



**Official Appointments**

**The Reverend Robert A. Ba-log,** Pastor of St. Mary Parish, McHenry, Illinois, to retire with the permission of The Most Reverend Bishop, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend John A. Slam-pak,** Pastor of Blessed Sacrament Parish, North Aurora, Illinois, to retire with the permission of The Most Reverend Bishop, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend William R. Wentink,** Chaplain for St. Anthony Medical Center, Rockford, Illinois, to retire with the permission of The Most Reverend Bishop, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend Monsignor Daniel J. Hermes,** Pastor of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Crystal Lake, Illinois, to be also Vicar Forane of the McHenry Deanery, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend David M. Austin** to be Pastor of St. Mary Parish, McHenry, Illinois, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend Juan Ayala** to be Pastor of St. Patrick Parish, Rochelle, Illinois, effective Monday, April 14, 2014

**The Reverend Monsignor Eric R. Barr,** Vicar General/Chancellor, to be also Pastor of Holy Family Parish, Rockford, Illinois, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Very Reverend Carl E. Beekman** to be Pastor of SS. Peter & Paul Parish, Cary, Illinois, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend Oscar O. Cortes** to be Pastor of St. Rita of Cascia Parish, Aurora, Illinois, effective Monday, April 14, 2014.

Continued on page 3

**Inside**



**Divine Mercy Sunday**

pg. 4



**Homeless on Wheels**

Seasoned Observer, pg. 7

**This Issue**

Bishop Malloy ..... 2  
Headliners ..... 3  
Diocesan ..... 4  
Nation/World ..... 5-6  
Seasoned Observer ..... 7  
Faith Forum ..... 8  
Viewpoints ..... 9  
Media/Arts ..... 10-11  
For the Record ..... 11  
Around the Diocese ..... 12



(CNS photo/Evandro Inetti, pool)

A large crowd is seen as Pope Francis celebrates the canonization Mass for Sts. John XXIII and John Paul II in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican April 27.

**Local Groups Closer Than They Knew in Rome**

BY SHARON BOEHLEFELD  
*Features editor*

ROME—Several pilgrims from the Rockford Diocese ended up within 50 feet of each other at the April 27 canonization of St. John XXIII and St. John Paul II. They just didn't know it.

They were around the corner from each other at the intersection of Via della Transpontina and Villa della Conciliazione but by then, neither group could make any further progress toward St. Peter's Square.

The two groups were led by Msgr. Gerald Kobbeman, diocesan pilgrimage director, and Father David Peck, his predecessor.

Representatives of both groups made it to the square, but only because they left the night before to try to make it. A number of Msgr. Kobbeman's pilgrims decided to watch the proceedings from a big screen TV at Castel Sant' Angelo.

Among them was Annmarie Calgaro, a member of Holy Spirit Parish in Roscoe. For her, and for many others who found their way to outdoor groups, the consecration and greeting of peace were especially touching moments of the Mass. But Calgaro also enjoyed the chance to meet Catholics from all over the world.

"There was a flag I didn't recognize," Calgaro said, and I asked where they were from and they said Ukraine. They said, 'Pray for us. We really

need prayers.'"

Carl Ambrusco, a member of St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Rockford, brought back souvenirs from St. Peter Square for everyone in Msgr. Kobbeman's group — a double holy card that features pictures of both new saints, and a large card featuring Pope Francis and including the name and date of the event.

"The Mass and the music and the singing and the trumpets and the organ," he said, "it was just beautiful."

He said being at the Mass in St. Peter's Square was, in part, "to complete a circle of my mother's wishes," and to pray. "I prayed for St. Anthony of Padua Parish and others that I said I would pray for. I basically prayed for Rockford," he said.

He and a few from the other group also reported some tough moments when the Vatican gates reopened and the crowd surged through. Some of the people who had stayed the night sleeping were hurt when the wave of new people came in.

Mary Sharp, a parishioner at St. Katharine Drexel in Sugar Grove, and a member of Msgr. Kobbeman's group, is also a counselor. She said she believed some people left the square because they became frightened by the potential harm from the onrush of newcomers when the gate opened. "In that crowd, you got pushed so much," she said, "it shifted them into fight or flight."

Father Peck held a Mass af-

ter the papal Mass to allow everyone who wanted to receive Communion. Only a few from either group — all over-nighters in the square — were close enough to receive communion. He reminded his group that pilgrimages are not easy, but not to let the unpleasantness of the crowd to discourage them from remembering the good they'd encountered, to put aside their pain and to turn to Mary.

Joanne Lollino of St. John Neumann Parish in St. Charles was one of Father's Peck's group who made it all the way to the square. Her special project for the pilgrimage, she said, was to pray for all the priests, bishops or cardinals she could meet. "They pray for us all the time, so I decided to pray for them," she said. "And I wanted to tell them.

She made an effort to greet every priest she saw. By the end

of the Mass Sunday, she had told 26 priests she was praying for them, and included among their numbers were Bishop David A. Zubik of Pittsburgh and Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl of Washington, D.C.

Frank Positano of Campton Hills, near St. Charles, who was part of Father Peck's group, was among several people who boarded a bus at 4 a.m. to try to get to the Vatican for the Mass. When they were dropped off, they were moving well for quite a distance, but then they hit a large crowd. "People were pushing and shoving," he said, and some decided to turn back.

They watched the ceremonies on television from a hotel.

While Father Peck went with the 4 a.m. group from his trip, Msgr. Kobbeman opted to stay with those from his group who

Continued on page 6



(Observer photo by Sharon Boehlefeld)

People on Via della Conciliazione could see the Dome of St. Peter's Basilica in the distance and watch a big screen TV about half way down the street.



# The Resurrection of Christ Offers All of Us True Freedom and a Promise of New Life

BY BISHOP DAVID J. MALLOY

**A**s we continue to celebrate the Easter Season, and before all the prayers and efforts of Lent and of our “Be Reconciled Day” become a memory, let’s take a moment to remind ourselves once again of the deepest meaning of Christ’s resurrection: true freedom.

When Jesus came forth from the tomb on that Sunday morning, for the first time since Adam and Eve, we were offered freedom from our sins. In some ways we are tempted to take that stupendous offer for granted because judgment seems so far away, perhaps making some wonder if it exists at all. However, the forgiveness of sins, being set right with God, now and for eternity, having the guilt of our personal offenses taken away by His love; this is a gift we could not even imagine or hope for without His help. And yet, by his dying and rising Jesus offers it to us.

Our freedom does not stop there. The Resurrection of Christ, because he is the head of the human race, is the offer to humanity of freedom from death, the consequence of sin. What other form of freedom could we more ardently desire? Without freedom from death, every minute of life is simply a countdown to a final and meaningless end.

But with freedom from death, each moment of life is drawing us closer to the end for which God made us, to be shared with those we have known and loved who have

themselves been faithful, with all the saints — including Popes John XXIII and John Paul II, canonized this last week with so many pilgrims and so much joy in Rome. Our every choice, every action, every sorrow and every laughter is colored by this fundamental choice: do I accept and live the meaning of the resurrection, or do I not?

In a society that has come to pride itself on its earthly plenty coupled with the contemporary inability to distinguish good from evil, there are powerful pressures on all of us to trade away the freedom of Christ that we celebrate at Easter for earthly alternatives.

Our society entices us to make not eternal salvation but momentary comfort and fleeting status our only priorities. Think of the bombardment of advertising that we all endure and how much is for things of this world which, in truth, we do not really want, much less need. But we are conditioned to believe that our freedom is a liberty to acquire, a freedom to create a future for ourselves that is secured by wealth.

To advance that wrong understanding of freedom, it becomes normal to sacrifice true goods. Marriage is put off, if it is entered into at all so that financially productive years can be maximized. The number of children in families is limited or they are counted as a burden on finances instead of bearers of God’s image. Our children’s future is mortgaged as we run up unsustainable debt, private and public, to be paid by

future generations after we are gone. We need only look around to see the social damage being stoked by the disintegration of the natural family.

The deepest freedom of the human person linked to Christ’s resurrection has frequently had another competitor; the power of the state. The Acts of the Apostles records that the Apostles and the early Church were pressured by Jewish authorities not to speak of the resurrection, leading to the famous reply of Peter and John, “Whether it is right in the sight of God for us to obey you rather than God, you be the judges.” Of course in our own day we struggle still as our government seeks to impose obligations to disobey our faith, contrary to religious liberty. But this violates our God-given freedom to live in preparation for the resurrection.

The resurrection places before each of us a fundamental choice. Since there is no other name under heaven given to the human race by which we are to be saved, we must seek the freedom in Christ that it represents. We must constantly guard and stand up to protect our right to live in this world as those preparing for the resurrection. We need to pass that faith on to our children and to all men and women so that they can respond to the rising of Jesus.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again, we have often prayed. We need to be sure that our lives make him our first priority.



(CNS photo/Claudio Peri, pool via Reuters)

## Holy Mass and the Canonization of Blessed John XXIII and John Paul II

From Homily Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday), 27 April 2014

BY POPE FRANCIS

At the heart of this Sunday, which concludes the Octave of Easter and which St. John Paul II wished to dedicate to Divine Mercy, are the glorious wounds of the risen Jesus. ...

The wounds of Jesus are a scandal, a stumbling block for faith, yet they are also the test of faith. That is why on the body of the risen Christ the wounds never pass away: they remain, for those wounds are the enduring sign of God’s love for us. They are essential for believing in God. Not for believing that God exists, but for believing that God is love, mercy and faithfulness. ...

St. John XXIII and St. John

Paul II were not afraid to look upon the wounds of Jesus, to touch his torn hands and his pierced side. They were not ashamed of the flesh of Christ, they were not scandalized by him, by his cross; they did not despise the flesh of their brother (cf. Is 58:7), because they saw Jesus in every person who suffers and struggles. These were two men of courage, filled with the parrhesia of the Holy Spirit, and they bore witness before the Church and the world to God’s goodness and mercy.

They were priests, and bishops and popes of the twentieth century. They lived through the tragic events of that century,

but they were not overwhelmed by them. For them, God was more powerful; faith was more powerful — faith in Jesus Christ the Redeemer of man and the Lord of history; the mercy of God, shown by those five wounds, was more powerful; and more powerful too was the closeness of Mary our Mother.

In these two men, who looked upon the wounds of Christ and bore witness to his mercy, there dwelt a living hope and an indescribable and glorious joy (1 Pet 1:3,8). The hope and the joy which the risen Christ bestows on his disciples, the hope and the joy which nothing and no one can take from

them. The hope and joy of Easter, forged in the crucible of self-denial, self-emptying, utter identification with sinners, even to the point of disgust at the bitterness of that chalice. Such were the hope and the joy which these two holy popes had received as a gift from the risen Lord and which they in turn bestowed in abundance upon the people of God, meriting our eternal gratitude. ...

