



Vatican official to speak at local gathering

*The Archdiocese
Black Catholic Congress
will be addressed by
Cardinal Peter Turkson*

By MARNIE McALLISTER
Record Editor

The Catholic Church invites humanity to live beyond divisions of race and ethnicity and live in communion as children of God, Cardinal Peter Turkson said during the opening address of the 12th National Black Catholic Congress in July.

The Ghanaian cardinal, who serves as prefect of the Vatican Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, will bring his message to the Archdiocese of Louisville Dec. 9. He will be the keynote speaker at the fourth Archdiocesan Black Catholic Congress.

“We still can’t believe it’s happening,” said M. Annette Mandley-Turner, executive director of the Office of Multicultural Ministry, which organizes the arch-



CNS Photo Courtesy Nancy Jo Davis, National Black Catholic Congress

Cardinal Peter Turkson, prefect of the Vatican’s Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, center, celebrated the July 9 closing Mass of the 12th National Black Catholic Congress in Orlando, Fla. He will be the keynote speaker at the local Archdiocesan Black Catholic Congress on Dec. 9 in Louisville.

diocesan congress. “We have a groundswell of people who want to be present.”

At the national meeting, “People had never seen a black cardinal. For the black church,

this is as close as they’ll ever get to Rome,” she noted. “His message was pretty clear: We’re all responsible for making the community we live in better.”

Mandley-Turner said all are

welcome to attend the archdiocesan congress, which is held every other year. This year, it will be presented Dec. 9 at the Flaget Retreat Center, 1935

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theRecordnewspaper.org



Pope urges respect for all in Myanmar

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Pope Francis met with children, including the child above, and leaders of Myanmar, calling for respect for all people.



Gifts and pledges to the 2017 Catholic Services Appeal were \$3,041,365 as of Nov. 27. The total represents 81 percent of this year’s campaign goal.

Teaching Our Faith series concludes

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The latest Teaching Our Faith series concludes this week with a column about why one woman emigrated and a reminder to prepare room for immigrants during Advent.



Pope Francis issues peace day message

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Exploiting a fear of migrants and refugees for political gain does nothing to create a culture of peace, Pope Francis said in his message for World Peace Day 2018.

Advocates decry end of Haitian program

PAGE 4

Church leaders rallied around 58,000 Haitians living in the U.S. since a 2010 earthquake after the Trump administration moved to end a humanitarian program that allowed them to stay in the country.

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‘Parish Global Solidarity’ event offered invitation to ‘deal with’ the world’s problems

By RUBY THOMAS
Record Staff Writer

A group of close to three dozen, including Archdiocese of Louisville priests and individuals who serve in various ministries, heard that the challenges of the local and global church are many, but with solidarity, the church can keep providing hope.

The group — led by Mark Bouchard of Catholic Charities of Louisville — met Nov. 15 at the Common Table Cafe for a discussion about “Parish Global Solidarity” — an initiative to bring education and awareness of Catholic Relief Services (CRS) to the Archdiocese of Louisville.

CRS is the international humanitarian organization sponsored by the U. S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

During the Nov. 15 discussion, Bouchard asked participants to imagine they were in a helicopter looking down on everything that’s happening in the world.

“What color would you (use to) describe the world?” he asked.

Some envisioned green and blue, which



Record Photo by Ruby Thomas

Dr. Karen Shadle, left, director of the Office of Worship for the Archdiocese of Louisville, and Leisa Schulz, right, superintendent of Catholic schools, listened to Elaine Hulsman, center, a parishioner of St. John Paul II Church, during the “Parish Global Solidarity” discussion Nov. 15 at the Common Table Cafe, 2234 W. Market St.

they said meant healing and hope. Others said they would see red, depicting anger and armed conflict; gray, which stands for hungry children; and black, which depicts the “darkness threatening to cover” everything.

Bouchard also asked those gathered to think of a social concern that’s important

to them and their parish. The answers included:

■ Secularism — which they said is challenging the church in its work to provide hope.

■ Food and nutrition shortages — a growing inequality between those who have too

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Faith, family set foundation of new bishop

*Bishop-elect J. Mark
Spalding is a native of
Washington County*

By JESSICA ABLE
Record Staff Writer

When Bishop-elect J. Mark Spalding announced the news to his family that he was going to be a bishop, he was met with joy and a few tears.

Pope Francis named then-Father Spalding, 52, as the 12th Bishop of Nashville Nov. 21. His consecration and installation will take place Feb. 2.

The newly-named bishop hails from Washington County, Ky., where he grew up on the family farm. He is the son of Joseph Lawrence and the late Mary Aileen Spalding and is the oldest of three siblings.

Faith and family were the hallmarks of the Spalding household, said Sandra Goatley,



Photo Special to The Record

Bishop-elect J. Mark Spalding, second from left, is pictured at Easter in 2016 with his family, from left, niece Olivia Goatley, father Lawrence Spalding, nephew Colton Spalding, sister Sandra Goatley, brother Brad Spalding, nephew Brady Spalding, nephew Hunter Goatley, niece Carly Spalding and sister-in-law Macy Spalding.

Bishop-elect Spalding’s younger sister.

There are 48 first cousins in the Spalding family. More than 100 extended family members

are expected to travel to Nashville for Bishop-elect Spalding’s installation.

“Our faith was always an important part of growing up. We

never missed a holy day of obligation or Sunday Mass. And, we always went as a family,” said Goatley, a parishioner

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Contraceptive battle now waged at the state level

Catholic News Service
WASHINGTON — The Little Sisters of the Poor, who have always been known for their care for the poor elderly, have been in the spotlight for the past six years with their objection to the federal government’s requirement that they provide insurance coverage of contraceptives for their employees.
They hoped the issue was behind them after a new rule was issued in October by the Department of Health and Human Services granting an exemption to the contraceptive mandate for religious nonprofits who

oppose the mandate on religious grounds. But days after the rule was issued, Pennsylvania and California filed complaints against the federal government over the exemption.
Delaware, Maryland, New York and Virginia joined California’s lawsuit to become the first plaintiff group to file a motion for a preliminary injunction to prevent the new exemption rule from going into effect.
Mark Rienzi, senior counsel for Becket, the law firm representing the sisters, said in a Nov. 21 press call that the HHS rule “should have been the end of the story.”

Build peace by welcoming migrants and refugees, pope says in message

World Peace Day 2018 message warns against indifference

By CINDY WOODEN
Catholic News Service
VATICAN CITY — Exploiting a fear of migrants and refugees for political gain increases the possibility of violence and discrimination and does nothing to build a culture of peace, Pope Francis said in his message for World Peace Day 2018.
“Those who, for what may

be political reasons, foment fear of migrants instead of building peace are sowing violence, racial discrimination and xenophobia, which are matters of great concern for all those concerned for the safety of every human being,” the pope said in the message, which was released by the Vatican Nov. 24.

The pope chose “Migrants and refugees: Men and women in search of peace” as the theme for the celebration Jan. 1, 2018. The message is delivered by Vatican nuncios to heads of state and government around the world.

Presenting the message to the media, Father Bruno Marie Duffe, secretary of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, said, “It is clear peace begins with saving lives and taking care of people who are trying to escape wars, discrimination, persecution, poverty and climate disasters.”

As work continues on the U.N. Global Compact on Refugees and the Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, Pope Francis urged the international community not to surrender “to cynicism and to the globalization of indifference.”

Countries at the U.N. General Assembly voted in September 2016 to develop the compacts; after meetings around the world, a draft of each compact is scheduled to be released in February and a final vote is scheduled for September 2018.

In his message, which was signed Nov. 13, the feast of St. Frances Cabrini, patron of migrants, Pope Francis said thinking about peace naturally meant thinking about “those who most keenly suffer its absence.”

International organizations estimate there are some 250 million international migrants around the globe and that about 22.5 million of them are refugees, who have fled war, violence or persecution.

