



# Parish Times

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AUGUST 2017

Living the Faith Together

FREE

## Update from Africa



Some of the students currently attending the middle school (grades 7-10) in Atchanvé which has become so popular that a second story is currently being added.

## The Building Up of the Church

Rev. William Ryan had been a priest in the Archdiocese of Washington for nearly twenty-five years when he decided to ask permission to return as a permanent missionary to Togo, in West Africa, where he had served as a Peace Corps volunteer in the early 1970s. That was in 2006. The Archbishop of Lomé, the capital of Togo, assigned him to Atchanvé, the principal village of a remote and impoverished area. He is the only priest serving 35 villages.

Atchanvé has no electricity and, until Fr. Ryan arranged for well-digging machinery to be brought from Lomé, no dependable water supply. A modest mission center with sleeping quarters, parish offices, and a small

chapel was built in the first few years after Fr. Ryan arrived with the help of donations from friends and family in the United States.

Since then, the mission has constructed a clinic/dispensary and a convent for sisters from a Togolese order. More than 1200 students now attend six primary schools (K-6) that the mission has built one grade at a time in the largest of its villages over the past few years, as well as one middle school (7-10). Work is nearly completed on a substantial parish church in Atchanvé.

Fr. Ryan's mission tries to combine development projects with evangelization, imitat-

*Continued on page 11*

## St. Jude Hispanic Community Celebrates its 20th Anniversary

by Pedro Esteban, Director of Hispanic Ministry

With a message of unity and mercy as primary virtues to continue to grow in faith and to keep us closer to the Lord, a Mass was celebrated on July 9 to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Hispanic community at the Shrine of St. Jude in Rockville, Maryland. The Mass was presided by Fr. Shaun Foggo and concelebrated by pastor Fr. Paul Lee, Fr. Bob Kosty, and Fr. David Wells, assisted by Deacon Nathaniel Cordoba.

The Mass began with a procession of Latin American flags carried by children in traditional dress of their native countries. About 800 people attended this joyful celebration, with the participation of the three Spanish parish choirs – Santa Cecilia, El Sagrado Corazón and the children's choir, Santa Maria, directed by Christian Leanos.

Fr. Foggo's homily focused on unity and docility to the call of God to serve, and to let Him guide us by His love and mercy to remain active members of the church.

Following the Mass, the celebration contin-



The Hispanic Community at the Shrine of St. Jude celebrated its 20th anniversary this past July. The Anniversary Mass began with a procession of Latin American flags carried by children in traditional dress of their native countries. Approximately 800 people attended this joyful celebration. Photo by Tom Roach

ued with a grand reception in Thaddeus Hall, where many Latin American countries' arts

*Continued on page 29*

## Civility, The Heart of Christian Communication



Chuck Short

Welcome back from your summer respite. I hope they were restful and restorative. This edition of *Our Parish Times* traditionally initiates a new year for parish activities including schools, religious

education, sports, sacramental preparation, and other ministries which often take a summer hiatus. Hopefully we return from summer with strengthened faith and renewed commitment to engage our many worthy parish activities. Welcome new pastors, clergy and staff to our Montgomery County based Catholic communities, especially newly ordained priests and deacons. We welcome new principals and staff in our outstanding Catholic schools along with others who serve more than 120,000 Catholic faithful in promoting inspiring communities of spiritual growth and Christian service. Montgomery

*Continued on page 13*



The Academy of the Holy Cross has been located at three campuses in Washington and one in Kensington, Md. since its founding in 1868, including this location on Upton Street in Northwest DC from 1910 to 1959.

## The Academy of the Holy Cross Celebrates 150 Years

The 2017-2018 school year marks the 150th year that The Academy of the Holy Cross has been educating young women in the Archdiocese of Washington. To commemorate the occasion, the Academy has planned a year of activities celebrating the school's legacy and honoring the Sisters of the Holy Cross

who founded the school in 1868.

As the school year is opened, a new heritage display will showcase the Academy's history from its founding at Saint Matthew the Apostle parish in Washington, DC through the three moves to Massachusetts Avenue and Upton Street in Washington,

*Continued on page 9*

## A Shout Out to Living Examples of Our Faith

I hope you had a blessed summer and were able to spend some time relaxing, refreshing yourself and enjoying family and friends. Now, of course, it's back to school and back to work. For many, it's also back to extracurricular activities as well, and I think it's easy to underestimate the importance of these activities, especially in our church communities.

For example, we're heading into the fall sports season, which brings back fond memories for me on many levels. One is my time as director of CYO for the archdiocese, a wonderful 12 years when I had the opportunity to combine my loves of the priesthood, youth ministry and sports. The other is my time participating in CYO sports at Our Lady of Lourdes. When I was growing up, soccer wasn't as popular as it is today, so I played football, basketball, and baseball.


I think today not just of those involved in



Fr. Enzler

*Continued on page 15*





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## CBN MC News



### September Monthly Breakfast

The Board of Directors of the Catholic Business Network of Montgomery County invites you to its next monthly 2nd Friday Networking Breakfast Meeting being held on Friday, September 8, 2017 at 7:30am. Register online at: [www.cbnmc.com](http://www.cbnmc.com).

This month's speaker is Leila A. Finucane, J.D., M.U.P. President and CEO of Victory Housing.

We meet on the second Friday of every month at our new location – Lahinch Tavern and Grill in the Cabin John Shopping Center on Tuckerman Lane and Seven Locks Rd. Parking is conveniently located outside the restaurant.

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## October Monthly and Hall of Fame Breakfast

Join us for CBN-MC's monthly breakfast and speaker.

CBN-MC FOUNDATION 18th Annual  
Youth Coaches Hall of Fame Awards  
Friday, October 13, 2017  
7:30 am EDT  
Catering supplied by Bean Bag Catering  
\$26.00 a person  
Register online at: [www.cbnmc.com](http://www.cbnmc.com).

Our speaker will be **Pete Strickland, Head coach of the Ireland National team.** Pete Strickland has coached basketball for 31 years, spanning the professional, collegiate and high school ranks and amidst the development intensive high school ranks, Pete would say that he has mentored, tutored and been an extraordinary example to countless student-athletes and their families, their friends and their associates. THIS is the 'evidence' - as Pete calls it - that means the most to him as he reflects on his coaching career, and where he feels he has most indelibly left his mark. Pete has been the assistant coach for Dematha, NC State and George Washington.

We will meet at the Vis Arts in the Rockville Town Center

Vis Arts  
155 Gibbs Street  
Rockville, MD 20850

Parking is conveniently located in the garage and near Dawson's Market.  
Registration is \$25 for pre-registered CBN-MC members, \$30 at the door and for non-members.

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Catholic school students from across the area with and without disabilities cheered during the production of a CCSE video for Pope Francis' 2015 visit to Washington. Photo by Nick Stone

## Small Powerhouse Supporting Inclusion in Our Catholic Schools

By Kathy Dempsey

Since 2004, in a generously donated office space and with no full-time staff, a small powerhouse nonprofit has been

transforming the face of Catholic education in Montgomery County and across Maryland.

The Catholic Coalition for Special Education engages and

*Continued on page 26*

## About CBN-MC

The Catholic Business Network of Montgomery County, CBN-MC, is an independent, non-profit organization of businesses and individual professionals working together to support Catholic education in Montgomery County Maryland.

We apply the principles of our faith in the marketplace, promote valuable networking opportunities among CBN members, as well as provide additional support within the County for the education of our young men and women. Any profits generated through the association, including several specific fund raising events during the year, go to support Montgomery County, Maryland Catholic schools through the CBN-MC Foundation, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

From the beginning the members of CBN-MC have made Catholic Education the focus of their charitable work. Since inception, CBN-MC distributed more than \$1,000,000 in development grants to Catholic schools, essay scholarships and need-based scholarships.

As a networking center, CBN-MC has successfully pulled Catholic business men and women together across parish boundaries creating an increased awareness within the parishes of who is in business and what goods and services are offered. Time is arranged at breakfast meetings for structured table networking. At each breakfast members report the deals they have made with fellow members in the recent past.

OPT

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# Justice and Advocacy Council plans for upcoming year

By Anthony Bosnick

Let's start with a little background on the Justice and Advocacy Council of Montgomery County (for short, we refer to it as the J&A Council). It was established in 2005 by the Archdiocese of Washington to represent Catholic interests at the county level. This was a missing piece in Maryland where the Maryland Catholic Conference represents the Church at the state level and where several other organizations, such as the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, are involved in political action at the national level.

Seven themes of Catholic social teaching guide the council. Since the J&A Council represents the Archdiocese, we seek to ground our advocacy in Church teaching. This is concisely reflected through Catholic social teaching (CST).

CST is not just about Church teaching applied to public policy. It is also a way that we experience "God's gratuitous presence" in our private and social lives. *The Compendium of the Social Teaching of the Church* states it well and beautifully: "Every authentic religious experience . . . leads to an intuition of the Mystery that, not infrequently, is able to recognize some aspect of God's face" (para. 20). Pope Francis puts it nicely: "The ideal is . . . to discover God in all things" (*Laudato Si*, para 233). In other words, God is present in all things and through those things we can experience his life-giving and enriching presence—even through advocacy and public policy.

A good example of how this plays out can be seen in the recent debate in Montgomery County regarding the establishment of the \$15 minimum wage, an increase of 30 percent. While the County Council voted 5-4 to enact this

legislation, County Executive Ike Leggett vetoed the bill. As Catholic citizens trying to promote the common good, enhance the dignity of the worker, and provide for a living wage (all reflecting principles of CST), we should consider this policy issue in light of sound economics and the goals of Catholic teaching. They are related.

An independent, comprehensive study looked at how the increase of the minimum wage to \$15 will affect the county. The study concludes there are considerable negative impacts of the proposed legislation. Complicating the matter, the firm which conducted the study later reported errors in the data collection which have compromised the findings. In any event, as members of the J&A, we have to weigh the goal of higher incomes for low-income residents against the possible negative impact. I would guess that members of the J&A Council will not agree on this issue.

The issue, however, provides a good example of the challenge of applying CST to public policy issues. It is not a slam dunk conclusion. But the more we discuss issues in light of CST, the more adept we become at sensitively allowing Church social teaching to guide our thoughts on the issues. We invite you to participate in our discussions.

## Primary Election – June 26, 2018

The elections of 2018 will be important for Montgomery County. At the local level, we will be electing a new County Executive and members of the County Council. Because of the term limits approved by voters in 2016, which means that the County Executive and four of the nine members of the Council cannot run for additional terms,

numerous people have and will announce for these openings.

The J&A Council has held candidate forums in the past and plans to do so again in the Spring before the June 26 primary. Depending on the number of candidates running in the primary election, we will determine whether the forum will focus on candidates for the Council or for the Executive, or for both. Watch for details.

The past forums have been spirited events and were well attended. A feature of the J&A-sponsored forums is that we focus the questions on county issues from the perspective of Catholic social teaching, which is appreciated by many people.

## Information on the upcoming election

If you need to register or change your address, you can visit the website of the Maryland State Board of Elections ([www.elections.state.md.us/](http://www.elections.state.md.us/)). The website has information on just about anything you many want to know. You can also register to vote and change your voting address through a link on the site. You can even do that now to get a head start on registration.

## All invited

The next meeting of the J&A Council is Wednesday, September 27 at 7:30 p.m. at Holy Redeemer Church in Kensington, MD. For more information, call Ann Barbagallo at 301-482-1022. Plan to attend!

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Anthony Bosnick has been a member of the Montgomery County J&A Council since 2005. He is social concerns minister at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Derwood, Md.

# Korean Student Embraces Brookewood Community, Deepens Faith and Learning

by Glencora Pipkin

For Saera Park, going to Korean high school meant choosing a STEM or humanities track.

Although many students find fulfillment in this model, Saera knew that she loved the sciences just as much as the humanities. So, the choice to come to America was simple. Saera knew that she would get a less compartmentalized education in the States, but she didn't expect her education to be for the soul as well as the mind. Most exceptionally, Saera has been deeply surprised by her religious education, which has become a way of life. According to Saera,

Before I came to Brookewood, I wasn't really a religious person. Catholicism felt like a cultural norm, and I didn't understand the meaning of the practices. However, living with a Catholic host family, making friends at GS (Gioventu Studentesca), and taking religion classes has made a deep impact on my faith. I find prayer, confession, and the many acts of the faithful to be meaningful, beautiful revelations of Christ in my daily life.

Oftentimes the demand on an international student can be overwhelming, and students can easily feel isolated. However, Saera has become such a vibrant member of the Brookewood community, that native students learn from her about the



Saera Park, a 17-year-old native of Korea, is continuing her third year of study at Brookewood School

"Brookewood" spirit of *Nolite Timere*, to "be not afraid." Saera has been involved in volleyball, soccer, prom committees, the Model UN committee, the annual pilgrimage, and the school gala, and she continues to work hard in her studies while making friends throughout the school. Not only does Saera speak English like a native now (on top of her native Korean), she has been deeply interested in learning and practicing Italian along with Latin!

Saera Park is in the 12th grade at Brookewood and hopes to attend university in the states and continue the work she's started here.

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# Faith Leaders Call on Congress to Reject RAISE Act

## Over 600 Faith Leaders Sign Letter to Congress

"We are deeply troubled by the introduction of the RAISE Act by Senators Cotton (R-AR) and Perdue (R-GA), as it would deny millions the opportunity to reunite with family members and contribute to our shared communities. Such efforts ignore the importance of family unity and deny the essential contributions immigrants make that have allowed our country to thrive, strengthen, and welcome new peoples and cultures," wrote a coalition of over 600 faith leaders to Member of Congress. [Text of letter is available on NAC's website.]

Lawrence Couch, Director of the National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, is a signatory.

"This letter is a signal of the strong unity among the faith community and everyday faithful



against this hateful and narrow-minded legislation. The RAISE Act would encourage a 'brain drain' by siphoning off the highly educated people from poor countries. Meanwhile we would not give priority to family reunification. All of this is being done in the name of jobs but it is a policy of no growth and no win. Aside from the immorality of these policies, they are also economically disastrous," said Couch.

"Immigrants have not only provided brain power in the Silicon

Valley, they also harvest our crops, construct our buildings, prepare our food, and provide hospitality services. When we deny entry to immigrants at all skill levels, we are limiting our potential as a nation.

"Somehow we have forgotten that immigrants are people who may have needs but they also have gifts to offer. When we think of immigrants as commodities we lose sight of their humanity and run the risk of losing our own humanity," said Couch.

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## Interview with Fr. Samuel Giese Part Two

## Retirement from DC National Guard

**F**r. Samuel Giese retired from the National Guard on March 18, 2017 at the DC Armory with over 40 parishioners from St. Jane de Chantal Church present at the ceremony. The Parish held a special reception in June to celebrate this event. Carol Ramirez, a member of the Pastoral Council, and the OPT Editor sat down with Fr. Giese to reflect on his vocation as priest with two areas of responsibility - his army career and his role as Pastor, and to discuss how he successfully managed both. Excerpts from part one of the interview were featured in the May issue of OPT. The remainder of the interview is printed below.

*Why/when did you choose the priesthood?*

It all begins at baptism. We start to be called at that time, but for most of us there is not a single moment. It's more like following a call that begins with life itself. I just did what naturally came next, and before I knew it, I was ordained. While in the seminary, I also become an



Fr. Giese poses with medals and other service awards during a celebration held in St. Jane de Chantal Parish to mark his retirement from the DC National Guard.



Parishioners congratulate Fr. Giese on his retirement and service in the DC National Guard at a reception that took place in his honor at St. Jane de Chantal Church.

Army Chaplain, so my two callings evolved together.

*How did you balance your military commitments and your full-time job as Pastor at St. Jane de Chantal Church?*

I'm not sure I always did. I always felt behind and felt I was catching up. It was a challenge, but I felt it was possible because of all the help and support I received in the Parish community and in the National Guard as well. The National Guard was very understanding allowing me to put the Parish first. I needed to be there a weekend a month along with 15 days of annual training plus additional events that occurred in DC, such as the Inauguration, the Fourth of July, the State of the Union, and



A special commemorative memento presented to Fr. Giese from the DC Army National Guard for loyal meritorious service.

snow emergencies. The President is the Commander in Chief of the District of Columbia National Guard, although he delegates this to the Secretary of the Army.

*Tell us about your time as a prison chaplain.*

I was chaplain in two different prison systems, one in Washington, DC, that moved to Lorton, VA, and was made up of different prisons, maximum security to high-medium, medium, low-medium and minimum. When they were closing and moving the DC inmates into the federal prison system, I asked Cardinal Hickey if I could stay on in the federal prison ministry system as a chaplain, and he agreed. I would say mass on Saturday and Sunday nights and also visited inmates in special housing units. I got mixed

responses from the prisoners, some of them were happy to talk to me, but others were too full of anger. I used to bring them books and toiletries and those items were usually well received.

*Now that you have retired from the military, how will that change your life with St. Jane de Chantal Church?*

I have already started to feel some more mental space. Instead of having to manage two different responsibilities, I will be able to be more relaxed. Although I have started to attend meetings of volunteer organizations that are activated in disaster, such as the Red Cross, and I may still become involved with them. They need a chaplain to tend to the religious needs of people in distressful situations.

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# Fr. Bonaventure's Ordination and Celebration of First Mass



Fr. Bonaventure blesses a Parishioner well-wisher during the reception held in his honor at the St. Jane de Chantal Church.

**F**r. Bonaventure was ordained a priest at St. Dominic Church in Washington, DC on Saturday, May 20. The ordination mass was officiated by Archbishop DeNoia, a Dominican who is from the Vatican. The following day, Sunday, May 21, Fr. Bonaventure celebrated his first mass at 10 o'clock in St. Jane Frances de Chantal Church, where he has been serving the Parish during the last two years. Following the mass, the Parish offered a reception to honor the newly ordained priest and to wish him good luck in his new destiny.