May these two new saints and shepherds of God’s people ... teach us not to be scandalized by the wounds of Christ and to enter ever more deeply into the mystery of divine mercy, which always hopes and always forgives, because it always loves.

### Bishop Malloy’s Public Schedule

**ROCKFORD** — May 3, 4:30 p.m., Mass for the 50th Anniversary of Holy Family Church

**ROCKFORD** — May 4, 7:30 a.m., Sunday Mass, Cathedral of St. Peter

**DUNDEE** — May 4, 1:15 p.m., Confirmation for St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Dundee, and St. Mary Parish, Gilberts, at St. Catherine of

Siena Church

**ROCKFORD** — May 5, 10:05 a.m., Catholic Forum, WROK 1440AM

**NORTH AURORA** — May 5, 6 p.m., Aurora Knights of Columbus Clergy Night, Blessed Sacrament Church

**ROCKFORD** — May 6, 11 a.m., Priests’ Jubilee Mass, St. Rita Church

**ROCKFORD** — May 11, 7:30 a.m., Sunday Mass, Cathedral of St. Peter

**OREGON** — May 11, 10 a.m., Mass and Blessing of Church Crucifix, St. Mary Church

**ROCKFORD** — May 12, 10:05 a.m., Catholic Forum, WROK 1440AM

**DEKALB** — May 12, 5:30 p.m., Confirmation, St. Mary Church

**ROCKFORD** — May 13, 12 noon, Blue Mass for First Responders, Cathedral of St. Peter

**ROCKFORD** — May 14, 10

a.m., Mass and Installation of Officers for the Catholic Women’s League, Poor Clares Corpus Christi Monastery

**WOODSTOCK** — May 14, 5:30 p.m., Confirmation for St. Mary Parish, Woodstock, and St. Patrick Parish, Hartland, at St. Mary Church

### Bishop Doran’s Public Schedule

**MARENGO** — May 4, 2 p.m., Confirmation, Sacred Heart Church



The Observer (ISSN 0029-7739), is published weekly, except five times a year by the **Diocese of Rockford**, 555 Colman Center Dr., P.O. Box 7044, Rockford, IL 61125 Phone: 815/399-4300; Fax 815/399-6225.

Periodical postage paid at Rockford, Ill., and additional mail offices.

**POSTMASTER:** send address changes to **The Observer**, 555 Colman Center Dr., P.O. Box 7044, Rockford, IL 61125

For **ADVERTISING** information: Contact **The Observer** at the address above or call 815/399-4300; fax 815/399-6225, E-mail: [observer@rockforddiocese.org](mailto:observer@rockforddiocese.org).

Send **NEWS** information to **The Observer** at the address or fax number above; send email to [Observer@rockforddiocese.org](mailto:Observer@rockforddiocese.org); or fill out a form at <http://observer.rockforddiocese.org/contact-us>.

Subscription rate \$28.00 per year (48 issues); Canadian and Pan American \$29; other foreign: surface mail \$37, air mail \$97; single copies \$1.

**The Observer Online** digital subscriptions are also available.

**Publisher:** Most Reverend David J. Malloy

**Associate Publisher:** Msgr. Eric Barr

**Editor:** Penny Wiegert

**News Editor:** Amanda Hudson

**Features and Multimedia Editor:** Sharon Boehlefeld

**Circulation/Proofreading:** Susan Sabrowski, Keith Ludolph

**Accounting:** Jill Bonk

**Production and Web Administrator:** Gary Haughton

**Contributing Writers:** Bishop Emeritus Thomas G. Doran, Father John Slampak, Msgr. Aaron Brodeski, Father Kenneth Wasilewski, Keith Ludolph, Lynne Conner, George Weigel, Father Ronald Rolheiser, Tony Carton, Thomas Craughwell, Pat Szpekowski, Margarita Mendoza

**Publication Dates:** Weekly except that in 2014 there will be no issues on Jan. 3, May 30, Aug. 29, Oct. 31 and Dec. 26.

**News Deadlines:** Usually, 10 days before publication date.

**Ad Deadlines:** Usually, 10 days before publication date.

Official information on the policies, activities, and positions of the Diocese of Rockford is released only in the pages of **The Observer**, or in statements from the Diocesan Office of Communications and Publications.

**The Observer** uses recycled paper and is recyclable.

**Our Mission is the mission of the Church itself — to spread the Gospel through contemporary means of communications.**

Member of:



# HEADLINERS

## Twenty-eighth Year for Annual Caritas Fundraiser

BY AMANDA HUDSON  
News editor

ROCKFORD—The youth programs at St. Elizabeth Catholic Community Center will benefit from all acts of generos-



Patrick Winn, diocesan director of Catholic Charities, visits as other attendees look over several tables full of silent auction items.

ity, large and small, at the 28th Annual Caritas Luncheon, held April 23 at Giovanni's in Rockford.



(Observer photos by Amanda Hudson)

A handful of youngsters modeled clothing by Infinitely Sweet, along with several women. Clothes from the Dressbarn also were featured at the 28th Annual Caritas Luncheon.

Preschool children from St. Elizabeth Center shared some of the songs they've learned at their preschool through a program by Carl Cole, who accompanied them on keyboard and who played background music throughout the luncheon. The children were treated to an ice cream treat before heading back to St. Elizabeth Center on the little bus purchased a few years ago through Caritas efforts.

"It's another great day for St. Elizabeth Center and Catholic Charities," said Patrick Winn, diocesan director of Catholic Charities, which includes St. Elizabeth Center. That bus, he said, has provided "literally thousands of hours of field trips" to events for people who otherwise would not have been able to experience such things.

Referring to the flying kites theme of the luncheon, he noted how kites need a headwind

to fly, and that "despite headwinds" and the pressures faced by the families they serve, "St. Elizabeth Center keeps flying" in part "because of this event and all of you."

Stephanie Deery, president of the Caritas board, expressed her thanks also to all who attended and to her board's work in organizing the event. In addition to the lunch, a silent auction, a four-prize raffle, a door prize and a style show featuring fashions from the Dressbarn and from Infinitely Sweet rounded out the fundraiser.



A 'Grandma Basket' filled with treats for grandchildren was one of many silent auction items.



Children from the St. Elizabeth Catholic Community Center rode a little bus provided by past Caritas fundraising efforts to come and entertain at this year's Caritas luncheon, accompanied by Carl Cole, right.



A young model is encouraged to pose for a photo by one of the many family and friends taking pictures during the style show.

## Elgin Parish Kicks Off Youth Ministry

ELGIN—A special evening is in store for junior high and high school young adults on Saturday, May 17, at St. Mary School gymnasium.

The St. Mary youth ministry kickoff event will begin with Mass from 5-6 p.m., followed by prayer, including a candlelight procession and adoration of Jesus in the Eucharist. Prayer will be followed by a

party with a DJ, karaoke and free food and drink. The event will run until 11 p.m.

The highlights of the evening will be guest speaker John Lamparis, who is a retreat leader for junior high and adults, a DRE, Junior High Youth Minister, and father of eight from Batavia. He is a co-founder of Camp WOW, Camp ROCK, St. Isidore's & St. Peter's men's

spirituality groups and co-founder of "Camp Emmaus" men's spirituality camp-out.

He is the author and publisher of "Fax of Life" and "He Is Always Near."

A \$5 donation is suggested. This "Catholic Verve" event will take place at the school, 103 S. Gifford St., in the gym.

The parish phone number is: 847/888-2828.

### Official Appointments

From page 1

**The Reverend John R. Evans** to be Pastor of St. Rita Parish, Rockford, Illinois, effective Monday, April 14, 2014.

**The Reverend Monsignor Martin G. Heinz** to be Pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Richmond, Illinois, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend Ricardo F. Hernandez** to be Pastor of Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, Aurora, Illinois, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend Monsignor Stephen J. Knox, VF**, to be Pastor of St. Patrick Parish, St. Charles, Illinois, and to be also Vicar Forane of the Elgin Deanery, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend Max Lasrado** to be Pastor of Blessed Sacrament Parish, North Aurora, Illinois, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend Bruce J. Ludeke** to be Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Sterling, Illinois, effective Monday, April 14, 2014.

**The Reverend Matthew J. McMorrow, S.T.L.**, to be Pastor of Christ the Teacher Parish, DeKalb, Illinois, effective Monday, April 14, 2014.

**The Reverend Andrew T.**

**Mulcahey** to be Pastor of St. Laurence Parish, Elgin, Illinois, effective Monday, April 14, 2014.

**The Reverend Joseph P. Naill**, Pastor of St. Mary Parish, Oregon, Illinois, to be also Pastor of St. Mary Parish, Polo, Illinois, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend Bernard J. Sehr** to be pastor of St. Patrick Parish, Dixon, Illinois, effective Monday, April 14, 2014.

**The Reverend Edward J. Seisser** to be Pastor of St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Dundee, Illinois, and St. Mary Parish, Gilberts, Illinois, and to be also Superintendent of St. Edward Central Catholic High School, Elgin, Illinois, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend Andrew T. Skrobutt** to be Pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Lena, Illinois, St. Ann Parish, Warren, Illinois, and St. Joseph Parish, Apple River, Illinois, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend J. Stephen St. Jules** to be Rector of the Cathedral of St. Peter Parish, Rockford, Illinois, and to be also Vicar Forane of the Rockford Deanery, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend Max J. Striedl** to be Pastor of St. Mary Parish, Huntley, Illinois, effective Tuesday,

July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend William E. Vallejo** to be Pastor of St. Edward Parish, Rockford, Illinois, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend Matthew M. Bergschneider, J.C.L.**, Adjutant Judicial Vicar for the Diocesan Tribunal, to be also Parochial Administrator of St. Patrick Parish, Durand, Illinois, and St. Patrick Parish, Irish Grove, Illinois, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend Kevin M. Butler** to be Parochial Administrator of St. John the Baptist Parish, Somonauk, Illinois, effective Sunday, June 1, 2014.

