the Gospel, the embrace of the church and

Turn to SYNOD, Page 6



Pope Francis talks with Cardinal Lorenzo Baldisseri, general secretary of the Synod of Bishops, as he leaves a session of the synod at the Vatican Oct. 24.



PHOTO BY TANYA CONNOR

Priests join Bishop McManus in singing the Salve Regina at the second annual "Celebrate Priesthood!" gala Wednesday at Mechanics Hall in Worcester. The event raised money for the priests' retirement fund. Bishop McManus spoke about priests following Jesus, and asked prayers for them and for vocations. Prayers were offered by Fathers J. Normand Tremblay and Mateus Souza and through a photo presentation of recently deceased priests. A video showed the bishops and priests reflecting on the Beatitudes. More photos on Page 10.

Soprano sings way back to Holy Name

By William T. Clew

The first time Sarah Callinan saw an opera was when she sang in it.

Miss Callinan, newly named artist in residence at Holy Name Central Catholic Junior/Senior High School, was a freshman at the University of Hartford's Hart School of Music, where she had won a scholarship.

A soprano, she sang the part of Damon in *Acis and Galatea* by George Frideric Handel. The libretto is in English, so she didn't have to deal with learning another language in her first opera, she said.

Later, in college, she did study languages. She was in classes that

had singers in mind, she said. She learned how the languages are built. She has sung roles in German, Italian and French. She said she can speak German and Italian but, because of lack of practice, is a "little rusty."

Miss Callinan, daughter of James and Roberta Callinan, was born and raised in Worcester, attended Rice Square and East Middle schools and graduated from Holy Name in 1999.

What has become a classical musical career started in the music room at Holy Name during her freshman year. When Joseph Burke, who started the music program at the school in 1989, heard her sing he suggested that she take voice lessons.

"Oh, am I that bad?" she asked.

"No," he said, "it's that good."

Her voice teacher was Jane Shivick, a Holy Name and Assumption College graduate who also studied at the Hart School and has gone on to a successful teaching and singing career. Miss Callinan said she sang in the chorus and in summer theater. Mrs. Shivick would occasionally give her something more operatic and suggest she "try this."

Mrs. Shivick was her teacher for four years, she said, and "taught me how to present my music and myself." She learned classical technique. In

Turn to HOLY NAME, Page 7

New Thomas Merton library dedicated at prison

By Tanya Connor

SHIRLEY – A Thomas Merton library dedicated to a local Catholic Oct. 21 was willed to a Trappist abbey – then donated to a prison.

The action itself was a reminder of the points Pope Francis made during his recent U.S. visit.

Thomas Merton, the famed Trappist, was one of the people "outside of the establishment" whom Pope Francis spoke about, Michael W. Higgins said at the dedication of the John Collins & Edward Farley Thomas Merton Resource & Research Center at MCI-Shirley. Professor Higgins is president of the International Thomas Merton Society and vice president for mission and Catholic identity at Sacred Heart

University in Fairfield, Conn.

During his visit Pope Francis pointed to Merton and three other Americans as examples to follow. He used their lives to make several points, among them support for "the global abolition of the death penalty" and the belief that "society can only benefit from the rehabilitation of those convicted of crimes."

The other Americans the Pope cited were Abraham Lincoln, Martin Luther King and Dorothy Day.

Speaking to Congress Sept. 24, Pope Francis quoted Merton talking about being free by nature, in the image of God, but the prisoner of his own violence and selfishness.

Turn to MERTON, Page 6



PHOTO BY TANYA CONNOR

John Collins speaks at the dedication of the John Collins & Edward Farley Thomas Merton Resource & Research Center Oct. 21 at MCI-Shirley. Clockwise from center are Timothy Muise, Edward Farley Jr. and Michael W. Higgins. At left is a picture of Thomas Merton.

Legislators hear voices for and against doctor-assisted suicide

BOSTON – Opponents and supporters of Massachusetts House Bill 1991, which would allow doctors to help patients end their lives, took part in a four-hour-long hearing on the proposed measure Tuesday before the Joint Committee on Public Health at the State House.

The bill was introduced by Rep. Louis Kafka (D-Stoughton), long-time proponent of such legislation. He said he introduced it in honor of a constituent who had urged the legislator to support an assisted-suicide measure. That constituent died in 2009.

A similar bill that appeared on the 2012 ballot was narrowly defeated, 51 percent to 49 percent, by Massachusetts voters.

The State House News Service reported that lawmakers heard from their colleagues, health professionals, advocates for people with disabilities, religious leaders and the husband of Brittany Maynard, a 29-year old California woman with terminal brain cancer who moved to Oregon so she could obtain and take medication to end her life.

Dr. Henry Dorkin, vice president of the 25,000-member Massachusetts Medical Society, said allowing doctors to take part in assisted suicide would cause more harm than good.

"Physician-assisted suicide is fundamentally incompatible with the physician's role as a healer. Instead of participating in assisted suicide, physicians must aggressively respond to the needs of patients at the end of life in order that these patients continue to receive emotional support, comfort care, adequate pain control and good communication," he said.

Dr. Paul Carpentier of Gardner said doctors should not be involved in killing. He said that medical insurance companies and Medicaid could use the law as an economic windfall and reduce patient choices.

Dr. Laura Lambert, a cancer surgeon at UMass Memorial Medical Center and Medical School, said "physician-assisted suicide is a detriment to all patients. In my professional opinion, physician-assisted suicide is the equivalent of a personal death panel in a bottle. The strongest point that I would like to make today is that it is also unnecessary."

■ Testimony against H.1991 Page 4

World Capsules

Pope visits ailing cardinal at Roman hospital

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – Pope Francis made a surprise visit Oct. 25 to French Cardinal Roger Etchegaray, retired president of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, who was hospitalized at Rome's Gemelli hospital after falling in St. Peter's Basilica.

The 93-year-old cardinal lost his balance as he was greeting the pope after the closing Mass of the Synod of Bishops and suffered a fracture of his left femur.

Although he was in stable condition, Cardinal Etchegaray needed surgery to repair

the fracture, the Vatican press office said.

The pope spent 15 minutes at the hospital, during which the French cardinal "thanked the Holy Father particularly for the recently concluded synod," said a statement from Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman.

It was the second injury in St. Peter's Basilica for the cardinal, who suffered a broken leg and hip after a mentally ill woman knocked him and Pope Benedict XVI to the ground at midnight Mass in 2009.

'Fearless witness' of Gospel, Cardinal Korec dies

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – Slovak Cardinal Jan Chryzostom Korec, the retired bishop of Nitra who was secretly ordained a priest and bishop and spent more than a dozen years in a communist prison, died Oct. 25 at 91.

In a condolence message to the president of the Slovakian bishops' conference, Pope Francis said Cardinal Korec was a "fearless witness of the Gospel and a strong defender of the Christian faith and human rights."

"Incarcerated and prevented for years from freely exercising his episcopal mission, he never let himself be intimidated, always giving a shining example of strength and trust in divine providence," Pope Francis said in the message, released Oct. 26 at the Vatican.

After the communists came to power in Czechoslovakia, the authorities began arresting bishops, deporting priests and closing churches. The survival of the church was entrusted in part to a handful of people like the then-26-year-old Jan Korec, who was ordained a Jesuit priest in secret in 1950 and secretly was ordained a bishop less than a year later.

World bishops plead for climate change action

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – The presidents of the U.S. and Canadian bishops' conferences joined leaders of the regional bishops' conferences of Asia, Africa, Latin America, Oceania and Europe in signing an appeal for government leaders to reach a "fair, legally binding and truly transformational climate agreement" at a summit in Paris.

Indian Cardinal Oswald Gracias of Mumbai, president of the Federation of Asian Bishops' Conferences, signed the appeal Oct. 26 at a joint news conference at the Vatican.

The appeal, Cardinal Gracias said, was a response to Pope Francis' letter on the environment and an expression of "the anxiety of all the people, all the churches all over the world" regarding how, "unless we are careful and prudent, we are heading for disaster."

The appeal is addressed to negotiators preparing for the U.N. Climate Change Conference in Paris Nov. 30-Dec. 11. The bishops called for "courageous and imaginative political leadership" and for legal frameworks that "clearly establish boundaries and ensure the protection of the ecosystem."

The bishops also asked governments to recognize the "ethical and moral dimensions of climate change," to recognize that the climate and the atmosphere are common goods belonging to all, to set a strong limit on global temperature increase and to promote new models

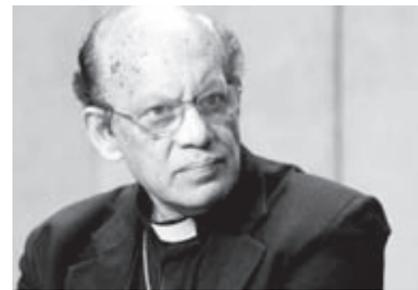
Pope: Time is now to end prejudice against Gypsies

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – Treated to music, dance and songs reflecting a unique mix of cultures and languages, Pope Francis called for greater respect, integration and care of Gypsy communities.

"The time has come for uprooting centuries-old prejudices, preconceptions and mutual distrust that often are the basis for discrimination, racism, and xenophobia," he said.

It is time to "turn a new page" and end the indifference, neglect and hostility toward cultures and people who are different, he said Oct. 26 in an audience with more than 7,000 people taking part in an international pilgrimage of Roma, Sinti, Irish Travelers and other itinerant communities.

The pilgrimage, running from Oct. 23-26, was promoted by the Pontifical Council for



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

Cardinal Oswald Gracias of Mumbai, India, attends a Vatican news conference held to sign a document appealing for climate change action.

of development and lifestyles that are "climate compatible."

The appeal calls for decisions that place people above profits, that involve the poor in decision making, that protect people's access to water and to land, are particularly mindful of vulnerable communities and are specific in commitments to finance mitigation efforts.

People in the United States are starting to understand how important action is, Miami Archbishop Thomas G. Wenski said. It has been slow because "we live in a little bit of a cocoon sometimes, and if it doesn't affect us immediately, we don't react."

Migrants and Travelers, the Italian Bishops' Conference, the Diocese of Rome and the lay Community of Sant'Egidio.

During the audience in the Vatican's Paul VI hall, musicians played traditional songs that also reflected the various influences of the native cultures of the lands they live in like, Spain, Ireland and Eastern Europe. A group of young Muslim girls and boys danced in colorful dress for the pope to music reminiscent of the Orient.

Commemorating the 50th anniversary of Blessed Paul VI's Mass for Gypsies in 1965, Pope Francis quoted his predecessor's words saying, "Wherever you end up, you are considered a nuisance and foreign ... Not here. ... Here you will find someone who loves you, respects you and helps you."

Pope urges peace in Iraq; prays for Christians

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – Pope Francis called on the international community to find a way to bring peace to Iraq and the Middle East and prayed that Christians there would no longer be forced to flee their homes.

He also urged the Chaldean Catholic bishops in the region "to work tirelessly as builders of unity in all the provinces of Iraq, fostering dialogue and cooperation among all those engaged in public life, and contributing to healing existing divisions while preventing new ones from arising."

The pope met Oct. 26 with bishops who were in Rome to attend the synod of bishops of the Chaldean Catholic Church Oct. 24-29.

The pope said he hoped the upcoming Holy Year of Mercy would be an occasion to let "God's mercy soothe the wounds of war afflicting the heart of your communities, that no one may feel discouragement in this time when the outcry of violence seems to drown out our heartfelt prayers for peace."

The current situation in Iraq and surrounding regions "is gravely compromised by the

fanatical hatred sown by terrorism, which continues to cause a great hemorrhage of faithful who leave the lands of their fathers, where they grew up firmly rooted in the furrow of tradition," he said.

The uncertainty and conflict undermine "the vital Christian presence" in the lands of Abraham, the prophets and the early churches – a presence that contributed to the growth of societies and peaceful coexistence with one's fellow Muslim citizens, he said.

The pope reconfirmed the Vatican's "complete support and solidarity" for Chaldean Catholics around the world and "I pray that Christians will not be forced to abandon Iraq and the Middle East."