Fr. Bonaventure will be serving in Providence College in the fall. His proud parents, Tom and Marsha Chapman, were present at the ordination and first mass, and they have kindly shared the photos they took with us. The Parish wishes many blessings on Fr. Bonaventure and his family. We will miss him and his many wonderful contributions to our Parish.

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Fr. Bonaventure poses for a photo with Gr. Giese during the reception ceremony following the celebration of his first mass, which took place at St. Jane de Chantal Church.



The laying on of hands by Archbishop DeNoia, a Dominican from the Vatican, on Fr. Bonaventure in the presence of his fellow church members and before God to ordain him as priest.



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## St. Elizabeth's new Pastoral Vicar

**F**ather Chip A rather informal name for a priest, but that is how the Rev. Charles Luckett prefers to be known. He's been "Chip" all his life and isn't going to be different simply because he's in a new parish. He hasn't even come very far to join us



Fr Chip Luckett

— from just up the road at St. Mary's parish in mid-Rockville, where he spent the past three years immediately after his ordination in 2014. And his roots have always been planted in the Washington area.

Fr. Chip Luckett was born in the District in 1980 and grew up in Alexandria, where he attended St. Mary's grade school, then he came across the river to Gonzaga High School. He was active in Boy Scouts and played the violin and tennis. A student at Catholic schools through high school, he continued at The Catholic University for his baccalaureate studies. He earned his bachelor's in chemistry and then moved on to the University of Maryland with his eye on a masters and doctorate in that field.

But there were other forces at work. Coming from a solid Catholic background, Fr. Chip received his sacraments and trained as an altar server at St. Mary's. He cites altar serving as a major factor in his spiritual development. He excelled

at this ministry which he served throughout grade school, high schools and college. Fr. Chip did not give much thought to any further involvement with the Church until he was setting up for and serving at a special Mass at Catholic U. The

celebrant at that Mass, Msgr. Panke, was the Archdiocesan Director of Vocations, and the monsignor liked what he saw in his liturgical assistant for the Mass and asked Chip if he had considered becoming a priest. Chip said yes and Msgr. Panke gave Chip his business card. While this statistically improbable meeting made an impression on Chip, he did not immediately act on it.

College Park was his very first non-Catholic academic setting. The effect was a definite culture shock for him. And although he sought out the company of fellow Catholics on the campus and Catholic communities nearby, still he sensed a very palpable spiritual void that was not being fulfilled by his graduate work. It became clear that a career in chemistry by itself would not bring the sort of fulfillment Chip was seeking.

So, in 2007, it was back to the CU campus, this time the school's Theological College to set aside chemistry and focus instead on philosophy and theology and work toward a vocation in the priesthood. During his seminary training, he has had numerous seminarian parish assignments throughout the Washington Archdiocese, including service to the parishes of Holy Redeemer in College Park and St. Peter's in Olney.

Now that Fr. Chip is Parochial Vicar at St. Elizabeth's, his focus will turn to his new parishioners and their families and to making a positive spiritual contribution in serving them.

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The whole school was entertained by the final band concert of the year.



It's never easy for St. Elizabeth eighth graders to say goodbye as they head off to High School.



Our congratulations to Garrett Bragg, who competed at the USA Taekwondo Nationals in Detroit, Michigan on July 5 and 6. Garrett competed in the areas of board breaking and sparring, earning bronze medals on both competitions.



Look at Jack & Sam Sporidis sporting their St. E's spirit wear while visiting Santorni, Greece! Lookin' good, guys!



St. Elizabeth students learned a lot about weather as they welcomed News 4 Meteorologist Doug Kammerer to the school in the Spring.



Our rising sixth graders are enjoying time together before the start of summer break.



Lots of smiles on the last day of school!



Recently, some of the members of the St. E's Class of 1979 got together and enjoyed lunch while sharing stories about their days at our school! Pictured (left to right) are Patrick McGrath, Maura Hanrahan Mountain, Mary Ann Ring, Suzy Milihran, Sean Mooney and Rick Effer. God bless the Class of 1979 and all of our alumni!



We are proud of our rising seventh graders, William Burgess, Daniel Evans, Cormac Keating, Simon Kim, Alex Lacaze, Danny Lacaze, and Kerry McKeon for earning the Rising Star Judges' Award and placing ninth out of 40 teams at their first invitation-only international robotics competition. They traveled to Fairmont State University in Fairmont, WV, and were led by their amazing coach, Alberto Lacaze!

### St. Elizabeth Parish

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## St. Bernadette Welcomes New Principal Ted Ewanciw

By Kate Doyle Rodgers, St. Bernadette School Director of Marketing, Enrollment and Alumni

As St. Bernadette School prepares, with enthusiastic anticipation, to open our doors to our students on September 5, we announce with excitement our new school principal Ted Ewanciw. While Ted may be new to his role as principal, he is certainly not new to the hallways and classrooms of SBS. Ted embarked on his professional pursuits at SBS in 2007 teaching algebra and Middle School Music. From there, he transitioned to Technology Coordinator and Instructor before settling into his most recent role as Assistant Principal in 2009 with a focus on curriculum, assessment, scheduling and facility management during studying within a supervision and administration cohort at Notre Dame of Maryland University completing his Administration I certification in 2014.

Ted brings this well-rounded experience as well as fresh vision to current goals for SBS. He shares, "My initial priority, as principal, is to continue to grow the strong



Ted Ewanciw

academic and faith-based programs we have at SBS. We are increasing and expanding our focus on STEM initiatives with Math and Science taking center stage. Additionally, we are celebrating our school's 70th anniversary this year. I want to reach out to all our amazing alumni, inviting them back for a visit to bear witness to the spectacular work being done by our staff and students today. This celebration is a prelude into a parish wide commemoration of the 160th anniversary of the St. Bernadette apparitions next year. It is truly a great time for all members, past, present and future of St. Bernadette!"

The SBS staff and stakeholders share his enthusiasm. Liz Smith, Grade 2 teacher and new SBS Assistant Principal comments, "The students, faculty, staff, and parents will benefit from Mr. Ewanciw's dedication to St. Bernadette Parish and School. Serving as a member of our school community for the last ten years he knows our past and where we need to head in the future. I look forward to working with him this year." Jasmine Kuzner, SBS School Advisory Board Chair continues, "The St.

Bernadette School Advisory Board welcomes the announcement of Ted Ewanciw as our school principal. Along with years of experience as a school administrator, Mr. Ewanciw brings an invaluable commitment to and understanding for the St. Bernadette community that enables him to steer our school with a discerning heart and mind. We look forward to exploring new and exciting chapters under his leadership!"

Ewanciw's connection and commitment extends far past the professional. He and his wife Cheryl have been longtime members of St. Bernadette Parish, adding their own ringing endorsement to the value of a high quality SBS education by choosing it for their own sons, Gregory SBS '05 and Stephen SBS '09.

When asked to share what sets St. Bernadette School apart from other schools in the DC Metro area, he replies, "When I say that St. Bernadette School occupies a great space, I mean it in both the physical and cerebral sense of the word. Our campus is located at the gateway to many Four Corners area neighborhoods, one of which I was blessed to live for many years so I fully appreciate the sense of belonging and core values they embrace. We sit at a major crossroads making our school easy to reach from other communities. Our campus is large and green with great open space for children and adults. Our buildings are attractive and inviting. Our school families are warm and friendly. Our staff is focused on best instructional practices and committed to creating an unmatched education for every child who enters our doors. I have been lucky to be on every side of this great school and look forward to an incredible new school year!"

OPT

## St. Bernadette Fall Festival: October 1 at 1:00 PM

St. Bernadette Parish will host its annual Fall Festival on Sunday, October 1 from 1:00-5:00 PM. A long-time, beloved parish tradition, the St. Bernadette Fall Festival is enjoyed by our entire St. Bernadette community and our neighbors. Parishioners and non-parishioners come out for the afternoon for a fun-filled day of pumpkins, face painting, Moon-bounce, Bingo, DJ, shopping, bake sale, cake walk, dance performances, Sno-Cones, good food and warm fellowship!

Want to lend a helping hand? Here are a few ways to support the 2017 St. Bernadette Fall Festival.

- **Want to volunteer?** Committee chair and day-of-event opportunities are available
- **Own a small business?** Spread the word about your company by sponsoring this great community event.
- **Donate?** Monetary contributions to help offset the cost of the event are greatly appreciated, as are prizes for the Bingo Tent.

Please contact stbfallfest@gmail.com or 240-645-3820 to learn how you can help.

See you at the fair!

Our 2017 Fall Festival Committee: Maureen Dewey, Laura Konda, and Kristin Schrader (assisted by Lauren Draley and Jasmine Kuzner).

## Want More Fun and Adventure in Your Boy's Life? Join Boy Scouts!

Troop 440 is a high adventure, youth-led Boy Scout Troop. Scouts plan and lead meetings and activities. In the true spirit of Scouting, the boys learn through doing. Boys are given the opportunity to develop new skills and assume responsibilities. Boys teach other boys. They plan which activities to do and how to do them. Boys make mistakes but learn from the process. Our dedicated adult leadership is there to provide guidance and ensure safety.

Troop 440 maintains a year-round program. We accept new members at any time. We had our

65th anniversary in 2015. We meet every Tuesday evening from 7:00 - 8:30 PM in the St. Bernadette School Hall. We go camping approximately one weekend per month. Please stop by for a visit by contacting the Scoutmaster to let her know you are coming, Ms. Carolyn Hoskinson, 202-236-3619 or carolyn.hoskinson@gmail.com.

*Note: Boys ages 11-18 are Boy Scouts. St. B's also has a Cub Scout Pack for boys from Kindergarten through fifth grade. You can also contact Carolyn Hoskinson if you want more info about Cub Scout Pack 440.*

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**Bartholomew Smith**  
Pastor  
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**70th Anniversary Mass**

Please join St. Bernadette School to commemorate the 70th anniversary of its opening day of school in 1947. Students and faculty will gather for our weekly school mass then guests will be invited back to the school for light refreshments.


**September 8th, 2017, 8:15 a.m.**

St. Bernadette School  
80 University Boulevard East  
Silver Spring, MD 20901

RSVP to [kr Rodgers@saintbernadetteschool.org](mailto:kr Rodgers@saintbernadetteschool.org) or 301-593-5611, ext. 135

**SAVE THE DATE:**  
September 29, CYO Gold Tournament @ 8:00 a.m.  
Saturday, September 30, Alumni Mass @ 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday, October 1, Open House & Fall Festival

[www.saintbernadetteschool.org](http://www.saintbernadetteschool.org)



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# Saint Bernadette Parish Celebrates its Inaugural Summer of Camp Soubirous!

By Neil Sloan, St. Bernadette Parish  
Director of Religious Education

During the week of July 10th, the children of Saint Bernadette Parish “tracked” Mary around the world, learning about her apparitions in Lourdes (France), Fatima (Portugal), Guadalupe (Mexico), Knock (Ireland), and England (Mt. Carmel)! Each day, their imaginary train chugged into a new station. The parish utilized the “Growing with the Saints” materials for a Catholic take on “Vacation Bible School.”

The campers, 63 boys and girls in grades K through 5, learned about Mary’s messages, prayed the Joyful mysteries of the rosary, and recognized how our Catholic devotion to Mary is based on her unique experience of God’s incarnation. We love Mary and honor her because she draws us closer to her son, Jesus, and reveals His great love for all of humanity. Camp lessons were reaffirmed throughout each morning with a variety of engaging activities, including youth volunteer skit performances, arts and crafts, themed snacks, sports, and music.



Campers sing and dance during Camp Soubirous Evening BBQ: Camp Sou BBQ!

Since our faith in Christ also leads us to love our neighbors, campers raised over \$300 for our twin parish of Saint Thérèse in Sicard, Haiti. They also offered many prayers for our brothers and sisters in Christ who are looking to rebuild their church after Hurricane

Matthew.

The camp was blessed with some incredible adult volunteers, along with an energetic group of over 30 middle school and high school volunteers. Special thanks goes out to Jasmine Kuzner, our camp director. Additionally, we were lucky to have

Ms. Teresa Kolf of the Saint John Paul II National Shrine visit each

day to offer a closing reflection.

On Thursday, families gathered on the parish field for an evening cookout, the “Camp Sou BBQ.” The children sang and danced to their camp songs, while parents socialized. Our parish community gathers every Thursday evening in June and July for a grilling “Free For All,” recalling the words of Psalm 133: “How good and pleasant it is when God’s people live together in Unity!” Friday ended with a bang on the field with water balloons and in the chapel as the kids prayed and sang before Christ’s presence in Eucharistic adoration.

For more information on our parish groups, religious education programs or to stay tuned for next year’s Camp Soubirous dates, please follow us at our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/SaintBernadetteSilverSpring](http://www.facebook.com/SaintBernadetteSilverSpring) or contact us at [reled@stbernadette-schurh.org](mailto:reled@stbernadette-schurh.org) or 301-593-0357.

OPT



## HOLY CROSS

Con't from page 1

and its present home on Strathmore Avenue in Kensington, Md. Items from the Holy Cross archives as well as donations from alumnae and friends will be included in several display cases in the Heritage Hallway. A large display case in the front lobby is dedicated to the service of the Sisters of the Holy Cross, including their work globally as educators, nurses and advocates for social justice. The Heritage Hall was directed by Gordon Anson, father of a Holy Cross alumna and the Deputy Chief of Design at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC. “We are forever grateful for the enormous time and energy Mr. Anson has given the school during the past year to make this magnificent display possible,” says Holy Cross President Katy Prebble. The Heritage Hall will be dedicated at the school’s opening Mass on Wednesday, August 30 with Msgr. John Enzler, whose six sisters attended Holy Cross, presiding the liturgy. Holy Cross will open its doors to all who would like to see the Heritage Hall at a special open house from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm and 4:00 to 6:00 pm on Thursday, September 14, which is the Church’s feast day Triumph of the Holy Cross.

On Sunday, September 24, a special Anniversary Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral of Saint Matthew the Apostle. Archbishop of Washington Donald Cardinal

Wuerl will be the principal celebrant. The Holy Cross Madrigal Singers ensemble along with alumnae will form the choir for the Mass. The entire Holy Cross community has been invited to this special liturgy at the site of the Academy’s founding and the school hopes that many will attend.

The Academy moved from its campus on Upton Street in Northwest Washington in 1956. Many alumnae from that era still cherish this location as their high school. On Sunday, October 22, Holy Cross will welcome back the alumnae to the former Upton Street campus (now part of the Howard University Law School) for a reception and Mass.

Other events through the school year to mark the 150th anniversary include:

- Anniversary Golf Tournament – Friday, October 13
- All-Alumnae Reunion – Friday, November 10
- Anniversary Benefit Auction and Gala – Saturday, March 24
- Distinguished Alumnae Awards/Athletic Hall of Fame Induction – Friday, April 20
- Tartanfest! – Saturday, May 5
- 5K and Fun Run with Mass and Pancake Breakfast – Sunday, May 6

All events can be found on the Academy’s website at [www.academyoftheholycross.org](http://www.academyoftheholycross.org).

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### 2017-2018 Open House Schedule

**September 21**  
9:30-11:00 AM  
1:00-2:30 PM

**October 1**  
10:00AM -1:00 PM

**November 16**  
9:30-11:00 AM  
1:00-2:30 PM

**December 7**  
9:30-11:00 AM  
1:00-2:30 PM

**January 28**  
10:00 AM-1:00PM

**February 21**  
9:30-11:00 AM  
1:00-2:30 PM

**April 20**  
6:00-7:30 PM



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# Sprucing Up for the New School Year

Just like we all used to put on our Sunday-best clothes for company, St. John the Evangelist School in Silver Spring is getting all gussied up for the arrival of its special guests—our students. All the classrooms have been painted, cupboard doors have been refinished, floors are cleaned and waxed, new furniture has been delivered, and the playground has a fresh, cushy layer of mulch. New books have arrived and supplies are ready for their new owners. There is a new office for our new Assistant Principal, Mrs. Melissa Sloan, and the third-grade classroom is ready for its new teacher, Miss Marissa DeBrot.

Mrs. Sloan comes to our school



Mrs. Melissa Sloan joins the team as Assistant Principal

with a wealth of experience in responsive classrooms and teaching techniques to reach all children. Miss DeBrot is a recent Catholic University of America graduate who did her student teaching in DC public schools and another ADW elementary school.

We have nineteen new families joining us in our upper grades in addition to our new Junior Kindergarten families. Their mentor families have held get-togethers over the summer to welcome them into our community. We are excited to start the new school year with these fresh faces.

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10103 Georgia Ave.  
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**Rev. Joseph Calis**  
Pastor

**St. John the Evangelist School**  
Mrs. Margaret Durney,  
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**Monica M. Bradford, OPT Editor**  
bradfordsm2@comcast.net



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**November 16** **February 11**  
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Father Calis and parish children join hands during the outdoor Mass.

## Parish Picnic Brings Out the Child in Everyone

On Saturday, June 10, 2017, St. John's parish held its annual picnic on the parish grounds. Over 350 people enjoyed a delicious lunch cooked by the men of the Knights of Columbus Rosensteel Council. Families enjoyed various outdoor games, a moon bounce and a "Tykes on Trykes parade" lead through the parking lot with joy by pastor Fr. Joseph Calis. Sr. Maureen Schrimpe policed the "Pal in the Pokey" compound and we seem to recall Sr. Roberta Harding and several others spending some time locked inside for the ten minute "jail" times! The roving ice cream cart was a huge hit on the warm day, and everyone seemed deeply grateful for the generosity of all the complementary burgers, salads, desserts, drinks and frozen treats.

The parish celebration culminated in an outdoor Mass in front of the Blessed Virgin Mary statue and garden outside the Main Church. Fr. Mark Cusick and Deacon Alan Jeeves did a wonderful job planning the beautiful liturgy. Special thanks to picnic chair Katie Newkumet and her team of gracious stewards, who responded with grace when called upon to use their many gifts and talents in service to all.

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Volunteer cooks share big grins despite the heat from the grills.



The face painters created amazing art work for the children!