**The Reverend Matthew J. Camaioni** to be Parochial Administrator of Immaculate Conception Parish, Fulton, Illinois, and St. Patrick Parish, Albany, Illinois, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend Alejandro del-Toro, S.T.L.**, to be Parochial Administrator of St. Patrick Parish, Rockford, Illinois, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend Randy J. Fronck** to be Parochial Administrator of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Sublette, Illinois, St. Patrick Parish, Maytown, Illinois, and St. Mary Parish, West Brooklyn, Illinois, effective Tuesday,

July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend Joel N. Lopez** to be Parochial Administrator of Christ the King Parish, Wonder Lake, Illinois, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend David J. Reese** to be Parochial Administrator of St. Michael Parish, Galena, Illinois, St. Mary Parish, Galena, Illinois, and Holy Trinity Parish, Scales Mound, Illinois, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend Moises A. Apostol** to be Parochial Vicar for SS. Peter & Paul Parish, Cary, Illinois, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend Ryan B. Browning** to be Parochial Vicar for St. Patrick Parish, St. Charles, Illinois, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend James C. Canova** to be Parochial Vicar for Holy Angels Parish, Aurora, Illinois, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend Matthew M. DeBlock** to be Parochial Vicar for St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Dundee, Illinois, St. Mary Parish, Gilberts, Illinois, and to be also Principal/Spiritual Director at St. Edward Central Catholic High School, Elgin, Illinois, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend Mr. Andrew Dietz** to be Parochial Vicar for St. Patrick Parish, St. Charles, Illinois, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend David C. Finn** to be Parochial Vicar for the Cathedral of St. Peter Parish, Rockford, Illinois and to be also Assistant Principal/Spiritual Director at Boylan Central Catholic High School, Rockford, Illinois, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend Joseph F. Jaskierny** to be Parochial Vicar for Holy Family Parish, Rockford, Illinois, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend Carlos A. Monsalve** to be Parochial Vicar for St. Monica Parish, Carpentersville, Illinois, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend Mr. Jared W. Twenty** to be Parochial Vicar pro tempore for Holy Cross Parish, Batavia, Illinois, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

**The Reverend Slawomir Zimodro** to be Parochial Vicar for St. Peter Parish, Geneva, Illinois, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

Given at the Chancery  
This 14th day of April A.D. 2014  
The Reverend Monsignor Eric  
R. Barr, S.T.L.  
Vicar General/Chancellor.

DIOCESAN

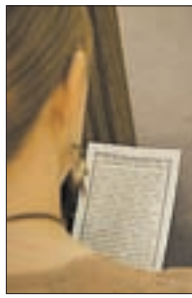
# Divine Mercy Celebrated in DeKalb with New Display

BY AMANDA HUDSON  
News editor

DEKALB—Divine Mercy Sunday, April 27, was celebrated in a big way at St. Mary Church this year, including a blessing of new images of Jesus and two saints who are known



Dan Schoo and dozens of other parishioners completed classes and a retreat series before pledging to give Jesus their trust and strive to show his mercy to others.



Prayer to the Merciful Heart of Jesus

Prayer to the Merciful Heart of Jesus, a group of people who dedicated themselves to the divine mercy of Jesus and a more general prayer of devotion to the sacred heart of Jesus.

All ages came together for the event, young and older, side by side in prayer. Several parishes in the diocese and around the world celebrated this devotion, held annually on the Sun-

day after Easter. Parishioner Dan Schoo was one of dozens of people who

for promoting devotion to the mercy of Jesus. The packed event also included adoration and benediction, confessions, a prayerfully-sung Chaplet of Divine Mercy, a group of people who dedicated themselves to the divine mercy of Jesus and a more general prayer of devotion to the sacred heart of Jesus.

Parishioner Dan Schoo was one of dozens of people who



Paula Vasko leads the singing of the Divine Mercy Chaplet at St. Mary Church in DeKalb where she serves as music director.



(Observer photos by Amanda Hudson)

Father James Parker, pastor, blesses the new, painted, images of the Divine Mercy, St. John Paul II and St. Faustina installed on the wall.

completed “33 Days to Morning Glory” program and “Consoling the Heart of Jesus” 10-week retreat. They made a special dedication to the mercy

of Jesus at the service. Schoo took the program, he says, “to deepen my Catholic faith and find out more about the Divine Mercy.”

## McHENRY DEANERY



Church of Holy Apostles parishioners, McHenry, pass a large cross from row to row throughout the church as part of the Good Friday service.



Father Paul White and Father Reuben Herrera blessed Easter food baskets at Church of Holy Apostles in McHenry. Dozens of parishioners gathered in Bell Tower Place for the food basket blessing.



(Photos provided)

The Easter Egg Hunt festivities at the Church of Holy Apostles in McHenry included pre-hunt activities such as coloring, face painting and pictures with the Easter Bunny. Pictured above is Danny Derouen as he stretches from the tips of his hands to the tips of his toes to hug both the Easter Bunny and bear at the same time.



(Photo by Enrique Mendoza)

Pictured seated from left are: Jill Bonk, accounting; Owen Phelps, past editor and director of the Department of Communications and Publications; Amanda Hudson, news editor; Carole and Ron Bergman; Russell Wiegert, Penny Wiegert, editor and director of the Department of Communication and Publications; Susan Sabrowski, administrative assistant; and Sharon Boehlefeld, features and multimedia editor. Standing in back from left are: Jane Phelps, Margarita Mendoza, diocesan translator and editor of *El Observador*; and Gary Haughton, production and web manager.

## Observer Client Services Representative Retires

An *Observer* employee since 2002, Ronald Bergman retired on April 16. *The Observer* staff and guests held a party for him at Toni’s restaurant in Winnebago that evening.

Ron worked for *The Observer* as its client service representative and also was a proofreader of the paper for many years. Additionally, he worked for Hispanic Ministries, laying out the *El Observer* newspaper for that office. That parish-delivered newspaper is now *El Observador* and is published by the Office of Communications and Publications.

St. Bridget Church in Loves Park has been Ron’s parish since 1946. He is a Eucharistic minister there and is a leader in the parish’s charismatic prayer group. He has been active in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal since 1975.

Ron and his wife, Carole, have been married since 1978. They plan to spend more time now with their nine children, 26 grandchildren and their great-grandchildren.



Father Perfecto Vasquez

## Pilgrimage to the Holy Land Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus

**13 days!** with Father Perfecto Vasquez  
**OCTOBER 13 – 25, 2014**

Full sightseeing schedule with professional guide.

We will see all the highlights such as:

- Nazareth, the childhood home of Jesus and the Basilica of the Annunciation
- Renew your vows in Cana and sail on the Sea of Galilee
- Visit the Monastery of Temptation and Bethany
- Visit Bethlehem, the Shepherd’s Fields and village of Ein Karem, birthplace of John the Baptist
- Walk the Via Dolorosa and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre!
- We will float in the Dead Sea and spend a night in Jordan to visit the magical city of Petra!

**\$3,695** PP, Dbl. Occ. from Chicago

- R/T air from Chicago O’Hare
- 13 days and 11 nights
- 1 night in Tel Aviv to relax
- 3 nights on the shores of the Sea of Galilee
- 6 nights in Jerusalem
- 1 night in Jordan to visit the Rose City of Petra!
- Daily Mass
- First class hotels throughout
- Breakfast and dinner daily
- Plus much much more

**For a detailed tour brochure  
CALL 800-624-8338**



## Watch ‘Catholic Mass’

Sundays at 6:30 a.m. on WREX-TV, Channel 13 in Rockford  
or you can watch on the Web at <http://observer.rockforddiocese.org>.

Brought to you by The Diocesan Office of Communications and Publications

## NATION / WORLD

## Archbishop Visits Afghanistan

WASHINGTON (CNS)—After returning from a Holy Week pastoral visit to U.S. troops in Afghanistan, the head of the U.S. Archdiocese for the Military Services said it was “deeply moving” to spend time “with that portion of my flock which is serving the cause of peace and development” in that country.

“The visits to many military communities gave me an opportunity to fulfill my role as pastor,” Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio said in an April 24 statement. It was the first trip to Afghanistan by any U.S. military archbishop.

His predecessor, then-Archbishop Edwin F. O’Brien, visited troops in Iraq in December 2003.

Archbishop Broglio went to Afghanistan April 15-21 at the invitation of Gen. Joseph F. Dunford Jr. of the U.S. Marine Corps, who is commander of the International Security Assistance Force and U.S. Forces in Afghanistan.

According to a news release from the archdiocese, Archbishop Broglio visited with Catholic servicemen and women still deployed at all eight major U.S. military bases in Afghanistan and in all four regions of the country, which has been at war now for more than 12 years.

He also spent time with each of



(CNS photo/courtesy of the Archdiocese for the U.S. Military Services)

Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio of the Archdiocese for the U.S. Military Services, washes the feet Holy Thursday of a U.S. soldier serving in Afghanistan at Shindand Air Base, located in Herat province.

the 13 Catholic military chaplains currently in the country, discussing the issues they face day in and day out, offering his blessings and “encouraging their courageous service,” the release said.

Among highlights of his visit, Archbishop Broglio baptized four catechumens joining the Catholic Church at Easter; he confirmed numerous Catholics on deployment. He also installed as lector U.S. Army Maj. Derick D. Bothern, a candidate for the permanent diaconate in the Diocese of Colorado Springs, Colo.

He celebrated two Good Friday liturgies, one at Shindand

Air Base in Herat province, the other in Kandahar.

He celebrated the Easter Vigil at Camp Bastion/Leatherneck in Helmand province. On Easter he celebrated one Mass at headquarters in Kabul, and a second Mass at the Italian Embassy, which houses the only permanent Catholic chapel in the country.

Archbishop Broglio met his Italian counterpart, Archbishop Santo Marcano, head of the military ordinariate for Italy.

The U.S. archbishop described as “deeply touching” his visit to an orphanage run by the Missionaries of Charity, the congregation founded by Blessed Teresa of Kolkata. The sisters care for 11 “exceptional orphaned children,” he said.

The Washington-based U.S. Archdiocese for the Military Services, which also has four auxiliary bishops, is responsible for the spiritual, pastoral and sacramental care to those in the United States Armed Forces.

This includes more than 220 installations in 29 countries, patients in 153 Veterans Affairs medical centers, and federal employees serving outside the boundaries of the USA in 134 countries. Numerically, the archdiocese is responsible for more than 1.8 million men, women and children.

## Teresian Carmelites from India Welcomed to Bismarck Diocese

WASHINGTON (CNS)—A small group of Teresian Carmelites from India are quickly adjusting to their new life in the Diocese of Bismarck, N.D., helping out in the Catholic Indian Mission and teaching at St. Bernard Mission School in Fort Yates.

There are four of them, and this is the first time members of their congregation have lived and served in the Western Hemisphere. Their order, founded in 1866, is based in Kerala, India.

“It’s a great encouragement to the Catholic people that we’re able to have religious women in the diocese who are active in



(CNS photo/Derrick Nagel, Dakota Catholic Action)

Sister Amal Grace, second from left, prays alongside other Teresian Carmelite sisters during Mass at the Church of St. Peter in Chains in Fort Yates, N.D., Feb. 22.

the apostolate of Catholic school education,” Bishop David D. Kagan of Bismarck, formerly of the Diocese of Rockford, told Catholic News Service. “I can see many good things coming from their presence here.”

The sisters have come in place of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, whose numbers at the school were declining. Feeling that they could not adequately maintain staff, the School Sisters put in a year’s notice they would be departing.