In their search for a place where they can live in peace, the pope said, many are “willing to risk their lives on a journey that is often long and perilous, to endure hardships and suffering, and to encounter fences and walls built to keep them far from their goal.”

Pope Francis acknowledged the right and obligation of countries to protect their borders and wisely allocate their resources, including those dedicated to resettling migrants and refugees. But the pope also insisted that basic human decency requires sheltering those



An internally displaced Syrian woman bathes her child at Qana refugee camp in Al-Hasakah, Syria.





GLASS SLIPPER



GLASS SHATTERER

Open House
Saturday, December 2
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Tours begin every 10 minutes.



YOUTH EVENTS

St. Bernard students aid Dare to Care

Students at St. Bernard School collected close to 9,000 canned goods and \$2,500 during a food drive held Oct. 27 to Nov. 17.
The money and canned goods were donated to Dare to Care Food Bank.

Christmas concerts

St. Xavier High School will host a Christmas concert Dec. 5 at 7 p.m. and a music recital Dec. 7 at 7 p.m.
Both performances will take place in the Brown-Forman Cultural Arts Center on the school’s campus, 1609 Poplar Level Road.
The events are free and open to the public.

Career day

Sacred Heart Academy held “Backpacks to Briefcases” Junior, Senior Career Day Nov. 20.
The students heard from more than 70 alumnae and guests representing careers that included engineering, architecture, medicine, law, marketing and education.

Eagle Scout

Daniel Kirwan, a freshman at St. Xavier High School, was named an Eagle Scout by the Boy Scouts of America. He is a member of Troop 380 at St. Patrick Church.
For his project, Daniel designed and built a walking path at Sojourn Community Church East.

ROCK THE HOUSE

As the first school in Louisville to initiate a House System, we make the transition to high school easy.
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PLACEMENT TEST
Saturday, December 9
at 9 A.M.



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In Myanmar, pope touts respect for all

Pope doesn't name Rohingya but emphasizes human dignity

By CINDY WOODEN
Catholic News Service
NAYPYITAW, Myanmar — The plight of the ethnic Muslim minority in Myanmar's Rakhine state was front and center in speeches by Pope Francis and Aung San Suu Kyi, but neither publicly used the word Rohingya.

After private meetings Nov. 28 with Myanmarese President Htin Kyaw and Suu Kyi, the state counselor and de facto head of government, the pope and Suu Kyi gave formal speeches to government officials and diplomats gathered at the convention center in Naypyitaw, the nation's capital.

Suu Kyi, leader of the process to bring democracy to Myanmar and winner of the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize, publicly acknowledged, "Of the many challenges that our government has been facing, the situation in Rakhine has most strongly captured the attention of the world. As we address long-standing issues — social, economic and political — that have eroded trust and understanding, harmony and cooperation between different communities in Rakhine, the support of our people and of good friends who only wish to see us succeed in our endeavors has been invaluable."

"The road to peace is not always smooth," she told the pope, "but it is the only way that will lead our people to their dream of a just and prosperous land that will be their refuge, their pride, their joy."

In his speech, Pope Francis was even less specific, although he repeatedly insisted that the rights of each member of society and each ethnic group must be respected. He praised the role of the United Nations



Pope Francis and Aung San Suu Kyi, state counselor and foreign minister of Myanmar, are pictured with children before a meeting at the Myanmar International Convention Center Nov. 28.

and the international community in supporting peace efforts, presumably also in their condemnations of the discrimination and persecution of the Rohingya, a Muslim minority.

"The future of Myanmar must be peace, a peace based on respect for the dignity and rights of each member of society, respect for each ethnic group and its identity, respect for the rule of law, and respect for a democratic order that enables each individual and every group — none excluded — to offer its legitimate contribution to the common good," Pope Francis said.

The pope said he wanted to visit the country to strengthen the small Catholic community and "to offer a word of encouragement to all those who are working to build a just, reconciled and inclusive social order."

Myanmar's "greatest treasure," he insisted, "is its people, who have suffered greatly, and continue to suffer, from civil conflict and hostilities that have lasted all too long and created deep divisions."

Pope Francis praised Suu Kyi for convoking the "21st Century Panglong Union Peace Conference," a series of meetings that began in 2016 between the government and militant groups from more than a dozen ethnic groups in Myanmar.

The Rohingya are not included in the peace process since the government does not consider them to be a Myanmar ethnic group, but rather foreigners.

Religious communities must play a role in the process of reconciliation and integration, he said. "Religious differences need not be a source of division and distrust, but rather a force for

unity, forgiveness, tolerance and wise nation building."

In addition to helping heal "the emotional, spiritual and psychological wounds of those who have suffered in the years of conflict," he said all religions "can help to uproot the causes of conflict, build bridges of dialogue, seek justice and be a prophetic voice for all who suffer."

Obituary

Ursuline Sister Rose Marian Powers, 84, dies

Ursuline Sister of Mount St. Joseph Rose Marian Powers, 84, died Nov. 27 at Mount St. Joseph in Maple Mount, Ky. She was in her 65th year of religious life.

Sister Powers, a native of Cloverport, Ky., primarily served in education. In the Archdiocese of Louisville, she taught at St. Francis Xavier School in Raywick, Ky., from 1957-1958; St. Edward School from 1962-1965; Flaherty Public School in Flaherty, Ky., from 1965-1967; St. Bernard School from 1975-1979; and as a teacher and principal of St. Brigid School in Vine Grove, Ky., from 1967-1973. She also

taught and ministered in the Diocese of Owensboro.

Survivors include her sister Ursuline Sister of Mount St. Joseph Rose Jean Powers; sisters-in-law Nora Jean Powers of Hardinsburg, Ky., and Oneida Powers of Louisville; nieces and nephews; and members of her religious community.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. Nov. 30 at Mount St. Joseph.

Gifts in memory of Sister Powers may take the form of donations to the Ursuline Sisters of Mount St. Joseph, 8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount, Ky., 42356.

AROUND THE WORLD

Catholic News Service

Bishop urges Trump administration to keep 'net neutrality' rules in place

WASHINGTON — The chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Communications has urged the Trump administration to keep current net neutrality rules in place because an open internet, he said, is critical to the nation's faith communities and how they interact with members.

"Without open internet principles which prohibit paid prioritization, we might be forced to pay fees to ensure that our high-bandwidth content receives fair treatment on the internet," said Bishop Christopher J. Coyne of Burlington, Vermont.

"Nonprofit communities, both religious and secular, cannot afford to pay to compete with profitable commercialized content," he said in a Nov. 28 statement.

The concept of an open internet has long been called "net neutrality," in which internet service providers neither favor nor discriminate against internet users or websites. Neutrality means, for example, providers cannot prioritize one type of content over another, nor can they speed up, slow down or block users' access.

On Nov. 21, the current chairman of the Federal Communications Commission announced his proposal to roll back rules on neutrality put in place in 2015 by the Obama administration.

Pope urges bishops to exercise authority as judges in annulments

VATICAN CITY — A diocesan bishop is the sole judge in the streamlined process for handling marriage annulments, Pope Francis said.

The simplified process "is not an option that the diocesan bishop can choose, but rather an obligation that derives from his consecration and from the mission received," making the bishop the sole and exclusive authority in charge throughout the three phases of the briefer process, the pope said.

The pope made his remarks during an audience Nov. 25 with canon lawyers, priests and pastoral workers attending a course sponsored by the Roman Rota, a Vatican tribunal that deals with marriage annulment cases. The pope encouraged them to be close to those who are suffering and who expect help "to restore peace to their consciences and God's will on readmission to the Eucharist."

Day of prayer, awareness week focus on plight of persecuted Christians

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Catholic Church focused attention on the plight of persecuted Christians in Iraq and Syria with a day of prayer Nov. 26 and a weeklong observance to raise awareness and educate people about their situation.