Bouncing with friends



"I scream, you scream, we all scream for ice cream!"

## Discovering Our Blessed Mother through Vacation Bible School

St. John the Evangelist parish hosted its annual Vacation Bible School (VBS) from July 17 through July 21, 2017. This year's theme was "Tracking Mary: Mysteries and Messages." Through skits, crafts, lessons, games, and song, VBS campers learned about Our Blessed Mother and how she points us towards a relationship with her Son, Jesus. Each day, all the activities centered on a different apparition of the Blessed



Children enjoying outside water games at VBS

Continued on page 11





Volunteers lead the younger students through an activity at VBS.

## BIBLE SCHOOL

*Con't from page 10*

Mother, starting with Lourdes, then travelling to Fatima, Guadalupe, Knock, and Mt. Carmel.

Every morning, a skit introduced the apparition of the day, then the children went back to their classrooms to learn about the apparition and what Mary taught us by appearing. They then rotated through Music, Games, Snacks, Crafts, and a lesson related to one of the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary. On the last day, Friday, the children came together for a final show where they performed the songs they had learned during the week for their beaming parents.

The children loved learning about all the ways the Mary shows us the way to her Son and enjoyed learning how to pray the rosary. They even got to make their own rosaries. Many of the children were most impressed by the knowledge that Mary consistently chose to appear the poor and lowly in society – peasant children, mestizo Indians in Mexico, starving peasants in Ireland, and a priest who had had to flee his monastery in the Holy Land due to religious persecution.

We helped the children understand that, just as Mary appeared to the humble of heart and those who seek God in their suffering, they too should strive to be close to God and to always turn to His Mother who helps us learn about Him.

A perennial hit at VBS is the much-anticipated day of outside water games – the children played Duck Duck Goose, tapping one another on the head with a damp sponge, and competed in a bucket-filling relay race. These games were a much-needed break from the hot weather. The children also enjoyed singing and performing for their parents. All-in-all, the week was a rousing success which depended on our many adult and youth volunteers.

This truly parish-wide effort brings together children from Kindergarten through High School as campers and youth helpers. Families whose children attend the parish school and who attend local public schools were both integral to the success of the week, solidifying the already-strong bond between members of our parish family. For more information about this year's Vacation Bible School, please visit: [www.sjeparish.org/education/](http://www.sjeparish.org/education/)

*vacation-bible-school-2017-tracking-mary-mysteries-and-messages.*

OPT

## TOGO

*Con't from page 1*

ing Jesus who often worked miracles to meet people's physical needs in order to then preach the good news effectively. "We try to keep a good spiritual perspective on all this," says Father Ryan. "I tell our parishioners all the time that all these projects should go hand in hand with spreading the gospel and contribute to it. That way, we will truly bear fruit that will last (John 15:16), as Jesus calls us to do."

The mission is currently seeking funds to build living quarters at the mission for boys and girls who graduate from its primary schools in the outlying villages so that they

*Continued on page 22*



The mission installed a well and water system in the rural village of Agbatehe, which was suffering from a severe water problem. Villagers were forced to walk over 3 kilometers to the Zio River to fill their basins with this dirty water. When Fr. Ryan celebrated the Mass there recently to bless the well, they told him he was the first priest ever to set foot in their village



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# Meet the New Faces at Holy Redeemer

by Magda Mooers

In her summer letter to parents and staff Holy Redeemer Principal Colleen Ryan announced the hiring of new faculty members who will join the Holy Redeemer family this school year. These new faculty members will bring their own vibrancy to the Blue Ribbon award winning school and have been attracted to the school by the rigorous academics, strong sense of Catholic Identity, and commitment to excellence and inclusion.

**Meredith Eib** will be the new Music Teacher. A recent graduate from The Catholic University of America Ms. Eib graduated with a Bachelors of Music in Musical Theatre and a Minor in Education and Service and was the recipient of the President's Award. The President's Award is presented to a graduating senior who has demonstrated prominent leadership, outstanding scholarship, and who exemplifies the highest ideals of Christianity. Ms. Eib has spent the summer in your home state of New Hampshire performing in a number of theater productions. With her incredible talent and vast experience in theater and performance Ms. Eib will also organize and direct the Spring Musical. Ms. Eib brings with her a strong personal foundation in Catholic Education and service that will enhance the existing community and service focus at Holy Redeemer.



Ms. Rand and her family at Yellowstone National Park



Ms. Eib was in eight productions this past summer. Cinderella was one of her starring roles.



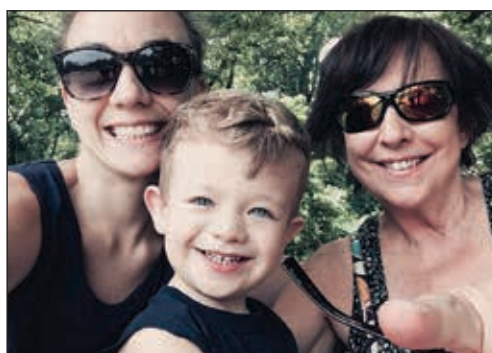
Ms. Schult went to Cedar Point Amusement Park in Ohio as a graduation gift, she loves those roller coasters.



Ms. Tropea and her family enjoyed time at her favorite place on earth-Bethany Beach.



Ms. Enright and her family walked across the Golden Gate Bridge this past summer.



Ms. Roby enjoyed time with her daughter and grandson this past summer



Ms. Tebeest enjoying at Nats game with her granddaughter and daughter.

**Mrs. Jillian Jolly** will be joining the school as one of the fifth grade teachers. Mrs. Jolly became a teacher after serving in the Army where she worked in forensics. Mrs. Jolly comes to Holy Redeemer with a BA in Elementary Education and Theater. She has taught the last few years for the Archdiocese of Arlington. Ms. Jolly enjoys

working with a team and loves the camaraderie of a community working together. She will bring her compassion, generous, kind and enthusiastic spirit to fifth grade as well as our theater program.

This year there will be two new third grade teachers. **Ms. Nicole Marders**, a recent graduate from Salisbury University, has a degree in Elementary Education with a minor in Psychology. Ms. Marders dedicated 20 to 30 hours a week as a member of the Salisbury swim team. She is originally from Potomac, Maryland and attended Winston Churchill High School. This summer Nicole managed her neighborhood pool. In her spare time she likes to swim, paint, read, and spend time with family and friends. Ms. Marders has wanted to be a teacher and is excited about bringing her love of teaching to third grade this year.

Joining the third grade team is **Ms. Janet Tropea**. Ms. Tropea comes to Holy Redeemer from the Bethesda Community School. She is a native of Chevy Chase, Maryland and attended Blessed Sacrament and the Academy of the Holy Cross. Ms. Tropea has an education degree from the University of North Carolina, Wilmington. This summer she was tutoring children and spending time at the beach. Ms. Tropea is excited to bring her enthusiasm for teaching to third grade this year and making a positive difference in each and every child's life. She spends her spare time running which she shares, "is good for her body and soul."

**Ms. Nicole Schult** will be one of the sixth grade Homeroom teach-

ers and will be teaching English in the middle school. Originally from Bowie, Maryland, Ms. Schult is a product of the Archdiocese having attended St. Pius. Ms. Schult is a recent graduate of Salisbury University where she earned a B.S. in Elementary Education (with a Minor in Creative Arts) and a B.A. in English Linguistics. Ms. Schult, while carrying a very full course load, was a member of the Varsity Swim team at Salisbury. This summer she worked at an educational summer camp and coached swimming at the Retriever Aquatic Club. Ms. Schult is most excited to become a member of this close community. In her spare time she likes to hike and spend time with family and friends.

**Ms. Deb Roby** loves teaching middle school and is very excited to be teaching at Holy Redeemer where she says, "It already feels like home." Ms. Roby will be one of the eighth grade homeroom teachers and will teach Literature in middle school. Ms. Roby is a veteran teacher with almost 20 years of classroom experience, the last four in the ADW. She has a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and two Masters – one in Reading and one in Science for Teachers. Ms. Roby is originally from Ohio and likes to cheer on her Ohio teams. Ms. Roby loves books and is looking forward to sharing her love and knowledge of books with middle school students. She is also excited to help the eighth-grade students and parents navigate through the high school admissions process.

**Nancy Ridgeway** has joined the

staff as a part time nurse. Mrs. Ridgeway has a long history at Holy Redeemer as all three of her children attended Holy Redeemer. During this time Mrs. Ridgeway worked as a library assistant, first grade aid, part time PE teacher, and was both a short and long term substitute. When her children graduated Mrs. Ridgeway fulfilled her long-time dream of becoming a pediatric nurse. Recently Mrs. Ridgeway has been working at the Pediatric Care Center. She has been interested in bringing her nursing expertise to a school environment and we are looking forward to having her caring nature in our community. Mrs. Ridgeway is very excited to be back home in the halls at Holy Redeemer. "Holy Redeemer holds a very strong hold on my heart. My family has been members of Holy Redeemer since 1987. I love and miss the Catholic school atmosphere."

Within the Preschool there will be three new part-time assistants. **Ellen Enright**, **Rebecca Rand** and **Suzanne Tebeest** will all join the preschool staff. Mrs. Enright comes to Holy Redeemer as both a registered nurse and experience as a teacher's assistant at both St. Jane de Chantal and Faith United Methodist Preschool. Ms. Rand is returning to the working world after being home with her children. Holy Redeemer is looking forward to having Ms. Rand share her creativity and energy with our littlest cardinals. With a strong background in social work and play therapy Ms. Tebeest will be a welcome addition to our preschool staff.

## Holy Redeemer Parish

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## SHORT

Con't from page 1

County is a wonderful place to live, learn, work, play, and worship. Active Catholic parishes, along with other faith communities, play important roles in contributing to this exceptional quality of life.

As blessed as we are, we do not live on an island. The increasingly caustic rhetoric coming from many groups and leaders in Washington is polluting our airways along with the rest of the nation with noxious language and disrespectful behavior sometimes leading to acts of hate and violence. These are messages and lessons our children are observing about social discourse in the adult world. Despite our efforts to insulate them from the toxins of intolerance and disrespect, unkindness has become commonplace. Civility has diminished in politics and government, on highways and in shopping areas, in entertainment, schools and sports venues, at civic and PTA meetings and even at gatherings of spiritual and church leaders. Public incivility harms the spiritual life of our children and risks the principles of unity and tolerance basic to our great nation.

As we begin this new parish year, I suggest we will reflect upon the loss of civility and recognize it as the great evil it is. I hope each of us as Christians and together as Catholic communities will act to turn back this swelling tide of evil in every way we can. Wouldn't Christ want this from His followers? Christ simplified faithful living with two succinct commandments, to love God above all and to love each other as we love ourselves. Love begets kindness; kindness begets civility. One cannot be a faithful Christian and live uncivily.

What more can we do to promote civility? First, two idealistic if not controversial suggestions.

To the US Constitution we might add, "Congress shall make no law...abridging the freedom of civil speech..."; and to underscore Christ's commandment of love, Church leaders might add to our Sunday Creed, "For us and our salvation, He came down from heaven and proclaimed two great commandments, to love God above all and to love others as we love ourselves...". These may be controversial, but so were the documents they would amend when they were first proposed!

More realistically, what can Catholic parishes practically do now, relying upon the example and help of Christ, to address incivility in our communities? Action is important now, not only to prepare our children for a Christian future, but also because our local communities are, right now, facing critical, potentially divisive issues and beginning a major local election period which, if not conducted civilly, could deteriorate into disrespect and intolerance, an outcome unworthy of citizens or Christians. Potentially divisive issues like health care, immigration, taxes, minimum wage, universal pre-K, affordable housing and other subjects will be passionately debated

by scores of candidates running for dozens of offices in Montgomery County during the next several months.

Parishes, as leading centers for morality education and practice, should become part of the community voice that calls loudly for civility during this period. Cardinal Wuerl wrote of this responsibility in his essay, *Speaking Truth to Love*, "We who follow Christ must not only speak the truth but must do so in love (Eph 4:15). It is not enough that we know or believe something to be true. We must express that truth in charity with respect for others so that the bonds between us can be strengthened in building up the body of Christ." In this document, linked below, Cardinal Wuerl offers several "ground rules" for civil dia-

logue. I recommend them. Here are a few other ideas for practical parish activities:

- Parish monitoring of public discourse in the community and swift action if our Christian standard of love for one another is violated.
- Parish leadership in offering and joining forums for accurate information and civil dialogue regarding controversial community issues.
- Parish sponsorship of youth and young adult programs which promote civility and tolerance, and promote sportsmanship and reject bullying.
- Add or enhance civil discourse and tolerance discussions to Catholic school and religious education programs.

- Given the its timeliness and the coming local primary elections, parishes may choose to use civility as an Advent or Lenten theme, with guest speakers, prayer services, and related activities promoting respectful dialogue and tolerance in civil discourse.
- Parishes may choose to partner with the **Faith Community Advisory Council** or the **Faith Community Working Group** in efforts to combat hate and violence and to promote civil society.

## Resources:

- Civil Discourse, *Speaking Truth to Love*: Cardinal Donald Wuerl [www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/faithful-citizenship/par-](http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/faithful-citizenship/parishes-and-schools/upload/Civil-Discourse-bulletin-insert.pdf)

[ishes-and-schools/upload/Civil-Discourse-bulletin-insert.pdf](http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/faithful-citizenship/parishes-and-schools/upload/Civil-Discourse-bulletin-insert.pdf)

- Montgomery County Faith Community Advisory Council, Rev Mansfield Kaseman, <http://montgomerycountyinterfaithmd.org/>
- Conflict Resolution Center of Montgomery County, Christopher Page <http://crcmc.org/>
- Montgomery County Human Rights Commission, James Stowe [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/humanrights/](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/humanrights/)

Let us work together to make ours a beloved community!

God Bless!  
Chuck Short



## “Be Who You Are and Be That Well.”

—St. Francis de Sales

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### THREE WAYS TO EXPLORE OUR SCHOOL THIS FALL

#### OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, October 14, 1-4 p.m.

#### PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT

Wednesday, November 1, 6 p.m.

#### STUDENT CUB FOR A DAY VISITS

Register for any and all at [visi.org/admissions](http://visi.org/admissions)



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## St. Bart's Day Features Great Food, Great Fun, and a Wedding!



Peter Mermagen and Agnes ("Bettina") Florence Dupee Klinedinst were married at St. Bartholomew Parish on "St. Bart's Day."



Parishioners celebrate St. Bart's Day with delicious food.



A clown entertains at St. Bart's Day celebration.

**S**t. Bart's Day on June 3 was extra special this year! During the 5:00 p.m. Mass proceeding the parish picnic, Peter Mermagen and Agnes ("Bettina") Florence

Dupee Klinedinst were married in the presence of the parish community. The St. Bart's community had a wonderful opportunity to witness the wedding and congratulate the

happy couple. St. Bart's Day also featured a scrumptious community meal, games, a clown, a piñata, and other attractions.

OPT

## Paving the Way for a New Year at St. Bart's

**S**ummer proved to be a busy time on the charming campus of St. Bartholomew Catholic School. Newly appointed Interim Principal, Mr. Frank English brings over 30 years of experience and

a recognizable flair to the intimate Parish Pre-K to eighth-grade school. His charisma, dedication to fulfilling the mission of Catholic schools, and his unexpendable energy have paved the way for a strong start to the new school year.

Understanding the inner workings of a school over the summer break is not always easy but Mr. English has done a fantastic job thanks to the guidance of Father Mark Knestout and a supportive group of faculty. Along with Mr. English, St. Bart's welcomes two additional faculty members: Kindergarten teacher Anne Marie Coakley and fifth grade homeroom teacher Mrs. Ellie Tehan. Both are highly qualified, certified teachers with advanced degrees and over 5

years of teaching experience in the Archdiocese.

When you visit campus you will recognize freshly painted classrooms, a newly paved parking lot complete with courtyard adornments (thanks to the generous support of St. Bartholomew Parish and School families), a community vegetable garden, and the @ StBartsRocks collection.

Discover what else is new behind the scenes. RSVP online for one of the monthly group tours offered on the first Thursday of each month from October through May (exception, April 12th) from 9:30am-11am. Visit [school.stbartholomew.org](http://school.stbartholomew.org) for more information.

### St. Bartholomew Parish

6900 River Road  
Bethesda, MD 20816

**Rev. Mark Knestout**  
Pastor

301-229-7933

### St. Bartholomew School

**Mr. Frank English,**  
Interim Principal

301-229-5586

**Frank Maguire, OPT Editor**  
202-512-8226



St. Bart's Cali Hackett with School Supplies for Sacred Heart children. Photo by Margie Hackett

OPT

## Cali Hackett Collects School Supplies for Children at Sacred Heart Church

**C**ali Hackett of St. Bartholomew Parish will be making her Confirmation next Spring with her Eighth-grade CCD class. As her service project, which is part of her Confirmation preparation, she chose to do a Giving Tree, benefiting children at Sacred Heart Parish in Washington. Cali checked with St. Bart's Pastor, Fr. Mark Knestout, and St. Bart's CCD Director, Cathy Mills, who agreed that a Giving Tree would be "a good way for all in the parish to participate."

Cali told OPT that "Sacred Heart was super excited for this opportunity for several kids to get help preparing for the new school year." Cali was given a list of 23 children ranging from age 3-15. The Giving Tree, with cards for various wants and needs, was set up in the back of St. Bartholomew's Church. Cali researched what supplies were

needed for each grade and asked for supplies or money for purchasing of school supplies. Parishioners could choose to purchase supplies for one child or purchase a collection of supplies which would be distributed among all the Sacred Heart children.

The Giving Tree was up at St. Bart's for three weekends, the last weekend was August 11 and 12. School starts for Sacred Heart as early as the 21st and Cali wanted to ensure the Sacred Heart students had supplies for their first day.