The pope renewed his "heartfelt appeal to the international community to adopt every useful strategy aimed at bringing peace to countries terribly devastated by hatred, so that the life-giving breeze of love will once more be felt in places which have always been a crossroads for peoples, cultures and nations."



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

Pope Francis leaves after celebrating the closing Mass of the Synod of Bishops on the family in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican Oct. 25. At left is Cardinal Wilfrid F. Napier of Durban, South Africa.

Synod report urges 'accompaniment' tailored to family situations

By Cindy Wooden

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – While not specifically mentioning the controversial proposal of a path toward full reconciliation and Communion for the divorced and civilly remarried, members of the Synod of Bishops on the family handed Pope Francis a report emphasizing an obligation to recognize that not all Catholics in such a situation bear the same amount of blame.

The 94-paragraph report approved Oct. 24, the last working day of the three-week synod, highlighted the role of pastors in helping couples understand church teaching, grow in faith and take responsibility for sharing the Gospel. It also emphasized how "pastoral accompaniment" involves discerning, on a case-by-case basis, the moral culpability of people not fully living up to the Catholic ideal.

Bishops and other full members of the synod voted separately on each paragraph and the Vatican published those votes. The paragraph dealing specifically with leading divorced and remarried Catholics on a path of discernment passed with only one vote beyond the necessary two-thirds.

Austrian Cardinal Christoph Schönborn of Vienna told reporters Oct. 24 that the key word in the document's discussion of ministry to divorced and civilly remarried people is "discernment." I invite you all to remember there is no black or white, no simple yes or no." The situation of each couple "must be discerned," which is what was called for by St. John Paul II in his 1981 exhortation on the family, he said.

The cardinal told Vatican Insider, a news site, that although St. John Paul called for discernment in those cases, "he didn't mention all that comes after discernment." The synod's

final report, he said, proposes priests help divorced and remarried couples undergoing conversion and repentance so that they recognize whether or not they are worthy to receive the Eucharist. Such an examination of conscience, he said, is required of every Catholic each time they prepare to approach the altar.

As Pope Francis said at the beginning of the synod, church doctrine on the meaning of marriage as a lifelong bond between one man and one woman open to having children was not up for debate. The final report strongly affirmed that teaching as God's plan for humanity, as a blessing for the church and a benefit to society.

While insisting on God's love for homosexual persons and the obligation to respect their dignity, the report also insisted same-sex unions could not be recognized as marriages and denounced as "totally unacceptable" governments or international organizations making recognition of "marriage" between persons of the same sex" a condition for financial assistance.

The report also spoke specifically of: the changing role of women in families, the church and society; single people and their contributions to the family and the church; the heroic witness of parents who love and care for children with disabilities; the family as a sanctuary protecting the sacredness of human life from conception to natural death; and the particular strain on family life caused by poverty and by migration.

The Catholic Church recognizes a "natural" value in marriage corresponding to the good of the husband and wife, their unity, fidelity and desire for children. But the sacrament of marriage adds another dimension, the report said. "The irrevocable fidelity of God to his

covenant is the foundation of the indissolubility of marriage. The complete and profound love of the spouses is not based only on their human capabilities: God sustains this covenant with the strength of his Spirit."

But human beings are subject to sin and failure, which is why synod members recommend the need for "accompaniment" by family members, pastors and other couples. "Being close to the family as a traveling companion means, for the church, assuming wisely differentiated attitudes: sometimes it is necessary to stay by their side and listen in silence; other times it must indicate the path to follow; and at still other times, it is opportune to follow, support and encourage."

A draft of the report was presented to synod members Oct. 22, and 51 bishops spoke the next morning about changes they would like to see in the final draft. Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman, told reporters that several bishops mentioned specifically a need to improve the text's references to "the relationship between conscience and the moral law."

The text refers to conscience in sections dealing with procreation and with marital situations the church considers irregular, particularly the situation of divorced and civilly remarried Catholics.

First, though, synod members promised greater efforts to be with couples in crisis and praised divorced Catholics who, "even in difficult situations, do not undertake a new union, remaining faithful to the sacramental bond." Such Catholics, they noted, can and should "find in the Eucharist the nourishment that sustains them."

Those who have remarried without an annulment must be welcomed in the parish community, the report said.



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At hearing, stronger global response urged for Europe's refugee crisis

By Carol Zimmermann

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Lawmakers and witnesses in a congressional committee hearing room Oct. 20 were not shown pictures of the vast number of refugees crossing East European borders each day.

But there is no shortage of images from daily news reports of the throngs of men, women and children walking along streets, open fields and train tracks escaping their homelands. The refugees, primarily from Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan have been crammed in boats and lined up behind barricades or barbed wire fences.

In the two-and-a-half-hour hearing convened by the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, also known as the Helsinki Commission, lawmakers and witnesses alike described the refugee situation as enormous, unparalleled and one that cries out for a stronger global response.

Rep. Chris Smith, R-New Jersey, the committee chairman, said it was "the largest refugee crisis since World War II" and Anne Richard, assistant secretary of state for population, refugees and migration, said the influx of refugees is a "very challenging situation."

"The scale of this migration is much bigger than before," she added in what was possibly the greatest understatement of the day.

While congressional leaders heard accounts about the enormity of the challenge to provide food, clothing and shelter for the refugees and then find homes for them, the lawmakers repeatedly expressed concern that terrorists could be among the influx and wondered what was being done to make sure they were not part of resettlement efforts.

Richard said resettlement agencies are particularly on the lookout for such a threat, which partially explains the 18- to 24-month vetting process for refugees.

"No one just comes in," she said.

The committee is charged with looking at how the United States, European governments and regional bodies, are responding to the flood of immediate and long-term needs of refugees.

Rep. Steve Cohen, D-Tennessee, reiterated Pope Francis' message to Congress in September urging them to follow the Golden Rule. He said as a Jew, he understands that the U.S. is comprised of immigrants and said our country needs to do all it can to "save people from ravages of war."

Sean Callahan, chief operating officer of Catholic Relief Services, also mentioned Pope Francis, saying he has led in the effort to help modern-day refugees by urging every Catholic parish in Europe to reach out and assist them.



PHOTO BY WILLIAM T. CLEW

Shane Hewett, construction worked for F & D Truck Co., levels a concrete block for the new retaining wall at St. Paul Cathedral.

Cathedral replacing 150-yr-old wall

WORCESTER — The retaining wall between the west side of the St. Paul Cathedral and High Street is bowing out toward the cathedral and is being replaced.

Msgr. Robert K. Johnson, rector of the cathedral parish, said the contractor estimated that the work will take five or six weeks. It started about two weeks ago.

Msgr. Johnson said freezing and thawing has weakened the rock wall over the years. It is being replaced with concrete blocks. F & D Truck Co. of Millbury is doing the work.

"The wall is 153 years old," he said, "so we have gotten our money's worth out of it."

He said that workmen found that the fill

used behind the wall when it was built was the ash from the coal furnace used in the past to heat the building.

Msgr. Johnson said the cathedral is planning a capital campaign to pay for the new wall as well as to refinish the pews in the cathedral and pay down indebtedness to the diocese. The cathedral is the diocese's church, so the campaign will reach out to the whole diocesan family, he said.

Msgr. Johnson said he hopes to display a restored pew in the cathedral so people can see it and pay the cost of redoing another pew and adding a memorial plaque. He said the goal of the capital fund will be announced later.

House bill holds up federal funds for Planned Parenthood

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The U.S. House voted Oct. 23 to block federal funding for a year to affiliates of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America and redirect the money to community health centers.

The provision is part of a reconciliation bill — H.R. 3762 — that voids some major provisions of the Obama administration's Affordable Care Law.

Restoring Americans' Healthcare Freedom Reconciliation Act passed in a 240-189 vote along party lines.

"Planned Parenthood now commands about one-third of the total abortion 'market,'" said Carol Tobias, National Right to Life president. "For far too long, federal taxpayer dollars have been funneled to the nation's abortion giant, and it's time for that to stop. We applaud passage of the reconciliation bill and we urge the U.S. Senate to act quickly."

The Senate cannot block the bill with a filibuster, but even if it were to pass, it will face a guaranteed veto by President Barack Obama.

According to its most recent annual report, Planned Parenthood received at least \$528 million annually from the federal government and state governments.

The House vote "is an important step forward in ending the massive, unnecessary and immoral funding of Planned Parenthood," said

Father Frank Pavone, national director of Priests for Life. "We in the pro-life movement have to continue to work this process with patience, perseverance and political wisdom, as long as it takes, to defund Planned Parenthood."

The House has created a new panel to investigate Planned Parenthood, naming Rep. Marsha Blackburn, R-Tennessee as chairwoman and appointed seven other Republican lawmakers to the

committee. House Democrats have named no participants.

Calls for defunding Planned Parenthood and investigating the organization followed the release of several videos, taped undercover, that show physicians and others associated with Planned Parenthood describing the harvesting of fetal tissue and body parts during abortions at their clinics.

Also discussed in the videos are what researchers are charged for the tissue and parts.

Hospice patients have much to teach us about facing death, doctor says

By Maria Wiering

ST. PAUL, Minn. (CNS) — Americans' skittishness about death is not lost on Dr. Wayne Thalhuber, a retired longtime hospice doctor.

It's about goals, he said. "If our goal is to pray, reverence and serve God in this world and the next, why are people so reticent about going there and being with him?" he asked.

"If your goals are wealth, prestige, fame, relationships — well, then you're in trouble."

A "wise doctor" told him in medical school that it's not unhealthy to think about one's own death. He recalls finding the advice morbid at the time, but said over the years it has helped to sharpen his focus on what's important. And working in hospice care helped him further embrace it, he said.

A parishioner of Assumption in St. Paul, Thalhuber, 77, spent 40 years practicing hospice care, although he said it was a specialty he "backed into." When he was a medical resident at the University of Minnesota, a colleague invited him to a St. Paul hospice home now known as Our Lady of Peace.

A year later, in 1968, he began serving as its medical director, a position he held until 2009, eight years after retiring from his private practice.

"It was there that I learned about the dying patient," he told The Catholic Spirit, newspaper of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. "What they taught me about my own mortality is to trust and be grateful. And trust trumps all. When patients trusted, and were grate-

ful for what they had accomplished and who they were, and knew who they were, it was a very powerful experience."

Hospice — in its contemporary form — emerged in the U.S. in the 1960s, and it felt like cutting-edge medicine to the young doctor, because it defied what he had been taught was medicine's goal: curing the sick. Hospice allows people the opportunity to offer what one of Thalhuber's colleagues termed the "four gifts": The opportunity to say "I'm sorry," "I love you," "thank you" and "good-bye, I'll be OK."

Based on the work of psychiatrist Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, known for identifying the five stages of grief, the "four gifts" are monumental for patients and families preparing for death, Thalhuber said.

The first aim of hospice is controlling a patient's symptoms, he said, after which a person can focus on reaching acceptance through accepting the "four gifts."

The order is important, Thalhuber said, noting the final "I'll be OK" is crucial. "For the dying patient to tell their kids or their spouse, 'I'm going to be OK' — wow, dynamite," he said.

Thalhuber is disturbed by the traction euthanasia has gained in the U.S. in recent years, not only because his Catholic faith forbids it.

"What they miss out on is growth at the end of life," he said. "Every stage of life has growth that's essential. ... Dying is a part of life. There is an opportunity there for growth. How can you grow if you kill yourself?"

"The reason people do that is because they're afraid and they want to be in control."



CNS PHOTO/DAVE HRBACK, THE CATHOLIC SPIRIT
Wayne Thalhuber, a retired hospice doctor.

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A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP McMANUS

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October 30, 2015

My dear friends in Christ,

Over the coming weeks, some of you will see movie trailers for "Spotlight!" which is a cinematic portrayal of how The Boston Globe covered the crisis of abuse of children by members of the Catholic Church. As painful as it is to recall those days of continuous headlines about this heinous crime against innocent children, it is important that we pause and reflect on how much has happened since that terrible revelation. How is the Diocese of Worcester and the Catholic Church nationwide living up to the commitment made in Dallas in June of 2002 to protect and to heal?