A Day of Prayer for Persecuted Christians Nov. 26 initiated "Solidarity in Suffering," a Week of Awareness and Education that runs through Dec. 3. To help educate Catholics and others about the persecution of Christians, a section of the USCCB's website — www.usccb.org/middle-east-Christians — offers resources to assist parishes, schools and campus ministries.



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TEACHING OUR FAITH

‘Prepare him room’

This series of teaching editorials focuses on the Church’s approach to immigrants and refugees, especially in light of Pope Francis’ invitation to “Share the Journey.”

“The idea was to come to the U.S. to study to provide for my family. In that journey, I never realized how difficult it is to be in a land where people don’t want you.”

An active parishioner of a Louisville parish spoke these words last week. She was sharing the story of her own immigration from a Central American country. She fled her native land more than 20 years ago for opportunities and a future without violence.

Her story is apropos as Advent approaches. The church season centered on preparing for Christ’s birth begins on Sunday. Already the radio is airing Christmas music, including that triumphant hymn that often concludes Christmas Masses — “Joy to the World.”

One line in that hymn of joy stands out from others as we consider the millions of people classified as immigrants and refugees around the world. It’s the fourth line of the first verse: Let every heart prepare him room.

We are reminded in those six words that we — living 2017 years after his birth — must make room for him in our hearts.

Of course, we know from Scripture that no one prepared a room for Christ that night in Bethlehem. Pregnant, without friends or relatives, the Holy Family wandered homeless until they were offered the humblest shelter. Were they here with us in the 21st century, we might offer the Holy Family space in the garage, if that.

Sometimes immigrants today do live in garage-like structures. And refugees spend decades in makeshift camps.

Pope Francis has called on us directly to “prepare him room,” by sharing our journey, our lives with immigrants and refugees.

It’s easier not to know who these statistically anonymous immigrants and refugees actually are. The Nov. 9 edition of The Record shared the stories of young adult immigrants, who know little of their countries of origin and want nothing more than to learn and join in American life in the United States.

In this editorial, we encounter that parishioner mentioned above, an active Catholic living in Louisville who spends most of her time caring for other immigrants.

She grew up in poverty with her mother, sister, brother and an abusive father — he molested his children and battered his wife. He abandoned the family when she was a preteen.

A few years later, her brother was robbed and murdered on his way

home from work. He left behind two young children.

The murder devastated her and her family, but “murder was a day-to-day thing,” she explained. Poverty — and a lack of opportunity to overcome poverty — foment violence.

It was a tipping point for her: She decided to come to the United States on a student visa.

“The only thing we heard was that this is a land of opportunity, where people will welcome you and you will find a decent job,” she said. “Where you can achieve ‘the American dream.’ A lot of us, that’s the reason that we leave. Half of the kids I grew up with are either murdered, in jail or they are delinquents back home because they lack any opportunity.”

But in the U.S., she encountered another reality — a pervasive nativism that shuns immigrants. Very quickly, she felt compelled not only to help her family but also help the immigrants she encountered around her.

“There were so many injustices, so much oppression toward the immigrant in the land of immigrants,” she said, expressing a deep knowledge of Louisville’s vast immigrant roots — especially German, Italian, Irish and French.

Here in the United States, she said, “I have witnessed women that have crossed the border with their sick babies. They bring them to the land of the free to get help.

“I have witnessed people working three jobs and getting paid a third of what other people make,” she said.

“I have also witnessed unaccompanied minors, young people whose options are to become a part of a gang and get murdered or decline (to join) and get murdered.”

“I have been told in my face by Catholics, ‘When are you going to have your own immigrant church?’ You are not welcome here.

“I have been told by my fellow Catholic brothers and sisters, ‘You, go home.’

“This makes you reflect, when Pope Francis talks about the journey, when he talks about looking on one another with love and compassion, it goes beyond the politics of any one country.”

For Catholics, immigration is not a political issue first. It is a moral issue.

Not all of her encounters have been bad. She has found a welcoming parish and developed a host of supporters who accompany her in her work.

“I have witnessed love and generosity from people who are willing to open their hearts, even if they don’t understand the struggle, the anguish and the fear people bring to them.”

Let every heart emulate theirs and prepare him room.

MARNIE MCALLISTER
Editor

Church leaders decry plan to end protected status for Haitians

By DENNIS SADOWSKI
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON — Advocates and church leaders rallied around 58,000 Haitians living in the United States since a ferocious 2010 earthquake after the Trump administration moved to end a humanitarian program that allowed them stay in the country.

The Haitians will be forced to leave the country by July 22, 2019, or face deportation.

Department of Homeland Security Acting Secretary Elaine Duke terminated the Temporary Protected Status, or TPS, for Haitians Nov. 20 after determining that conditions in the poor Caribbean nation had improved significantly since the earthquake. The effective date of the termination was delayed for 18 months “to allow for an orderly transition.”

Religious leaders and advocates on a media conference call Nov. 21 described

the decision affecting Haitians in dire need of stability and security as lacking compassion and kindness.

“It’s not a question of sending them home. After so many years in the United States, they are home,” said Archbishop Thomas G. Wenski of Miami.

“People have put down roots. They’ve started businesses and families and their children are American citizens. To send them back and take away their means of livelihood would not be in the best interest of the Haitians, their children or the American society in which they live,” he said.

The Center for Migration Studies estimates that Haitians with TPS have about 27,000 U.S.-born children.

The archbishop explained that during a fact-finding trip he led to Haiti in September, his delegation learned that the country “does not have conditions adequate to re-

ceive any number of people being expelled from the United States or any other place.”

He and others on the call urged people of faith and “good will” to pressure Congress to enact a legal solution to make permanent the legal status of Haitians and people from other countries granted TPS.

Jean Atkinson, executive director of the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, was on the same delegation and agreed with the archbishop’s assessment. She called Duke’s decision “morally outrageous ... unfounded” and called her to undertake assessment that considers the actual conditions in the country.

In a statement late Nov. 20, Homeland Security said Duke determined that “those extraordinary but temporary conditions caused by the 2010 earthquake no longer exist,” requiring that TPS for Haitians be terminated.

SPEAK TO ME LORD

Sunday readings, Dec. 3: Come, Lord Jesus: Our Advent prayer

JEM SULLIVAN

First Sunday of Advent
First reading — Is 63:16-17, 19; 64:2-7
Psalm — 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19
Second reading — 1 Cor 1:3-9
Gospel — Mk 13:33-37



Each Advent, we are given a fresh chance to discover that the deepest longings of our heart are for God. The prophet Isaiah reminds us of this deep human desire for God. For this reason, he is considered the prophet of Advent who highlights the hopes of the people of Israel for a messiah. Our deep longing for God is at the heart of our Advent preparations.

The Israelites returned to their homeland after their exile. Almost immediately, they begin to fall away from God’s commands. The prophet laments his own sins and the sins of his people. He begs for God’s intervention. Then, he uses a striking metaphor to describe Yahweh’s relationship with Israel: the image of a potter and his clay.

A skilled potter shapes formless clay into beautiful and functional objects. In the same way, Israel is being shaped by God’s loving hand. Isaiah’s image begs the question: Are we willing

to be molded by God just as a potter molds clay?

In the second reading, Paul writes to the Corinthians as they wait for the revelation of Christ. Beginning with words of blessing, Paul thanks God for the many blessings they have received. Then, Paul encourages them, and us, to use God-given gifts and talents well.

As they wait for the revelation of the Lord’s glory, and persevere to the end, Paul reminds them, and us, that God alone is our strength. Do we lean on God to face the challenges of daily life?

Jesus’ advice to the disciples in Mark’s Gospel is a perfect Advent theme. Be alert! Be watchful! He repeats the message three times, reminding us of its importance in the spiritual life.