Cali told OPT, "The parish was extremely generous. Over the course of three weekends, there were parishioners who would watch over the collection box each day to make sure the supplies were safe and would reach the kids." There was a large amount of school supplies donated, as well as over \$2,000

Continued on page 18

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St. Bart's Youth Group Go Karting, July, 2016

## Youth Group Goes into High Gear for the New School Year!

The St. Bart's Youth Group is planning a full schedule of activities for the new school year, including movies, games, hiking and bonfires. The St. Bart's Middle School Youth Group are sixth, seventh, and eighth graders interested in serving their neighbor, playing together, and getting to know Our Lord Jesus Christ. All are welcome! If you would like to learn more, please email John & Maria Archer at 32kaufmann@cua.edu.

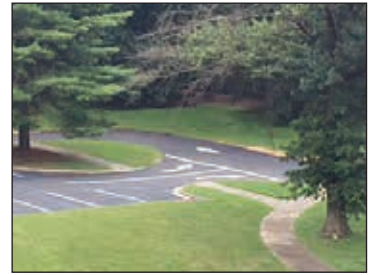
### Youth Group Schedule

August 27	Movies Night
September 10	Kick Off Event – Water Balloon Challenge
September 17	Hiking Trip
September 24	Bonfire with S'mores and Talk
October 1	Ultimate Frisbee & Sundaes
October 15	Go Karting

## Parishioners Cheer Repaving of Parking Lot!

“Seen Better Days” was a common epithet directed at the St. Bartholomew parking lot by parishioners and visitors until a recent welcomed repaving. The repaving was accomplished thanks to the open-handedness of parishioners. The striping was due to the generosity of Billy Veirs and his company, Veirs Enterprises, LLC.

Photo courtesy of St. Bartholomew Parish



## ENZLER

Con't from page 1

sports but those involved in any extracurricular activity – music, art, scouting, and so many more. I also give thanks for the many adults who give of themselves to impart such important lessons. These programs and activities are special ways to teach healthy competition, a sense of fair play and giving your best effort, and they are also instrumental in passing on the faith and instilling a strong sense of values.

Here's a simple memory from my own life that had a real effect on me growing up, one that resonates even today. One of my CYO coaches was a young man who was in college at the time. He taught me how to play football, but more importantly he offered constructive criticism that I knew was for my own good, and he was effusive in his praise when I did something right. Watching him give of his time and talent, I

also saw the importance of his faith and his desire to serve his parish. I especially remember seeing him at church. Here was my coach during the week, someone I looked up to and admired, who was there every Sunday. I learned firsthand that you can be cool and practice your faith.

I believe that the essence of CYO sports, extracurricular activities and indeed all youth ministry is putting quality adults in contact with young people. As these adults live their faith as best they can, particularly in public ways that young people can see (such as going to Church on Sundays), they help form not only the next generation of athletes, scouts, artists and more, but also the next generation of coaches, teachers and faith-filled people.

I think the experiences of my youth and my time as CYO director are among the reasons why we at Catholic Charities are now putting a strong emphasis on getting more social workers, case workers and mentors – in other words, coaches

and teachers – for those in need. I'm convinced the only way to really move people from poverty to sustainability is to give them access to someone who cares, who is willing to walk with them, teach them, encourage them and be an example to them.

So here's a shout out to all the coaches, scouting leaders, youth ministers, teachers, friends, mentors and everyone working with our young people in schools, churches and extracurricular activities. You are truly a blessing. Those kids want to be there, and they look up to you. You give them the valuable gifts of your time, talent and teaching as well as a strong example of living one's faith. When your own faith shines through, the Church grows, our young people are inspired, and God's light shines forth brighter than ever.

OPT



## FALL OPEN HOUSES:

Grades 9–12: Sunday, October 15 · 12:00-2:30 PM

Grades 3–8: Tuesday, October 17 · 8:30 AM

Little Hearts Early Childhood Program–Grade 2:

Wednesday, October 18 · 8:30 AM

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[www.stoneridgeschool.org](http://www.stoneridgeschool.org)



# A Great Place to Grow!

While students are busy with summer packets and play, the faculty and staff are busy readying the school for school year 2017-18.

Thanks to our superior maintenance crew and staff, along with dedicated parent volunteers, we have remodeled a new preschool classroom, given a face lift to the new 2nd and 3rd grade classrooms, and buffed, shined and polished our school to look brand new! The upper hall girls' restroom had a face-lift over the break and the Art Room has been transformed into an art studio worthy of our budding artists!

St. Mary's will welcome several new staff members for the 2017-2018 school year. In our



It's almost time for Principal, Debby Eisel to again take up her post in the parking lot to greet students in the morning and ring the bell to signal the end of the day.

rapidly expanding preschool, Mrs. Patty Tartaglia will lead our second Pre-Kindergarten class. Miss Peejay, who was our long-term sub last year in preschool, will be Mrs.

Tartaglia's aide. Lead teacher, Mrs. Kimiecik, will have a new aide as well as Mrs. Katy Vera joins the preschool family. Mrs. Karen Giblin will join us as a floater preschool aide to assist in all our preschool rooms.

In the primary grades, we have wonderful additions as well. Mrs. Sandi Gersten will be our second-grade teacher. She is very excited to lead our second graders on their journey this year to Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. Mrs. Samantha Youngman will join us as the third-grade teacher. Mrs. Youngman has taught third grade in Chicago and is looking forward to sharing her faith with her students.

Students and parents will have the chance to meet the new staff members and see the renovations at the annual Popsicle Social on August 31.

OPT

## St. Mary's Parish

520 Veirs Mill Road  
Rockville, MD

Msgr. Robert Amey,  
Pastor

301-424-5550

## St. Mary's School

Mrs. Debby Eisel, Principal  
301-762-4179

Maureen Stiles, Parish Editor  
301-990-4329

## Feast Day Festivities

The Parish celebrated the Queenship of Mary, our Parish Feast Day, on August 22, by holding a brief social near historic Our Lady's Chapel. Members of the Youth Group doled out popsicles to all in attendance to celebrate the day as well as a wonderful summer.



The St. Mary's Class of 2017 will embark on their high school journey this Fall. We are proud that 100% of our graduates will be continuing their education at the high school of their choice. We wish you all the best of luck but you won't need it if you carry God in your heart



Not to be overlooked, our Kindergarten class looks ready to graduate! Last June, the other Class of 2017 successfully advanced to 1<sup>st</sup> grade with a wonderful ceremony, play and slide show. See you soon!!

# OPEN HOUSE



for boys

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1-3 P.M.

200 W Diamond Ave., Gaithersburg, MD 20877  
301-963-8022 [www.avalonschools.org](http://www.avalonschools.org)

For more information, contact  
Kevin Davern, Headmaster,  
at [kevindavern@avalonschools.org](mailto:kevindavern@avalonschools.org)

the  
Avalon School



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1-3 P.M.

10401 Armory Avenue, Kensington, MD 20895  
301-949-7997 [www.brookewood.org](http://www.brookewood.org)

For more information, contact  
Helen Williams, Director of Admission,  
at [hwilliams@brookewood.org](mailto:hwilliams@brookewood.org)

Brookewood  
SCHOOL



for girls





I am living the big and small moments of my life with courage and compassion.

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Sunday, November 5 • 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.



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**Open House**  
October 29, 2017  
11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

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# St. Patrick's Fifth Annual Trip to Haiti

**T**hirty-six parishioners from St. Patrick's spent a week serving and loving the children in Haiti. Because of the combined generosity of so many from our parish, the team was able to accomplish everything they had hoped and MORE!!! Approximately 2,000 children were fed throughout the week, close to 200 patients were seen and treated in the LCM medical clinic and in the mountains where the poorest live and rarely receive medical care, and after months of waiting VERY patiently, two families received new homes! These two families were identified last October when their homes were damaged in Hurricane Matthew. The team was able to distribute



God works in the most beautiful ways... look very closely and you will see the children naturally formed a heart when they sat to eat.



Two of the over 2,000 children who were fed throughout the week in Haiti



One of the very needy families that volunteers visited in June bringing food, clothing, and a teddy bear!

75 bags of beans, 86 bags of rice, 17 goats, 5 beds, and 36 chickens to our school children. Prayers were offered and a hot meal served to more than seventy-five men, women, and children living in an abandoned building.

God used our parish family as His hands and feet to clothe the naked, give drink to the thirsty, feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, and share the Good News! The outpouring of generosity from the St. Patrick's Parish provided Life Connection Mission with the necessary funds to serve the community of Montrouis and impact the lives of many wonderful people.

Please come to St. Patrick's on Saturday, October 14, for the annual community yard sale to support LCM's construction of a larger medical clinic.



A very happy little one! Children received toothbrushes, toothpaste, bars of soap, clothing, and underwear.



*Men fully alive*  
**Fall Open House**

**Sunday, October 22 from 2:00-5:30 pm**

HEADMASTER'S PRESENTATION AT 3:30



10400 SEVEN LOCKS ROAD POTOMAC MARYLAND 20854  
T: 301.765.2093

[www.heights.edu](http://www.heights.edu)



One of the two homes built by St. Patrick's missionaries! The team accomplished the construction of two 2-bedroom homes, each with a porch, and tin roof. Hundreds of homes were destroyed last October when mudslides from Hurricane Matthew devastated much of the mountain area.

## CALI

Con't from page 14

in cash or check donations. As Cali filled the backpacks for each of the children, she chose special lunch boxes or binders that she would want for herself. She had friends help her get the backpacks together, each labeled with the name of the

recipient child.

When the supplies were delivered, Cali noted the emotions of the Sacred Heart Religious Ed director and Associate Pastor, who were extremely grateful. The experience was powerful for her and she is considering repeating the Giving Tree project next year.

OPT



## THE HEIGHTS SCHOOL

The Heights is a private, independent, preparatory school for boys in grades 3-12 located in Potomac, MD.

Visit The Heights Forum for book reviews, interviews, and articles: [www.heights.edu/forum](http://www.heights.edu/forum)  
A RESOURCE FOR PARENTS AND TEACHERS OF "MEN FULLY ALIVE!"



## MoN Welcomes New Families and Faculty

**M**s. Michelle Devlin has joined our math team in the elementary and middle school. She will be teaching fourth, sixth, seventh, and eighth grade math. Ms. Devlin actively sought to teach in a Catholic school, and eagerly joined the Mary of Nazareth School team. Ms. Devlin has a BS in Speech-Language Pathology/Audiology from Towson University and a MA in Teaching from Notre Dame of Maryland University. She

maintains Maryland State Teaching Certification in Elementary Education and Middle School Mathematics. Ms. Devlin taught seventh grade mathematics in Frederick County Public Schools for a year and substituted extensively for several years while working on her Masters.

Mrs. Estela Pascale has been hired as our new middle school Spanish teacher. Originally from Paraguay, Mrs. Pascale graduated with a BS in Education from the University of Asuncion with a concentration in Elementary Education. Over the past twenty-five years she has taught in a variety of school settings. Mrs. Pascale has taught middle school Spanish at the Washington International School, Barrie School, and most recently the Woods Academy. She will do an excellent job further developing and strengthening our Spanish program and preparing our students for high school.

Mr. William Antonetti has been hired to teach Reading/Literature in our middle school. Mr. Antonetti is a product of Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Washington, having attended St. Martin School and Gonzaga College High School. He received a BA in English and a BA in Secondary Education from the University of Maryland, as well

*Continued on page 29*

## Mary of Nazareth Hosts STREAM Innovation Day Camp

**M**ary of Nazareth Catholic school held its first ever STREAM innovation day camp this past June. The camp welcomed students from second through fifth grades to explore the wonders of water in an interactive learning environment. Mary of Nazareth teachers served as camp instructors, following an innovative STREAM curriculum. STREAM (science, technology, religion, engineering, art, and mathematics) is an inte-



Above, students explore the wonders of water at Mary of Nazareth's first ever STREAM summer camp. Below left, campers innovate unique pieces of artwork with water-based supplies.



gration of religion and arts into STEM content that allows for inquiry-based learning.

21st Century technology was used during the camp to enhance student experience on virtual reality field trips to some of the world's most awe-inspiring waterfalls and natural parks. Other camp activities included exploring

careers in water conservation and marine biology, creating clouds in a jar, testing pH and water samples, building rain gauges, and making squirt-gun art. Campers also gave back to the Mary of Nazareth community by creating water conservation signage for school bathrooms. Mary of Nazareth, located in Darnestown, serves students in grades PreK through Grade Eight across upper Montgomery County.

OPT

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# OPEN HOUSE


## October 15, 2017 | 10am-1pm

17301 Old Vic Blvd | Olney, MD 20832 | [olgchs.org](http://olgchs.org) | 240-283-3235



# Catholic High School Open House Dates

## Courtesy Catholic High Schools & Our Parish Times



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Katy Dunn, Principal  
Elana Gilmore, Vice Principal  
Tiffani D. Scurlock, Director of Admissions

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**Sunday**  
**October 29, 2017**  
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

www.achsc.org

Priority Application Deadline  
**Dec. 15, 2017**

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**Open House**

**Saturday, November 4**  
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Steps to Admission:  
• Application  
• Shadow Visit  
• Teacher Recommendation  
• Transcript  
• Family Interview

Application Deadline  
**Rolling Admission**

Notification of Admission  
**Rolling Admission**

Financial Aid: Kevin Davern @ 301-963-8022

Avg. Class Size: 15 • Academic Half-Day Kindergarten \$4,000; Primary School Gr. K-2 \*full day kindergarten \$8,000 Gr. 3-5 \$12,750; Middle School \$14,250; Upper School \$15,500



**Brookewood School**

Richard B. McPherson President and Headmaster  
R.J. Hawley Executive Director  
Helen Williams Director of Admission

10401 Armory Avenue, Kensington, MD 301-949-7997 www.brookewood.org

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**Open House**

**Saturday**  
**November 11**  
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm


Steps to Admission  
Shadow Visit  
Application Transcript  
Recommendation  
Family Interview

Application Deadline  
Rolling Admission

Notification of Admission  
Rolling Admission

Financial Aid: Helen Williams 301-949-7997

Average Class Size: 13 • Tuition: Grades 1-2 \$8,000 Grades 3-5 \$12,000 Grades 6-8 \$13,500 Grades 9-12 \$14,500 • Financial Aid: Helen Williams 301-949-7997



**DeMatha Catholic High School**

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**Open House**

**Sunday, Nov. 6**  
11:00 a.m.

Entrance Exam: Archdiocesan HSPT required

Freshman Application Deadline  
**December 15**

Financial Aid Application Deadline  
**December 15**

Freshman Notification of Admission  
**Feb. 2018**

Registration Deposit Due  
**Mid-March 2018**

Freshman Class Size: 250 • Tuition: \$17,600 • Application / Financial Aid: Admissions Office 240-764-2210



**Gonzaga College High School**

19 Eye St., NW, Washington, DC 20001  
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**Special Programs**

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**Open House**

**Sunday**  
**November 19**  
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Entrance Exam  
Archdiocesan test results are required.


Application Deadline  
**December 11**

Financial Aid Appl. Deadline  
**Jan. 11, 2018**

Notification of Admission  
**Feb. 22, 2018**

Registration Deposit Due  
**March 14, 2018**

Freshman Class Size: 245 • The Catholic, Jesuit school located in the heart of our nation's capital city. • Tuition: \$22,100



**OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL HIGH SCHOOL**

A Xaverian Brothers Sponsored School

17301 Old Vic Boulevard  
Olney, MD 20832

Paul G. Barker Ed. D., President  
Thomas Campbell, Principal  
Kevin Collins, Director of Admissions  
Admissions@olgchs.org  
www.olgchs.org

**COED**

Offering a comprehensive college prep curriculum including the IB Program, AP and Honors courses, the STEM Program, and the Ryken Program.

**Home of the Falcons**

Extensive co-curricular activities, 54 sport teams, Performing Arts, Speech & Debate and over 55 cultural and academic clubs.  
Member of the W.C.A.C.