First and foremost in our hearts and minds are those who were victims of these heinous acts and their family members. Many victims have come forward in their adulthood to tell the story of what they experienced as children; some seek help, others simply come to share their pain so that they may find help and healing. With the help of the Victims' Assistance coordinator and the Diocesan Review Board, we have listened and responded to the best of our ability to dozens of victims and their family members since 2002, broadening the efforts which began locally with Bishop Harrington in the late-1980s and Bishop Reilly in the 1990s. While individual reports were the subject of headlines, countless more victims came forward simply to be believed so that they could move on with their lives and see that it would not happen to another child in the future.

I am deeply grateful to the many members of our Diocesan Review Board, more than half of whom are independent of the Church and bring invaluable experience in child care advocacy, civil law and law enforcement. Their expertise has been an important voice in victims advocacy as we sought to bring Christ's healing to this pain.

While the above efforts were focused on healing, we have simultaneously been working toward protection of children in our care. As directed by the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, this effort began in 2002 with a two-pronged approach: screening the backgrounds of ALL ordained and lay employees and volunteers with the Commonwealth as well as training everyone in identifying the signs and symptoms of child abuse. We have collaborated with various groups in the community including resources in the District Attorney's Office, YWCA Daybreak and, most recently, the Dallas Child Advocacy Center, one of the largest such groups in the country. Since 2013, over 30,000 screenings and trainings have been done in our diocese. We also introduced a Code of Conduct which must be signed in advance of engaging in ministry, and our Review Board periodically reviews these programs and resources to incorporate improvements to face new challenges such as child pornography.

Additionally, we have introduced safety education in Catholic schools at various grade levels, as well as recommended supplemental resources for use in Religious Education Programs for students in public schools whose curriculum includes child safety.

One of the most challenging aspects of the Charter has been the need to accept that these efforts would not be an anomaly but the way we must conduct all affairs on an ongoing basis. Each year the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has contracted independent audits of each diocese's efforts. The Diocese of Worcester has been found compliant each year with all components of the Charter.

These crimes were heinous and they represented a broken trust on the part of some leaders in the Church to those who were harmed. While we are committed to restoring that trust, we know it will take time. Yet it would be naive to think this is a problem that is limited to the Catholic Church or even to faith groups in general. Society is struggling with child abuse in many areas, and we have been providing key data to those who are conducting studies to help all of society to address it. The 10-year report by the John Jay School of Criminal Justice and annual reporting to the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown University are but two examples of such collaboration.

I invite you to learn more about what we are doing locally and nationally. Please visit worcesterdiocese.org where you will find local resources and links to national reports. We have included essays or blogs from members of our Review Board in order to give you other insights into our response to this crisis.

It is my fervent prayer that we are applying the spirit of the words uttered by Pope Francis when he established the Pontifical Commission to oversee the Church's global response to child abuse: "Everything possible must be done to rid the Church of the scourge of the sexual abuse of minors and to open pathways of reconciliation and healing for those who were abused." I wish to thank all the parish and institutional leaders who have joined us in implementing the Charter over these past 13 years. Let us invoke God's healing love to comfort those who were harmed in any way by child abuse and to endow all of us with the prudence to carry on this important mission.

With every prayerful best wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,


Most Reverend Robert J. McManus, S.T.D.
Bishop of Worcester**The Catholic Free Press**

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Msgr. F. Stephen Pedone, Patricia A. Smith and John P. Widdison.**Pope Francis***Homily at the Holy Mass for the closing of the XIV Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops on the family*Dear Brothers and Sisters,
Good morning!

The three Readings for this Sunday (Oct. 25, 2015) show us God's compassion, his fatherhood, definitively revealed in Jesus.

In the midst of a national disaster, the people deported by their enemies, the prophet Jeremiah proclaims that "the Lord has saved his people, the remnant of Israel," (31:7). Why did he save them? Because he is their Father, (cf. v. 9); and as a Father, he takes care of his children and accompanies them on the way, sustaining "the blind and the lame, the women with child and those in labour," (31:8). His fatherhood opens up for them a path forward, a way of consolation after so many tears and great sadness. If the people remain faithful, if they persevere in their search for God even in a foreign land, God will change their captivity into freedom, their solitude into communion: what the people sow today in tears, they will reap tomorrow in joy, (cf. Ps 125:6).

We too have expressed, with the Psalm, the joy which is the fruit of the Lord's salvation: "our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongues with shouts of joy," (v. 2). A believer is someone who has experienced God's salvific action in his life. We pastors have experienced what it means to sow with difficulty, at times in tears, and to rejoice for the grace of a harvest which is beyond our strength and capacity.

The passage from the Letter to the Hebrews shows us Jesus' compassion. He also "is beset with weakness," (5:2) so that he can feel compassion for those in ignorance and error. Jesus is the great high priest, holy and innocent, but also the high priest who has taken on our weakness and been tempted like us in all things, save sin, (cf. 4:15). For this reason he is the mediator of the new and definitive covenant which brings us salvation.

Today's Gospel is directly linked to the First Reading: as the people of Israel were freed thanks to God's fatherhood, so too Bartimaeus is freed thanks to Jesus' compassion. Jesus has just left Jericho. Even though he has only begun his most important journey, which will take him to Jerusalem, he still stops to respond to Bartimaeus' cry. Jesus is moved by his request and becomes involved in his situation. He is not content to offer him alms, but rather wants to personally encounter him. He does not give him any instruction or response, but asks him: "What do you want me to do for you?" (Mk 10:51). It might seem a senseless question: what could a blind man wish for if not his sight? Yet, with this question made face to face, direct but respectful, Jesus shows that he wants to hear our needs. He wants to talk with each of us about our lives, our real situations, so that nothing is kept from him. After Bartimaeus' healing, the Lord tells him: "Your faith has made you well," (v. 52). It is beautiful to see how Christ admires Bartimaeus' faith, how he has confidence in him. He believes in us, more than we believe in ourselves.

There is an interesting detail. Jesus asks his disciples to go and call Bartimaeus. They address the blind man with two expressions, which only Jesus uses in the rest of the Gospel. First they say to him: "Take heart!", which literally means "have faith, strong courage!" Indeed, only an encounter with Jesus gives a person the strength to face the most difficult situations. The second expression is "Rise!", as Jesus said to

so many of the sick, whom he took by the hand and healed. His disciples do nothing other than repeat Jesus' encouraging and liberating words, leading him directly to Jesus, without lecturing him. Jesus' disciples are called to this, even today, especially today: to bring people into contact with the compassionate Mercy that saves. When humanity's cry, like Bartimaeus', becomes stronger still, there is no other response than to make Jesus' words our own and, above all, imitate his heart. Moments of suffering and conflict are for God occasions of mercy. Today is a time of mercy!

There are, however, some temptations for those who follow Jesus.

Today's Gospel shows at least two of them. None of the disciples stopped, as Jesus did. They continued to walk, going on as if nothing were happening. If Bartimaeus was blind, they were deaf: his problem was not their problem. This can be a danger for us: in the face of constant problems, it is better to move on, instead of letting ourselves be bothered. In this way, just like the disciples, we are with Jesus but we do not think like him. We are in his group, but our hearts are not open. We lose wonder, gratitude and enthusiasm, and risk becoming habitually unmoved by grace. We are able to speak about him and work for him, but we live far from his heart, which is reaching out to those who are wounded. This is the temptation: a "spirituality of illusion," we can walk through the deserts of humanity without seeing what is really there; instead, we see what we want to see. We are capable of developing views of the world, but we do not accept what the Lord places before our eyes. A faith that does not know how to root itself in the life of people remains arid and, rather than oases, creates other deserts.

There is a second temptation, that of falling into a "scheduled faith." We are able to walk with the People of God, but we already have our schedule for the journey, where everything is listed: we know where to go and how long it will take; everyone must respect our rhythm and every problem is a bother. We run the risk of becoming the "many" of the Gospel who lose patience and rebuke Bartimaeus. Just a short time before, they scolded the children, (cf. 10:13), and now the blind beggar: whoever bothers us or is not of our stature is excluded. Jesus, on the other hand, wants to include, above all those kept on the fringes who are crying out to him. They, like Bartimaeus, have faith, because awareness of the need for salvation is the best way of encountering Jesus.

In the end, Bartimaeus follows Jesus on his path, (cf. v. 52). He did not only regain his sight, but he joined the community of those who walk with Jesus. Dear Synod Fathers, we have walked together. Thank you for the path we have shared with our eyes fixed on Jesus and our brothers and sisters, in the search for the paths which the Gospel indicates for our times so that we can proclaim the mystery of family love. Let us follow the path that the Lord desires. Let us ask him to turn to us with his healing and saving gaze, which knows how to radiate light, as it recalls the splendour which illuminates it. Never allowing ourselves to be tarnished by pessimism or sin, let us seek and look upon the glory of God, which shines forth in men and women who are fully alive. †

TESTIMONY AGAINST PHYSICIAN ASSISTED SUICIDE**Hearing on House Bill 1991**

On Tuesday hundreds of people testified at a public hearing of the Joint Committee on Public Health on House Bill 1991, "An Act Affirming a Terminally Ill Patient's Right to Compassionate Aid in Dying." Over the next several weeks we will publish the testimonies of local people who oppose the proposal to legalize doctor-prescribed suicide. The Church opposes both euthanasia and assisted suicide.

Testimony from Dr. Mark Rollo

My name is Mark Rollo and I am a family physician in Fitchburg where I have practiced for almost 25 years. I am strongly opposed to H. 1991 for many reasons but I will focus on just two. First, this bill would pressure the vulnerable to choose death.

Secondly, it attempts to coerce physicians to violate their conscience if they refuse to participate in assisted suicide.

As a family physician I am privileged to care for people of all ages many of whom are elderly, frail and fearful of losing their faculties. "Doc, don't get old." "I'm tired of living." "I feel like giving up." "I don't want to be a burden." I hear statements like this all the time. Depending on the mindset of the physician and the legal environment, these statements can be taken down two entirely different pathways; either a pathway of encouragement, hope and support or one of despair, abandonment and death.

It is easy to see how the suicide scenario would repeatedly play out in Massachusetts. Recently a 93-year-old patient of mine who lived independently with her husband was admitted to

the hospital for a very treatable heart rhythm problem. Treatable though it was, the episode was very exhausting to this woman who was in a psychologically vulnerable state due to the recent suicide of her son. She refused intervention and asked for comfort measures only from the ICU physician.

This busy doctor, who did not know my patient, complied and withdrew treatment. When I learned what was happening I visited her at the hospital. Because I knew her and her struggles I was able to have her reconsider her refusal for care and within a day her condition was stabilized much to the relief of her husband and family. She is now back at home with her husband who said to me "thank you for giving me my wife back."

If assisted suicide were legal, she could have requested a lethal script, a second opinion could have been obtained on the same day, and a psychiatric consult would have found her competent, even if depressed. Since this bill does not require treatment of depression, a lethal prescription could have been administered. All of this could have taken place without me as her primary care physician even being aware.

Furthermore, if the ICU doctor refused to participate, he would have been pressured to violate his conscience because this bill requires transfer of the patient, at the doctor's expense, to a facility that would provide a lethal script.

Massachusetts has a proud tradition of protecting the vulnerable. Studies show that it is the white, wealthy and well-insured who favor assisted suicide because it is their choice that will be expanded. However it is the poor, people of color, the dispossessed and disabled who will inexorably be steered toward suicide. It is this ill-advised bill that should be killed.





SUNDAY'S EPISTLE

FATHER MICHAEL N. LAVALLEY
PASTOR, ST. ANNE PARISH, NORTH OXFORD

All called to be saints through baptism

Reading: 1 John 3:1-3

In his book "Through the Church Year," Msgr. Francis Kelly tells us that by the year 800, "a feast of All Saints was widespread in Europe." He goes on to note that many Eastern Christians "celebrate this feast on the Sunday after Pentecost." This is because "it is the chief work of the Holy Spirit to make us saints." In the same book, Kelly shares with us some of the main themes of All Saint's Day including hope for our eternal destiny of heaven, desire for holiness of life and the reality of the communion of saints which reminds us that the body of the Church includes those glorified in heaven, those baptized members on earth and those suffering purification in purgatory.