One obstacle to the Christian life is indifference to God’s presence in our lives. Jesus warns against being asleep when the Lord of the house returns. During Ad-

vent, we are invited to hear God’s word with hearts and minds open and alert to God’s loving presence in our midst.

In this season of the incarnation, Jesus, the Son of God, comes into our midst bringing a peace and hope that this world cannot give. For most of us, this time quickly turns into the most hectic part of the year. We are distracted, overwhelmed and focused on fleeting, material things that satisfy only for a time.

God’s word invites us to fix our gaze on the eternal and greatest gift we can give and receive in this season of joy — the gift of God’s only Son, Jesus who reconciles us to friendship with God.

Advent becomes a spiritually fruitful season when we turn to God’s word, saying in faith, “speak to me, Lord.”

QUESTION CORNER

Funeral Mass in funeral home?

FATHER KENNETH DOYLE



Q. In certain parts of our country, they are allowed to have the Mass of Christian Burial at funeral homes. I think this is a wonderful idea, especially for small funerals. Who makes that decision or gives permission for this?

A. I am not aware of any place in the U.S. where funeral Masses are celebrated on a regular basis in the funeral home. The Archdiocese of Detroit notes, for example, on its website: “Funeral Masses are not allowed in

funeral homes. The funeral liturgy outside of Mass, as provided in the ‘Order of Christian Funerals,’ is allowed in the funeral home.”

This service would include all of the parts of a normal funeral Mass with the sig-

nificant exception of the Eucharist itself. It is much more fitting that a funeral be celebrated with the church’s central and most powerful prayer, the Eucharist.

A TIME TO SPEAK

The cost of the death penalty is severe

REP. CHAD MCCOY



Some issues are bigger than politics. They push and pull at our core beliefs, forcing us to show our convictions.

For me, abolition of the death penalty in Kentucky is one of those issues.

My stand against the death penalty is rooted in my belief that capital punishment is wrong in accordance with the rulings of the church and my own conscience. But there are also logical arguments for abolition of the state’s death penalty arguments based on conservative principles of fiscal responsibility and smaller government.

The financial costs of the death penalty to the Commonwealth are severe. Up to \$8 million in Kentucky taxpayer money is spent each year on the prosecution and defense of capital cases and imprisonment of the state’s 33 death row inmates, according to the state Department of Public Advocacy. That’s over \$100 million paid by taxpayers to maintain what the state Public Advocate’s Office in 2009 called “a death penalty system that has executed three people” since 1976.

These costs are not expected to be reduced anytime soon since they mount with each new capital case. Research shows that capital cases are most costly during the pretrial and trial phases. The appeals phase, which averages 15 to 20 years, tacks millions of dollars more onto the taxpayers’ bill.

Kentuckians should ask ourselves if these costs are sustainable at a time when our public pension systems are nearly insolvent and our

state and local government budgets face more cuts. I might suggest that we also look at whether or not the Commonwealth’s reasons for keeping the death penalty are reasonable and fair.

Humans are imperfect beings. We make all kinds of mistakes, including errors in the adjudication of the death penalty. That stark reality was illuminated in a 2012 op-ed in The New York Times, which reported that 50 of 78 people sentenced to death in Kentucky between 1976 and 2011 had their sentences overturned, “15 of those for prosecutorial mistakes or misconduct.” That is an immense margin of error for such a critical outcome.

My professional experience as an attorney who has practiced criminal law has taught me that the purpose of the penal code is public safety. Probable cause, due process, and every rule of law built into the criminal justice system is there to protect the victim, the defendant and the public as a whole. When the system works, it accomplishes three things: It prevents crime, it prevents a criminal from reoffending (or recidivism), and it guards against the system being used for retribution, or revenge. When it doesn’t work, it creates un-

necessary and costly layers of government.

Study after study has shown that the death penalty is not an effective crime deterrent. Those wanting a quick show of evidence need look no further than recent FBI Uniform Crime Reports that show more homicides in states that generously use the death penalty than in other states. If you look at U.S. executions carried out in 2017 alone—as published on the Death Penalty Information Center web site—you’ll notice many of those executions took place in these high-crime states.

So, let’s consider for a moment that the death penalty is not a crime deterrent. If that’s true, then the death penalty fails all three tests of a working criminal justice system: It’s not a crime deterrent, and it doesn’t guard against retribution as a working system should. Considering that revenge should never be the basis for law, the death penalty needs to be abolished.

Kentucky will have another chance to abolish the death penalty when I introduce a bill to that end in the upcoming 2018 legislative session. Abolition of this flawed form of punishment is the right thing to do fiscally, socially and spiritually. It is my hope that my colleagues in the General Assembly will agree.

State Rep. Chad McCoy represents the 50th House District and is a member of the Basilica of St. Joseph Proto-Cathedral in Bardstown, Ky., and often worships at Holy Rosary Church in Manton, Ky.



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IN EXILE

God’s closeness

FATHER RON ROLHEISER

There’s a growing body of literature today that chronicles the experience of persons who were clinically dead for a period of time (minutes or hours) and were medically resuscitated and brought back to life. Many of us, for example, are familiar with Dr. Eben Alexander’s book, “Proof of Heaven: A Neurosurgeon’s Journey into the Afterlife.” More recently Hollywood produced a movie, “Miracles from Heaven,” which portrays the true story of a young Texas girl who was clinically dead, medically revived, and who shares what she experienced in the afterlife.

There are now hundreds of stories like this, gathered through dozens of years, published or simply shared with loved ones. What’s interesting (and consoling) is that virtually all these stories are wonderfully positive, irrespective of the person’s faith or religious background. In virtually every case their experience, while partially indescribable, was one in which they felt a warm, personal, overwhelming sense of love, light, and welcome, and not a few of them found themselves meeting relatives of theirs that had passed on before them, sometimes even relatives that they didn’t know they had. As well, in virtually every case, they did not want to return to life here but, like Peter on the Mountain of the Transfiguration, wanted to stay there.

Recently while speaking at a conference, I referenced this literature and pointed out that, among other things, it seems everyone goes to heaven when they die. This, of course, immediately sparked a spirited discussion: “What about hell? Aren’t we judged when we die? Doesn’t anyone go to hell?” My answer to those questions, which need far more nuance than is contained in a short soundbite, was that while we all go to heaven when we die, depending upon our moral and spiritual disposition, we might not



want to stay there. Hell, as Jesus assures us, is a real option; though, as Jesus also assures us, we judge ourselves. God puts no one to hell. Hell is our choice.

However it was what happened after this discussion that I want to share here: A woman approached me as I was leaving and told me that she had had this exact experience. She had been clinically dead for some minutes and then revived through medical resuscitation. And, just like the experience of all the others in the literature around this issue, she too experienced a wonderful warmth, light, and welcome, and did not want to return to life here on earth. Inside of all of this warmth and love however what she remembers most and most wants to share with others is this: I learned that God is very close. We have no idea how close God is to us. God is closer to us than we ever imagine! Her experience has left her forever branded with a sense of God’s warmth, love, and welcome, but what’s left the deepest brand of all inside her is the sense of God’s closeness.

I was struck by this because, like millions of others, I generally don’t feel that closeness, or at least don’t feel it very affectively or imaginatively. God can seem pretty far away, abstract and impersonal, a Deity with millions of things to worry about without having to worry about the minutiae of my small life.

Moreover, as Christians, we believe that God is infinite and ineffable. This means that while we can know God, we can never imagine God.

Given that truth, it makes it even harder for us to imagine that the infinite Creator and Sustainer of all things is intimately and personally present inside us, worrying with, sharing our heartaches, and knowing our most guarded feelings.