**Open House**

**Sunday, Oct. 15, 2017**  
10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Prospective Parent INFORMATION  
Tuesdays, Sept. 26, 2017 7:00 PM

Freshman Application Deadline  
**Dec. 8, 2017**

Freshman Financial Aid Appl. Deadline  
**Dec. 8, 2017**

Freshman Notification of Admission  
**Feb. 22, 2018**

Freshman Registration  
**Friday, March 9, 2018**

Tuition \$21,840



**The Academy of the Holy Cross**

4920 Strathmore Ave., Kensington, MD 20895  
Kathleen Prebble, President  
Melissa Huey-Burns, Principal  
Meredith Gobbi '06, Admissions  
301-942-2100 • www.academyoftheholycross.org

**Girls**

Basketball, cross-country, field hockey, ice hockey, golf, lacrosse, poms/cheer, soccer, softball, volleyball, swimming and diving, tennis, track, crew, equestrian.  
Washington Catholic Athletic Conference

Tartans • Lavender & White

**Special Programs**

IB Diploma Programme AP & Honors Courses 1-to-1 iPad Program Senior Project Internship

**Open House**

**Sunday, November 5**  
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Entrance Exam HSPT  
(Offered at Holy Cross Dec. 2, 2017)

Application Deadline  
**Dec. 11, 2017**


Financial Aid Appl. Deadline  
**Jan. 8, 2018**

Notification of Admission  
**February 2018**

Registration Deposit Due  
**March 9, 2018**

Freshman Class Size: 120 • Tuition: \$23,905 • Financial Aid: 301-942-2100

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**OAKCREST SCHOOL**

1619 Crowell Road, Vienna, VA 22182  
Dr. Mary T. Ortiz, Head of School  
Carolina Agostini, Director of Admissions  
Cynthia Bertolini, Middle School Admissions  
703-790-5450  
Oakcrest.org • admissions@oakcrest.org

**Academic Excellence**

7:1 student-teacher ratio  
Rich liberal arts curriculum  
15 AP Courses

**Faith-Character**

Daily Mass  
1-to-1 mentoring  
Virtue-Based Workshops

**Extracurriculars**

18 Teams  
12 Sports  
Potomac Valley Athletic Conference  
Director's Cup Winner  
Show Productions  
Over 25 Clubs

**Rising 9th Graders: Veritas Award Scholarships**

Bus Transportation available from Maryland and Virginia

Application Deadlines  
Upper School  
**January 18**  
Middle School  
**January 26**


Tuition Assistance  
Application Deadline  
**January 29**

**Open House**

**Saturday**  
**October 21**  
2:00 to 5:00 pm

Be an Oakie for the Day  
Middle School Applicants  
**Thursday**  
**November 2**

An independent school for girls in grades 6-12 • Freshman Class Size: 40 • Tuition: US \$25,540 / MS \$24,350



**ST. ANSELM'S ABBEY SCHOOL**

4501 SOUTH DAKOTA AVE, NE  
WASHINGTON, DC 20017

**Boys**

Soccer, Cross Country, Basketball, Wrestling, Tennis, Baseball, Track, Lacrosse, Golf, Fencing  
Potomac Valley Athletic Conference

**Panthers**  
Maroon & Grey

**Special Programs**

Challenging academic program for students of above average ability in grades 6-12

**Open House**

**Sunday**  
**November 5**  
11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Entrance Exam Dates**

November 18  
December 9  
January 13

Exam also offered by appointment


Application Deadline  
**Rolling**

Financial Aid Appl. Deadline  
**Feb. 5, 2018**

Notification of Admission:  
**Feb. 23, 2018**

Registration Deposit Due  
**March 16, 2018**

Financial Aid: Ms. Ieva Young @ 202-281-1656



**Dr. Thomas Powell, President**  
**Marc Minsker, Principal**  
**Michael Schultz**  
Executive Director of Advancement

3989 Buckeystown Pike  
Buckeystown, MD 21717

E-mail: mschultz@saintjohnsprep.org • 301-662-4210

**Coed**

Small class size • College preparatory  
• 100% College Applicant Acceptance Rate  
• College-level, AP & Honors Classes  
• Program for students with learning needs  
• Bus Transportation

**VIKINGS**  
Green, Gold & White

**OPEN HOUSE**

**Sunday**  
**November 5**  
1:00-3:00PM

**HSPT Entrance Exam**

Saturday, December 2  
8:30AM  
Registration  
9:00AM  
Testing begins

Application Deadline  
Rolling Admissions

Financial Aid & Scholarship Appl. Deadline  
**Dec. 15, 2017**

8th Grade Acceptance Day  
**Feb. 15, 2018**

Registration Deposit Due  
**March 16, 2018**

Freshman Class Size: 70 • Tuition: \$16,500 • Financial Aid: Michael Schultz @ 301-662-4210 • www.saintjohnsprep.org



**ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL** Est. 1851

Mr. Jeffrey W. Mancabelli, President  
Mr. Christopher J. Themistos, Principal  
Mrs. Susan Hinton, Director of Admissions  
202-363-2316 • www.stjohnschs.org  
2607 Military Road, NW, Chevy Chase, DC 20015

**Coed**

Crew, cross country, golf, rifle team, swimming, track, Fencing, basketball, equestrian team, field hockey, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, tennis, volleyball, Male: baseball, basketball, ice hockey, football, lacrosse, soccer, tennis, wrestling, rugby, WCAC

**Cadets**  
Scarlet & Grey

**Special Programs**

Scholars Program • Benilde Program • 1:1 Technology Program (iPads) • Cadet Corps (optional) • Entrepreneurial Center for Innovation & Leadership • New Visual & Performing Arts Wing • New Student Center

**Open House**

**Sunday, Oct. 29, 2017**  
11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Entrance Exam  
Archdiocesan HSPT results are required.


Application Deadline  
**Dec. 8, 2017**

Financial Aid Appl. Deadline  
**Jan. 29, 2018**

Notification of Admission  
**Feb. 22, 2018**

Registration Deposit Due  
**March 10, 2018**

Tuition: \$19,175



**Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart**

Catherine Ronan Karrels '86, Head of School  
9101 Rockville Pike • Bethesda, MD 20814  
301-657-4322  
www.stoneridgeschool.org

**Girls PS-Grade 12 (Coed PS-K)**

Basketball, crew, cross country, equestrian, field hockey, golf, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, tennis, swimming/diving, squash, track & field and volleyball

**The Gators**  
Blue & Gold

**Special Programs**

Honors/AP Courses 1:1 Laptop Social Action Student Exchange STEAM Certificate

**Open House**

**Upper School (Grades 9-12)**  
**Sunday, Oct. 15**  
12:00 – 2:30 pm

Required Entrance Exam: SSAT  
Register at www.ssat.org (School Code: 7494)


Application Deadline  
**Dec. 2, 2017**

Financial Aid Deadline  
**Jan. 15, 2018**

Notification of Admission  
**Late February**

Registration Deposit Due  
**Early March**

Freshman Class Size: 90 • Tuition: \$33,900 • Financial Aid Available



**THE HEIGHTS SCHOOL**

10400 Seven Locks Rd., Potomac, MD 20854  
Alvaro J. de Vicente, Headmaster  
Richard S. Moss, Director of Admissions  
301-765-2093 • admissions@heights.edu  
www.heights.edu

**Boys 3-12**

The Heights forms "men fully alive" through a rigorous curriculum implemented with a highly personal approach to education and character.

**Cavaliers**  
Red & White

Challenging liberal arts, innovative science and math; small classes; individual mentorship; 13 varsity sports; extensive extracurriculars; rich sacramental life.

**Open House**

**Sunday, October 22**  
2:00 to 5:30 p.m.

Admissions: Call us any time or visit our website at [www.heights.edu/admissions](http://www.heights.edu/admissions) for an overview of our application process.


Admissions Deadline for Full Consideration  
**Jan. 5, 2018**

Financial Aid Appl. Deadline  
**Jan. 24, 2018**

Notification of Admission  
**Feb. 22, 2018**

Registration Deposit Due  
**March 9, 2018**

Freshman Class Size: 65 • Financial Aid: Phil McGovern (CF0) 301-365-4300



**Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School**

Daniel M. Kerns, Jr., Head of School  
Mary Kate Blaine, Principal  
Janet Donnelly Keller, Director of Admissions  
Tel: 202.337.3350  
Fax: 202.342.5733 • [www.visi.org](http://www.visi.org)  
1524 Thirty-fifth Street NW  
Washington, DC 20007

**Girls 9-12**

A Catholic High School and Pioneer in Women's Education since 1799 • Small Class Sizes  
• 100% College Acceptance • Bridge Program at Georgetown University • AP & Honors Courses  
• ISL Champion Athletics • Lively Performing Arts • Robust Service & Retreat Programs • More Than 50 Clubs

**Cubs • Gold, White & Green**

**OPEN HOUSE**

**Saturday**  
**Oct. 14, 2017**  
1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

**Entrance Exam HSPT**  
(Offered at Visitation Dec. 2, 2017)

Freshman Application Deadline  
**Dec. 1, 2017**

Financial Aid Appl. Deadline  
**Jan. 8, 2018**

Freshman Notification of Admission  
**Feb. 23, 2018**

Registration Deposit Due  
**Mid-March 2018**

Freshman Class Size: 129 • Tuition: \$29,200 • Financial Aid: Janet Keller @ 202.337.3350 ext. 2241



## New Faces and Going Places

### Staff and Faculty of Our Lady of Lourdes School

As we prepare to begin the 2017-2018 school year, we look forward to connecting with old friends and we welcome new teachers and students to our school community.

Ms. Cindy Turcios, who attended Mass and religious education classes at Lourdes as a child, will now be our Little Group teacher. She will be joined in the preschool by Mrs. Deirdre Walsh. Mrs. Walsh is not new to Lourdes, by any means. Two of her children have graduated from Lourdes, and four of her children are still in school here. She is looking forward to working with Mrs. Wasp who is returning after having her first child, Johnny, in the spring. Joining them will be Ms. Madeleine Walter. Ms. Walter will be the PreK teaching assistant.

Mother Therese McNamara joins us as our music teacher. Mother Therese is a Dominican sister who recently moved to the area. She

has been working in her classroom this summer, so that everything will be perfect when the children arrive. Ms. Shannon Mester will be teaching art this year. She comes to us from Saint John the Baptist School where she was a long-term sub. Finally, Mr. Matthew Forbes will take on the responsibilities of middle school math. Mr. Forbes has substituted at many of our Catholic schools, and is looking forward to settling in here at Lourdes. We are excited to welcome these newest members of our school community, and we look forward to a great year!

Over the summer, many of our teachers took advantage of professional development opportunities, and many traveled for fun. Ms. Hipp won a trip to the Bahamas in the auction, and she and her brother and some friends had a fabulous time! Ms. Norton spent time with her grandmother in Buffalo, while Ms. Addison traveled to "the islands". Mrs. Wasp showed off her new baby in New Hampshire, and Mrs. Richardson took her new guy to Florida. Ms. McGann and Mrs. McGann presented at a conference in Chicago, and Mrs. McGann presented again at a conference in Boston. Mrs. Stallsmith, Mrs. Crane and Ms. Moore hit the beaches, and once Mr. Long's camp was over, he headed to Bethany. We are all rested and ready to go!

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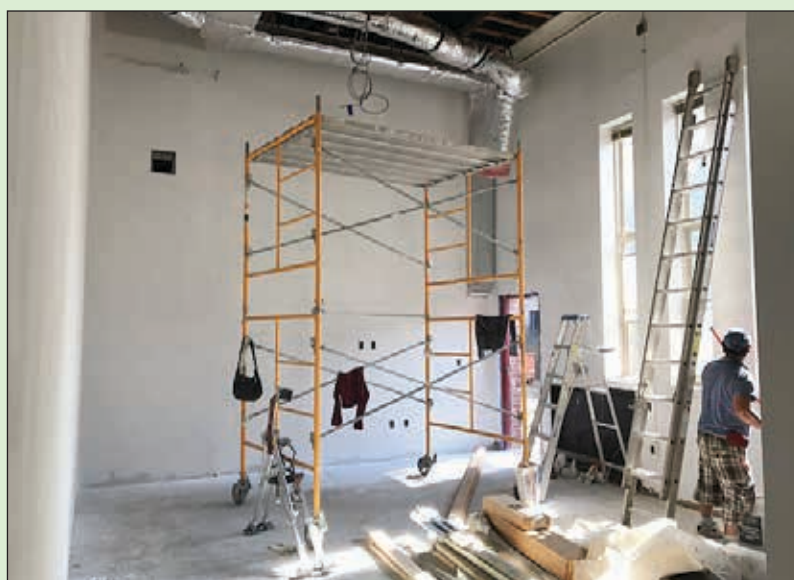
#### Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

7500 Pearl Street  
Bethesda, MD

**Msgr. Edward Filardi,**  
**Pastor**

301-654-1287

**Patricia Kilroy McGann**  
**Principal**  
301-654-5376



#### New Spaces at Our Lady of Lourdes

This summer, construction crews have been working hard to renovate an unused space behind the gym, and turn it into a beautiful classroom and a small conference room. The work is progressing, and still on track to be completed before school opens on September 5. Two more bathrooms will be refreshed with new stalls, sinks and countertops, and Ms. Winters' and Mr. Long's offices have moved and been freshly decorated.

## Do you TWEET? Here's a Taste of What's Happening at Lourdes!

We have taken to Twitter! Follow us today to find out all the exciting things that are coming up at Our Lady of Lourdes School. @LOL\_Bethesda.

In the meantime, mark your calendars for these events coming up in the Fall.

- Everyone loves the **Back to School Picnic!** We have music, face painting, games and lots of good food! Join us to welcome the new year and reconnect with old friends on Thursday, September 7 from 4 to 7pm.

- If you like Italian food, wait till you taste Mr. Tundo's spaghetti sauce! The **Parish-School Italian**

**Dinner** is scheduled for Saturday, September 16 right after the 5pm Mass. Don't miss it!

- On October 13, the school gym will be transformed to welcome parents, parishioners and alumni and friends for our **Annual Fund Kickoff Cocktail Party** starting at 7pm.

- On October 17, you should go into work just a little late. Stop by the Grotto at Our Lady of Lourdes Church and pray the **Living Rosary** with school children and teachers, parents and parishioners. It's a wonderful way to start your day, and honor our Blessed Mother during the month of October.

#### St. Michael - More News on Page 33

## Join Us and Celebrate Michaelmas this September 30th

Saint Michael the Archangel Catholic Church in Silver Spring invites all within our parish, archdiocese, and local community to join us in celebrating Michaelmas, The Feast of St. Michael the Archangel.

This year we will be celebrate on Saturday, September 30. Our clergy will offer a multicultural Mass at 4pm, followed by a potluck featuring cuisine from the many countries represented in our parish. Parishioners will provide entertainment to make it an evening of warmth, laughter, song and dance.

For 2017, we have chosen the theme "That All May Be One in Christ."

We would like to extend an invitation to you to come and visit our parish and join us in the feast of our namesake. Together, the faith can be stronger and we can share our light with more of the world.

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## TOGO

Con't from page 11

can attend the middle school in Atchanvé and thus continue their Catholic education.

Fr. Ryan, who grew up in Kensington where he attended Holy Redeemer church and school, comes home each year, usually in August-September, to try to raise funds for the many projects of the mission, to share the progress of the mission with local parishes

and other groups, and to make his annual retreat with the priests of the Archdiocese of Washington. During this year's visit, he has spoken at St. Rose parish and at Our Lady of Lourdes.

Donations would be greatly appreciated and can be sent to Togo Mission, Inc., P.O. Box 130, Gaithersburg, MD 20884. All donations are tax-deductible.

For more information about the Togo Mission or to donate online, visit: [www.togomissionparish.org](http://www.togomissionparish.org)

OPT



## OPEN HOUSE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2017  
2:00 - 5:00 PM

"Education begins with academics, but a good school provides more than academics. The ideal school educates mind, body, and spirit. The best school supports parents in helping girls to become women of character and faith. Oakcrest is such a school."

Dr. Leonard Sax, renowned physician, psychologist and author of the best selling book, *Girls on the Edge*



Visit our beautiful new campus and learn more about our stellar academic program and how we challenge and inspire young women.  
[OAKCREST.ORG/GIRLSTHRIVE](http://OAKCREST.ORG/GIRLSTHRIVE)



An independent school for girls in grades 6-12 guided by the teachings of the Catholic Church  
1619 Crowell Road • Vienna, VA 22182 • Bus Service in VA & MD





Remembering the Alamo



In front of The Hermitage in St. Petersburg, Russia

## Flat Roo Travels the World this Summer with Mercy Students!

Everyone knows the story of Flat Stanley, but here at Mercy, we decided to launch



With Father Bill in Seattle

a variation on this tradition with "Flat Roo." Roo is the beloved dog of our Pastor, Father Bill Byrne, and a special member of the school community. She greets the students every morning, visits them in their classrooms, performs in the Christmas Pageant (as a camel, of course), and mingles with the parents at every school function.

As everyone was preparing to go in different directions for the summer, we wanted a way to keep the school community connected through social media – so Flat Roo was launched! Every family was given a Flat Roo (a paddle with a photo of Roo's face) with simple instructions: Take Flat Roo in your suitcase and send us pictures of her in the special places you and your family visit.

The response was overwhelming: Flat Roo traveled to destinations all over the world including: Russia, Poland, Germany, New England, South Carolina, Saratoga Springs, Orlando, Nebraska, Texas, Louisiana, Tennessee, and of course the Maryland Shore! Although this started out as a project for the students, the adults proved to be just as enthusiastic. The summer of 2017 will always be remembered as the Summer of Flat Roo.

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## Mercy Welcomes New Staff Members

We are excited to announce several new additions to our growing school community:

- Ms. Lorene Moutanabbih comes to Mercy from St. Raphael's where she worked in the pre-school and as a resource teacher. She is a certified catechist, a certified teacher with training in special ed, technology, and literacy; she has also worked at St. Elizabeth's and with the Frederick YMCA. She will be teaching Religion (5-8), will oversee our Catholic identity efforts, and support the inclusion program.

- Mr. Thomas Treadwell is Mercy's new Athletic Director. A graduate of American University, Mr. Treadwell played professional basketball and has over ten years of coaching experience. He will be teaching, coaching, and coordinating CYO.

- Ms. Christine Castro will be teaching our Pre K 3 class, and comes to us from the St. James Children's School where she was the Lead Teacher, 3's Program. She holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Santo Tomas, Philippines, and has more than 20 years of experience in early childhood student development.

- Ms. Stephanie Martinez, Mercy's new Music Director, earned a master's in music education from Hunter College and most recently worked as Director of Youth Arts for Sing for Hope in NYC. She brings a wealth

of experience as a teaching artist, theatre instructor, director of service learning, and chorus conductor.

- Ms. Joanne Thomas, our new Technology Director, comes to Mercy from Sidwell Friends School. Her experience includes teaching, faculty coaching, digital best practices, robotics and STEM. Ms. Thomas also worked with Engineering for Kids in Virginia, the National Cathedral School, and Holton Arms School.

- Ms. Audrey Ross is Mercy's new small group teacher. Audrey holds a master's in education from the University of Maryland and worked for Montgomery County schools at both Bradley Hills and Luxmanor elementary schools. Additionally, she works at Locust Grove Nature Center with responsibility for their home-school and interpretive programs.

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### Our Lady of Mercy Parish

9200 Kentsdale Drive  
Potomac, MD

Fr. William Byrne, Pastor  
301-365-1415

Our Lady of Mercy School  
Ms. Deborah Thomas, Principal  
301-365-4477

Gerry Burgess, OPT Editor  
301-330-5676

## Mercy U

Classes are filling up for Mercy U's fall class. "In the Beginning Was the Word: The Gospel of Saint John." The class will be taught by Dr. Jody Vacarro Lewis, Assistant Professor of Scripture at the Pontifical Faculty of the Immaculate Conception. This course will offer an overview of the Gospel of Saint John, beginning with a look at the author, date and structure of the gospel. Discussion will focus on significant passages such as the Wedding at Cana, the Raising of Lazarus and the Passion.