1 John 3:1-4 speaks of disciples as God's children. It also emphasizes that hope is an important characteristic of discipleship and that this hope leads to eternal glory. It seems fitting that on the feast of All Saints we meditate upon this passage.

The introduction to 1 John in The New American Bible tells us that the letter may be dated to "towards the end of first century." Scholars who have studied it suggest that it emerged from the same "school" that gave rise to the Gospel of John. This "school" included the Apostle John and members of his community who worked together to produce the writings. 1 John speaks of important issues such as Christology, the coming of "antichrists" who will threaten the faith of Christians, discernment, and the spiritual protection of God over believers. It also suggests that the community be aware of heretics who are attempting to infiltrate them.

1 John 3:1-3 begins with the author's observation "see what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God." Thus, he directs the attention of Christians



toward the great and dynamic love of God which has allowed them to become adopted by God as his own sons and daughters. The Church teaches us that this adoption takes place through the sacrament of baptism. As we consider the feast of All Saints, 1 John 3:1 teaches us how the saints first were moved to live holy lives. This happened as they embraced God's grace made present to them through baptism. Verse 1 concludes with the author's references to the world "not knowing" God's children or God's Son, Jesus. This means that the world did not understand or accept Christ or his followers because they did not and do not live like the world teaches they should but, instead, reveal God's holiness by the way they live.

In verse 2, the author addresses his hearers as God's "beloved" and reminds them that although they are already God's children, the joy of their eternal destiny has yet to be shown. These words speak of the desire for heaven that motivated the saints in their good works and in their attempts to bring others to Christ. The passage concludes in verse 3 where the author speaks of the saints' purity of life and of their desire that they remain sinless before God. The implications of these words are that God calls all of us to be saints through baptism. If we respond to this call we make daily choices to avoid sin and embrace holiness. It is this daily round of life that provides the context for later sainthood.

As we celebrate All Saint's Day we ask the saints to pray for us that we may grow in holiness. We ask that they give us a greater sense of hope which motivates us to order all that we do toward heaven. Finally, we rejoice that we have been adopted by the Father and made his children through baptism. May our ongoing study of the lives of the saints provide us with good examples to follow in our lives of faith.



REFLECTING ON THE GOSPEL

FATHER CONRAD S. PECEVICH
PASTOR, ST. ANNE PARISH, SOUTHBOROUGH

Holiness: A call within reach

Reflections on Matthew 5:1-12a

"Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God." The feast of All Saints reminds us of our personal call to holiness. As the Book of Leviticus proclaims in Chapter 20, verse 26: "To me, therefore, you shall be holy; for I, the Lord, am holy, and have set you apart from other peoples to be my own." The call could not be any clearer; the reason, any more obvious – because the One who has called us is utterly holy. Our Scripture passage provides us with a little insight into what the word "holy" exactly means, i.e. "to be set apart for Godly purposes," to stand out from the crowd.

Vatican II made us all especially aware of our personal invitation to this holiness found in Christ. It reminded all men and women, regardless of their state in life, that holiness is possible and achievable in this life. It is our spiritual responsibility. Cooperating with the grace of God, we humans are capable of reaching this state in our present lives. It is not some "pie in the sky" concept! Holiness is for real! Well was it said, "holiness is wholeness."

The Gospel reading chosen for this feast is "the Beatitudes" taken from Matthew's Gospel. They provide a sort of blueprint for living out the Christian life. Therein, Jesus offers us attitudes of faith to put on that will bring us blessedness, happiness. Among them are: poverty of spirit; humility; peace-making; thirsting for justice; forgiveness; purity of heart; and long-suffering. Each attitude has the power to produce a fullness of blessing in the sight of God and man.

Let us focus for a moment on the Beatitude: "Blessed are the clean of heart." In another translation, it's referred to as the "pure of heart." What does it mean to be "clean of heart" or "pure of heart?" I believe the best way is to think of someone in your life who reflects this beatitude, one with a pure heart. Their heart is so pure, so simple, so clean, so innocent, as to be

untainted by the darkness of sin and selfishness. "What you see is what you get!" There's a transparency about that person that one cannot put into words. When you look at that person, you can see another Christ. And that is possible. We have all met people like that on our life's journey. They astound us. They hold us temporarily in awe. They sort of remind us of the words of Jesus concerning Nathaniel: "No duplicity is found in him."

What is the spiritual reward for achieving this cleanliness of heart?

Jesus confidently tells us in the beatitude that it is this: "for they will see God." Purity of heart provides the ability to see God and perceive things from a heavenly perspective. Scholar William Barclay writes: "It is one of the simple facts of life that we see only what we are able to see; and that is true not only in the physical sense; it is also true in every other possible sense." (Matthew, Daily Study Bible Series)

This past and present century have shown us that sanctity is possible in the modern world. We as Church have been blessed to witness so many women and men called to sainthood in our day, tangible signs that holiness is within our reach and definitely achievable with the help of God's grace. What's even more exciting is that these "new saints" have come from a wide variety of backgrounds, careers, countries and social strata. They are individuals, lay and religious, who fell in love with God and who took to heart their call to run after Jesus and live out the Gospel message.

Think for a moment of all the "saints" who have passed through your life, those "unsung heroes" and "heroines" of the Gospel, who truly made a difference for you. They were the ones who made Jesus "real" for us; they taught us how to love him, and, in turn, showed us how much he loved us. Just as God never leaves his world without prophets, so Jesus never leaves his world without saints, those "pure of heart" people who teach us that holiness is worth living for!

YOUNG VOICES

KYLE P. JAMESON

The uniform of faith

Just recently Esquire Magazine published an editorial titled "What Happened When I Dressed like a Priest: An Investigation into the Power of the Uniform." The story was written by a layman named Tom Chiarella who purchased four different work uniforms and dressed as a man of these various professions for a day in Chicago, including that of a priest. He did not impersonate a priest nor did he tell people he was one. He simply dressed in a full black cassock and wandered the streets with an observer's eye.

This sociological experiment gave this man an inside look at how people in a busy town flock to a vested priest. He carried on to say that many homeless people reached out to him; many smiled and greeted him and others did everything they could to ignore him.

He concluded saying, "Weirdly, the priest's outfit was the most physically demanding uniform to wear. ... It's easy to put on a cassock. And it's really not easy to wear one at all."

In the end, he realized that it is easy to button up a cassock and tote it around, but it is exhausting and demanding to live for what the cassock stands for.

If Jesus himself was walking through the streets of Chicago today, what would define him, his clothes or his actions? The general population of the Catholic world would not dress as a priest for the sake of research, but we too have a uniform to wear. It may not be made of black linen or of scarlet watered

silk, but our very identity of our Catholic faith becomes the uniform that we wear each day.

Our faith must reflect the results of Mr. Chiarella's sociological experiment and our faith must radiate like a man in an unusual black linen robe on a busy city day. We must stand out to the poor, be a listening ear to the stranger and be willing to live out the physically demanding uniform of our Catholic faith.

Jesus did not stand out because he wore different clothes. Jesus stood out because of the message he preached and his treatment of the marginalized. Imagine how different society would be if all those who identify as Catholic or Christian radiated the same way that the cassock-wearing layman did? If we all led a life of virtue, listened to those who speak, cared for the homeless and let the broken flock to us for restoration, there would be a great spiritual conversion. This is when the faith becomes physically demanding.

It is in this time when we set ourselves apart and live out the Gospel to the fullest. We can make an investigation for ourselves, calculate the results of our own happiness in helping others, and notice our own spiritual growth. Then and only then can we fully live out the Gospel message.

– Kyle P. Jameson is president of the class of 2017 at Anna Maria College. He is a Catholic Studies major.



Fundamentals of Catholicism



The Commandments

Moral Responsibility

BY FATHER KENNETH BAKER, S.J.

A fundamental difference between a human person and a tree or a cow is that the person is held responsible for his actions (at least some of them), while the tree and the cow are not said to be responsible for their actions.

Both plants and animals act in certain ways by necessity, since they function according to the nature that God endowed them with. Human persons also have a nature, but specifically human actions proceed from knowledge and freedom.

"Responsibility," therefore, is essentially related to free actions that proceed from adequate knowledge. It is clearly recognized both in ethics and in law that a mentally deranged person is not responsible for his or her actions. When we say that a man is responsible for his actions we mean that he knew what he was doing and that he acted freely.

Very closely related to the notion of responsibility is the idea of "imputability," which means that one may be declared the free author of an action and may be held responsible for it. The more free the action is, the more imputable it is, and vice versa. Thus, when we speak about moral responsibility and imputability we are touching on something that is at the very heart of all moral activity.

Since a person can act with more or less knowledge and with more or less freedom, it follows that any restriction on knowledge or freedom will also affect the personal responsibility or imputability of the act. Since man is very limited and is open to a number of influences, we find that there are many obstacles or impediments to fully human acts – all of which affect moral responsibility in one way or another.

Some of the factors that can diminish or altogether remove imputability are: ignorance, emotion or passion, fear, bad habits, violence, hypnosis, drugs and mental illness. All of these affect either a person's mind or his will, or both, and to the extent that they do, they lessen responsibility.

Thus, in the realm of morality a person is not held responsible for the observance of laws that he does not know about. Moralists make a distinction between ignorance that cannot be overcome and ignorance that can be eliminated with minimal effort. The former is called "invincible ignorance;" the latter is called "vincible ignorance." If I am invincibly ignorant of some obligation, such as attending Mass on a Holy Day of obligation, then I am not responsible for missing Mass on that day. Vincible ignorance can be cleared up if one wants to; if I fail to clear it up and thereby violate the law of God, my guilt depends on the degree of neglect involved in persisting in my "voluntary" ignorance.

It is common knowledge and experience that emotions can inhibit clear thinking and free choosing. Sometimes they can be so strong that they remove all culpability. Fear is mental anxiety because of impending evil. It is rarely so strong as to deprive a person of all moral responsibility for actions performed. Fear can lessen imputability but it can also increase the merit involved in good actions when one persists in good in spite of great fear. Such would be the case for a police officer who, in spite of great danger to himself, overcomes his own fear in order to rescue someone held as hostage in a bank robbery.

Violence, bad habits, hypnosis, mental illness, etc. either diminish moral responsibility or totally erase it depending on their influence on the mind and will. Of course, if a person is freely responsible for positing an obstacle to his own knowledge or freedom, such as deliberately getting drunk or taking drugs, then he is fully responsible for what is done or omitted.

In all of this it is important to remember that complete responsibility for human acts depends on their proceeding from adequate knowledge and full consent of the will. Defects not traceable to personal fault will either diminish or totally remove all moral responsibility.

NEXT WEEK: Dignity of the Law: "Today "law" in America does not have the respect of the people that it once enjoyed."

– Editor's Note: This article reprinted with permission from Father Baker.

Synod had difficult moments, pope says *Knights to honor Bishop Reilly*

Continued from Page One

the support of the mercy of God.”

The synod sessions, the pope said, were designed to have people speak openly about the needs of families and to face them “without fear and without hiding our heads in the sand.”

The gathering, he said, was a time “to witness to all that the Gospel remains for the church the living source of eternal newness against those who want to ‘indoctrinate’ it into dead stones to hurl at each other.”

Without mentioning specific differences, such as deeply varied cultural approaches to homosexuality, Pope Francis said synod members learned that “what seems normal for a bishop on one continent can seem strange –almost a scandal

–to a bishop from another.”

The synod tried to find better ways to convince the world of the importance of the family based on the lifelong marriage of one man and one woman, he said, knowing that it should not be afraid to shake “anesthetized consciences or to dirty its hands animatedly and frankly discussing the family.”