Compounding this is the fact that whenever we do try to imagine God’s person our imaginations come up against the unimaginable. For example, try to imagine this: There are billions of persons on this earth and billions more have lived on this earth before us. At this very minute, thousands of people are being born, thousands are dying, thousands are sinning, thousands are doing virtuous acts, thousands are making love, thousands are experiencing violence, thousands are feeling their hearts swelling with joy, all of this part of trillions upon trillions of phenomena. How can one heart, one mind, one person be consciously on top of all of this and so fully aware and empathetic that no hair falls from our heads or sparrow from the sky without this person taking notice? It’s impossible to imagine, pure and simple, and that’s part of the very definition of God.

How can God be as close to us as we are to ourselves? Partly this is mystery, and wisdom bids us befriend mystery because anything we can understand is not very deep! The mystery of God’s intimate, personal presence inside us is beyond our imaginations. But everything within our faith tradition and now most everything in the testimony of hundreds of people who have experienced the afterlife assure us that, while God may be infinite and ineffable, God is very close to us, closer than we imagine.


Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser, theologian, teacher, and award-winning author, is President of the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, Texas. He can be contacted through his website www.ronrolheiser.com.

Jesus seeks to bring others with him to salvation, pope says

By CAROL GLATZ
Catholic News Service
VATICAN CITY — If people really understood that participating at Mass is witnessing Christ’s suffering, death and resurrection, then maybe they would stop taking pictures, talking, making comments and acting as if it were some kind of show, Pope Francis said.
“This is Mass: to enter into Jesus’ passion, death, resurrection and ascension. When we go to Mass, it is as if we were going to Calvary,


it’s the same,” the pope said Nov. 22 during his weekly general audience.
If people realize that Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist and is letting himself be broken and pouring out his love and mercy for everyone, “would we allow ourselves to chitchat, take pictures, to be on show? No,” the pope said.
“For sure we would be silent, in mourning and also in joy for being saved,” he said.
The pope continued his series of audience talks on the Mass, reflecting on what

Mass really is and why it is so important.
The Mass, as a “memorial,” is more than just remembering an event from the past, the pope said. It is making that event present and alive in a way that transforms those who participate.
The Eucharist is the focal point of God’s saving act, he said; it is Jesus making himself present in the bread, “broken for us, pouring out all of his mercy and love on us like he did on the cross, in that way, renewing our hearts, our lives and the way we relate to him and our brothers and sisters.”
“Every celebration of the Eucharist is a beam of that sun that never sets, which is the risen Jesus Christ. To take part in Mass, especially on Sundays, means entering into the victory of the resurrection, being illuminated by his light, warmed by his heat,” he said. Mass is “the triumph of Jesus.”
As Jesus goes from death to eternal life during the Mass celebration, he is seeking also to “carry us with him” toward eternal life, Pope Francis said.
By spilling his blood, the pope continued, “he frees us from death and the fear of death. He frees us not only from the domination of physical death but also spiritual death — evil and sin,” which pollute one’s life, making it lose its beauty, vitality and meaning.
“In the Eucharist, (Jesus) wants to transmit his paschal, victorious love,” the pope said. “If we receive it with faith, we too can truly love God and our neighbor, we can love like he loved us, giving life.”
When people experience the power of Christ’s love within them, then they can give themselves freely and fully to others, even their enemies, without fear, he said.



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Open House December 3 2-4 p.m.

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Sacred Heart Academy invites middle school girls and their families to Open House on Sunday, December 3 from 2-4 p.m. Experience SHA for yourself and find out what it means to be a Valkyrie! From fun science experiments and musical performances to virtual reality and activities fair, there will be something for everyone! Students will receive a free gift! Complete event details can be found at shslou.org/shaopenhouse.



News and events for the Bulletin Board and Youth Events sections by noon Thursday.
Record@archlou.org

Tree of Remembrance to be lit Dec. 1

The Tree of Remembrance at Calvary Cemetery, 1600 Newburg Road, will be lit during a prayer service led by Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz Dec. 1 at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

During the holiday season, people are invited to add an ornament to the tree, located near the entrance of the cemetery, in memory of deceased loved ones, regardless of when or where the person was buried.

A personalized complimentary ornament can be provided by Catholic Cemeteries, but visitors are welcome to bring their own. The tree will remain until Jan. 6, the feast of the Epiphany. Ornaments may be retrieved afterward.

Services, Devotions

The Community-wide prayer service to remember all victims of violence in Louisville will be held at Good Shepherd Church, 3511 Rudd Avenue, on Dec. 6 at 6:30 p.m.

Region one parishes — St. Augustine, St. Martin de Porres, Christ the King, St. William, Immaculate Heart of Mary and Good Shepherd — organize the service. Prayers will be offered for the victims of violence and their loved ones. A reception will follow the service. All are welcome.

The Blessing of the Child in the Womb will be offered at St. Paul Church, 6901 Dixie Highway, Dec. 8 at a 7 p.m. Mass. It will be offered for unborn children and their parents. Prayers will also be offered for couples hoping for a child or who have lost a child.

Those who wish to receive the blessing or who have questions may call Celesta

Anniversary



Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Weber, parishioners of Holy Trinity Church, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Nov. 23. Mrs. Weber, the former Julie Short, is a retired RN for Norton Healthcare. Mr. Weber retired as the executive director of Boys Haven. The couple have three children and seven grandchildren. They will celebrate their anniversary with a family dinner and reception.

Arnold at 439-6276.

The Cathedral of the Assumption, 433 S. Fifth St., will celebrate the feast of the Immaculate Conception Dec. 8 with Mass at 5:30 p.m., followed by a simple soup supper in the undercroft. Afterward, the Cathedral Choir and the Cathedral Singers will present Advent Lessons and Carols. The event is free and all are welcome.

St. Martin of Tours Church, 639 S. Shelby St., will celebrate the 20th anniversary of the devotion to the two hearts of Jesus and Mary on Dec. 1. Reconciliation will be available at 6 p.m. Mass will begin at 7 p.m. and it will be followed by the rosary and a banquet in the parish hall.

The First Saturday Communion of Reparation as requested by Our Lady of Fatima will be observed at St. Albert the Great Church, 1395 Girard Drive, Dec. 5 with Mass at 8:30 a.m. followed by the rosary (set to a recording by Mother Teresa) at 9 a.m. Confession will be available.

First Saturday devotions will be celebrated at the Church of the Ascension, 4600 Lynnbrook Drive, on Dec. 2. Rosary and an opportunity for reconciliation will be offered at 7:30 a.m. and Mass will begin at 8:15 a.m.

The Angela Merici Center for Spirituality will offer Taizé Prayer — an evening of chants, songs, silence and Scripture — on Dec. 11 at 7 p.m. in the Ursuline Motherhouse Chapel, 3115 Lexington Road. Free-will offerings will be accepted. For information, call 896-3945 or email amc@ursulineslou.org.

Advent

All are welcome to attend vespers with the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville on Sundays during Advent at 4:30 p.m. in the Ursuline Motherhouse Chapel, 3115 Lexington Road. The first Sunday of Advent is Dec. 3.

An Advent Day of Prayer will be presented on Dec. 9 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Mount St. Joseph Conference and Retreat Center in Maple Mount, Ky. Monsignor Bernard Powers will lead the day. The fee is \$25 and includes lunch. To register, contact Kathy McCarty at 270-229-0206 or kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org.

Missions, Retreats

The Angela Merici Center for Spirituality will hold a morning reflection on the Advent and Christmas Scriptures on Dec. 2

from 10 a.m. to noon at the Ursuline Motherhouse, 3115 Lexington Road. Sister Jean Anne Zappa will be the facilitator.

Participants are encouraged to bring a lunch and join in fellowship afterward. The cost is \$10.

The Arts

Musician Peter Mayer will bring his “Stars and Promises” holiday tour to St. Margaret Mary Church, 7813 Shelbyville Road, on Dec. 14 at 7:30 p.m. Mayer is a singer, songwriter and guitarist in Jimmy Buffett’s Coral Reefer Band.