Dr. Vacarro Lewis earned her doctorate in theology from the University of Notre Dame, with concentration in the area of New

Testament and the Early Church.

The Lay Theology Institute is informally known as Mercy U. In the words of Pope Francis "If we are to share the faith we must know the faith." The goal is to equip the grads to engage the world with reason informed by the teachings of the Catholic Church.

This winter, a course in Systemic Theology will be offered The Masterworks of God: the Sacraments taught by Dr. Gregory LaNave, Professor of Systemic Theology at the Pontifical Faculty of the Immaculate Conception.

For more information or to register, visit: [www.Mercyu.org](http://www.Mercyu.org).

OPT

## IT'S GOOD NEWS!

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[OurParishTimes@gmail.com](mailto:OurParishTimes@gmail.com)



OUR LADY OF MERCY  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Be inspired. Be challenged. Be you.



\* Two-time National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence \*

### OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, October 5, 2017  
8:30 – 10:30 am

GRADES PRE-K to 8

Applications now being  
accepted for 2018-2019

Come meet our teachers, learn about our program,  
and tour the school!

Computer Lab ♦ Makerspace ♦ TV Studio  
Gymnasium ♦ Library/Media Center ♦ Art Studio

9222 Kentsdale Drive, Potomac, Maryland 20854 ♦ 301-365-4477  
Tuition Assistance Available



# Promising but inconclusive evidence on interventions to prevent cognitive decline, dementia

The public is enormously concerned about dementia and cognitive impairment, and a wide range of programs and products, such as diets, exercise regimens, games, and supplements, purport to keep these conditions at bay. It is difficult for individuals, health care providers and policy makers to ascertain what has been demon-

strated to prevent or reduce risk. To help sort through the data and to understand the quality and weight of current evidence for possible interventions, the National Institute on Aging (NIA) at the National Institutes of Health, commissioned experts for an extensive scientific review and to provide recommendations for public health messaging

and future research priorities.

In response to that request, a National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM) committee has concluded that current evidence does not support a mass public education campaign to encourage people to adopt specific interventions to prevent cognitive decline or dementia.

Importantly, the committee also cited "encouraging although inconclusive" evidence for three specific types of interventions—cognitive training, blood pressure control for people with hypertension, and increased physical activity. Based on that evidence, the committee recommended providing the public with accurate information about their potential positive impacts for some conditions while more definitive research on these and other approaches moves forward.

The committee noted potential effects, as well as limitations of the evidence, for:

- Cognitive training—Interventions aimed at enhancing reasoning, memory, and speed of processing, to delay or slow age-related cognitive decline were found promising, based primarily on conclusions from the NIA-funded Advanced Cognitive Training for Independent and Vital Elderly (ACTIVE) trial and bolstered by additional data from prospective observational studies on the benefits of cognitively stimulating activities. The committee noted, however, that there was no evidence to support



ease make it plausible that blood pressure management for people with hypertension would also reduce their risk of dementia and cognitive decline, the report said.

• Increased physical activity – Citing the many known health benefits of physical activity, the committee pointed to growing evidence that among these is the possible reduced risk of age-related cognitive decline. Here, too, the experts turned to what they

called encouraging but inconclusive evidence, noting that clinical trials results in this area suggest effectiveness, taken together with observational studies and knowledge of neurobiological processes. There was not sufficient evidence to support increased physical activity as a preventive intervention for MCI or Alzheimer's disease, however. Further, the committee could not find sufficient evidence to help determine which specific types of physical activity might be particularly effective for preventing cognitive decline and dementia.

In communicating with the public, the committee said, the NIH, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other organizations should present potential benefits of the three interventions as they apply to cognitive decline, MCI, and Alzheimer's dementia, while pointing out the limitations of the evidence. There are considerable challenges in presenting such nuanced messages, it added, as the public likely will not draw fine distinctions among the three conditions or about levels of evidence.

The full NASEM report, "Preventing Cognitive Decline and Dementia: A Way Forward," can be viewed at [www.nationalacademies.org/dementia](http://www.nationalacademies.org/dementia).

OPT

## September is Go4Life Month!

Challenge yourself to **Move More with Go4Life!**

Do a little more.

Work out a little harder.

Do all 4 types of exercise. Try 1 type per week.

Week One	Week Two	Week Three	Week Four
• Endurance	• Strength	• Balance	• Flexibility
• Organize a mail walk.	• Add more reps to your resistance exercise.	• Try the heel-to-toe walk.	• Do ankle stretches.
• Add 5 minutes to a walk you typically take.	• Work out to the Go4Life® strength videos.*	• Work out to the Go4Life® balance video.*	• Work out to the Go4Life® flexibility video.*

To see Go4Life® Month exercises and activity ideas and to download or order free Go4Life® print materials, visit the Go4Life® website at [www.go4life.nia.nih.gov](http://www.go4life.nia.nih.gov).

\*Go4Life® workout videos are available on YouTube.

Go4Life® is an evidence-based exercise and physical activity campaign for older adults from the National Institute on Aging at the National Institutes of Health.

Select homes available

## Declare Your Independence!

### Self-Governance Means You Make the Decisions

You will notice the difference at Maplewood Park Place because it is managed distinctly different than other communities. Maplewood is self-governed, run for residents, by the residents. Working hand in hand with a premiere management firm, the board is able to focus on the community's success from the only perspective that matters ... the residents.

### Own Your Home and Make It Your Own

Unlike most communities, Maplewood residents own their own homes. In addition, there are several tax and financial benefits that you won't find anywhere else. With a wide selection of residences, which you can customize to suit your style, you'll find it easy to bring your treasured belongings with you—including your beloved pets!

Best of all Maplewood Park Place allows you to declare your independence by giving you the freedom to enjoy life and let our professional and caring staff take care of the details. Enjoy Maplewood's full calendar of lively events and social activities, as well as fine dining, indoor swimming & fitness center, workshop, on-site medical clinic—just to name a few of our services. Plus, on-site assisted living and skilled nursing—if and when you need it.

Schedule your appointment to discover the difference 301-530-0500.



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PARK PLACE

We the People



Skilled Nursing • Physical Therapy  
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Medical Social Services  
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Home Hospice • Chaplain • Bereavement  
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## SOAR Fall Trips

The Montgomery County Department of Recreation has released its Fall 2017 Senior Outdoor Adventures in Recreation (SOAR) travel program for active adults age 55 and over. Unless noted, all transportation is provided on restroom-equipped motor coaches.

You may register for a SOAR trip in any of four ways. The fastest and easiest way is to use the internet and go to [ACTIVEMONTGOMERY.ORG](http://ACTIVEMONTGOMERY.ORG). You may also mail your trip application, fax it to 240-777-6818, or register in person at 4010 Randolph Road.

If you have questions about the registration process, please call 240-777-6840. If you have questions or require more information about a specific trip, call the SOAR Coordinator at 240-777-4926.

### Fall trips include:

Sailing Trip on Schooner in Chestertown, Md.  
Sep. 7 \$85

Tours of Port Deposit, Maryland  
Sep. 13 and 14 \$69

Tour of Covered Bridges of Frederick Co.  
Sep. 27 \$60

Antietam Battlefield w/Historian Ed Bearss  
Oct. 4 and 5 \$70

Three-Hour Cruise on the Chesapeake  
Oct. 12 \$95

Walking and Riding Tour of Harrisburg, Pa.  
Oct. 18 \$60

Guided Walking Tour of Monticello  
Oct. 26 \$85

Tour of Historic Leesburg, Va.  
Nov. 1 and 2 \$67

Winfield Parker Revue and Blues Concert  
Nov. 8 \$35

Longwood Gardens Holiday Lights  
Nov. 30 \$60

## Protect Yourself from Senior Scams

**C**rooks use clever schemes to defraud millions of people every year. They often combine sophisticated technology with age-old tricks to get people to send money or give out personal information. They add new twists to old schemes and pressure people to make important decisions on the spot.

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) is the nation's consumer protection agency. Stay a step ahead with the latest info and practical tips. Browse FTC scam alerts by topic or sign up to get email scam alerts at: [www.consumer.ftc.gov/scam-alerts](http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/scam-alerts)

The Maryland Department of Aging provides information to help seniors identify and protect against the top ten scams targeting seniors



## SCAM ALERTS

what to know and do about scams in the news

(see below) at: <http://aging.maryland.gov/Pages/Scams-Alert-.aspx>

### Top 10 Scams Targeting Seniors

1. Health Care/Medical/Health Insurance Fraud
2. Counterfeit Prescription Drugs
3. Funeral and Cemetery Scams
4. Fraudulent Anti-Aging Products
5. Telemarketing
6. Internet Fraud
7. Investment Schemes
8. Homeowner/Reverse Mortgage Scams
9. Sweepstakes and Lottery Scams
10. The Grandparent Scam

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# Teacher of the Year

**H**oly Cross Kindergarten teacher, Theresa Stavish, was the recipient in May of the Knights of Columbus', Rock Creek Council's Teacher of the Year Award. Ms. Stavish has been teaching at Holy Cross for ten years. She holds a master degree in Education with a concentration in Early Childhood Education, and is a certified reading specialist. "The staff, school community, and students at Holy Cross are truly a second family to me. Teaching

Kindergarten keeps me on my toes – quite literally! I can't imagine a more fulfilling job than working with young children."

One parent described her impression of Ms. Stavish's classroom as one of "overwhelming joy" where children's "eager participation is a testament to the subtle power of her teaching style."

Principal Lisa Kane concurred, saying also how much she appreciated the Knights of Columbus Rock Creek Council's support of Catholic

schools. "Every year the Knights of Columbus' Rock Creek Council host a Teacher Appreciation dinner, and it is always such a wonderful event. We look forward to it every year. The Teacher of the Year award presented at the event gives us a chance to celebrate the contributions of our faculty – and Ms. Stavish is well-deserving of the recognition. She is an extraordinary teacher."

OPT

## New Faces and Old Friends in New Places

**W**hen the new school year begins, there will be a few changes to the faculty – but some will be old friends in new places.

Mrs. Christine Zalewski will be the teacher's assistant in

Kindergarten. Mrs. Zalewski joined the staff last year as a one-on-one para-educator for a special needs child. Mrs. Mary Downs, who joined the Holy Cross faculty last year as the teaching assistant in Kindergarten, will now assist in the Pre-Kindergarten class.

With the retirement of Mrs. Bobbi Demma after thirty-two years at Holy Cross, Miss Mary Overly is joining the first-grade classroom as the teacher's assistant. Miss Overly is an alumnus of Mary of Nazareth and Connelly School of the Holy Child, and a recent graduate of East Carolina University where she earned a B.S. in Elementary Education with a concentration in Reading. She holds Maryland State teaching certification and is currently pursuing a master's degree at

McDaniel College, in their Reading Specialists: Literacy Leadership program. Miss Overly said, "I am grateful to begin my teaching career in a faith-filled community like Holy Cross."

Ms. Giovanna Kempinski will be the new Director of After School Care. Ms. Kempinski has spent many years working in local Catholic schools, including St. Bernadett's, St. John's College High School, and Catholic University. She will be a wonderful new addition to the staff.

"Holy Cross has always been blessed with remarkably dedicated teachers and staff. I am very pleased to welcome our new and returning faculty for a wonderful new year," said Principal Lisa Kane.

OPT

## INCLUSION

*Con't from page 2*

encourages Catholic schools and the Archdioceses of Baltimore and Washington to educate children with intellectual disabilities in inclusive classrooms alongside their peers.

The Catholic Coalition for Special Education (CCSE) supports a school's consideration and journey to developing an inclusive classroom program through technical assistance and training. CCSE ensures that schools are properly equipped and staffed to successfully meet the needs of students with disabilities and that teachers are well prepared to serve all students in their classrooms.

Services range from individual teacher coaching and topical workshops to year-long capacity building assistance tailored specifically to a school's needs.

CCSE also provides scholarships to Catholic school teachers for advanced study in special education.

But CCSE is best known for the seed grants that it gives Catholic schools seeking to start or expand an inclusive education program. It has awarded nearly 60 grants totaling nearly one million dollars to 28 Catholic schools in eight Maryland counties.

Among the schools that have received grant awards in Montgomery County are Academy of the Holy Cross, Our Lady of Lourdes School, St. Andrew

Apostle School and St. John the Evangelist School. The grant awards for 2017 will be announced at an Awards Ceremony & Family Fall Fest on September 17. For more details and to attend this free event, please visit <https://ccse.ejoinme.org/2017FallFest>.

Inclusive education occurs when students with and without disabilities learn side-by-side in the classroom while maintaining appropriate expectations and high academic rigor. As CCSE Founder and President Francesca Pellegrino said, "The presence of students with disabilities in the general education classroom provides a catalyst for learning opportunities that students with or without disabilities might not otherwise have. It is a win-win for all. As a Catholic family how can we afford not to do this?"

Everything CCSE does is free of charge - but not free of cost. This year, in addition to an annual benefit gala, CCSE is introducing its inaugural golf tournament on Monday, October 16. Find your foursome and play on the links of Worthington Manor Golf Club, a nine-time U.S. Open Qualifying Course!

To learn about CCSE and for details on the charity golf tournament, visit <http://ccse-maryland.org/>.

OPT

### Holy Cross Parish

4900 Strathmore Avenue, Garrett Park, MD

Fr. Robert Buchmeier, Pastor  
301-942-1020

Holy Cross School  
Lisa Maio Kane, Principal  
301-949-0053

Lurana Hogan, Parish Editor  
[l.hogan@hcross.org](mailto:l.hogan@hcross.org)

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Pastor: Rev. Robert Buchmeier • Principal: Lisa M. Kane



## YOUTH TRIP

*Con't from page 40*

ing the space presentable for the temporary church, until that too can be rebuilt.

Some might call it controlled mayhem, but truly this effort was an effective way for God's children to work together in love and service. The relationships built there may have been the finest building project, starting a bridge of hope between the youth of St. Mary's and St. Joseph's. It was easy to see that St. Mary's team brought back in memories and understanding of the Kingdom at least as much as they took down to Carcasse.

OPT



Taylor Byrd and Megan Roldan with children from Carcasse.

## PICNIC

*Con't from page 40*

The cakes were the highlight of the event for many picnic-goers – some tried their luck at the cake wheel while others arrived just before picnic hours to snag their favorite cake before it sold.

Father Kevin said he and his friends made

135 cakes and six pies. "People work hard the week before and the week after (the picnic), putting it together and cleaning it up," he said.

The day after the picnic, St. Mary's gave leftover chicken to the Little Sisters of the Poor in Washington.

David Gillis, visiting from Potomac, said the picnic "was absolutely great. We have come every year for a long time."

OPT

## JOUSTING

*Con't from page 40*

seconds he attempts to spear the metal rings on his long, steel tipped lance. Rings vary in size from 1 3/4" in diameter to 1/4 of an inch in diameter. After each contestant has received 3 rides at "large size" rings, those

with tie scores are given one charge at rings a size smaller. If there are still ties, a smaller size ring is used until only the victorious knight remains in the contest.

For more information, visit: [www.marylandjousting.com](http://www.marylandjousting.com)

Source: Maryland Jousting Tournament Association

OPT





**Congratulations to our St. Martin's School Boys Track & Field Team (combined with Mary of Nazareth) for coming in third place at the Columbus League Championship. Congratulations to our many individual medal winners. Way to go boys! Photo courtesy of St. Martin's School**



**Troop 927's Eagle Scout candidate, Patrick McMillin, stands with his Beneficiary Glenn Wallace of the Monocacy Cemetery Board. Patrick's project involved cleaning and replacing fallen headstones (52 total) at the historic cemetery in Beallsville, Md. Photo by Rob McMillin.**

## St. Martin's Parish Launches New Religious Education Program

By Emily Moldiz

**S**t. Martin of Tours Parish is excited to launch a new Religious Education program under the new Office of Faith Formation. Heading up the new program is director, Josh Moldiz, a returning parishioner to St. Martin of Tours. Moldiz comes to St. Martin's as a former middle school religion teacher at St. Andrew the Apostle Parish in Silver Spring. He is also the current high school youth minister at St. Martin of Tours.

Starting September 19, English classes will be held on Tuesday evenings and Spanish classes will be held Saturday afternoons. The program will continue to offer classes from Kindergarten through 8th grade, High School Students, and SPRED (special needs classes) in preparation for Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation. This year's theme will be devoted to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

"In this first year of the Faith Formation program we want to start with the basics," said Moldiz, "that is the love Christ has for us. This is shown most prominently in the Sacred Heart of Jesus." The focus of the Office of Faith Formation is not only to instruct, but to provide the students with the tools they need to live out the Catholic Faith in today's society. Moldiz will introduce Family Faith Nights, which invite students and their families to participate in Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Confession.

participate in Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Confession.

"This devotion will hopefully lead our parish and school in learning the love God has for us and how we must learn to love others with a Christ-like love," said Moldiz. "This is foundational in catechesis, which is the religious education of children, because our aim is for them to meet Him in every lesson."

Moldiz also hopes this year's theme will not only impact the students, but will affect the numerous volunteers that make-up the program. Throughout the year he plans to offer catechetical workshops and opportunities for adoration for the instructors and teacher aids.

Registration is still open for both English and Spanish classes for all those who wish to enroll their children. For more information and for this year's schedule visit the parish website at [smartinsweb.org](http://smartinsweb.org).

OPT

### St. Martin of Tours Parish

201 South Frederick Ave.  
Gaithersburg, MD

**Fr. Richard Gancayco, Pastor**  
301-990-3203

**St. Martin School**  
**Anthony Sahadi, Principal**  
301-990-2441

**Catherine Cooksey**  
**Parish Editor**  
240-477-8706  
[www.smsmd.org](http://www.smsmd.org)

## St. Martin's School Makes Progress on STEM Priority

By Anne Gemunder

**O**ur STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) curriculum at St. Martin's has made considerable advancements this past year. We just finished a complete renovation of our science lab, which includes new workstations, equipment, and resources, which help create quality lab experiences for our students. Maria-Rose Cain, our science and math teacher, is excited about the renovation because she believes that students who have access to a safe lab environment to ask questions, explore, construct, test and interpret observations are more likely to cultivate skills that could motivate them to pursue science disciplines.