“The experience of the synod,” the pope said, “has made us understand better that the true defenders of doctrine are not those who defend its letter, but its spirit; not ideas, but people; not formulas, but the free gift of God’s love and forgiveness. This is in no way to detract from the importance of formulas, laws and divine commandments, but rather to exalt the greatness of the true God, who does not treat us according

to our merits or even according to our works, but solely according to the boundless generosity of his mercy.”

Clearly, he said, the three-week synod did not resolve every problem facing families or even every question of how the church can best minister to them. But it did try “to enlighten them with the light of the Gospel and the 2,000-year tradition and history of the church” formulated in ways people today can understand.

Without acting as if every form of modern family life was equally valid, but also without “demonizing others,” he said, the synod wanted “to embrace fully and courageously the goodness and mercy of God who surpasses our human calculations and wants nothing other than that ‘all would be saved.’”

Bishop Reilly will be honored Sunday in Mechanics Hall when the Fourth Degree members of the Bishop James A. Healy Province, Knights of Columbus, holds its Provincial Degree.

The James A. Healy Province includes all the New England states. If weather permits, plans call for members of the Province to process after the 10:15 a.m. Mass from the Cathedral of St. Paul along Main Street to Mechanics Hall.

Bishop Reilly will be honored for his service to the Knights and “as an amazing priest and bishop,” according to a press release issued by the Knights.

“Bishop Reilly served as state chaplain to the Knights in Rhode Island, Connecticut and Massachusetts,” the press

release stated.

Bishop Reilly, a Rhode Island native who has served as bishop in Connecticut and Massachusetts, is believed to be the only bishop to have served the Knights as chaplain in three states, according to the press release. Representatives from the six New England states are expected to attend the ceremonies.

Registration at Mechanics Hall will begin after the procession. At 1 p.m. there will be an Exemplification in which candidates will become Fourth



Bishop Reilly

Degree Knights. There also will be a ladies luncheon. At 4 p.m. there will be a reception.

The banquet at which Bishop Reilly will be honored will begin at 5:30 p.m. Bishop McManus will deliver the invocation. There will be several speakers, including Dennis Stoddard, Supreme Master of the Fourth Degree from Knights of Columbus national headquarters in New Haven, Conn.

Merton library dedicated

Continued from Page One

“Merton was above all a man of prayer, a thinker who challenged the certitudes of his time and opened new horizons for souls and for the Church,” the pope said.

“He shares his own woundedness,” Professor Higgins said of Merton. “We all ache into holiness. ... That’s why people read Merton. ... They discover a companion on the way. ... He was one of us.”

At the dedication prisoners unveiled a sign over the Merton resource and research center housed in Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapel at MCI-Shirley.

“I am especially honored to have the center named partially after me and Edward Farley,” Mr. Collins, of St. Mary Parish in Shrewsbury, said. “My hope is that this will generate enthusiasm on the part of the prison population” to study Merton.

Mr. Collins, who started the only Merton Society chapter in a prison at MCI-Shirley, said he believes this is the second largest collection of Merton materials in the world. The largest is at the Thomas Merton Center at Bellarmine University in Louisville, Ky., fairly near the Abbey of Gethsemani where the Trappist lived, he said.

Mr. Collins said he donated to the prison library, as did other Merton scholars and followers, but the biggest donation is the collection Edward J. Farley of Lowell willed to St. Joseph Abbey in Spencer, the local Trappist community.

Thomas More Farley, son of the late Edward and Margaret Farley, said he asked the monks about donating his father’s collection – which includes about 1,000 books, videos, tapes and other materials – to the prison chapter. His sister Margaret Farley Lombardi said the monks, who have an extensive Merton library themselves, agreed.

“Our Dad would be so pleased with this dedication today,” she said. (He died last April.) Several of their family members attended. Among other guests were three of Mr. Collins’ children and his daughter-in-law Nancy Collins, who is his associate in the prison chapter, which meets monthly to discuss Merton’s writings.

“We know that Dad’s collection is in the right place,” Mrs. Lombardi told the prisoners. “These materials will help each of you to grow in your faith. ... You are in our prayers as you learn about Thomas Merton.”

Mr. Collins said the story of his work with Mr. Farley is recorded in the Merton scholars’ autobiography “We are Already One.”

He said they met in the 1980s as fellow educators. (He was a school superintendent and adjunct professor various places and Mr. Farley was an assistant superintendent in Tewksbury.)

In 1991 they started a Merton Society chapter in Bedford which they ran for 19 years

and in 2002 he started one at his parish which he ran for 11 years. In August 2013 he started MCI-Shirley’s chapter, after prisoners, who saw his Merton columns in The Catholic Free Press, asked him to come speak – and to come back again.

At the Oct. 21 dedication Deacon Arthur Rogers, Catholic chaplain at MCI-Shirley, thanked God for the Merton collection and said special people wanted it there.

Prisoners shared things they’ve gained from Merton and the chapter.

Shawn Fisher had volunteer Ruth Ste. Marie read Merton’s poem, “The Five Enemies.” It talks about “the robber” and “the respectable citizen” both losing “the original simplicity of man” by love of what dazzles the senses.

“Much like Merton’s monastic life, a prisoner can certainly identify with many of the simplicities of life,” Mr. Fisher said. They can identify with Merton’s comparison of sacrificial vessels and wood in the ditch which both came from the same tree.

“[W]e all originated from the same place ... Our beauty enhanced or diminished by the choices we make,” Mr. Fisher said. “Yet, as we shed the extravagances of life we find our way back to our original ‘simplicity.’”

Joseph Labriola told how he found Merton’s “Seeds of Contemplation” in the 1970s in a place where prisoners were allowed only a Bible or a Quran. He felt God’s love, shared what he read with other prisoners and begged the priest to smuggle in more Merton books.

Now he’s trying to make Merton’s words part of his everyday life, he said. He read a Merton passage about coming to know God fully by uniting one’s will with Christ’s.

Michael Skinner said that at first he thought that Merton was a draft-dodger because he joined the monastery right after the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. He mentioned this to Mr. Collins, who suggested he read Merton’s autobiography, which changed his perspective.

Mr. Skinner said he learned Merton tried to join the medical corps and didn’t qualify. He decided Merton followed God’s call, which “greatly affected me and all of us in here.”

Timothy Muise marveled at how Mr. Collins treats him and the other prisoners as his equals.

“I’m a different guy today because people like Jack believe in us,” he said.

“I don’t think I’ve ever had a better tribute paid to me,” Mr. Collins said.

Professor Higgins said Merton was ridiculed, experienced ecclesiastical censure, and knew he needed constant self revision.

“We’re still publishing new stuff by Merton” that wasn’t published before. “The man’s been dead for decades. He really is an icon for our times.”

Grandparents visit during 70th year for Venerini

Venerini Academy kicked off its 70th anniversary celebration with Grandparents Day.

About 340 grandparents heard talks by school officials at a breakfast Oct. 20 in the auditorium/gymnasium, then visited classrooms with their grandchildren.

Paul Jourcin, director of admissions, said he believes it was the largest Grandparents Day ever. The school held the day every year for several years, then stopped for a while, then revived it five years ago.

“Parents and grandparents look forward to it now,” he said. “It energizes the school.” Eighth-grader Hannah Marmen was student speaker. She talked about her journey at Venerini. She was joined at the event by grandparents Pat and Tom Marmen and grandfather Dick Cichowski.

Hannah is something of a legacy student at Venerini, her

grandmother said. Her mother, Lori, has been a teacher at the school for 26 years. Her grandmother was the first lay principal at Venerini and served there for 13 years. Her sister, Megan graduated from Venerini and later graduated from Westborough High School. Her brother, Patrick, also a Venerini graduate, is a student at St. John High School in Shrewsbury. And her grandfather was chairman of the Board of Directors at Venerini from 2010 to 2014.

Mr. and Mrs. Marmen have three other grandchildren at the school. They are William Kelleher, fourth grade, Caroline Kelleher, third grade and Catherine Kelleher, pre-kindergarten 3.

Venerini Sister Hilda Ponte, provincial of the Venerini Sisters and president of the school’s Board of Trustees, said the school is doing “fairly well.” She said enrollment



Grandparents Tom and Pat Marmen and grandfather Dick Gichowski, right, heard their granddaughter, Hannah Merman, speak at Grandparents Day at Venerini Academy.

was 300 students, down slightly from last year. The administration is struggling a bit with the budget. Enrollment of about 325 would help.

Venerini Academy will host

an open house from 9 to 11 a.m. Nov. 10, Mr. Jourcin said. A Gala event is planned Feb. 27 at the Hogan Center at The College of the Holy Cross,

Notre Dame Academy announces Knollwood Award recipients

Notre Dame Academy will celebrate its annual Knollwood Awards and Scholarship fundraising event at 5 p.m., Nov. 14, in the Academy’s Cuvilly Auditorium, 425 Salisbury Street.

Honorees include:

• Patricia Iandoli: the recipient of the Knollwood Alumna Award, presented to her for her volunteerism with the Emerald Club of Worcester and her life-long interest in helping individuals with developmental challenges.

• Deborah Packard, executive director of Preservation Worcester: the recipient of the Knollwood Community Award, for her dedication to Worcester’s past.

• Kathryn Buckley: the recipient of the Young Alumna Award, for her volunteerism mentoring young women through the United Way



Iandoli

of Central MA and her fundraising efforts at Assumption College.

The awards were established in 1988 to honor individuals whose innovation and generosity to the community changes lives. The event also raises scholarship money for young women who might otherwise not be able to attend.



Packard



Buckley

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Holy Name artist in residence, Sarah Callinan, shares her love of music

Continued from Page One

her senior year at Holy Name, she said, she gave a full classical recital. She moved on to the Hartt School, then left to follow her voice teacher, who had moved from Hartt to the University of Connecticut.

Recently she and Mrs. Shivick joined forces to present concerts titled *Dueling Divas* and received laudatory reviews.

Miss Callinan graduated from UConn magna cum laude with a bachelor of arts degree in music and a performer's certificate in voice. In January 2005, she began an apprenticeship with the Connecticut Opera. Most apprenticeships lasted two years, she said, but she was asked to stay for three.

Most performances were in Connecticut, she said, but some were in other parts of New England, including Maine. Many were in school all-purpose rooms which doubled as auditoriums, gymnasiums and cafeterias. She sang every day, sometimes three times a day, on occasion, as early as 7:30 a.m.

"I learned how to be a singer," she said, "and how to take care of my voice."

Miss Callinan made her first international appearance after winning the Jenny Lind Competition, which included a recital tour in Sweden, according to her website. She is a 2009 and 2010 Metropolitan Opera National Council audition regional finalist and was also awarded first prize in the Connecticut Opera Guild Competition, first prize winner and winner of the "Most Promising Coloratura" award in the Amici Competition with Opera Theater of Connecticut, a finalist in the Bel Canto Vocal Scholarship Competition, finalist in the Mezzo Opera

Competition in Szeged, Hungary and most recently, won second prize at the Peter Elvins Vocal Competition.

She has sung a variety of roles in both opera and musical theater in the United States and in Europe. Among a long list of those are Despina in "Cosi Fan Tutti," Blondchen in "The Abduction from the Seraglio" and Susanna in "The Marriage of Figaro," all by Mozart; the title role in "Lakme," by Leo Delibes, "Gilda" in Verdi's Rigoletto, Maria in Donizetti's "The Daughter of the Regiment," and Rosina in Rossini's "The Barber of Saville."

Operetta or light opera she has sung include Victor Herbert's "Orange Blossoms," Sigmund Romberg's "The New Moon" and "The Merry Widow," by Franz Lehar.

She also has performed solo parts in Carl Orff's cantata "Carmina Burana" and "Requiem" by Gabriel Faure.

And she has received some laudatory reviews. Jeffrey Johnson, reviewer for the Hartford Courant, said of her role in the Connecticut Concert Opera production of "The Barber of Saville," "Sarah Callinan was an entertaining Rosina. She made her first impression in 'Una voce poco fa,' by winding both laughter and fury into complex figuration. (Miss) Callinan brought Lucille Ball energy to Rosina... and drew the most consistent laughs of the evening. (Miss) Callinan brought down the house..."