Proceeds will benefit three non-profits, St. John Center for Homeless Men, Gilda’s Club and Ovarian Awareness of Kentucky.

Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$15 for children age 15 and younger. For tickets, visit itickets.com/events/386643 or call 800-965-9324.

The Loretto Motherhouse in Nerinx, Ky., will host a free piano concert on Dec. 3 at 3 p.m. by 14-year-old Jesse LaGrange. He will present all of Bach’s Two-Part Inventions, as well as works by Schubert and Liszt.

The Louisville Chorus will present Carols of the Nativity at Immaculate Conception Church in La Grange, Ky., on Dec. 3 at 3 p.m. and at St. Brigid Church, 1520 Hepburn Avenue, on Dec. 10 at 3 p.m.

Tickets are \$22 for adults, \$18 for senior citizens and \$5 for students. For more information, visit louisvillechorus.org or call 968-6300.

Open House

Sacred Heart Academy, 3177 Lexington Road, will hold an open house for prospective students on Dec. 3 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Mercy Academy, 5801 Fegenbush Lane, will hold an open house on Dec. 2 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, call 671-2010.

Organizations

The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians will hold their annual Irish Christmas Afternoon Tea on Dec. 3 at 3 p.m. at Nunnlea House, 1940 S. Hurstbourne Parkway. Proceeds will benefit

the Boys and Girls Haven 12 Days of Christmas Fundraiser.

Tickets are \$20 and available by emailing info@laohlouisville.com and at eventbrite.com.

The Catholic Single Adults Club will gather at Hillview Family Diner and Ice Cream on Dec. 3 at 5 p.m. For more information and location, call 969-2272.

Here and There

The Snowflake Fling, a fundraising event with food and dancing, will be held on Dec. 2 from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. at Holy Angels Academy, 12201 Old Henry Road. Admission is \$10 and is limited to those 21 and older.

Proceeds will be used to purchase sound equipment for student activities. Tickets are available at the door or in advance by calling 751-2740.

Alumni Events

Mercy Academy’s class of 1950 will meet for lunch at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 4417 River Road, on Dec. 6 at 11 a.m. For more information, call Barbara Hendrix Sauer at 894-9576 or Bettye Caummissar Corbett at 937-6414.

Ursuline Academy class of 1953 will hold its quarterly luncheon Dec. 5 at 11:30 a.m. at Olive Garden, 1320 Hurstbourne Lane. For reservations, contact Pat Bernardi Miller at 239-5758.

The Flaget Alumni Association will hold its next monthly general membership meeting on Dec. 13 at the Elks Lodge #8 at 2826 Klondike Lane across from St. Martha Church. The meeting will begin at noon with a short business session followed by lunch and the annual Christmas party.

It is free to members who have paid their dues. Dues for new or renewing members may be paid at the meeting. For more information, call Mike Lally at 822-3746 or Tom Becker at 491-8943.

The Ursuline Academy class of 1954 will hold its quarterly luncheon at 1 p.m. on Dec. 9 at O’Charley’s, 962 Breckenridge Lane. RSVP to Pat at 267-5096 or Norma at 451-1916.

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Proceeds from this event will benefit Gilda’s Club, St. John Center for Homeless Men and Ovarian Awareness of Kentucky.

St. James to provide music for Bardstown Road Aglow

Record Staff Report

St. James Church, located at Bardstown Road and Edenside Avenue, will offer music and refreshments during the annual Bardstown Road Aglow event in the Highlands Dec. 2 from dusk until 10 p.m.

The St. James Singers Choir and School Choir will give a concert at 6:30 p.m.

The University of Louisville Trumpet Ensemble will play at 7:30 p.m. The Bellarmine University Schola Cantorum will provide music at 8 p.m. and the Louisville Trombone Ensemble will play at 8:35 p.m.

Guest organists will play on the church’s historic 1931 Henry Pilcher’s Sons pipe organ throughout the evening.

Final event caps yearlong Ursuline chapel centennial

Record Staff Report

The Ursuline Sisters of Louisville will mark the final event in a yearlong centennial celebration of the Motherhouse Chapel with a Mass on Dec. 8, the feast of the Immaculate Conception.

The Ursuline Chapel of the Immaculate Conception, the chapel’s formal name, was dedicated on Dec. 8 in 1917.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

and Mass will begin at 7 p.m. The evening liturgy will be celebrated by Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz.

Music will be provided by the Our Lady of Lourdes Choir. The chapel is located on the Ursuline campus, 3115 Lexington Road.

Handicap parking will be available. The Mass will be livestreamed on Facebook at www.facebook.com/UrsulinesLouisville.

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HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT TEST ON SATURDAY DECEMBER 9, AT 9:00 A.M.



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First Sunday of Advent

During Advent, Christians patiently await the revelation of the face of God at Christmas. Advent is a privileged time to allow the human to be reawakened within us, to love the questions that life opens, to embrace our fragility and need for another to respond to them. This Advent, may we let the light grow and give patience to others as a gift.

An Advent meditation: Memory and hope

By MSGR. J. BRIAN BRANSFIELD
Catholic News Service
“So ... what are you giving up for Advent?”

Lent gets all the attention. There is Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday, the daily “giving up” of chocolate and meatless Fridays. Lent has a lot of reminders. But Advent sneaks up on us.

For a string of Sundays, the priest is in green vestments signifying Ordinary Time in the church. Then, all of a sudden, the priest enters Mass in purple vestments. Oh, and there’s the Advent wreath — the three purple candles and one rose candle. Each week of Advent, we light another candle.

As the days get shorter and the sun sets earlier, as the darkness grows outside, the light grows within the church. Light is God’s first miracle: “Let there be light” (Gn 1:3). And to this day, light expands, traveling at over



186,000 miles per second.

It may seem, with the natural disasters this past year, the hurricanes and earthquakes, wildfires and disease, and of course with all of the man-made disasters of racism, gun violence and drug dealing, that the days are getting darker. There are the personal hurts and those of our families ... job loss, depression and long-held misunderstandings.

We need the light to grow. With so much going on in the world we ask ourselves, what can we do? We can remember. Memory sparks light. Advent is the great memory of the church. We remember that God’s

first miracle, light, is also his most frequent. We remember that the Creator of light made our human nature his own and in his humanity began to form in the womb of Mary.

We remember that Jesus, in his death and resurrection, has defeated death on its own ground, and in the world’s darkest place — the sealed tomb — light, uncontainable supernatural light, began to grow. It was the last place one would expect anything new to ever emerge.

And for the Catholic, memory is never nostalgia — it is never confined to the past. Hope looks to the future. So does Advent.

And so, what can we do? It all begins with light. Hope is the light of Advent. Patience is hope rehearsing. Patience is hope’s favorite hiding place.

Not patience as a passive “sitting still,” but patience in the face of our old battle-grounds — where we want to have the last word, be in control, be first, have our own way.

This Advent, may we let the light grow and give patience to others as a gift. How?

The next time you or I are in a disagreement with a loved one, let’s refuse to have the last word.

The next time we are convinced that we are right, instead of proving our point again, let’s listen to the other who we are convinced is “wrong.”

The next time we demand our own way, let’s refuse to take it. This isn’t “giving in” or “giving up” ... this is giving forth. Like Jesus.

Advent sneaks up on us. So does hope. And hope begins in small places that are unseen at first. And like the light, hope grows.

Msgr. Bransfield is the author of “Living the Beatitudes: A Journey to Life in Christ.”

Advent, which begins Dec. 3, will be shorter this year

Catholic News Service

Advent is a season of anticipation and waiting. It’s a time to stretch and strengthen a particularly stubborn, and sometimes weak, “muscle” — patience.

In his Letter to the Galatians, St. Paul lists patience among other fruits of the Holy Spirit such as love, joy, peace, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (5:22-23).