In searching for a replacement, Father Biju Chitteth, an Indian priest in western North Dakota, connected with the Mother Liza of the Congregation of Teresian Carmelites. Father Chitteth told Bishop Kagan, who then invited them to serve. Mother Liza officially established the order’s U.S. presence during a Feb. 22 Mass at the Church of St. Peter in Chains in Fort Yates. The sisters moved into St. Bernard’s Carmel Convent, which sits on the property of the church.

One of the Carmelites, Sister Silvin, said it was God’s will they came to North Dakota.

“We were asked by Mother Liza to come to the Bismarck Diocese Indian Reservation, that people needed our help,” she told *The Bismarck Tribune* in an April 12 article. “We asked God, and we discerned that it was indeed His will. We

felt a strong yes. We are happy to be here.”

There are five parishes in the Catholic Indian Mission, Bishop Kagan explained. The sisters’ main duty will be to teach at St. Bernard Mission School, but they will also assist priests from these five parishes in pastoral work.

Fort Yates is a part of the Standing Rock Indian Reservation in North Dakota. The city has a 92 percent Native American population, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

St. Bernard Mission School, which was established more than 100 years ago and has always been staffed by religious sisters, strives to help its students “have better lives without taking away their identity,” Benedictine Father Basil Atwell of the Church of St. Peter said.

When Bishop Kagan asked the sisters if they were having any difficulties adjusting to American life, they said, “No, Bishop, but it is really cold here.” The bishop laughed and said it might take them another year or two to get used to the winter. Other than that, they have gradually adapted to an American routine, he said.

According to an article on the website of the Diocese of Bismarck, the order hopes to stay long-term and recruit more sisters.

## News in Brief

## Federal court orders preliminary relief from HHS mandate for FOCUS

DENVER (CNS)—The U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado issued an order April 23 granting a preliminary injunction on enforcement of the federal contraceptive mandate against the Fellowship of Catholic University Students. In its lawsuit, filed with the court in December, FOCUS argued that being required to provide coverage it morally opposes violates its freedom of religion under the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, which allows for religious exceptions to general laws in certain circumstances. The 400-employee organization also cited the Fifth Amendment, which protects “against abuse of government authority” and the Administrative Procedure Act, a federal statute that governs the way the government’s administrative agencies may propose and establish regulations. “Faith-based organizations should be free to operate according to the faith they espouse and live out on a daily basis,” said Michael J. Norton, a lawyer who represented FOCUS in the suit. “If the administration can punish Christian ministries simply because they want to abide by their faith, there is no limit to what other freedoms it can take away,” he said in a statement. Norton is senior counsel with Alliance Defending Freedom, whose lawyers are representing Catholic and other religious organizations who have filed suit against the mandate.

## African churches work to become more self-reliant for funding

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (CNS)—Although the church in Africa still faces many challenges linked to poverty, it is becoming less dependent on funding from developed countries, say African church leaders. In response to church funding cutbacks that started after the 2008 global financial crisis, the Symposium of Episcopal Conferences of Africa and Madagascar has urged its member churches to become self-reliant. Father Nicholas Afriyie, general secretary of the Ghana Catholic Bishops’ Conference, suggested that African churches set up a fundraising committee to identify and tap resources and opportunities on the continent. He told fellow church leaders at a SECAM meeting in Johannesburg, South Africa, earlier this year that the African church should work harder at self-reliance and not be too dependent on financial resources from foreign partners. Many parts of the church in Africa “recognize this reality” and are raising funds locally to support their own socio-economic and pastoral programs, said Father Joseph Komakoma, general secretary of SECAM. Africans give a lot to the church in terms of time, Father Komakoma said in a telephone interview from Accra, Ghana.

## Bishop: South Sudan has become ‘the place where God weeps’

SEATTLE (CNS)—South Sudan’s civil war has taken a brutal turn, despite appeals from the country’s church leaders to stop the violence. In the oil hub of Bentiu, rebels loyal to ousted Vice President Riek Machar, an ethnic Nuer, killed more than 200 civilians and wounded more than 400 in mid-April, the United Nations reported April 21. People were slaughtered inside a mosque, a hospital, and the city’s Catholic church. The U.N. said hate speech was broadcast on local radio stations, urging certain groups to leave the city and encouraging men to rape women. In a separate incident April 17, at least 58 civilians were killed and more than 100 injured when an armed group of largely Dinka youth attacked a U.N. base in Bor, where some 5,000 mostly Nuer civilians had taken refuge. The U.N. Security Council said the attack may “constitute a war crime.”



(CNS photo/Emre Rende, Reuters)

## Top official says Vatican doesn’t fear political use of Holy Land trip

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Despite the risk that Pope Francis’ upcoming trip to the Holy Land may be politicized, people shouldn’t fear any distorted readings or manipulation of the journey, which is a gesture of peace, said the Vatican secretary of state. “If the pope’s trip could be another important building block in constructing peace, it would be worthwhile going to that martyred region,” Cardinal Pietro Parolin said. The cardinal made his comments in an interview published in a new book in Italian, “Popes of Peace,” on the peacemaking role of the pontiffs. The Vatican newspaper, *L’Osservatore Romano*, reprinted the cardinal’s remarks in its April 23 edition. Pope Francis is scheduled to visit Jordan, the West Bank and Israel May 24-26.

NATION / WORLD



(Observer photo/Sharon Boehlefeld)

**'We Have Two Saints'**  
**AT LEFT:** Il Tempo had its post-canonization issue on the streets as soon as pilgrims began leaving the area. The headline read "Habemus duos Sanctos," "We Have Two Saints." It plays on the phrase used to announce a new pope.

**Two Popes Celebrate**  
**AT RIGHT:** Retired Pope Benedict XVI embraces Pope Francis before the canonization Mass for Sts. John XXIII and John Paul II in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican, Sunday, April 27.



(CNS photo/L'Osservatore Romana via Reuters)



(Observer photo/Sharon Boehlefeld)

Tour organizer Rainer Froehlich talks to Msgr. Gerald Kobbeman's pilgrims who decided to try to see how far they could get to the Vatican by leaving their hotel at 7 a.m. Most, when they reached a wall of people a few blocks away, walked back to Castel San Angelo, where a big screen TV was set up.



(Observer Photo/Sharon Boehlefeld)

Father David Peck, pastor of St. John Neumann Parish in St. Charles, led a group of pilgrims to the canonization of Sts. John XXIII and John Paul II in Italy. Among the pilgrims were Rosemary and Tom Muldowney of St. Mary Parish, Byron. They brought their granddaughter, Angelica Rose "Annie" Muldowney on the trip. They took a side trip to Aquina, home of St. Thomas Aquinas, who is Annie's confirmation saint.



(Observer Photo/Sharon Boehlefeld)

Tom Elms from St. Charles, a pilgrim with Father David Peck's group, points to the place where he and several others set out for St. Peter's Square, and where they were forced to stop. They turned back early enough to get back to their hotel and watch the proceedings on television.



(Observer Photo/Sharon Boehlefeld)

Carl Ambruso of Rockford's St. Anthony of Padua Parish, made it to St. Peter's Square and brought back souvenirs for all the members of Msgr. Kobbeman's pilgrimage group.

MSGR. DEMPSEY, MSGR. MCLOUGHLIN, AND FR. WIRTH

"INVITE YOU" TO THEIR

2ND ANNUAL

*Priests for the Poor Golf Outing*

FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 2014  
 1:00 P.M. SHOTGUN START  
 (CHECK-IN 12:00 P.M.)  
 SCRAMBLE  
 MARENGO RIDGE GOLF CLUB  
 MARENGO, IL

GOLF & DINNER: \$100  
 DINNER ONLY: \$40  
 HOLE SPONSOR: \$100  
 4SOME & HOLE SPONSOR: \$475

SIGN UP **TODAY:**  
 WWW.PRIESTS4POOR.COM  
 PRIESTS4POOR@GMAIL.COM  
 847.363.0415



TO BENEFIT:  
*Food for the Poor*  
 (WWW.FOODFORTHEPOOR.ORG)

**Diocesan Groups Closer Than They Knew in Rome**

From page 1  
 decided to watch on TV.

They had an option to watch CNN coverage, but found the commentary distracted them from the Mass, so they switched to Italian TV. Msgr. Kobbeman said that commentary was just a translation of the Latin Mass into Italian.

"It was very respectful," he said of the Italian broadcast. "I felt like I prayed the Mass with them, as opposed to listening to a commentary."

Several people who were with Msgr. Kobbeman agreed, including a woman from New

York who stopped by in the lobby later in the day to thank him for translating.

Isla "Tish" Evers of Holy Angels Parish in Aurora and Mary Jagers, a Peoria Diocese resident who joined the group, both said his translation helped make the day special for them.

"He does such an excellent job, they should have him do (American TV) commentary," Jagers said.

And Evers, who said she hadn't expected to venture into the huge crowd, said "Just being here and the excitement and being around was wonderful."

# SEASONED OBSERVER



## Homeless on Wheels

### Sister Clare Award Celebrates Alumna's Dedication to the Homeless

BY AMANDA HUDSON  
News Editor

**O**n any given night, 500,000 people are homeless in the United States.

On any given day or night, Diane Nilan can be found advocating for those who do not have homes or a voice.

Nilan, a graduate of the University of St. Francis, was honored by her alma mater on March 12 with the second-ever Sister Clare Award in recognition of her "lifetime's work" with homeless people. The award is presented as part of the university's Women's History Month celebration and is given to "women of light" who walk in the ways of St. Clare.

St. Clare was one of the first followers of St. Francis of Assisi, lived in the 13th century, and together they were dedicated to helping the poor.

In the Diocese of Rockford, Nilan served more than a decade at Aurora's Hesed House, a ministry begun in 1985 to assist homeless persons of all ages. As part of her work as associate director in the early 1990s, she was instrumental in the passage of "Charlie's Bill" in 1994 — formally known as the Illinois Education for Homeless Children Act.

The bill, nicknamed for a young resident at Hesed House, was the first of its kind anywhere in the nation. It allowed parents and children who come to a homeless shelter outside their former school district to decide

if they want to remain in their former school, if it was within a reasonable distance from the shelter. Its purpose was to provide some sense of stability for the children.

"Charlie's Bill" led to federal McKinney-Vento legislation that gave improved educational rights to homeless children nationwide. It passed in 2001 as part of No Child Left Behind and expanded on the Department of Housing and Urban Development's definition of homelessness to include persons who live in public spaces, cars, shelters and such. The Department of Education uses that newer definition to secure education for homeless children. Nilan advocated for that national legislation as well.

Nilan began her work with homeless people in Joliet, starting the Daybreak Shelter, then served at Hesed House. In 2005, she sold her house, car and belongings to start the not-for-profit HEAR US: Voice and Visibility for Homeless Children, to champion the cause of homeless people.

Today, she drives (and lives in) a motorhome, traveling throughout the country to educate people about the plight of homeless children.