Michael Clive, reviewer for the The Republican-American in Waterbury, Conn., said, "Connecticut opera goes have been fortunate to hear Miss Callinan in a number of leading roles in recent years, and



PHOTO BY WILLIAM T. CLEW

Miss Callinan, center, at the piano in the music room at Holy Name Central Catholic High School with, from left, Cyndi Le, Andrea Mechery and Helena Greenslit, all freshmen, and Kilani Moore, a junior.

the wide range of her successes makes it tantalizing to guess where her career might take her next.... "I have heard her in Mozart and Menotti, and have duly

noted that she had won competitions for her work in the coloratura repertoire. Still, to me, Miss Callinan sounds not like a coloratura specialist, but like a lyric soprano who is capable of singing coloratura simply because her technique is that good and her voice is that flexible. What's more, she sings above the staff with ease.

"Her Rosina demonstrated other virtues that are equally rare, if less showy: a voice that is seamlessly produced throughout its extensive range; a flowing legato and a beautiful way of shaping a phrase; clear diction and a winning, graceful stage presence. And let's face it: if

you're going to sing soubrettes and heroines, being as slim and attractive as Miss Callinan can't hurt. Her biggest problem might be choosing a direction for her career in the years to come."

As artist in residence at Holy Name, and in collaboration with Daniel Gabel, head of the music department and band director, and Brett Penza, technology instructor, she said she will direct the chorus. As part of the music ministry she will continue bringing liturgical music to in-school celebrations of the Mass. She also will continue her singing career and give private voice lessons.

'And then, will I be able to vote?'

Senior SCENE

BOB CRONIN



This is a question I hear quite often as members of my citizenship class near the completion of their course and look forward to a reward many of them have never known, the privilege of taking part in free elections. It seems to me that much of the comment we hear or read about the naturalization program is confusing at best and sometimes plain misleading. When the path to attaining citizenship comes up, everyone seems to have his or her own interpretation or stories they have heard "from my cousin". It is an issue that we are hearing more about and could likely become a campaign topic of great importance.

First, let me establish my bona fides to speak about immigrants becoming United States citizens. For more than 30 years I have been involved in immigration matters through Catholic Charities in Worcester and the acquisition of citizenship has always been a major part of this activity. Through accreditation of the Board of Immigration Appeals, a unit of the Department of Justice, I am authorized to represent clients in their citizenship endeavors. This accreditation takes place every three years and we must prove participation in the study of current immigration and citizenship issues.

To become a United States citizen, one must:

- Be at least 18 years old
- Be a lawful Permanent Resident for five years (three if married to a U.S. citizen)
- Maintained continuous residence for five years (three if married to a U.S. citizen)
- Have been in the United States at least half that time
- Prove ability to read, write, speak and understand English
- Pass U.S. history and government test
- Prove good moral character
- Understand and accept the oath of

allegiance to the United States

Have no citizenship related problems

In order to begin the naturalization process an applicant must present a Permanent Resident Alien card (also commonly called a "green card") which shows that the alien has been legally admitted, is at least 18 years of age, has been a Permanent Resident for three or five years and has maintained continuous residence for the required period of time. Next on the list comes the collection of personal data which is necessary for the completion of a 21 page questionnaire known as the N-400.

In gathering this information the potential citizen needs Social Security information, dates of foreign travel and return, marriage certificates in some cases, divorce decrees if applicable and personal information on prior spouses, and personal data on present spouse. Also necessary are the names, birthdates and Alien Numbers of all children, all previous addresses and dates of residence for the prior five years, the names, addresses and dates of employment within the past five years. If the applicant is a male who was in the United States between the ages of 18 to 26, he must also furnish a Selective Service card, and all applicants must furnish arrest information dates and disposition of the case. Finally, any irregularities in immigration matters must be disclosed.

When the application is completed and sent to be processed, it must be accompanied by a copy of both sides of the Permanent Resident Alien card ("green card"), two passport type photos and a filing fee of \$680.

The next step is an appointment, in our case to Boston, for what is now known as biometrics or what we used to call fingerprints. From here, the entire file is turned over to the FBI for a thorough background investigation. The material

gathered in this background check is compared to information given on the application and any discrepancies are thoroughly noted.

Meanwhile, all citizenship candidates are responsible for studying one hundred questions about American history and government and being able to show that they can read, write, speak and understand English and that they meet all requirements for naturalization. This is done at an interview in Lawrence, where they meet with an interviewer and in about an hour they go over all the requirements and documentary proof necessary to meet qualifications. At the end of the meeting, they are told whether or not they will be recommended for citizenship. Thankfully, our passing percentage is in the high nineties.

Although they have successfully passed the exam, they are not yet citizens. That comes at in another couple of weeks when a group of latest approved is assembled at locations throughout the State. At this ceremony, the Oath of Allegiance is administered, the applicant is awarded a Certificate of Naturalization and they have the right to call themselves American citizens.

In the Boston area, the entire process, from sending in the application to the swearing-in ceremony takes about six months. Some cases may take a little longer if further documentation is necessary.

Now to the question in the title, "Am I ready to vote?" Not quite yet, for first you must register as a voter in your home city and town and finally THAT day will come and the answer will be "Yes, you are able to vote!"

It does not seem possible that Thanksgiving is almost upon us. I hope that yours is the happiest one ever. God Bless!

Water tanks headed to Kenya thanks to donations

By William T. Clew

UXBRIDGE - Three 1,500-gallon water tanks, the towers they will stand on, several hundred water bottles and a stained glass window were packed into a 20-foot-long shipping case last week headed to villages in Kenya, according to Michael Martino.

Mr. Martino, a member of St. Mary Parish, owns Martino Stained Glass Studio, a company that creates, repairs and installs stained glass windows.

He said that a story in The Catholic Free Press in September about those tanks and towers, and the need for fresh water in villages in Kenya, prompted donations to the Wells for Kenya Project (WFKP), a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit charity he founded in 2006 as a way of raising funds to help provide clean water for Kenyan villagers. He, his wife Anna and their children operate the organization and there is a board of directors to oversee the finances and the work, he said.

He said donations came from people in his parish, where The Catholic Free Press story was posted on a bulletin board, and from people in other parishes. He said St. Rose of Lima Parish in Northborough sent a check for \$400 as part of its monthly tithing program for charity. He said more than \$1,000 came in the project after the news story appeared. That amount, along with the money previously raised, was enough to pay for getting the shipment underway.

Mr. Martino began to work to provide fresh water for Kenyan villages in 1995, after he met Gerry Kibarabara, archbishop of Gospel Assemblies of Kenya, who was in the area giving talks about the need of many villages in Kenya for clean and reliable water to maintain their own health, care for their cattle and irrigate their crops.

Mr. Martino, with the help of friends and donors, raised

funds, convinced the owner of a well-drilling rig to donate it and take a tax deduction. After a series of setbacks, delays and working around some red-tape problems in Kenya, he got the rig and truck to carry it to Kenya and eventually to a village where, in 2009, a 450-foot well was dug and has been pumping water ever since at about 20 gallons a minute.

Since then, two more wells have been dug. The wells supply water to three villages. The water tanks being shipped will allow the villages to store the water so that the well pumps will not be run each time water is needed. The water bottles also enable villagers to carry water from the wells to their homes.

Mr. Martino continues to raise funds to continue the well project. Dr. Kibarabara said in September when he visited Mr. Martino that he eventually wants to put up a 50,000-gallon water storage tank which will allow water to be distributed by gravity feed through pipes to as many as eight villages.

- Those who want to help get the water tanks on the way, and for future WFKP, work may make tax-deductible donations to Wells For Kenya Project, 64 Spinning Wheel Dr., Uxbridge, MA 01569 or go on line at WelllsforKenyaProject.org

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Calendar

The Catholic Free Press welcomes information on events from parish and diocesan groups for inclusion in the Diocesan Calendar. Items should be received no later than Tuesday noon, two weeks prior to publication. Mail to the Diocesan Calendar, The CFP, 51 Elm St., Worcester MA 01609, e-mail calendar@catholicfreepress.org or fax: 508-756-8315

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31 - FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Saturday

31

The College of the Holy Cross will present the viewing of "I'll See You in My Dreams" "Furious 7" on Oct. 30 and Oct. 31 at 7 p.m., "Timbuktu" on Nov. 4 at 3 and 8 p.m. and "Avengers: Age of Ultron" Nov. 6 and Nov. 7 at 7 p.m. in Seelos Theater on campus; the **Holy Cross Chapel Artist Series** will continue on Nov. 1 at 3 p.m. in St. Joseph Memorial Chapel; Silvius von Kessel, organist from the Cathedral of Erfurt, Germany, will be featured; and on Nov. 3 at 12:30 p.m. the First-Tuesday Lunch Concert will be held in Brooks Concert Hall all on campus.

Devotions

GARDNER – Diocesan Deanery XII will continue to hold **Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration** in Holy Rosary Convent's Blessed Marie Rivier Oratory, 142 Regan St.

SPENCER – Mary, Queen of the Rosary Parish will hold **24-hour daily Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** in the Perpetual Adoration Chapel at the Pastoral Office Center, 60 Maple St.

WEBSTER – The parishes of Webster, Dudley and Oxford will continue to hold **Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration** in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel of the Emmaus Center, 17 East Main St.

Sunday

1

The Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree members of the Bishop James A. Healy Province of all New England states will hold the **First Provincial Degree Mass** on Nov. 1 at 10:15 a.m. celebrated by Bishop McManus in St. Paul Cathedral, 15 Chatham St.; the first honoree will be Most Rev. Daniel P. Reilly, bishop emeritus of the Diocese of Worcester for his service to the Knights and as an "amazing" priest and bishop; Bishop Reilly served as state chaplain for the Knights in Rhode Island, Connecticut and Massachusetts; events will continue at Mechanics Hall including an open Ladies Luncheon and a closed Fourth Degree Exemplification both at 1 p.m., and an open banquet at 5:30 p.m.



Devotions

Our Lady of Vilna Parish will hold **Eucharistic adoration** the first Sunday of the month for half an hour following the 10 a.m. Mass in the church, 151 Sterling St.

ATHOL – A **Divine Mercy Chaplet** will be held on Sundays in St. Francis of Assisi church at 6:40 a.m. and Our Lady Immaculate Parish at 9:45 a.m., and in St. Francis **Prayers to Our Lady of Perpetual Help** Wednesdays at 9 a.m., and in St. Francis **Miraculous Medal Devotion** at 7 p.m. on Thursdays, and **Eucharistic adoration** from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Fridays in the church, 244 School St.

WEBSTER – A **Novena to the Divine Mercy and Our Lady of Czestochowa** will be held the first Sunday of the month at 3 p.m. in St. Joseph Basilica, 47 Whitcomb St.

Monday

2

The 4th annual **Christ the King Parish Novena to St. Joseph** will continue on Mondays to Nov. 9 from 7:15-8 p.m. in the church, 1052 Pleasant St.; the homilist this week will be Father Robert A. Grattaroti, pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Charlton.

St. Paul Cathedral's Office of Sacred Music will continue a series of concerts, recitals and liturgies in the cathedral with its resident musicians; the program will proceed on Nov. 2 at 7 p.m. with the **"Requiem of Gabriel Faure,"** a free-will offering will help defray the costs of the series.



Devotions

Our Lady of Lourdes **Rosary Prayer Group** will meet at 3 p.m. Mondays in Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 1290 Grafton St.

BLACKSTONE – St. Theresa Parish will hold **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Mondays in the chapel, 630 Rathbun St.

Support Groups

HOPEDALE – Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish **Divorced Catholics Support Group** will continue to be held at 7 p.m. Mondays in the Parish House, 187 Hopedale St.; "The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide," a 12 week DVD series to help find "peace, power, and renewed passion for life" will be viewed.