St. Thomas Aquinas, in the “Summa Theologiae,” argues that patience is a virtue. He quotes St. Augustine: “The virtue of the soul that is called patience, is so great a gift of God, that we even preach the patience of him (God) who bestows it up on us.”

Patience is both a gift from God and a “muscle” to be worked. A virtue is a “habitual and firm disposition to do good,” reads the Catechism of the Catholic Church (No. 1833). “The moral virtues grow through education, deliberate acts and perseverance in struggle,” the catechism continues (No. 1839).

What deliberate acts will you take this Advent to grow in patience?

Better get a head start — the pre-Christmas workout won’t last long, Advent is a bit shorter this year. The fourth week of Advent is only a day long, Sunday — it’s also Christmas Eve, as Christmas falls on a Monday.

Breakfast With Santa

Glen Ridge Health Campus invites you to our Breakfast Bazaar!



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Bishop-elect’s family ‘thrilled’ for him

Continued from Page One

of St. Dominic Church in Springfield, Ky.

After Goatley, 51, was married and had a family of her own, she said her mother still called to remind her of holy days of obligation.

“My mother was the key to our faith. She always said without faith you have nothing,” she said.

Their mother, who passed away in 2002, would be immensely proud of her son becoming a bishop, Goatley said.

“She was proud of all her children. Mark is special; it’s very unique to have a child become a priest or nun. When someone mentioned ‘Father Mark,’ she just glowed,” said Goatley, who teaches second grade at Bardstown Primary School.

She and her husband Glenn have two children: Hunter, 25, and Olivia, 21.

Also proud of his son is Bishop-elect Spalding’s father, Lawrence. When he heard the news, he said he teared up.

“I kind of thought he would be a bishop somewhere down the line. When he told me I got choked up,” he said.

Lawrence Spalding, a retired farmer, said he would have to adjust to his son



Photo Special to The Record

Bishop-elect J. Mark Spalding held his nephew Brady Spalding in 2013 following his baptism. Bishop-elect Spalding has baptized all of his nieces and nephews and presided at their first Communions.

moving to Tennessee. Currently the two get together for lunch on Mondays, the newly-appointed bishop’s day off.

“It isn’t too far from us. I know all about Nashville. It’s no problem for us. I’ll just get in the car and drive down and see him,” he said.

Lawrence Spalding still resides in Fredericktown in the home where Bishop-elect Spalding and his siblings grew up. Their childhood was

felt great joy for him. We are all extremely proud of him,” he said. “We all knew Mark was destined for big things. He’s a great priest and a good person.”

Brad Spalding, 43, and his wife Macy live in Boston, Ky., with their three children: Carly, 14; Colton, 11; and Brady, 5. He is the county engineer for Nelson County and attends the Basilica of St. Joseph Proto-Cathedral in Bardstown, Ky.

He said his brother was fortunate to have had a number of role models, in addition to his parents, as a young person.

“We had a (great) uncle — Father Jim Thompson, that was the beginning of a good example for Mark to see the good things a priest can do in life,” he said.

In addition to the late Father James Thompson, there are a number of religious vocations in the extended Spalding family. Two of Bishop-elect Spalding’s aunts are Ursuline Sisters of Mount St. Joseph — Sister Laurita Spalding and Sister Rosanne Spalding.

His second cousin was the late Father Harold Spalding. And, a great aunt on his mother’s side — Sister Francis Xavier Miles — was also an Ursuline Sister of Mount St. Joseph.

Pope prays for victims of Egypt attack

By JUNNO AROCHO ESTEVES
Catholic News Service
VATICAN CITY — Pope Francis led pilgrims in prayer for the victims of a bombing at a mosque in Egypt’s northern Sinai region.

Addressing thousands of people gathered in St. Peter’s Square, Pope Francis said he received news of the attack with “great sorrow.”

“May God deliver us from these tragedies and sustain the efforts of all those who work for peace, harmony and coexistence,” the pope said after reciting the Angelus on the feast of Christ the King, Nov. 26.

The president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops was among other Catholic leaders who condemned the attack, calling it a “monstrous terrorist attack on in-

nocent people at prayer.”

The Nov. 24 attack took place at the Al-Rawdah Mosque in Bir al-Abd.

More than 300 people, including two dozen children, were killed when at least 40 attackers detonated a bomb, then gunned down worshippers as they fled. More than 120 others were wounded in what is being described as the deadliest modern-day attack in Egypt’s history.

The Egyptian prosecutor’s office said it believed the attack was coordinated by Islamic State militants and was targeting Muslims who practice Sufism, or Islamic mysticism.

Remembering the victims and the wounded, Pope Francis called on Christians to pray for those who were “so severely affected” by the attack that occurred during

prayers at the mosque.

“Those people, in that moment, prayed. We, too, in silence, pray for them,” he said.

Following news of the bombing, Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, said the pope was “profoundly grieved” by the loss of life and condemned the attack as a “wanton act of brutality directed at innocent civilians gathered in prayer.”

Pope Francis, Cardinal Parolin wrote, “joins all people of good will in imploring that hearts hardened by hatred will learn to renounce the way of violence that leads to such great suffering, and embrace the way of peace.”

In Washington the day of the attack, Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, USCCB president, said: “Terrorist acts can never be justified in the name of

God or any political ideology, and the fact this attack took place at a mosque, a place of worship, is especially offensive to God.”

“The Catholic Church in the United States mourns with the people of Egypt at this time of tragedy, and assures them of our prayerful solidarity,” Cardinal DiNardo said in a statement.

“We join with all those of goodwill in prayer that these acts of terror and mass killings — these acts of grave evil — will end and will be replaced with genuine and mutual respect for the dignity of each and every person,” he said.

In a televised address, Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sissi said the attack was “an attempt to stop us from our efforts in the fight against terrorism.”

Continued from Page One

Lewiston Drive, from 8:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

“We have invited all the parishes to come and be present at this experience,” said Mandley-Turner. “I do not want it to be perceived as a ‘black thing.’ We are all one family. But it’s an opportunity to embrace new learning related to African American Catholics.”

Cardinal Turkson’s address is called “The Spirit of the Lord is Upon Me: Act Justly, Love Goodness and Walk Humbly with Your God.”

The day-long event will also feature workshops, Mass and other speakers. Among the speakers are delegates who attended the national congress in July, Father Maurice Nkemefuna Emelu of Gratia Nobis Ministries and Archbishop of Louisville Joseph E. Kurtz.

All are welcome to attend the Dec. 9 Archdiocesan Black Catholic Congress

Workshops will explore a variety of topics, including: life and human dignity, racism, the lives of the saints, violence and senior members of the church. There will also be a track for young people in grades four to 12.

The cost to attend, which includes a continental breakfast (served from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.) and lunch, is \$30 for adults and \$15 for youth. For more information or to register, call 636-0296 or send an email to omm@archlou.org.

Panelists discuss Christians in Iraq

By MARK PATTISON
Catholic News Service
WASHINGTON — Although life in Iraq for Christians has stabilized since the routing of Islamic State from the country, their numbers are down from 2014, when the militant group began its insurgency, with their towns largely wrecked and infrastructure in shambles.

This was the assessment of panelists at a Nov. 28 roundtable in Washington sponsored by the Knights of Columbus in recognition of a week of “Solidarity in Suffering” declared by the U.S. Catholic Church that began Nov. 26 to raise awareness of the situation of persecuted Christians throughout the world.

Chaldean Archbishop Bashar Matti Warda of Erbil, Iraq, in the Kurdistan region in the country’s north, said in 2014, when Islamic State made its first territorial gains, “we found ourselves suddenly caring for 15,000 Christian families, not including Yezidis,” another religious minority native to the Ninevah Plains in the region. The Christians had fled from their homes further south in Iraq; the United States last year called Islamic State’s atrocities in the region constituted genocide.