Mrs. Cain was fortunate to be named as a national finalist for the Shell Oil Science Lab Challenge. Thanks to her creative efforts in

engaging and motivating our students using limited lab resources, St. Martin's was awarded a science lab makeover support package valued at \$8,500. In addition, Mrs. Cain attended an all-expense paid trip to Los Angeles, CA to the National Science Teachers Association's Science Education Conference.

This summer, Mrs. Cain was also accepted into the National Institute of Standards and Technology Summer Institute for Middle School Science Teachers, a program that instructs teachers in the latest technology. a two-week workshop for middle school science teachers featuring hands-on activities, lectures, tours, and visits with NIST scientists and engineers in their laboratories.

Lastly, through a generous donation from the Bunag family, we acquired a 3-D printer. This new

technology has helped students build engagement and create excitement for learning by encouraging them to do some hard thinking, to problem solve, and to design.

The continued commitment of our faculty and staff to advancements in teaching and learning are evident in the progress we have made in our STEM curriculum. We are confident that our efforts in all areas of our curricula, including Language Arts, Social Studies, and the Arts, better prepare our students for success in high school and beyond.

OPT

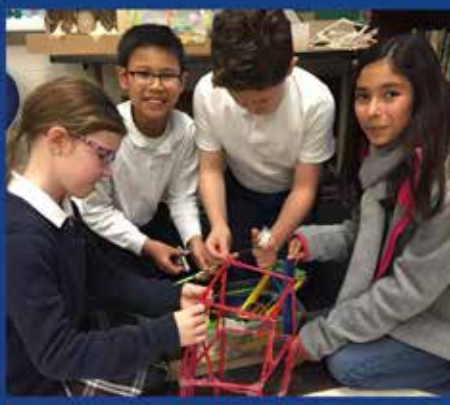



**Congratulations to six Girl Scouts from St. Martins Troop 274 for earning a Catholic Girl Scout medal this year. Juniors, Thea Javelosa, Alessandra Marino, Annecamie Agustin, Mary Jasper, Honora Manyin, and Michelle Huarcaya (not pictured) earned the Catholic Medal called "I Live My Faith." Fr. Gabriel Fermin presented their medals a mass in May. Photo by Ann Manyin**


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The St. Raphael Knights of Columbus Mater Dei Council had its installation of new officers in July. Grand Knight Michael Watson and his council of officers are ready to lead the Knights as they provide service to our parish and community. The Knights kicked off the summer with a successful Garage to Attic Sale in June. All proceeds from the sale are donated to area charities. In July, the Knights provided a cookout for the St. Raphael's Youth Group and most recently sold raffle tickets at the annual K of C Car Raffle benefiting charity and scholarship programs. Good luck to all those who purchased tickets to win the 2018 Ford Mustang.

### St. Raphael Parish St. Raphael School

1513 Dunster Road  
Rockville, MD

Rev. Michael Salah, Pastor

Teri Dwyer, Principal

MJ Zafis-Garcia,  
OPT Editor

301-762-2143

[www.straphaels.org](http://www.straphaels.org)  
[www.straphaelschoolmd.org](http://www.straphaelschoolmd.org)

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram:  
@SRSrockville

### Busy Year Ahead for St. Raphael Sodality

St. Raphael Sodality is preparing for another busy year and has already scheduled multiple activities. Our pastor and Moderator, Fr. Michael Salah, will speak to us about the Rosary as Mary's prayer on October 17. Our parochial vicar, Fr. David Wells will speak to us about the Mass as the perfect prayer on November 6. We will enjoy a Mardi Gras Tea in February and a pilgrimage to Emmitsburg in April.

Sodalists have begun to lead the rosary after the 6:30 and 9:00 am daily Masses and are promoting the Five First Saturday devotion in answer to Our Lady of Fatima's call for prayer for world peace. There will be Mass, Exposition, Rosary, and the opportunity for Confession every First Saturday.

To join Sodality, please send \$25 payable to St. Raphael Church (note Sodality dues in the memo line) to Aleta Phillips, 304 Winter Walk Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20878.

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## "Be the Light" at St. Raphael

By Nina Cardillo

In the main lobby of St. Raphael School and Nursery School, there is a plaque that reads: Be it known to all who enter here that CHRIST is the reason for this school. He is the unseen but ever-present teacher in its classes. He is the model of its faculty and the inspiration of its students. "Be the Light" is more than the theme for our new school year, and it is not just a statement of who we are; it is a vision of what we strive to be. As Jesus said, "I am the Light of the world," and the Gospel of Matthew (5:16) also says, "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven." This new academic year opens with a school mission and an individual challenge to respond to this calling as disciples of Christ.

### What's New

SRS and SRNS welcome the arrival of new staff for the 2017-18 school year: teaching music and drama is Karen Shantz, who received a music degree from The Catholic University of America and whose experience includes performing at the Waldorf Astoria New York, the Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage, and with the Newark Symphony Orchestra, as well as studying at the London Dramatic Academy. Moving from the SRNS staff to assist kindergarten is school parent and parishioner Kim O'Connor, while Serrita Francois transitions from SRNS to assist third grade. Thomas Britton joins the SRS staff as a long-term substitute with a degree from Marymount University and a wide-range of experience including college preparatory, parochial, and Montgomery County Public Schools. Leading small-group instruction are Megan Heitzmann and Deborah Gredder, and in the cafeteria, Yesenia Pineda and Charlene Moniz will be preparing and serving hot lunch for our students.

New to the nursery school from Santa

Clara University is Emily Chesterton, teaching M/W/F AM 3's, and from New Mexico State University, and an SRS/SRNS substitute, is Stephanie Klinger, teaching M/W/F AM 4's. Also, SRNS staff assistant Cecilia Kent moves to teaching five-day AM 4's, along with Rachel James, a long-time SRNS substitute, as teaching assistant. Lastly, Francine Krivka expands her role as 3's enrichment teacher with Terri de Raet assisting.

Besides updates to personnel, campus changes are also visible. The Stations of the Cross will inspire us along the Angel Path, a peaceful trail that loops about one-fifth of a mile under a canopy of trees behind the school building. Thanks to the Class of 2017 and the collaboration of many hardworking hands, this beautiful class gift beckons all who wander back there to spend some time with Jesus as they enjoy the path. We are grateful to everyone who made this memorial possible!

### What's Ahead

- Sept. 5: Opening Mass and festivities mark the beginning of a new school year.
- Sept. 24: St. Raphael Parish Picnic commemorates the feast day of our parish patron with food and fellowship.
- Sept. 25: St. Raphael Golf Classic remembers Fr. Bill Finch with a day of golf and memorial dinner. The Golf Classic kick-off bake sale on Sept. 10 is a tradition and treat!
- Sept. 29: Grandparent's Day invites grandparents to a special Mass, classroom visits, and a light reception.
- Oct. 16: SRS Open House welcomes interested parents to a presentation and tour of our campus.
- Oct. 21: Angels on the Run 5K invites everyone to a morning fun run and school-spirited celebration.

For details about these events and more, please visit our website at [www.straphaelschoolmd.org](http://www.straphaelschoolmd.org).

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75th ANNIVERSARY

Open House on Sunday, November 5, 11am to 3pm

Grades 6-12 | 40-Acre D.C. Campus | [www.saintanselms.org](http://www.saintanselms.org)



From left: Alina Baum, Mike Cowan, Bobbie Cowan, Michael Donahue, Connor Donahue, Phil Aldridge, and Michelle Aldridge were among the several parents and students who helped install Stations of the Cross markers along St. Raphael School's beautiful Angel Path. The project was a gift from the Class of 2017. Photo by Jen Cowan



# St. Jude Youth Group's Summer Adventures

by Fr. Shaun Foggo, parochial vicar  
(updated by Xiommy Esteban)

From Wednesday, July 12, to Friday, July 14, the St. Jude youth group went on a service trip to Eastern Shore, Virginia. According to Google Maps, from St. Jude Catholic Church in Rockville, Maryland, to St. Peter Church in Onley, Virginia (the Catholic Church that was hosting our group) the drive is 3 hours and 38 minutes. This estimate, of course, does not factor in traffic, various stops along the way, and driving with 17 youth, one of whom might get sick after eating too much Taco Bell.

Five hours after departing St. Jude we arrived at St. Peter, where we had Eucharistic Adoration while I listened to confessions. Our host, Ms. Shirley, who did so much to organize our entire trip, was there to greet us all and pray with us. Ms.



The Shrine of St. Jude Youth Group gathers for a photo during their summer service trip to the Eastern Shore of Virginia. Photo by Elizabeth N. CC

Shirley and Ms. Kathy have been serving the Church for many years, working very hard with the pastor

of St. Peter, Fr. Roger, and Fr. Mike, of St. Andrew in Chincoteague, Va., to help serve the migrant farmers

who come every July to the Eastern Shore of Virginia. These migrants mainly come from Mexico and even Haiti to work and live in very difficult conditions.

The second day of our trip – and perhaps the hottest day of the year – we were all able to go to a farm and pick potatoes for the migrants and their families. That same evening, we celebrated a Mass at one of the migrant camps, then had the opportunity with a small group of teens to walk around the camp, offering prayer and blessing many of the migrants' small and crowded homes. It was so beautiful to see the youngsters of our parish, with very little complaining, working hard and interacting with the migrants.

On the last day, we took a tour of a local NASA space facility, where they launch rockets to do testing in space and then went to the beach in Chincoteague for a little R&R.

This last day, however, began with Mass at St. Peter's Catholic Church. At the end of the Mass, the pastor, Fr. Roger, told the kids that the day before some of the parents of his local parish approached him and said that they wished their kids were them. This is a testament to our youth group volunteers, Xiommy Esteban, Elizabeth Cadenas, Cesar Sanchez, Jorge Salgado, Beth Campbell, and Christine Saah, who have worked tirelessly to volunteer their time for the youth group. It is also a testament to all of you parents who have been bringing your children to Mass every Sunday. Always know that, by doing this, you have enabled your children to be in holy soil for the love of Jesus Christ to take root in their hearts. Sometimes it may take a service trip to show the fruit that is there.

OPT



## VBS 2017: Summertime Blast Off!

Many thanks to the generous people who put on St. Jude parish's 2017 Vacation Bible School – "Summertime, Blast Off!" – for 93 campers aged 4 years old through fourth grade. Special thanks to Marilyn Mullan and Linda Grant, who coordinated the week, with assistance from Terry Heineman, Cecilia Rowedder, and Liz Welton. This year's VBS could not have functioned without the more than 50 buddy captains, station captains, Guides and Interns for whom we are grateful. Photos by Tom Roach.



## ANNIVERSARY

Con't from page 1

and crafts, costumes, and history were displayed. Also, parishioners had the opportunity to savor the delicious traditional dishes prepared with great care, while enjoying a harp music group from Paraguay, music from Guatemala and folk dances from various countries. The reception was held in an atmosphere of great joy and friendship.

The Hispanic Ministry at St. Jude was established in 1997 when Fr. Timothy Galban first ministered to the needs of the few Spanish speaking parishioners who had joined the parish of St. Jude around that time. Twenty years later, more than 600 hundred Spanish speak-



Oscar Tellez and his daughter Laura—representing Colombia—at the Shrine of St. Jude's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of its Hispanic community. Photo by Tom Roach

ing parishioners attend Sunday Mass in Spanish. Currently, the Hispanic Ministry offers a variety of opportunities for spiritual growth, such as catechesis, Bible studies, classes for parents of children who are preparing to receive their sacraments of initiation, Holy Hour, prayer group, Legion of Mary, pre-Baptismal classes for parents and Godparents, Liturgy of the Word for children, retreats and pilgrimages, among other activities of integration to grow in the faith.

The growth of the Hispanic Catholic immigration in the United States has promoted the emergence of the Hispanic community in many parishes. St. Jude is not an isolated case of a multicultural community comprised of different nationalities.

OPT

## WELCOME

Con't from page 19

as a Master of Education from the University of Dayton. For the past two years he has been teaching at Cleveland Central Catholic High School. Mr. Antonetti is thrilled to be joining our faculty and looks forward to sharing his appreciation and knowledge of Literature.

Mr. Jonathan Kravitz will join our team to focus on English grammar, language mechanics, and vocabulary with our middle school students. Mr. Kravitz also attended Catholic schools in this area, having graduated from Mater Dei School and Georgetown Preparatory School. Mr. Kravitz graduated from Dickinson College with a BA in Philosophy. After college, he worked as a maritime

paralegal in Boston and completed graduate course work in Legal Theory at Harvard University. Following a stint at a tech start-up, he has been working as a paraeducator at Northwest High School in On-Level and Honors tenth-twelfth grade English classes for the past three years. While at Northwest, Mr. Kravitz was the Head Boys Lacrosse Coach for two years and coached JV football.

OPT

## St. Jude Baby Bottle Campaign Set for October

The St. Jude Pro Life Committee is once again planning a Baby Bottle fundraiser for the Shady Grove Pregnancy Center in October. Empty baby bottles will be given to parishioners the weekend of Sept. 30/Oct. 1, with the request to fill them with change, bills or checks during October and return the filled baby bottles on Oct. 28/29.

St. Jude parishioners have been very supportive of the Baby Bottle Campaign, contributing \$96,524 during the past 17 years. If parishioners are as generous as they have been in the past, we will reach \$100,000 in total donations this year.

Bill Luksic has done an outstanding job managing the fundraiser for many years and is looking forward to a banner year in 2017.

Shady Grove Pregnancy Center provides many services for pregnant mothers and their families: free counseling, pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, and referrals for a host of available services – medical, financial, material, and legal. They also offer material assistance, pregnancy classes, Spanish services, and support for women who have had abortions.

OPT



### Shrine of St. Jude Parish

12701 Veirs Mill Road  
Rockville, MD

Rev. Paul Lee, STD,  
Pastor  
301-946-8200

### St. Jude Regional Catholic School

Mr. Glenn Benjamin, Principal  
301-946-7888

Maureen Martin,  
OPT Editor

MaureenCMartin@verizon.net





## St. Rose Feast Day

The St. Rose community will celebrate St. Rose's feast day, during the weekend of August 26 and 27. Saint Rose of Lima is the patron Saint of the St. Rose of Lima Parish in Gaithersburg.

Born in 1586, Saint Rose of Lima was the first saint born in the Americas. St. Rose was renowned for her devotion to the Eucharist and for the severe penances and mortifications. In the 1500s, Spanish culture considered severe penances a sign of holiness. St. Rose's Feast Day is August 23. 2017 is the 400th anniversary of her death; she died on August 23, 1617.

OPT

# Bible Camp Held at St. Rose

By Susan Joseph

The 2017 St. Rose Bible Camp was a five day, activity-filled adventure. The camp ran from July 24-28 with the theme of Maker Fun Factory which teaches children about their Maker (God) creating each of us with a purpose. The camp also re-enforces that God loves each and every one of us; we are all precious to Him.

St. Rose teenage volunteers also played a large role at camp and were responsible for supervising the Kindergarten to 5th grade campers. The teens kept track of all the campers in their groups and walked them to each of the fun and creative stations. Adult volunteers ran the stations and cared for our Pre-K campers. With four stations



St. Rose Bible Camp participants dance during one of the sessions.

and a snack break, the morning was packed with exciting ways of learning about our rich Catholic faith.

Whether the campers were at Bible Adventures, where they learned Bible stories; Kid Vid, where campers were connected to how they could help others; Imagination Station, learning about their unique talents and gifts; or Game Makers, where they participated in games, a great time was had by all! Each station, which consisted of different lessons each day allowed campers to participate in engaging activities to help them understand more about God's love for them, and how to share His love with others. Each year the camp culminates with a special mass and this year, Father Justin Huber presided.

OPT

## St. Rose FIESTA is coming

Saturday, September 30, 2017

Fiesta has long been a tradition at St. Rose of Lima. Fiesta is celebrated at the end of September by inviting the local community to come share a day of fun and fellowship! Numerous family

fun activities include Kids Games, Kiddie Swing, Moon Bounces, Pumpkin Decorating, Face Painting & more. Shopping abounds with a HUGE Flea Market, Country Store, World Village, Live Auction, Silent Auction, Quilt Raffle. A smorgasbord features an international array

of culinary delights from around the world. Live entertainment performances punctuate the day including Polynesian Dancers, Celtic Dancers, Swing Dancers, Encounter (Teen) House Band, Barbershop Ensemble, Jazz Music & more.

OPT



St. Rose youth and adult volunteers who attended Encounter

## St Rose Youth Participate in Encounter

Encounter allows St. Rose youth to spend a week volunteering to assist others in the local DC area. During Encounter, teens actually work with and get to know the people they serve.

United Cerebral Palsy is an organization tied to Encounter and St. Rose. Prior to volunteering, St. Rose parishioner Sheila Shea provided an orientation that, among other things, explains to the teen volunteers the importance of maintaining eye contact with people at eye level. For example, someone could sit in a nearby chair while chatting with someone in a wheelchair. Additionally, St. Rose assists UCP through visits and hosting an annual Holiday Party with Encounter, scheduled such that the students can attend during their school breaks.

Other St. Rose Encounter volunteers worked on a site called

Advocacy for Immigration Reform. The purpose of the Advocacy site is to educate the participants about the need for comprehensive immigration reform through the lens of Catholic Social Teaching. It's an experiential learning model with field trips to three organizations that assist recent immigrants to the United States: The Spanish Catholic Center, La Clinica del Pueblo, and CASA of Maryland. Working with new immigrants allowed the St. Rose teens to grasp the complexity of immigration reform and, for some, to formulate a recommendation: families stay together.

Continued on page 34

## St. Rose Teens Visit Legislators on Capitol Hill



A few St. Rose participants teens became social justice advocates, during Encounter this Summer. Teens met with U.S. Representative Jamie Raskin (MD-8th) regarding Immigration.