Tuesday

3

The College of the Holy Cross's **50th annual Hanify-Howland Memorial Lecture** will be held on Nov. 3 at 8 p.m. presented by husband-and-wife duo Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn in the Campus Center Ballroom; the lecture, which recognizes individuals who have distinguished themselves in the realm of public service in honor of Edward Hanify, a member of the graduating class of 1904, and Weston Howland, will address challenges facing America today; the talk, titled "Why Students Should Care About the World—& Change It," is free and open to the public.

Devotions

Father Ralph A. DiOrio will be conducting a session of simple **Anointing with Holy Oils and the Laying on of Hands with the Mass** on Tuesday, Nov. 3 at noon. at Maironis Park Banquet Hall, 52 South Quinsigamond Ave. in Shrewsbury; a \$10 offering for tickets to help cover expenses would be appreciated; for more information call 508-832-7890.

BOYLSTON – St. Mary of the Hills Parish will hold **Eucharistic Adoration** from 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Tuesdays in the church, 630 Cross St.

NORTH OXFORD – St. Ann Parish will hold a weekly rosary group on Tuesdays opening at the at Our Lady's Outdoor Shrine at 6 p.m.

Wednesday

4

Liturgical Services

DUDLEY – St. Andrew Bobola Parish will hold **Mass with devotion to The Divine Mercy** Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the church, 54 West Main St.

UPCOMING events

St. Anna Comedy Night

LEOMINSTER – "Enjoy a great night of laughs, music and dancing" to support St. Anna School Comedy Night with Jerry Caruso that will be held on Nov. 13 from 7-11 p.m. in Knights of Columbus Hall, 484 Lancaster St. in Leominster. "Happy hour" and raffles will be held from 7-8 p.m. For more information or tickets at \$20 per person or to reserve a table of 8 for \$150 contact Marian Priddy at 978-534-4770 or www.stannaschool.org.

Veteran's Day Commemorations

NORTHBOROUGH – St. Bernadette Parish School invites all veterans, parishioners, and friends to attend a special Veterans' Day Program to honor veterans that will be held Nov. 10 at 1:30 p.m. in the Charbonneau Activity Center in St. Bernadette School, 266 Main St. Events will include the students saluting the American Flag, singing patriotic songs, and offering prayers for Veterans both living and deceased, and making a presentation to all attending Veterans thanking them who have given so much to protect and preserve our God-given freedoms.

NORTH GRAFTON – A Patriotic Rosary for Veterans Day will be prayed Nov. 8 for the consecration of our country and our servicemen and women serving in the military now or deceased, in St. Mary Church, 17 Waterville St. In addition, a book, "Prayers for our servicemen and women" will be present for the names of loved ones serving in the military and our deceased soldiers.

Shrewsbury School Open House

SHREWSBURY – St. Mary Parish School Fall Open House will be held on Nov. 12 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the school located at 16 Summer St. on the corner of Main and Summer Streets. Events will include a tour of the classrooms with an opportunity to learn more about the welcoming community, challenging curriculum, and commitment to developing strong academic and moral foundations. St. Mary's has a diverse student body and welcome students and families from all faiths. Classroom tours include pre-school starting at 2 years 9 months of age, kindergarten, lower school from grades 1-4 and upper school from grades 5-8. For more information or to schedule a personal tour or Shadow Day contact the admissions director, Jeannie MacDonough at Jeannie.MacDonough@stmarysparish.org or call 508 842-1601 or visit the website at www.stmarysparish.org/school.

John Paul II Parish Bazaar

SOUTHBRIDGE – The annual Saint John Paul II Parish Bazaar will be held on Nov. 8 from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. in Trinity Catholic Academy, 11 Pine St. Admission is free, with ample parking and the school is handicapped accessible. Bazaar features will include children's games, crafts, parish articles, bake goods shoppe, theme baskets, jewelry, silent auction items, community raffle and entertainment. The food court will open at 8:30 a.m. for breakfast and will remain open throughout the day with other food items. Bring a non-perishable food item on the day of the bazaar and be eligible to win a special raffle item from one of the tables. Donated food will help stock the shelves of the parish food pantry. For more information call 508-765-3701.

St. Edward's Harvest Dinner

WESTMINSTER – The annual St. Edward the Confessor Parish Harvest Dinner will be held on Nov. 7 from 5-7 p.m. in the church hall, 10 Church St. For tickets available at the door at \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12 years of age with children under 6 years of age free. The menu will include a complete turkey dinner with all the "fixings."

"Splash of Panache" Vendor Fair

WEBSTER – St. Joseph Parish Polish Women's Club "Splash of Panache" Vendor Event will be held on Nov. 8 from 1-5 p.m. at the Polish American C.C., 37 Harris St. Tickets at \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door per person will include hot and cold appetizers and a gift bag. The attendance raffle will be (2) tickets to "A Christmas Carol" and after-party tickets at a restaurant, courtesy of Hanover Theatre. There will be a Special Gifts Raffle, Lottery Raffle, and various vendors and crafters available for shopping. Proceeds will benefit St. Joseph School children and faculty. For more information or tickets contact Phyllis Scully at 508-949-3517 or Patty Williams at 508-943-8455 or Barbara Kryger at 508-943-2253.

Devotions

WEBSTER – A **Mass and Novena to St. Joseph** will be held Wednesdays at 7 p.m. in St. Joseph Basilica, 53 Whitcomb St.

Devotions

NORTH GRAFTON – St. Mary Parish will hold **Eucharistic Devotions** from 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Wednesdays from Sept.-May in the church, 17 Waterville St.

Thursday

5



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

"**Catholic Boy Scout Religious Emblem**" Group will begin Nov. 5 and continue twice a month through March in St. Brigid Church, 59 Main St., Millbury for a registered Boy Scout who has graduated from 6th grade; Bishop McManus will award the religious emblems in St. Paul Cathedral on April 30; in addition, "**Scouting Joyful Mysteries Rosary Patch Program**" for any Scout, Cub, Girl or Boy, 4-H'er or person who is interested in learning more about the Joyful Mysteries will meet on Nov. 21 from 10-11 a.m. in Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Hall, 10 Waters St., Millbury; to register by Nov. 6 go to <https://goo.gl/KCcJ02> to reserve a patch; for more information, consult the flyer at <https://goo.gl/Rn1lVY> or contact Jim Gorman at jms.gorman@gmail.com.

Devotions

HARVARD – St. Benedict's Abbey will hold **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** to help stop abortion through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe the first Thursday of the month from 6-9:30 p.m. in the abbey, on Still River Road.

NORTH BROOKFIELD – St. Joseph's Parish will hold **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** from 4-5 p.m. Thursdays in the church, 296 Main St.; the service will include the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and a rosary devotion.

Friday

6

MILLVILLE – The 19th annual **St. Augustine Parish "RAFFLEMANIA"** will be held on Nov. 6 with doors open at 4:30 p.m. and raffling at 6:30 p.m. in the parish hall, 17 Lincoln St.; the kitchen will be serving "dynamites," homemade soup, chicken salad sandwiches, hot dogs, and pizza; a special baked table will feature desserts; events will include an evening of chance with 12 block raffles and 10 "wonderful" prizes, featuring gift certificates and baskets in each block, a grand raffle with 3 money prizes, a 50/50 raffle, special raffle, Pot of Gold raffle, a quilt raffle, Penny Social and a free raffle prize just for attending; for more information contact Ann Lesperance at 508-883-6873.

First Friday

First Friday Services

AUBURN – St. Joseph Parish will continue a **Holy Hour Eucharistic Adoration** on the First Friday of the month from 6-7 p.m. with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Vespers, recitation of the Rosary.

STERLING – **7-9 p.m. St. Richard of Chichester Parish First Friday "Knight Vigil"** will be held in the church, 4 Bridge St.

WORCESTER: **9 a.m.** Mass followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in **St. Christopher Church**, 950 West Boylston St.; **12:10 p.m.** Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament to 3 p.m. in the **Cathedral of St. Paul**, 15 Chatham St.; **11 a.m.** Mass in **St. Peter Church**, 931 Main St.; **8 p.m.** Mass to "save babies through prayer" will be celebrated by Father Richard A. Jakubauskas, administrator, parishes of St. John the Baptist, East Brookfield and St. Joseph, North Brookfield followed by Eucharistic Adoration through the night concluding with a Mass celebrated by Father Michael J. Roy, pastor of St. Roch Parish, Oxford, on Saturday at **8 a.m.**, both in **Problem Pregnancy Chapel**, 495 Pleasant St.; **8 a.m.** Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Adoration concluding with Benediction at noon in **Our Lady of Loretto Church**, 33 Massasoit Road; **8 a.m.** Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament concluding at 5:15 p.m. with novena prayer to the Sacred Heart and Benediction in **Sacred Heart-St. Catherine of Sweden Parish Church**, 600 Cambridge St.; **8 p.m. Taize Prayer** will be held in the chapel of the Holy Spirit at Assumption College with chants and prayers based on the life of the monks at Taize Monastery in France.



VICTIM SERVICES

If you or someone you know has been sexually exploited by anyone associated with the church...
Contact: Frances J. Nugent,
Coordinator of Victim Services
Diocesan Office of Healing and Prevention
508-929-4363.

On Television

Sunday Masses

Charter Communications, Channel 193 at 6 p.m.; WWLP-TV, Channel 22 at 10 a.m.; Boston CatholicTV, CW 56/WLVI at 7 a.m.; Worcester, WCCA Cable, Channel 13 at 6 p.m. Mondays (re-broadcast); **Spanish Language** Charter Communications, Channel 101; Comcast, Channel 268; Boston, Channel 296; at 8 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Daily Masses

Monday – Friday: Charter Communications, Channel 193 at 9 a.m.; Clinton AT&T Cable, Channel 8 at 7:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.; Boston CatholicTV, WBXP, Channel 68 at 9:30 a.m.; Shrewsbury Public Access, SPAC, Channel 28 at 4:30 p.m.

Celebrants

Monday, November 2 Father James S. Mazzone
Tuesday, November 3 Father James F. Carmody
Wednesday, November 4 Msgr. F. Stephen Pedone
Thursday, November 5 Msgr. Thomas J. Sullivan
Friday, November 6 Father John Savard, SJ

Family Rosary

Sunday: Charter Communications, Channel 193, 8:30 a.m.; Clinton AT&T Cable, Channel 8 at 8 a.m.; Shrewsbury Public Access at SPAC 28, 7 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Monday: Shrewsbury Public Access at SPAC 28, 7 a.m.

Saturday: Shrewsbury Public Access at SPAC 28, at 4:30 p.m.

Diocesan Specials

Sunday: Charter Communications, Channel 193 at 6 a.m.; Clinton A&T Cable, Channel 8 at 8:30 a.m.; Leominster LATV at 9 a.m.; Grafton Cable Access at 10:30 a.m.; Shrewsbury Public Access, SPAC 28 at 7:30 a.m., and 5 p.m.; Westboro, Charter 11 and FIOS 24 at 7 a.m.

Monday: Leominster LATV at 2 a.m.; Shrewsbury Public Access, SPAC 28 at 7:30 a.m.; Athol/Orange Cable Access at 1 p.m.

Tuesday: Athol/Orange Cable Access at 1 a.m.; Worcester, WCCA Cable, Channel 13 at 8 p.m.

Wednesday: Charter Communications, Channel 193 at 9:30 a.m.; Leominster LATV at 6 p.m.

Thursday: Fitchburg, FATV Cable, Channel 8 at 9:30 a.m., 5 p.m.; Leominster LATV at 4 p.m.

Saturday: Charter Communications, Channel 193 at 6 p.m.; Westboro, Charter 11 and FIOS 24 at 7 a.m.

Come Follow Me



Sunday: Charter Communications, Channel 193 at 3 p.m..

The Daily Mass is on Charter Channel 193 on cable TV!

Since Charter TV3 has moved to Channel 193 so did our Daily Mass, Family Rosary, Sunday Mass from St. Paul Cathedral and all Weekly Specials. Look for us on 193!



Michael Fassbender stars in a scene from the movie "Steve Jobs." The Catholic News Service classification is A-III – adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R – restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.