“Now he is helping as many as possible move back to their homes,” said Carl Anderson, supreme knight of the Knights of Columbus.

First will come immediate needs. Stephen Rasche, who is president of the Ninevah Reconstruction Committee and doubles as the Erbil Archdiocese’s general counsel, said reconstruction

The situation has stabilized, but Iraqi Christians’ towns and infrastructure are in shambles

work is like “triage.”

Power and water are immediate needs, Rasche said. But first, Iraqi Christians need to move back to their homes to get those essentials restored. And, once there, they will need to find “work, economic sustenance,” he added.

So far, the committee has received \$2 million from Hungary to restore Christian areas, and is counting on another \$4 million from the U.S. government and private sources. Reconstruction will have to take place on “a town-by-town basis,” Rasche said. The Knights have raised \$2 million in an initiative to rebuild Karamles, a predominately Christian town in Ninevah that was previously under Islamic State control.

Rasche added that Iraq had about 1.5 million Christians at the start of the U.S.-led war against Iraq in 2003. Now, that number has dipped to 300,000, while some estimates place it as low as 175,000.

One overarching goal is “keeping peace in our villages,” said Father Salar Kajo, a parish priest in Teleskof, Iraq. Father Kajo is credited with brokering a peace accord this fall between Iraqi government forces and the Peshmerga fighters of Kurdistan, which had recently declared its independence from

Iraq but whose breakaway bid has met with a chilly reception by other nations.

“Knowing we are not forgotten gives us hope,” said Archbishop Warda, who later added that prayer and continued conversation and outreach by Christians in the West will do much to im-

prove the situation of Iraqi Christians.

Anderson mentioned a Pew Research Center report that said Christians are targeted in more countries than any other faith, and Pope Francis’ comment that there are “more martyrs today than in Christianity’s first centuries.”

While aid is welcome, Rasche said, “the hour is well past midnight” for Iraqi Christians. Archbishop Warda concurred, saying that after three-and-a-half years of attacks by Islamic State, “we cannot afford” a fresh outbreak of violence.



The Record’s Bridal Issue will publish January 11, 2018.

LAST CALL to list your FREE engagement or marriage announcement (prior to your first anniversary).

Visit **theRecordnewspaper.org**. Go to the Submissions tab at the top of the page and select Bridal Announcements to fill out your extended announcement on line.

Deadline: December 1, 2017 at Noon.

Photo by Family Features.

Event explores ‘parish global solidarity’

Continued from Page One

much and those who don’t have enough.

■ Prejudice — the tendency to shun people who are different.

■ Violence and greed — the exploitation of the poor for the benefit of those in power.

Bouchard shared with the gathering that he hears with “frequency” a similar outlook of a world steadily growing darker. The church is in need of solidarity, he said, adding that the challenges are many. This “Parish Global Solidarity” initiative is an “invitation to deal with” what’s happening in the world, said Bouchard.

CRS’ work attempts to

“deal” with some of these issues, noted Bouchard. CRS provides access to clean water and improved sanitation in impoverished African countries and improves the health and wellbeing of children through access to food and nutrition around the world.

Bouchard shared with his listeners that he has witnessed the connection of the local and global church through the opportunities he’s had to travel abroad with CRS. “It’s phenomenal to see what we can do as a church and how we are received,” he said.

There are tentative plans to hold similar discussions quarterly on issues that are “current” and “relevant,” said Bouchard.



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ACROSS

1 Christian symbol

5 Sweethearts

10 Lettuce

14 On the ocean

15 Roof overhangs

16 Raison d'___

17 A contraction

18 Serious wrongdoing

19 Oaf

20 Et cum spiritu ___

21 White silk garment worn by the Pope

22 One of the seven deadly sins

23 Messenger

25 Engagement ends?

27 Own, in Dundee

28 Understood

29 Mineral spring

32 Soviet forced-labor camp

35 Optical device

36 Sweetie

37 Employs

38 Garish

40 "In word and ___ honor your father" (Sir 3:8)

41 US doctors' organization

42 Slant

43 Catholic late-night host Kimmel

44 They may start affairs

45 Woody Allen animated film

46 Seed of a legume

47 Foretell

48 "My sentiments

exactly"

52 Catholic physicist, Marie ___

55 "When he had ___, early on the first day of the week" (Mk 16:9)

58 He gave Hannah words of comfort

59 Smallest component

60 Municipal

61 Goad

62 The power to reject

63 Silly

64 Delude

65 Org.

66 Given name of Mother Teresa

67 USA

DOWN

1 "O, you of little ___" (Mt 6:30)."

2 Point in question

3 The Lord, in Madrid (with "EI")

4 Word with old or hard

5 Ten Hail Marys

6 British nobleman

7 Ardent

8 Continued

9 Vane reading

10 Church sounders

11 "___, Sing America"

12 Very dry champagne

13 2nd letter of the Hebrew alphabet

21 The Vatican's is gold and white with a papal symbol on it

22 "...for a person will reap only what he ___" (Gal 6:7)

24 Cries of discovery

26 "Whoever wishes to come after me must ___ himself, take up his cross, and follow me." (Mt 16:24)

28 Awkward person

29 Father of Elam and Aram

30 Composition in verse

31 Actor Griffith

32 Largest of the Marianas

33 Amer. military branch

34 Meadows

38 Lollobrigida of films

39 Changing

40 Direction (abbr.)

42 Record

43 Lay missionary, Donovan, murdered in El Salvador

46 Bits

47 Magician who wanted to buy the gift of God's power in Acts

49 First word in the title of a 19th century encyclical

50 Quickly form a union?

51 Duck with soft down

52 Goin' okay, for Pierre

53 Native Americans

54 Decays

56 "Terrible" ruler of Russia

57 Trigonometric function

60 Agency headed by uncle of Cardinal Dulles

61 Hand-held computer, briefly

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SOLUTION

Find it on page 11 for the November 23 issue.

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Submit cover letter and resume to:

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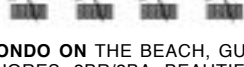
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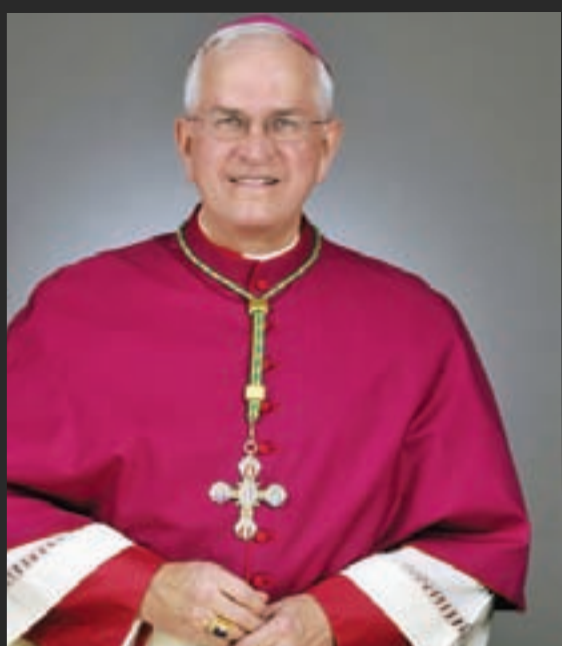
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*Please join
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in prayer for our ceremony of
“The Lighting of the
Tree of Remembrance.”*

Tree of Remembrance

*Remember, honor and celebrate
the life of your loved one by placing
a personalized, complimentary
ornament on the tree.*

*Ornaments are provided and
refreshments will be served.*

Calvary Cemetery
Friday, December 1, 2017
6:30 p.m.

*– Cemetery gates will be open
for entry until 6:25 p.m.
No entry will be allowed
during the service.*



*Ornaments will remain on the
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