Her 20-minute video featuring homeless children from across the nation, "My Own Four Walls," won the Outstanding Media Award in 2007 from the National Association of Homeless Children and Youth. It is used in schools nationwide. In her book, "Crossing the Line: Taking Steps to End Homelessness," she maintains that education is the only way out of homelessness.

## DESTINATION



(Photos/ www.czestochowa.us)

### National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa Doylestown, Pa.

**Destination:** If you plan a visit in the northeast anytime, plan a stop at this shrine in Doylestown, Pa. An exhibit about Our Lady of Czestochowa ("The Black Madonna") recently came to Holy Family Parish in Rockford, generating interest. Among the shrine's thousands of visitors was St. John Paul II, who visited twice before he was elected pope.

Masses are Saturday 5 p.m. (English); Sunday, 8, 10 a.m., 12:30 p.m. (Polish), and 9, 11 a.m., 2:30, 5 p.m. (English); weekdays, 7:30, 8, 11:30 a.m. (English). Check the website for holy day and holiday schedules.

**Why to go:** The story of this American shrine began, according to its website, "in 1951 when Father Michael M. Zembruski, a priest in the Pauline Order from Poland, arrived on American soil." Father Zembruski worked as a missionary during his first three years here, traveling to Polish parishes in the U.S. and Canada. His journeys made clear a need among "Polonia" to foster pride in their Polish heritage and culture. After gaining permission in late 1953 to establish a monastery in Doylestown, he also sought to develop a shrine. He had it weeks later.

On June 26, 1955, Father Stanley Nowak blessed and dedicated a small barn chapel to Our Lady of Czestochowa. The first recorded pilgrimage to the new shrine was from St. Laurentius Parish in Philadelphia for the dedication.

**Activities:** The shrine will host the 49th Polish-American Family Festival and Country Fair this year Aug. 30-Sept. 1 (Labor Day Weekend) and Sept. 6-7.

**Ammenities:** A cafeteria is open only on Sundays, 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. There is also a gift shop on the grounds, open 9 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. daily.



Shrine grounds

**(Grand) Kid friendly:** This is an ideal stop during a car drive. The aerial view of the grounds shows plenty of room for walks (or quiet runs) with the kids. And don't forget the festival.

**Info:** Address: National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa P.O. Box 2049, 654 Ferry Road, Doylestown, PA 18901. Phone: 215/345-0600 Web: www.czestochowa.us

— Compiled by Sharon Boehlefeld  
Send Destination ideas to [SeasonedObserver@rockforddiocese.org](mailto:SeasonedObserver@rockforddiocese.org).  
Follow The Observer Destinations blog at <http://observer.rockforddiocese.org/destinations-blog> and find us on Pinterest at [TheObserverRkfd](http://TheObserverRkfd).

Keep your **Observer** coming for only \$28 a year for print, digital or both. And, when you renew, consider linking someone else to the Good News in the Rockford Diocese by buying a subscription for a friend or family member.

Or donate the cost of a subscription — by phone or at our website — and we'll help your parish select someone who could use the boost of an extra faith visit from your diocesan newspaper.

Subscribe at  
815/399-4300,  
ext. 383 or

<http://observer.rockforddiocese.org>

THE OBSERVER

Buy One,  
Give One  
and be a  
**BOGO**  
Buddy.

Buy One, Give One Buy One, Give One Buy One, Give One

## FAITH FORUM

## A Possible Answer About Why We Suffer

On March 23, my brother died after a long illness. When he was young, he was vigorous, a champion speedskater and baseball player. He and his wife raised five beautiful children, providing them with a loving home.

Many of us who experience the death of a beloved ask tough questions. Why do some people have to endure inhumane drawn-out illnesses? Why do we, who love them, have to suffer so deeply? Why does God permit this?

Kindness means being disposed toward another, toward life and toward God. Ill disposition is seeing the dark side of life only.

During this period of pain, this negative picture of life plagued me, causing me to reflect more deeply on his ordeal. But thanks to reflection, I came to see profound meaning in what he and I had experienced during his illness.

When I visited him, I often met his caregivers. Here were people devoted daily to patients who couldn't talk or walk, and who often slept most of the day. Instead of reflecting on the darkness of

### Guest Column



by Father Eugene Hemrick

Catholic News Service

the illnesses the caretakers had to deal with, I took a second look at the caregivers.

These compassionate workers are wonderful to the helpless. They bond with those they care for. They listen to a patient and often offer the human touch of a hand that says, "I am here for you."

And yet, not all is idyllic when caring for those who have become helpless. But if you look, you will always find at least one caregiver in these situations whose warm heart is something to behold. You'll see a person deeply concerned for those under his or her care.

To more fully understand caring and its powers, it is helpful to look beyond our world. In war-torn countries that leave people with little or no hope, what helps them survive?

The answer is that they care for one another. Those who care may be a mother and father rearing children, or adult children helping elders keep things together. It can be neighbors helping one another. They turn an inhumane situation into a humane one.

Sometimes we ask why God would permit lengthy illnesses or seemingly endless suffering. One reason might be that it brings the best out of those who are well. It helps us to better realize the gift and power of caring that we have received from God.

### Teaching Moment



by Bishop Emeritus Thomas G. Doran

observer@rockforddiocese.org

## Why are statues covered?

**Q** Why are the statues covered during Lent?  
D.S., Rockford

**A** The covering of statues, or veiling as it is called, is not done in all of Lent, only from Passion Sunday, that is the fifth Sunday of Lent, onward, and they are unveiled at the Easter Vigil. And many times, it is only the statues of Christ that are covered during this time. The idea I think was that by covering them, it would help concentrate the minds of the faithful on the suffering, Passion and death of Christ.

The new Catholic Encyclopedia says that it is based on part of the Gospel reading for the day in the Latin Mass: John 11:54: "Jesus therefore no longer walked about openly among the Jews" because they planned to put him to death, after he had raised Lazarus from the dead. The symbols of Jesus are veiled because he hid himself at this time; also, one writer says, to remind us that his divinity was hidden during his suffering and death.

The practice of covering or veiling statues takes place at the discretion of the local pastor.

Send your topics or questions for Bishop Doran's Teaching Moment to [observer@rockforddiocese.org](mailto:observer@rockforddiocese.org)

## They Say, 'The Road to Hell is Paved With Good Intentions'

In 490 B.C. there was an historic battle between the Greeks and the Persians. Against all odds, the Greeks were victorious at Marathon. After the battle, one man ran from Marathon to Athens 26 miles, 385 yards, to report the news; he ran so hard, that when he delivered the message, he collapsed and died.

A magazine ran a cartoon, referring back to this event, of a rather nerdy-looking runner at the end of the 26 mile marathon, facing an expectant crowd, ready to announce the good news of victory. He says, "Uh, um ... I forgot the message." Because he had lost sight of the purpose of the run, the run became a meaningless event.

In and through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, the victory has been won. The challenge for us, as we live our daily lives, is to proclaim this good news, to deliver the message. The challenge is to stay the course, mindful of its true meaning and purpose. The challenge is to never lose sight of who you are and what you ought to be doing with your lives. Never, "Uh, um, I forgot the message."

"Love one another as I have loved you; anyone who says, 'I love God,' and hates his brother or sister, is a liar, since the person who does not love the brother that you can see, cannot love God, whom you have never seen."

Good intentions about many good things you are going to do: you intend ... to give up destructive habits ... to be more loving,

### Liturgy of the Church



by Father John Slampak, STL  
Member of the Diocesan Liturgical Commission

[jslampak@rockforddiocese.org](mailto:jslampak@rockforddiocese.org)

sensitive, compassionate ... to do more for those who are hurting ... reexamine our values, priorities; but, there are so many other things that you might forget the message you have received about your true life goals.

This very human tendency was very much on Jesus' mind. Again and again he made the point: accepting his teachings was not enough; they have to be applied, translated into real live action.

There is a story about a man on his way to a distant city. He was unfamiliar with the route, became confused and took the wrong road. When he realized his predicament, he stopped his car and asked a passing stranger, "Can you help me, I'm lost?" "Where are you headed?" "Toledo."

"You're not lost. You know where you are going. You just need directions."

None of us who gather around the altar must ever imagine that we're lost. That's the whole point of our gathering for Mass. In Jesus, God our Father is present among us. Through Jesus, He assures us that we are never abandoned. From Jesus, we all know where we're going. But, in the name of Jesus, you have to admit there are times you need directions. The two disciples, faces downcast because of their experience of Good Friday, were so much into their sorrow they didn't recognize the risen Jesus. They asked him to stay with them.

It was in the breaking of the bread that their eyes were opened and they recognized him. "Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?" At once they hit the road running to tell the others how the Risen Christ came into their lives and gave them directions. "Love one another." Do you get the message?

## Fear is the Enemy of Joy

Spiritual joy is a gift from God. Its enemy is fear. Jesus warned against fear over and over. Jesus came to earth so that our joy may be full. In the Bible, he repeatedly tells others to let go of fear. Controlling our fears is a spiritual duty, just as it was for his first disciples.

Granted, some fears are unavoidable, such as a person's reaction to an armed robber, but most of our fears are merely nervous symptoms. They are distressing but not dangerous.

Learning how to reduce needless fear to an acceptable level takes time and training of one's will, but it is possible.

First, you need to understand the distinction between happiness and spiritual joy. Remember that your goal is to reduce fear to attain spiritual joy. You certainly have the right to pursue happiness, but most people think of happiness as pleasure instead of it as peace of soul.

We appreciate good food, and feel comforted by warm blankets on a cold night. The smell of fresh air and the sight of a beautiful sunset may delight our senses, and yet, even though these pleasures are noble, they cannot bring us spiritual happiness, which is a state of peace and serenity based on the knowledge of God's love.

Therefore, with God's help, living a more joyful life is not only

### Guest Column



by Father John Catoir

Catholic News Service

possible, but necessary for true spiritual joy. Some call it happiness of the soul.

To get there, we have much preliminary work to do. We have to say "no" to fear. We need to pray that God will create in us a strong and grateful heart. In addition, we need to be contrite for our sin and develop self-discipline.

To do it correctly, you have to clear your mind of all kinds of toxic thinking. Fear, resentment, hatred, vindictiveness, etc., will drain your strength. It's a big order, but you can do it.

Never be discouraged because you are overly fearful. Your joy will grow as you become more and more aware of God's protection and love. The virtue of hope comes into play here. We hope for better days.

Hope is expectation with certainty. Know that you will not be disappointed. Turn your fears over to the Lord and know that better days are coming.

Joy is described as the simplest form of gratitude. The duty of delight is fulfilled by living joyfully because of the knowledge of God's love. This is the greatest honor we can give to almighty God.

Laugh at your fears and they will lose their power. Repeat: "I am not in danger, the Lord is with me." Nervous fears dissolve when they are not accepted as true.

Remove toxic thoughts from your mind, and you will be better able to feel God's joy pulsing through your soul. May the Lord be your strength and your joy.