CNS PHOTO/UNIVERSAL

Irish-born actress Maureen O'Hara dies; was icon of golden age of movies

By Michael Brown

BOISE, Idaho (CNS) – Maureen O'Hara, one of the last icons of the golden age of movies, died Oct. 24 in Boise. She was 95.

A lifelong Catholic and native of Ireland, she moved to Boise in 2012 to be close to her grandson.

Among her notable film credits were "How Green Was My Valley," "Miracle on 34th Street" and "The Quiet Man."

She was once known as the "Queen of Technicolor" because when that film process first came out, it highlighted her fair complexion, green eyes and red hair.

She starred and worked with some of the biggest actors in Hollywood, including John Wayne, Edmund Gwenn, Tyrone Power, Douglas Fairbanks Jr., Henry Fonda, James Stewart and Errol Flynn; she also was known for her work with legendary director John Ford.

Born Maureen FitzSimons outside of Dublin in 1920, one of six children, her first major role was opposite Charles Laughton in 1937's "Jamaica Inn" by director Alfred Hitchcock. She began working in Hollywood in 1939 as the Gypsy Esmeralda in "The Hunchback of Notre Dame." She spent the next three decades in film, with



1952's "The Quiet Man" with John Wayne ranking on many critics' top 10 list of the 20th century.

In 1968, she married test pilot Charlie Blair and retired from movie-making. In a 1998 interview with Catholic News Service, she said her decision was "the most intelligent, smartest and most wonderful thing anybody could have ever done. It was a wonderful life, and I would do it all over again."

When Blair died in 1978, she considered a comeback, only to find few leading roles for women of her age.



CNS PHOTO/STRINGER, REUTERS
Maureen O'Hara is seen in this Sept. 4, 1994, file photo. Photo above is a publicity still of the Irish beauty from the 1940s.

In 1991, she co-starred with John Candy in "Only the Lonely," and expanded mediums to include television with 1995's "The Christmas Box." In 2000, she made her last appearance, on the small screen, in "The Last Dance."

In the interview with CNS about her Catholic upbringing, O'Hara said she rejected the idea of becoming a nun as a youth because "I was too strong, too hard-headed." But one of her sisters, Peg, joined the Irish Sisters of Charity, turning down a scholarship to study opera at La Scala in Milan to follow her vocation.

When O'Hara was 19, she married an Englishman, George H. Brown, who worked in films. The marriage took place in secret and was annulled two years later. O'Hara then wed American film director, William Houston Price, in 1941; they had a daughter but the marriage ended in divorce in 1953, reportedly because of Price's alcohol abuse.

"From the Abbey stage (in Dublin) to the big screen," Irish Prime Minister Enda Kenny tweeted, "Maureen O'Hara was one of our best – she loved this country and never forgot where she came from. RIP."

In 2014, she received an honorary Oscar. In 2011, O'Hara was formally inducted into the Irish America Hall of Fame.

No details were released about arrangements for her funeral and burial.

O'Hara is survived by her daughter, Bronwyn FitzSimons of Glengarriff, Ireland; her grandson, Conor FitzSimons of Boise, and two great-grandchildren.

– Brown is editor of the Idaho Register, newspaper of the Diocese of Boise.

Movie a character study of a mercurial Steve Jobs

By John Mulderig

NEW YORK (CNS) – As the lively profile of a wildly successful uber-geek, "Steve Jobs" (Universal) is likely to appeal to many a youthful tech fan.

Parents should be aware, however, that this is a morally complex life story – the computer pioneer and Apple, Inc. co-founder died in 2011 at 56 – recounted with a vocabulary that's anything but user-friendly for younger moviegoers.

Screenwriter Aaron Sorkin, creator of TV's "The West Wing," brings his patented cut-and-thrust patter to Jobs' biography. He structures his story around three landmark product launches: 1984's unveiling of the original Macintosh, the presentation of the NeXT computer in 1988 and the 1998 introduction of the iMac.

What these public events, and the behind-the-scenes moments surrounding them, reveal – via Michael Fassbender's nimbly mood-shifting performance – is a volatile and enigmatic genius whose blustering arrogance

masked a deep-seated vulnerability.

Adopted as an infant under circumstances that troubled him in adulthood, Jobs has a tense relationship with his born-out-of-wedlock daughter, Lisa (Makenzie Moss). In fact, so great is his antipathy toward Lisa's mother, his despised ex-girlfriend Chrisann Brennan (Katherine Waterston), that Jobs publicly denies his paternity while implying that any one of host of men could be Lisa's actual father.

Although he eventually relents, Lisa – played, at older ages, first by Ripley Sobo then by Perla Haney-Jardine – is left emotionally scarred by her absent father's attitude.

Jobs' closest professional relationships are equally fraught. His long-suffering gal Friday, Joanna Hoffman (Kate Winslet), has her loyalty, and patience, tested at every turn.

Jobs' longtime collaborator,

Steve Wozniak (Seth Rogen) – a friend since before their legendary days tinkering together in a California garage on what would become the first Apple computer – finds his old partner admirable yet maddening. As for the man Jobs recruited early on to be Apple's CEO, Wall Street veteran John Sculley (Jeff Daniels), his role varies, over time, from patron and father figure to outright adversary.

In short, director Danny Boyle's engaging character study provides viewers with a balanced portrait of a man who was, at once, a radically deficient parent, an unpredictable business ally and a profoundly gifted designer and retailer. Taken as such, Jobs iconically embodies the extremes of his baby-

boomer generation: creative but supremely self-absorbed, relentlessly driven at the office but messy and unsettled in his private life.

Though his underlying qualities eventually win at least partial audience sympathy, experienced discernment is required to work through the morass of contradictions produced by Jobs' mercurial personality. Particularly with regard to ethical matters, his is a record of behavior better pondered by the well-grounded than absorbed by the impressionable.

The film contains mature themes, including illegitimacy, a bit of irreverent and sexual humor, about a half-dozen uses of profanity and considerable rough and crude language. The Catholic News Service classification is A-III – adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R – restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.



New take on the biblical epic 'Ben-Hur'

By Joseph McAleer

NEW YORK (CNS) – The horses have been harnessed and the chariot wheels greased for the new take on the classic film "Ben-Hur" that will roll into cinemas early next year.

This fourth big-screen adaptation of Civil War Gen. Lew Wallace's epic 1880 novel, "Ben-Hur: A Tale of the Christ," is produced by the husband-and-wife team of Roma Downey and Mark Burnett. Their faith-focused production company, LightWorkers Media, has already scored a number of notable successes – including the two blockbuster television series, "The Bible" and "A.D.: The Bible Continues," and the 2014 feature film "Son of God."

Downey, a Catholic, was in New York recently to talk about "Ben-Hur" at the Sheen Center for Thought & Culture, a new forum for discussion and the arts run by the Archdiocese of New York.

Set in the Holy Land during the time of Jesus, "Ben-Hur" tells the story of Judah Ben-Hur (Jack Huston), a Jewish prince falsely accused of treason by his adopted brother, Messala (Toby Kebbell), a gentle officer in the Roman army. Stripped of his title, separated from his family and the woman he loves (Nazanin Boniadi), Judah is condemned to the tortured life of a galley slave.

After years at sea, Judah returns to his homeland to seek revenge. Instead he finds redemption as his life intersects, in surprising ways, with that of the Savior (Rodrigo Santoro).

The film also stars Morgan Freeman as Sheik Ilderim, the man who teaches Judah the art of chariot racing.

"People are going to come because it's an action movie, and it will deliver on all of that. It's exciting, exhilarating, beautifully performed and shot," Downey said. "But at the heart-

beat of it is a deeply profound message. The potential for this film to open hearts is important. I certainly know that, in my life, when hearts are opened, grace moves in and all things are possible."

A joint production of MGM and Paramount, "Ben-Hur" was filmed over six months in Italy, using many of the same locations as 2004's "The Passion of the Christ." Directed by Timur Bekmambetov, the film is slated for release Feb. 26.

The enduring affection for the 1959 film version – itself an update of the 1925 silent classic starring Ramon Novarro and Francis X. Bushman – has not been overlooked by the producers. Directed by William Wyler, and with Charlton Heston, of course, taking the title role, the Eisenhower-era epic garnered a then-record 11 Academy Awards, though it's best remembered today for its thrilling chariot race.

"It was so exciting – and terrifying – for all of us in some ways, to tackle something that's engraved in the minds and memories and hearts of people," Downey admitted. "The 1959 film is one of those films that people remember who they watched it with or the feelings that it evoked."

Noting, however, that when her children, who range in age from 18 to 22, heard of her new project, they responded, "Ben who?" Downey said the time was right to bring Wallace's novel to a new generation.

"It's a great story and it needs to be told again," she said. "And if you thought that chariot race was amazing, wait 'til you see this chariot race! It's gonna knock your socks off!"

Downey noted that casting the role of Jesus was a particular challenge. "This is my third crucifixion sequence as a producer," she said. Santoro was chosen after many actors were turned away.

Build the language of faith!

CATHOLIC QUIZ
CATHOLICQUIZ OF THE WEEK™
PART A
SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS
NOVEMBER 1, 2015

1. In the vision of the Book of Revelation, from which direction did the angel come holding the seal of the living God?
 - a. North
 - b. South
 - c. East
 - d. West
2. According to Psalm 24, what belongs to the Lord?
 - a. the earth and all that it holds
 - b. the mountains and valleys
 - c. the just and the unjust
3. According to the First Letter of John, the Father's love enables us to be called _____.
 - a. children of God
 - b. holy of holies
 - c. temples of the Holy Spirit
4. According to the Beatitudes, the meek will inherit _____.
 - a. the kingdom of God
 - b. the land
 - c. mercy
5. According to Matthew, what will happen to the clean of heart?
 - a. they will be satisfied
 - b. they will be comforted
 - c. they will see God
6. According to the Matthew, what will happen to those who hunger and thirst for righteousness?
 - a. they will be satisfied
 - b. they will inherit the land
 - c. they will be called children of God
7. According to the Beatitudes, who will be called children of God?
 - a. martyrs
 - b. preachers
 - c. peacemakers

Answers and References
 1 • c. East (Revelation 7:2)
 2 • a. the earth and all that it holds (Psalm 24:1)
 3 • a. children of God (1 John 3:1)
 4 • b. the land (Matthew 5:5)
 5 • c. they will see God (Matthew 5:8)
 6 • a. they will be satisfied (Matthew 5:6)
 7 • c. peacemakers (Matthew 5:9)

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A NIGHT of SUPPORT



PHOTOS BY TANYA CONNOR

Father H. Edward Chalmers, pastor, St. Stephen Parish, Worcester, and Msgr. Richard E. Collette, retired, greet each other as the priests gather to sing with Bishop McManus at the "Celebrate Priesthood!" gala. "They're such wonderful guys," Susan Leahy, of St. Mary Parish in Shrewsbury, said of priests she's known. "They're always there when you need them. You'd do anything for them. ... It's good to celebrate with them." Michael Gillespie, director of development, noted that sponsors and advertisers raised more than \$100,000 for the priests' retirement fund.



Above, Father Tam M. Bui, pastor, Our Lady of Vilna Parish, Worcester, poses with a cut-out of himself for Elizabeth Cotrupi, director of youth and young adult ministry. At right, Henry Camosse, of St. Joseph Parish in Charlton, and outgoing CEO of Southgate at Shrewsbury, joins Father Robert E. Garipey, who lives at Southgate.



Above, Father Juan D. Escudero, associate, St. Mary Parish, Shrewsbury, embraces Jean Lawler, St. Leo Parish, Leominster, and Gina Kuruvilla, St. Mary Parish, Shrewsbury. At left, Bishop McManus and Father Mateus Souza talk. Below, Msgr. Francis D. Kelly, Canon in Rome, is joined by Robert and Frances Pike, St. Vincent de Paul Society, and their niece Cheryl Kelly, wife of Msgr. Kelly's nephew Peter.



Immaculate Heart of Mary School Band, Still River, plays for the audience.