## VOICES IN THE NEWS

**I** was in the ambulance with him (after he was shot.) He was praying for his assailant. Although he didn't know who he was, he already forgave him ... (He always had believed that) human life should be a time of preparation for death because it would be a person's greatest moment of encounter, meeting the Lord."

— Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz speaking on April 25 about the canonization of Pope John Paul II



VIEWPOINTS

# Picking Your Battles and Causes

A few days ago, my daughter was telling me about something that one of her children had done. It was not something harmful, but it was not something good. "I let it slide," she said. "You have to pick your battles."

I agreed.  
Not getting around to picking up your toys in your bedroom isn't on the same level as smacking your brother in the head with one of those toys.

**Your Family**



by Bill Dodds

Catholic News Service

Yes, clean your room but ... it's not the worst thing that you can fail to do.

As a parent, spouse, adult son or daughter, sibling, employer or employee, be wise to pick your battles, to consider what matters and what you can let slide. On a small scale, it's a matter of judgment tempered with mercy.

In a similar way, as adults, we have to consider and choose what "battles," what religious, social or political causes, we're willing to become more actively involved in, and that can be tough because it's easy to be pulled in so many directions. Do we fight for the unborn, the hungry, the homeless, the abused, the unemployed or underemployed, the exploited, the poorly educated, the homebound, the dying? The list is so long, the stories, the faces, are so sad and the needs

are so great.

The church teaches us to perform corporal works of mercy, such as feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, clothing the naked, sheltering the homeless, visiting the sick, visiting the imprisoned and burying the dead. Jesus told us that whatever we do for these, "the least," we do for him.

What can we do? And what can't we do?

We can't do everything we may want to do. We can choose one area, one issue, to which we feel called. Perhaps we can focus on a need we've experienced and our firsthand knowledge of it will foster empathy and understanding.

We can't save the world. (It has been noted that position has been filled.) But we can make a huge difference in the lives of individuals. That's true whether we work on the front lines (offering care to women facing crisis pregnancies, for example) or at the systemic level (advocating changes in the laws regarding abortion, for instance).

We can't hand out blank checks to every worthy cause, ministry or apostolate, or sit on the sidelines and solemnly vow to set up a charitable foundation once we win the lottery. We can give to a cause, organization, ministry or apostolate that needs our donation and will use that gift prudently.

We can pray. There's no "can't" to that. There's no excuse not to do that — today.

# Canonizations in Rome Well Worth the 'Madding Crowd'

By now, the news of Sts. John XXIII and John Paul II is "old news." But I had the privilege of traveling to Italy with Msgr. Gerald Kobbeman

**Guest Column**



by Sharon Boehlefeld  
Features and Multimedia Editor

sboehlefeld@rockforddiocese.org

and the diocesan pilgrimage group, where we encountered thousands of other pilgrims to Rome for a unique moment in our Church's history, the canonization of two popes.

The hustle and bustle, the jostling and tumbling were mostly minor where I was, about a block from the entrance to St. Peter's Square. No one seems to have gotten hurt there, beyond a few accidental toe-stomps.

I heard from a few other pilgrims from the diocese, however, who'd seen people carried out on stretchers in what ap-

peared to be body bags. I found out later from Cindy Wooden of Catholic News Service that in Italy emergency personnel wrap victims in Mylar, a plastic, to keep them warm.

Yes, a few people were hurt; many were inconvenienced. Ultimately, few of the millions who came to the city actually made it to St. Peter's Square for either the canonization Mass on Sunday or for Pope Francis's second Mass for the pilgrims on Monday.

And there will be countless stories of problems of one sort or another during the visit to Rome. Pilgrims have always encountered hardships.

For me, though, and I know for many others who pushed on as far as they could until they hit a wall of bodies, who stood for hours waiting for a chance to see the pope, to be at the Mass, and who eventually stopped where they were, left with a special feeling. I suspect the story of that feeling is being told in every language this

week.

When the people standing in crowded corners of Rome realized the Mass was starting, they began to quiet. At first, it was a few people recognizing the Latin of the Litany of Saints and responding with the choir. By the time the pope opened the Mass, many made the sign of the cross together.

Gradually we all began to respond to the parts of the Mass. We all said alleluia and amen.

By the consecration, amidst millions of people, it was quiet enough to hear birds chirp and squawk. And by the greeting of peace, people who were elbowing each other for inches an hour earlier, bickering over the ground we stood on, looked around and remembered we were all Catholics. And we turned, and shook hands with total strangers and wished them the peace of Christ.

We had all found the universal Church in Rome. We had become one in Christ.

Alleluia. Amen.

# Looking at the Remaining Days Ahead With Faith

I've often written about the years when I served with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps long ago in a remote Alaskan bush village where I taught at a Jesuit boarding school. A large staff worked at the isolated mission: Jesuits, Ursuline sisters and a large contingent of mostly right-out-of-college "Jesuit volunteers."

**For the Journey**



by Effie Caldarola

Catholic News Service

Looking back from a vantage of almost 40 years, what I realize is what I share with so many my age: We were young and invincible once, and now the years bring the reality of mortality. It's a reality we all face as we grow older, and how we deal with this reality is at the heart of our faith.

From that perspective, it's a challenge. Lent and Easter are consoling times to face that challenge.

Living in a community in a remote locale produced tight friendships and even a few marriages, including my own. With no restaurants, pubs or movie theaters in the village, we learned to make our fun together.

No television meant that entertainment came in old movies shipped out from Anchorage, which we ran on an old-time reel projector. Netflix, computers and cellphones were still science fiction dreams then, and the Alaskan bush was far more behind the times than most of the rest of the world in the 1970s.

The dorms in which our Yupik Eskimo teen boarders lived had popcorn makers, and we'd haul garbage bags full of leftovers into the staff lounge for our after-hours movies.

How many times did we watch "The Sound of Music"? I can't even count, but I deny that all those screenings had anything to do with the fact that I eventually named a daughter Maria.

Guys who would have scorned their mom's card parties learned how to play bridge, not to mention canasta and cutthroat poker. Our rickety old gym saw school dances on Friday nights, and then pickup basketball games for volunteers after the kids were in bed.

The school had a plentiful supply of nearly antique wooden cross-country skis, and an enthusiastic Jesuit eager to get us all out onto the frozen river and the snow-laden hills.

Then, we were young, healthy, with lives ahead of us. We filled our days with laughter and optimism, and many of us forged bonds that have remained strong as we left, married, had kids, sought advanced degrees, made job changes and moved around the country.

So now, inevitably, as we've shared the joyous news of babies being born, and then grandchildren coming along, we now begin the season of sharing the passing of those we grew to love in our salad days. It seems too soon. We're mostly 60, give or take a year or two, too early to see friends pass, but there you are.

The years sneak up, don't they? It's something you can never quite explain to the young. And that's probably a good thing. It's a luxury we possess early on, the sense that life spreads out before us with an almost limitless horizon, with choices and possibilities limitless as well.

But it's also not such a bad thing to look at the horizon in the later third of life. The losing of friends is sad, but the horizon, now limited, has beauty in its temporality, each day more precious. There aren't any to squander.

And we hold to our faith, made clear in the liturgy for Christian burial: Lord, for your faithful people, life is changed, not ended.

**Ordinary Time**

CNS/ Martha Campbell



"I thought too many cooks spoiled the broth."

CONGRESS SHALL MAKE NO LAW RESPECTING AN ESTABLISHMENT OF RELIGION, OR PROHIBITING THE FREE EXERCISE THEREOF; OR ABRIDGING THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH, OR OF THE PRESS; OR THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE PEACEABLY TO ASSEMBLE, AND TO PETITION THE GOVERNMENT FOR A REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES.

— THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

To send letters to us please use one of the following:

**Mail:** The Observer,  
The Diocese of Rockford  
555 Colman Center Drive  
P.O. Box 7044  
Rockford, IL 61125

**Fax:** 815/399-6225

**Email:**  
observer@rockforddiocese.org (Please put Letter to the Editor in the subject line.)

Please provide your name, address, and phone number.

MEDIA/ARTS

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for May 4, 2014  
Luke 24:13-35

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for Third Sunday of Easter, Cycle A: the journey to the village of Emmaus. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

VILLAGE	SEVEN MILES	EMMAUS
EYES	RECOGNIZING	WALK
CLEOPAS	MIGHTY	PEOPLE
REDEEM	ISRAEL	THE TOMB
MORNING	ALIVE	CHRIST
GLORY	MOSES	STAY WITH US
VANISHED	RETURNED	BREAKING

SEVEN MILES

```

T H E T O M B Y N A N A
S R R E T U R N E D S S
I E E L P O E P L U A E
R D M C L L A D H O P S
H E M G O W K T H E O O
C E Y T H G I M L G E M
E M K L A W N A L A L O
M O S E Y E G I B L C R
M M E A L I V E Z L H N
A F T L L E A R S I J I
U S D E H S I N A V N N
S E V E N M I L E S G G
    
```

© 2014 Tri-C-A Publications www.tri-c-a-publications.com

At the Movies



Transcendence

(Warner Bros.)  
Fatally wounded in an assassination bid by a band of anti-technology extremists (led by Kate Mara), a dying expert on artificial intelligence (Johnny Depp) uploads his entire consciousness to a super-computer with the aid of his wife (Rebecca Hall) and best friend (Paul Bettany). His subsequent acquisition of all the factual knowledge on the Internet, however, leaves the physically deceased but intellectually flourishing scientist veering between benevolence and megalomania. With society's future at stake, a leading researcher (Morgan Freeman) teams with an FBI agent (Cillian Murphy) to try to stop the hyper-powerful hybrid. Philo-

sophical confusion reigns in director Wally Pfister's meandering sci-fi drama, beginning with the implicit idea that all human mental functions are purely physical and ending with virtual reality somehow permeating the world of nature. Mature viewers, however, are likely to be too bored to be much misled.

**THIS FILM CONTAINS** complex themes, including atheism, some violence and gore, a nongraphic marital bedroom scene, profanity and crass language.



Even more obscene follow-up to the pornographic and scatology-ridden 2013 horror spoof. Director Michael Tid-

des puts Marlon Wayans (who co-wrote the script with Rick Alvarez) through a further set of paces as a formerly bedeviled but now happily married (to Jaime Pressly) man trying to live a new life. But evil spirits borrowed from the two "Insidious" films, as well as "The Conjuring" and "Sinister," keep turning up to thwart him. A blasphemous version of a Catholic priest (Cedric the Entertainer) is also on hand, seemingly ad-libbing all his trash talk.

**THIS FILM CONTAINS** sacrilegious portrayal of Catholic clergy, drug use, explicit sexual acts, nudity, crude sexual banter, profanity, racial slurs, rough and crude language.

— Catholic News Service  
For the latest reviews, visit [www.catholicnews.com/movies.htm](http://www.catholicnews.com/movies.htm).

FOR THE RECORD

Deaths

**AURORA—Our Lady of Good Counsel:** Walter Blank, 85, April 10;

**DEKALB—St. Mary:** Marilyn Courtney, 90, April 15; Ann M. Malikowski, 80, April 17;

**GENOA—St. Catherine of Genoa:** Duane Charles Petersen, 87, April 4;

**NORTH AURORA—Blessed Sacrament:** Rosalva E. Robles, 88, Feb. 24; Salvatore Vella, 91, April 3; David A. Krantz, 63, April 17;

Parish offices may forward death and wedding information using forms at <http://observer.rockforddiocese.org/contact-us>. You may also request announcement postcards by calling 815/399-4300, ext. 383. We encourage you to send the information as soon as you receive it. Thank you.

**ST. CHARLES—St. John Neumann:** Stella Gramatikov, 37, March 24; Auturo Conte, 83, March 27; Myron Alcock, 77, April 10;

**STERLING—St. Mary:** Anthony F. Papoccia, 59, April 13; Richard F. Williams, 72, April 16;

**STOCKTON—Holy Cross:** William Leitzen, 95, April 15; Shirley Rollinger, 82, April 17.

Mass Meditation

**Sunday, May 4 (3rd Easter):** The disciples on the road to Emmaus walked and talked with Jesus all day long, but it was not until they offered him hospitality and he blessed and broke the bread that they recognized him. Simple acts of loving kindness still reveal the presence of God in our midst.

Courtesy of Sharon Hueckel

Weddings

**HUNTLEY—St. Mary:** Ashley Stiplosek and Ryan Wascher, April 12.

Stewardship Moment

**Dedication of talents:** As part of their total stewardship, Christians are concerned about the dedication of their talents. They regard personal abilities to work and to lead as another evidence of God's loving care. In a spirit of consecration, they desire to have those talents utilized in business, in the home and during leisure hours, in such a manner that they will make a contribution to the Kingdom of God on earth.

Courtesy of Parish Publications "Stewardship" newsletter

Life Moment

**Pray:** For all who have been baptized and received into the Church this Easter, that they may grow in holiness and joy.

Courtesy of [www.priestsforlife.org](http://www.priestsforlife.org)

Daily Scripture readings are published in the Prayer Request and Scripture Reading Calendar in *The Observer* in the last issue of the month, and are available on line at <http://observer.rockforddiocese.org> by clicking on Daily Scripture Readings for lists and podcasts.

If you or someone you know has been the victim of sexual abuse by an employee or member of the clergy of the Rockford Diocese, report the matter to law enforcement in the county in which the conduct occurred and then please call the hot-line number: 815/293-7540.

Get reprints of Observer staff photos. Visit our website at <http://observer.rockforddiocese.org> and click on the button at the top of our home page.



From America's Next Top Model to Role Model



Join Us...  
for an evening with  
**Leah Darrow**

Thursday, May 8th, 2014  
7:00 PM

St. Bridget Parish, Loves Park

Join us for this beautiful evening with Leah as she shares about her journey and the beauty of Christian modesty and chastity. Leah will encourage women and men of all ages to embrace their God-given dignity—by being classy, fabulous, and faithful.

"I wanted to become one of the models on the billboards in Time Square. But when my picture was finally hoisted up on that billboard, I realized that the deepest desires of my heart—to be known, to be loved, and to fulfill my purpose in life—were not met." Leah Darrow

A free will donation will be accepted at the door.

Questions: Contact St. Bridget Parish Office at 815-633-6311  
Sponsored by St. Bridget Catholic Church

Weekdays  
about  
6:58 a.m.  
on WREX-TV

Top o' the Morning with Bishop Malloy

Live on WREX-TV, Channel 13 in Rockford.  
Listen anytime to archived broadcasts at <http://observer.rockforddiocese.org>. Click on Bishop Malloy.

Programs brought to you by Savant Capital Management | Presence Cor Mariae Center and St. Anne Center | Fitzgerald Funeral Homes  
Diocesan Office of Communications and Publications | The Observer | Office of Stewardship, Diocese of Rockford

Mondays  
about  
10:05 a.m.  
on WROK-AM

Catholic Forum with Bishop Malloy

Live on WROK Radio, 1440 AM in Rockford and on the Web. For live streaming audio on the Web, go to <http://observer.rockforddiocese.org>, click on Bishop Malloy and then click on Catholic Forum.



Newspapers • Catalogs • Mail Service  
Business Cards • Magazines • Brochures  
**815-758-5484**  
121 Industrial Drive • DeKalb, IL 60115

## ROCKFORD DEANERY



(Photo provided)

Mrs. Singer's 5th grade class at St. Edward School in Rockford completed biography book reports. They dressed in character and did classroom presentations to the other students.

## TOB Speaker Coming to Geneva Parish

GENEVA—Father Thomas J. Loya, STB, MA, will be at St. Peter Church, Saturday, May 17, 7 p.m., to discuss the topic, "Who is Man for Woman and Who is Woman for Man," teaching how the mystery of God's revelation is stamped in our very bodies.

Adults married, engaged and single will enjoy the presentation and are welcome.

Using the language of Pope John Paul II's "Theology of the Body," he demonstrates how and why God created men and



(Photo provided)

**Father Thomas Loya**

women with different yet complementary physical, spiritual, and intellectual characteristics.

Father Loya is a nationally known speaker and host of multiple radio programs including "Light of the East," heard in more than 60 U.S. cities

on EWTN Radio and other Catholic networks. He is pastor of Annunciation of the Mother of God Byzantine Catholic Church, Homer Glen.

St. Peter Catholic Church is located at 1891 Kaneville, Road, Geneva. The event will take place in the Multipurpose Room. There is no charge, but a free will donation will be accepted.

For additional information, contact Jim and Janine Augustyn at 630/715-7829 or stveronica@comcast.net.

## STERLING DEANERY



(Photo provided)

On April 6, Msgr. Thomas Dzielak presented a \$1,000 check from Catholic Charities Operation Rice Bowl program funds to Tampico Area Food Pantry representatives Sandra Tornow (center) and Mary Pat Carboni.

**OTR DRIVERS WANTED**

Flatbed Tractor-Trailer Drivers needed for Janesville, WI area

**Workweek is Mon-Fri.**

**WE OFFER**

- \*Rate of Pay: \$0.4100/mile single \$16.40 per hour
- \*Health Insurance with Family Coverage, Dental, Life Insurance, Vision, Disability Insurance.
- \*401K Pension Program
- \*Paid Holidays & Vacation

**TO QUALIFY YOU NEED**

- \*Driver must be over 24 years old
- \*Have min. 2 years flatbed tractor-trailer experience.
- \*Meet all DOT requirements

For more information or to apply contact: Please email resume to: [lorajob@optonline.net](mailto:lorajob@optonline.net) or call 800-514-2755

**House For Sale**

Brick Ranch on 5 acres. 3.5 bedrooms 1.5 bath. Rooms in basement. Numerous outbuildings. Located 1 mile from St. Mary Catholic Church in West Brooklyn, Ill., near I-39, between I-88 and I-80. \$185,000. Dave 224 650 0783

# Business Spotlight

**Mary's Mantle** Catholic Books & Gifts

Monday thru Friday 10-5 — Saturday 10-2  
**815-801-6279 — Fax: 815-801-7643**  
 16 S. Chicago Ave. — Freeport, IL 61032  
[marysmantle@aeroinc.net](mailto:marysmantle@aeroinc.net) — [www.marysmantlefreeportil.com](http://www.marysmantlefreeportil.com)

**The Catholic Gift Store**

*Gifts for any occasion.*

770 N. Peace Rd. • DeKalb • 815-787-0802  
 Hours: M-F 10 a.m.-6 p.m. • Sat. 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
**WWW.THECATHOLICGIFTSTORE.COM**

**I Buy Old Editions, Textbooks**

and  
Self-Help — Religion — Audio Books

**WWW.IBUYOLDEDITIONS.COM**

*Evelyn Dubbs* Broker, REALTOR®

**Marketing Homes For The Sale**

**COLDWELL BANKER** (847) 658-5000 (office)  
**HONIG-BELL** (847) 913-5079 (cell)  
[evelyn.dubbs@coldwellbanker.com](mailto:evelyn.dubbs@coldwellbanker.com)

Each office is independently owned and operated.

**Cindy Nicolosi Travel**

... specializing in faith-based journeys

**NEW!! Rome — April 2014**

Canonization of John Paul II & John XXIII

**(815) 248-3106 cnicolositravel@aol.com**

**SUBSCRIBE TO THE OBSERVER**

Serving the Rockford Diocese with faith-filled news for nearly 80 Years.

**815-399-4300, ext. 383**

**Delehanty**

FUNERAL HOME, LTD. A family owned funeral home since 1949.

401 River Lane • Loves Park, IL 61111  
 (815) 633-6010 [www.delehantyfh.com](http://www.delehantyfh.com)

Support our trusted Advertisers!!

**FANTASY FESTIVAL**

Costume/Magic Centre

847.658.2000

Visit us in Alsop or online @ [www.fantasyfestival.com](http://www.fantasyfestival.com)

**Your Ad HERE!**

For only \$9.50 a week your Business can reach over 58,000 readers.

For details contact  
The Observer, 815-399-4300

**Command Post Restaurant & Camp Grant Museum**

- History
- Memories
- Ancestry
- Meetings
- Lectures
- Good Food
- Dine-In
- Carry Out
- Parties

Tue.-Fri 7 a.m.-2 p.m.;  
 Sat 7 a.m.-1 p.m.; Sun. 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

1004 Samuelson Rd — Rockford, Ill.  
 815-395-0678 — [www.campgrantmuseum.com](http://www.campgrantmuseum.com)

**CAREGIVING AVAILABLE**

Private Home Environment  
Alzheimer's/Respite Care

Full & Part Time  
20 Years Experience  
References Available

**Call Donna**  
**815-885-8067**

Five Rockford Diocese locations to choose from:

CELEBRATING OUR 125 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

**Olson**

FAMILY & TRUSTEE SERVICE

1001 Second Ave, Rockford

2811 North Main St, Rockford

309 South Fifth St, Kirkland

202 East Main St, Genoa

1245 Somonauk St, Sycamore

**815-963-6521 — [www.olsonfh.com](http://www.olsonfh.com)**  
<http://www.olsonfh.com>

**Perryville Pet Hospital**

Susan Verace, DVM  
 Nicholas Guedet, DVM

**815 . 229 . 1234**

1917 Daimler Rd. • Rockford, IL 61112  
[www.perryvillepet.com](http://www.perryvillepet.com)

**ALL-AMERICAN TAXIDERMY**  
 by Matt Kapraun

"INNOVATIVE TAXIDERMY OF SUPERIOR QUALITY IN A GUARANTEED TIME FRAME"

90-Day and 120-Day Rush Guarantee Available  
 African and Big Game Trophies  
 Birds, Fish, Deer, Mammals, Rugs, Tanning

**Showroom at:** 19111 Altenburg Rd. • Harvard, IL 60033  
 Tel: 815-943-0300 • Cell: 815-245-6043  
[www.all-american-taxidermy.com](http://www.all-american-taxidermy.com)

**TJ's AUTO CENTER, Inc.**

TIM & PEGGY JAVUREK — OWNERS

**"We treat your car as if it were our own!!"**

- Complete Auto Repair
- Lightning Lube

Make Your Appointment Today  
**— All Work Guaranteed —**  
**815-399-2886**

3427 East State @ Fairview - Rockford  
[www.tjsautocenter.com](http://www.tjsautocenter.com)

# AROUND THE DIOCESE

## What's Up

### Fri May 2

#### AURORA

**Serra Club:** 11:40 a.m.; Presence Mercy Medical Center Chapel, 1325 N. Highland Ave. Rosary, Mass, lunch, speaker: Father Robert Jones of St. Katharine Drexel Parish. 630/896-6834.

### Mon May 5

#### AURORA

**May crowning:** 7 p.m.; St. Joseph Parish, 722 High St. Info: 630/844-3780.

#### WOODSTOCK

**Student art show:** Thursday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, 1-5 p.m.; Old Courthouse Art Center, Woodstock Square. Marian Central Catholic High School Student Art Show, through May 10. 815/338-4525.

### Tues May 6

#### ROCKFORD

**Weight Loss Program:** 12-12:30 p.m., Lifestyle, Exercise, Nutrition (LEAN) program, bring your own lunch. \$120 for 12 weeks. OSF St. Anthony Medical Center, 5666 E. State St. 815/227-2274.

### Wed May 7

**Deadline for May 16 What's Up (For events May 19-25)**

### Thu May 8

#### LOVES PARK

**Top model:** 7 p.m.; St. Bridget Parish, 600 Clifford Ave. Leah Darrow, from "America's Next Top

**Submit Online:** Parish, school and organization publicists may send news and photos using interactive forms at <http://observer.rockforddiocese.org/contact-us>. Click on Submit Events and News. (You may attach one picture per form.)

**Submit by Mail:** Send mail submissions to The Observer, P.O. Box 7044, Rockford, IL 61125.

Plan to submit dated material two to three weeks before publication. Deadline is 10 days before publication.

Model," talks about chastity and real beauty. Info: 815/633-6311.

#### ROCKFORD

**Benefit luncheon:** 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; Prairie Street Brewhouse, 200 Prairie St. Proceeds for Shelter Care Ministries. Cost: \$35 per person; \$280 table for eight. Info: Carol West, 815/708-2650; cwest@shelter-care.org.

### Fri May 9

#### AURORA

**Plant sale:** 5-8 p.m. (also 7:30 a.m.-noon May 10); Rosary High School, 901 N. Edgelawn Dr. Hanging baskets, decorative bowls, bedding plants, perennials, annuals, vegetables, and planters; gift certificates. Proceeds for Rosary athletics. Info: rosaryhs.com/plant\_sale.

#### BATAVIA

**Top model:** 7 p.m.; Holy Cross Parish, 2300 Main St. Leah Darrow, from "America's Next Top Model," talks about chastity and real beauty. Info: 630/879-4750, www.holycross-batavia.org.

### Sat May 10

#### DEKALB

**Blood drive:** 8 a.m.-noon; St. Mary Parish cafeteria, 302 Fisk Ave.

#### GENEVA

**5K walk-run:** 7 a.m. registration,

8:30 a.m. start; Kane County Government Center, 719 S. Batavia Avenue (Route 31). Proceeds for Hope for Haitians. Info: 815/847-0656, www.hopeforhaitians.org

#### HUNTLEY

**Marriage preparation:** 10:30 a.m.-8:45 p.m.; St. Mary Parish, 10307 Dundee Road. Marriage preparation for engaged couples, including Church teaching on sexuality and family planning. Sponsor: Diocesan Life and Family Evangelization Office. Cost: \$150. Info: 815/399-4300, ext. 377; <http://www.rockforddiocese.org/familylife/>.

#### MCHENRY

**Magnificat breakfast:** 9 a.m.-

## MCHENRY DEANERY



(Photo provided)

Helping Others in the Name of Jesus! Second Graders from Montini Catholic Schools, McHenry, started their own service group and monthly donate their time and talent. They helped set up for Holy Apostles Parish Monday Night Community Dinner on April 14. With their parents, the girls also made the side dishes for the evening. Past monthly projects include making and donating a hand tied fleece blanket, serving ice cream at a nursing home, collecting DVDs for the local hospital and running a toy sale for the church's preschool.

12:30 p.m.; Church of Holy Apostles, 5211 W. Bull Valley Road. Speaker: Rose Malavolti. Limited seating. Request tickets by mail before May 2. Cost: \$20 per person. Info: Dee Slowey, 815/893-4061.

#### ROCKFORD

**Skin cancer screening:** 8 a.m.-noon; OSF St. Anthony Center for Cancer Care, 5510 E. State St. Free; but limited appointments. Info: 815/227-2624. (originally listed as on May 3 due to incorrect information received)

## Elsewhere

### Thu May 8

#### BELLEVILLE

**Jesus program:** 10 a.m.-noon; or 7-9 p.m.; National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows. "The Jesus of History & the Christ of Faith" program with Mark Etling, Ph.D. Cost: \$5. Registration required: 618/397-6700, ext. 6270.

## Save the Date

### May 13

#### ROCKFORD

**Spring Splendor:** 11 a.m. social hour; Giovanni's, 610 N. Bell School Road. Luncheon and style show. Proceeds for Presence St. Anne Center. Info: 815/398-2411.

**Blue Mass:** noon; Cathedral of St. Peter, 1243 Church St. For law enforcement and first responders.

### May 14

#### ROCKFORD

**Mass for Peace:** 10 a.m.; Poor Clares Monastery, 2111 S. Main St. Preceded by Catholic Women's League officers' installation, 9:45 a.m.; followed by social and luncheon, 11:30 a.m., Forest Hills Country Club, 5135 Forest Hills Road. RSVP by May 9. Info: 815/398-1758.

### May 14-July 9

#### AURORA

**St. Peregrine novena:** 7 p.m. Wednesdays; St. Joseph Parish, 722 High St. Prayers for individuals suffering from cancer or other serious illness. Info: 630/844-3780.

### May 17

#### ELGIN

**Rummage sale:** 8 a.m.-3 p.m.; St. Laurence Parish, Jewett and Standish streets. Toys, books, sporting goods, electronics and more. Proceeds benefit St. Laurence School. Rain date: May 19, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

#### ROCKFORD

**Golf outing:** 1 p.m. check-in; Swan-hills Golf Course, 2600 Gustafson Road, Belvidere. Sponsor: Holy Family Parish. Golf and dinner. Register by May 7. Hole sponsors needed. Cost: \$75 per golfer; \$100 per hole sponsorship; \$15 dinner-only guest. Info: 815/721-7167; www.holyfamilyrockford.org.

#### SUGAR GROVE

**Poverty workshop:** 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; St. Katharine Drexel Parish, 8S055 Dugan Road. Info: Denise Claussens, 630/466-0303, dmclaessens@gmail.com.

### May 18

#### AURORA

**Pancake breakfast:** 7 a.m.-1 p.m.; Holy Angels Parish Connor Hall, 180 S. Russell Ave. Sponsor: Knights of Columbus Council 4849. Cost: \$6 per person; \$20 per family.

#### BATAVIA

**International Fest:** after 11:15 a.m. Mass, Holy Cross Parish, 2300 Main St. Volunteers needed. Info: 639/482-9908; 630/879-4750, www.holycross-batavia.org.

## Elsewhere

### May 15

#### CLINTON, IOWA

**Social Justice film fest:** 6:30 p.m.; The Canticle, 841 13th Ave. N. Showing "A Better Life." Sponsor: Sisters of St. Francis Center for Active Nonviolence and Peacemaking. Free. Info: www.clintonfranciscans.com

### May 16-17

#### MILWAUKEE, WIS.

**World Wide Marriage Encounter Weekend:** (also Aug. 12-14). Brookfield Sheraton. Info: www.wwme.org

### May 30-June 1

#### BENET LAKE, WIS.

**ACT retreat:** St. Benedict's Abbey, 12605 224th Ave. Sponsor: Association of Christian Therapists. Speakers: Rev. Austin Joyce; Father Bob Sears, SJ. Cost: \$250. Info: Father Bob Sears, SJ, rtsears@gmail.com; Barbara Carlo, bjar60@sbcglobal.net, 847/963-2223.

Check out some early editions of **The Observer**

Editions are available from Nov. 1935 through 1947. More editions will be added in the near future.

Check it out at <http://www.obs.stparchive.com/>

If you would like to sponsor 'A Special Year' contact The Observer at [observer@rockforddiocese.org](mailto:observer@rockforddiocese.org).



## Enchanting Ireland

### A Pilgrimage of Faith in the Footsteps of St. Patrick

#### Featuring Knock Shrine!

#### With Father Perfecto Vasquez

## August 4 - 14, 2014

**9 nights featuring Belfast, Knock, Limerick, Killarney, Cork, Waterford and Dublin!**

— Full sightseeing schedule with local guides —

- City tours of Belfast and Dublin
- Visit the Burial place of St. Patrick and worship at Knock Shrine
- See the Cliffs of Mohre, enjoy Bunratty Castle, Kiss the Blarney Stone and see Waterford Crystal being made.
- We spend 2 nights in the Kingdom of Kerry in Killarney and explore the wilds of Dingle Peninsula.
- Tour the magical Glendalough and we finish with in wonderful Dublin!

**\$3,495** pp, Dbl. Occ. from Chicago

- Non-stop R/T air from Chicago
- First Class hotels throughout
- Daily Mass
- 17 Meals - 8 Breakfasts and 7 Dinners
- Professional Irish Driver/Guide throughout with Deluxe motorcoach transportation.
- Plus much much more.

**10 Days!**

**Reservations and info**

**CALL 800-624-8338**

## Marian Central Athletic Benefit

WOODSTOCK—Register now for Marian Central Catholic High School's Athletic Benefit, which will take place on June 18 at Crystal Woods Golf Club, 5915 Illinois 47, Woodstock.

The fee of \$125 includes golf, carts, lunch and dinner.

Registration will begin at 9 a.m. with a shotgun start at 10 a.m.

Dinner-only will be at 3 p.m. and is \$30 per person.

Proceeds from this event will benefit all athletic programs at the school.

For more information contact the Development Office at 815-338-4220 ext. 125 or [mamartinez@marian](mailto:mamartinez@marian).