In addition, Encounter teens advocated for the United Cerebral Palsy (UCP). Teens hand delivered letters to U.S. Senator Ben Cardin (MD) protesting cuts in Medicaid funding. UCP seeks to assist affiliates find new opportunities for people with disabilities. In the disability community, UCP is notable in the disability community and is outspoken for assisting individuals with disabilities and their families.



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**More St. Rose of Lima on Page 34**



# African Day at Mother Seton Parish

By Rennie Okob

In Nigeria and other African countries, Thanksgiving and Bazaar are celebrated with music, dancing and auction sales by different parish ministries, school, etc. In June 2014, the first African Day was born. The celebrations kicked off in colorful fanfare with Holy Mass, then food, drinks, and dancing afterwards, sharing with our brothers and sister from different nationalities thanking God for all His blessings. Most of all for the blessing of Mother Seton Parish.

On August 13, 2017, we celebrated our fourth anniversary of the African Day of Thanksgiving. This year we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady to the chil-



African Day Choir

dren in Fatima in 1917. Remember that Our Lady appeared to those children and asked them to pray the rosary on the 13th day of each month

at the grotto, for the conversion of sinners and for world peace. What a precious coincidence and blessing that the celebration this year fell on the 13th of August.

This is one of many ways Mary, like the typical model mother, brought all her children together; showing us how she is the "cause of our joy," one of her titles in the Litany of Loreto. The turnout of Africans, Americans and our brothers and sisters from various continents of the world was phenomenal. That is why we displayed the statue of Our Lady adorned in African fabric, in appreciation for the role she is playing in bringing peace, love, togetherness, and progress in our parish.

The question now is, how do we repay her for all the maternal love and care? My dear sisters and brothers in Christ, Mary is our mother,



Fr. Lee Fangmeyer and Fr. Casmir Maduakor

always looking out for us. When we pray the rosary daily with our families, as we are driving on the road, as we are working or during any quiet moment, it will give her great joy and assist her to conquer evil and bring peace to the world.

Special thanks go to Father Louis Faust who made it a point to announce the celebration every Sunday, encouraging everyone to come with cameras, dancing shoes and an empty stomach, to make room for the variety of African food and goodies. Also, Father Benjamin Garcia, deacons, Paul Vater and our Parish Council. Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to our pastor Father Lee Fangmeyer, who has been very supportive of us always. To all our parishioners who volunteered, visiting neighborhood parishes, the Curia, ACA representatives, all the special

dancing groups, friends, relations, the choir that turned out in great number and made it a memorable occasion, and all Mother Seton African parishioners. Last but not least, thanks to all the dedicated African brothers and sisters who spent so much time planning and organizing this event and made it a success. God bless you all and God bless America.

OPT

## Mother Seton Parish

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Enjoying food, dancing, and great company

## Changing Hearts and Changing Lives

By Jill Brodrick

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor" Luke 4:18

The week of July 9-15, through the leadership and support of Young Neighbors in Actions, 55 high school students from Mother Seton Parish and teens from Wisconsin and Illinois stayed at Bishop McNamara High School in Forestville, Md. and



High School volunteers at Germantown Help

participated in a week of service. The morning and evening program that focused on the themes of Catholic Social Teachings gave everyone an understanding of the value and sacredness of human life. Their laughter and friendship was contagious as the teens continuously encountered Christ in one another and the people that they were called to help. As the teens from Mother Seton Parish actively engaged with young



A great afternoon at the playground!

Continued on page 35

## AUTUMN SPLENDOR BINGO & DINNER

Friday, October 6

Prizes May Include Bags from Michael Kors, Kate Spade, Coach, Dooney & Bourke, and Vera Bradley

**Location:**  
Mother Seton Parish  
19951 Fr. Hurley Blvd.  
Germantown, MD

Doors Open at 5 PM  
and  
Bingo Starts at 7 PM

Chicken Dinner with  
Sides and Dessert



**Admission:**  
\$35.00  
**Includes:**  
Regular Game Boards,  
Two Special Games,  
Dinner and Door Prize  
Drawings

Additional Game  
Boards, Raffle & 50/50  
Tickets Available  
For Purchase

**Presented By:**  
Mother Seton Sodality

You can reserve your seats now  
upon payment of admission.  
We welcome groups.

Contact:  
Kathleen Coughlin at mspodalitybingo@gmail.com  
or call 301-613-6893 (evenings & weekends only)

Let's Celebrate Autumn! All those who bring in can foods to be donated to  
Germantown HELP will receive  
an extra entry for the door prize drawings.

**Disclaimer:** Michael Kors Holdings Ltd., Kate Spade & Co.,  
Coach, Inc., Dooney & Bourke, and Vera Bradley Designs, Inc.  
are not affiliated with this event.



## Tilma of Our Lady of Guadalupe

**C**hrist the King hosted the “travelling” Tilma of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Sunday, August 13. The Tilma was present during all Masses concluding with an afternoon prayer service. The Tilma, which is used during the annual Walk with Mary, was hand-embroidered and gifted to the Archdiocese of Washington by the Sisters of the Convent of Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in Pueblo, Mexico. It will “visit” parishes throughout the Archdiocese serving as a symbol of Mary’s invitation to walk under her title as Patroness of the Americas.

OPT

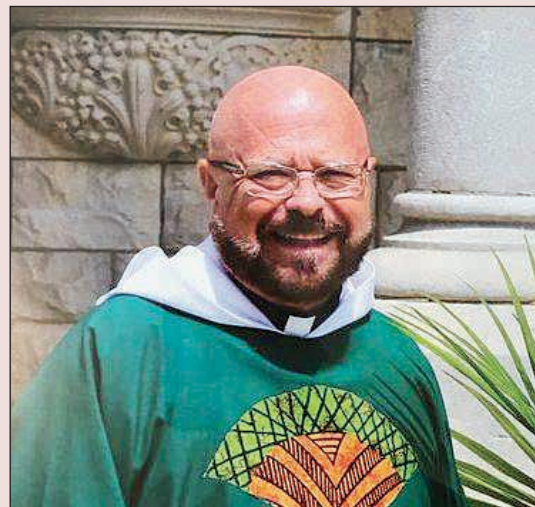


The travelling Tilma of Our Lady of Our Guadalupe

## New Parochial Administrator for Christ the King Parish

**T**he Archdiocese of Washington announced that Christ the King would have a new Parochial Administrator. Fr. Rodolfo Salinas was reassigned from Christ the King to be Chaplain at Sibley Hospital; Fr. Steven Carter, OFM, Capuchin arrived as Parochial Administrator July 17. A native Washingtonian, Fr. Carter (preferred to be called Fr. Steve) also lived a number of years in his youth in western Maryland. He came to us from St. Augustine in NW Washington, whose choir will celebrate with us during the Feast of Christ the King on November 26 this year.

Fr. Carter, in interviews and in his Homilies, has laid out his plans for our Parish to increase the conversation with the densely populated condominium community directly across the street, to reinvigorate the Religious Education program, for both the children of the Parish as well as adults, and to instill within the existing parish community a welcoming, giving environment. To quote one of his recent writings, “to make sure you are strong through prayer, the Word, the Eucharist, works of Charity and a good Christian community to support you.” To do this he is encouraging more to step up to be Catechists, to be Lectors, to join the Choir, to begin in all Masses Greeters, and to find or become the parish photographer! He has opened his office to



New Parochial Administrator, Fr. Stephen Carter, OFM, Cap.

meet with those in the parish who are leaders within each ministry of the parish as well.

To those in the readership community of Our Parish Times, if you were once a Christ the King parishioner, Fr. Steve would like to invite you to come back, pay us a visit and hopefully stay.

OPT

## Isidra Molina, New Parish DRE

**C**hrist the King welcomes its new Director of Religious Education, Mrs. Isidra Molina, for the Regular Catechesis

she holds a dual Master’s Degree with concentrations in Education and Religion.

Mrs. Molina has come to us from Sanctuaries for Life, of Catholic Charities, as a Bilingual Resource and Education Coordinator. Prior to this she was actively involved in the ministries of the Shrine of the Sacred Heart in NW Washington, DC, as a Bilingual Religion Teacher, leading the Committee for Children and Faculty at the Sacred Heart School and later as Director of Religious Education (RCIA) for the Spanish language community, Director of Evangelization, Coordinator for the Marriage Preparation Program as well as Retreat Coordinator and Director of the Literacy Program.

You can find Mrs. Molina every weekend after each of our Masses welcoming and registering students for Christ the King’s religious Education program.

OPT



New Director of Religious Education, Mrs. Isidra Molina

and the RCIA Programs in English and in Spanish. Formerly an Elementary Education teacher in her country of birth, El Salvador,



Sue and Frank Deckelman

## A Tale of Two Parishes

### CTK Seniors Join St Bernadette’s Senior Excursion

**“W**here should we go for our 55th anniversary?” Frank and I wondered. When we heard about the upcoming four-day bus tour to beautiful Lake George, New York, sponsored by the seniors’ club at St. Bernadette Parish, we had our answer. Led and planned by Mary Ellen and Lew Hudson, 31 of us, including Cecile Fecteau, mother of former Christ the King Assistant Pastor Fr. Ray Fecteau, boarded the comfortable new tour bus for an eight-hour drive north into the Adirondack Mountains early Monday morning, May 22.

As we merged from the New Jersey Garden State Parkway onto I-87, the rolling terrain of the splen-

did Adirondacks came into view. By 4pm we stopped at the well-known Sarasota Springs restaurant casino for an early buffet. After a few lucky gamblers collected their winnings, we traveled to the Georgian Lakeside Hotel at the southern tip of Lake George, our home for the next 3 nights. Tuesday morning, we motored to the dock where a renovated 200-year-old steamship cruised for two hours and 20 miles on breathtaking Lake George encompassing over 200 islands. Dotted with private homes, rental chalets, and hotels, we could understand why vacationers flock to Lake George year-round.

Wednesday please history buffs when we meandered 35 miles to the

northern point of the lake, historic Ft. Ticonderoga, named in 1759 by the British at the close of the French and Indian War. The Revolutionary War followed, and by 1820 William Pell had purchased and restored the fort in the 1800s and eventually opened the Fort Ticonderoga Museum in 1909. Re-enactments and demonstrations delight visitors all year round.

The romantic trip ended with our final dinner complete with a Frank Sinatra impersonator. As old familiar lyrics flooded our memories, we eagerly joined in with the singer. Our thanks to the Hudsons and the welcoming St. Bernadette’s parishioners for making our anniversary a time we will always remember.

OPT

### Christ the King

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### Sightings

Our former Parochial Administrator, Fr. Ettore Ferrario, FSCB was “seen” a few months ago working in the roughest neighborhoods in the Bronx on a cleanup effort with the young people of his new parish in Minnesota, St. Peter’s in North St. Paul. He was joined there by Fr. Pietro Rossotti and Fr. Daniele Scorrano. CTK parishioner Chris Tan and her family will be present when Fr. Ettore is installed as Pastor at St. Peter’s.

OPT

**It Pays to Advertise in Our Parish Times**



# Reflections on My First Year with Religious Education



Benjamin de Leon (on left), Director Religious Education, with the Spanish Catechists at St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church



Benjamin de Leon (front row, second from left), Director Religious Education, with the English Catechists at St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church

By Benjamin de Leon, Director of Religious Education

**W**orking in religious education and especially with children has been the greatest joy that God has given in my life.

It is a constant joy to see the children prepare to receive Jesus through the sacraments. Each year I experience this joy when they receive their confirmation and they receive Eucharist as well. Being part of St. Michael the Archangel challenges me to constantly prepare myself and be ready to give my best to the great diversity in our parish.

Our parish is very well organized

with an Education Committee that is in charge of identifying the needs that our parish faces. For the next year, one of the goals is to continue supporting the education committee and work with them so that the goals proposed in the parish pastoral plan are accomplished.

One of the goals is to combine Spanish and English classes; I started in 2005 as a catechist in the parish, and from that date it had been two sessions as in many parishes in our archdiocese: one in English and one in Spanish. The purpose of this has been to have an effective method of not only catechize our children but also being able to evangelize them.

We have a large community of Latinos, but the children understand English. The message of Christ has to be transmitted in the language they understand so catechesis can be effective, and they also can be prepared to be a light in the middle of the darkness of our society.

The challenge is great since the problem of conversion in our society is very difficult. We already know the statistics of Catholics who are said to be, but who do not agree with what the Holy Mother Church teaches us. The important thing is to continue to trust in the mercy of God, and we as Catholics remain steadfast in the teachings of our church and transmit it to our kids.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has a theme for this year, "Living as Missionary Disciples," a call not only to be a witness but also what our father Pope Francis has been inviting us to do "Make Noise."

This year, in the second week of July, I had the opportunity to go to the Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio; they had a series of conferences focused on catechesis. We attended about 500 catechetical leaders from all over the United States; there were leaders from Africa, leaders who came from Peru, for example. But the most surprising thing is to see how the Holy Spirit acts in a universal

way in all the parishes of the world. Definitely we are not alone. God is with us in our journey.

So, it has been a year of learning for me. I thank our pastor, Monsignor Eddie Tolentino for the opportunity he has given me to serve in our parish. To our Deacon Ron Ealey for the constant help he gives to this ministry. To Mrs. Kitty Ealey (our former DRE) for always being willing to help too.

But, I especially want to thank our catechists. They are the true protagonists of the formation of our children. Our families for being willing to give the best they can give to their children; our Faith.

OPT

## "The Savior of the World"

### The Annual Festival of El Salvador Del Mundo

**S**t Michael the Archangel celebrated its annual Festival of El Salvador Del Mundo (The Savior of the World) on Sunday August 6, 2017. El Salvador del Mundo is the patron saint and namesake of the Central American country El Salvador.

The festival began in 1525 when the capital city of San Salvador was founded and is the celebration of the transfiguration of Jesus Christ. The devotion of the Salvadorian people for the Divine Savior of the World is so great that it has been an inspiration for hymns, songs and



St. Michael the Archangel celebrates the Festival of El Salvador del Mundo with a procession, mass, and entertainment

folkloric dances. In El Salvador, the statue of Jesus is dressed in colorful clothes and carried through the main streets to the Cathedral at which time they are removed, leaving only the white robe, to symbolize and witness what the gospel says in Matthew 17: 1-9: "Jesus took Peter, James, and his brother, John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light."

In our parish, we also celebrated with a procession. The procession was led by Parishioners carrying the statue of Jesus from the Parish Center to the church sanctuary for mass and included a parade of flags from the many countries of the Americas and Caribbean reflecting the diversity of our parish. The celebrant for the mass was Parochial Vicar Father Biondi. After mass, parishioners continued with their

Continued on page 39

#### St. Michael's Parish

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More St. Michael News  
on Page 22




*Save the date!*

*Young Adults*

## Grill & Chill

Silver Spring Catholic & 270 Catholic

### September 9

St. Michael the Archangel  
Mass at 4PM | BBQ to follow

[www.facebook.com/SilverSpringCatholic](http://www.facebook.com/SilverSpringCatholic)





## OLQP Parish Picnic and Flea Market

**Sunday, September 17, 2017**  
**Time: 11 AM – 4 PM**

Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish  
9700 Rosensteel Avenue  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Delicious Food; Flea Market;  
Moon Bounce for children

All are invited to attend!

(Rain Date is Sunday, Sep. 24)



Pastor Rev. Jerzy Frydrych, on the right side, is surrounded by altar servers, Knights of Columbus, Polish Legion of American Veterans, visiting ranking officers from Poland, and Polish scouts, in front of the Our Lady Queen of Poland & St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish church entrance on August 15, 2017, before processing inside for the evening Holy Mass.

## God and Honor

Several dates in mid-August have special significance because they commemorate events that are deeply etched in our collective memory, including those of parishioners at Our Lady Queen of Poland & St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish. Some of the events were victorious and others were tragic. Regardless of the outcome, people continued to have an abiding faith in God and to honor Mary as our intercessor and patron.

August 14 is the feast day of St. Maximilian Kolbe, patron of our parish. He died a martyr during World War II in the Nazi German concentration camp at Auschwitz.

To commemorate the day, Pastor Fr. Frydrych celebrated an evening Holy Mass, after which parishioners individually approached the St. Maximilian Kolbe relic to revere it.

August 15, the Assumption of Mary into heaven, was also the 97th anniversary of the 1920 Battle of Warsaw when the Polish army of the newly reconstituted Polish Second Republic, after World War I, stopped the advancement of the Russian Bolshevik army and thus prevented Communism from spreading to Western Europe. This event is also known as the "Miracle on the Vistula River" because the odds were against Poland. Yet, with prayers to God and the intercession of Mary, the Battle was won.

In his homily on August 15, Pastor Fr. Jerzy Frydrych, S.Ch., underscored the need to remain faithful to God and His Holy Mother Mary and to act honorably, whether in victory or tragedy.

Many parishioners and visitors participated in the procession and Mass which was followed by camaraderie in the parish hall.

## Honoring Living and Deceased Veterans of the Warsaw Uprising of 1944.

On July 30, 2017, after a solemn Mass, OLQP Parishioners and visiting priest Rev. Marek Stybor along with Mrs. Krystyna Wolanczyk, survivor of the Warsaw Uprising, walked to the cemetery on the grounds of OLQP Parish to honor OLQP parishioners buried there who had fought in the Warsaw Uprising of 1944. They prayed for the repose of their souls. Among the graves visited were those of Jerzy and Janina Zapadko Mirski, Jadwiga and Jan Kanty Miska, and Anna and Zdzislaw Szczepanski. Not pictured are OLQP parishioners Mr. Marian Mols and Mrs. Barbara Syska who also had participated in the Warsaw Uprising of 1944 against the German Nazi forces occupying Poland during World War II.



Dorota Ponikiewska, OLQP parishioner and director, and all the actors, were given a standing ovation for a delightful presentation, crowning their long hours of preparation and anticipation. The actors included: Adam Hawiger, Anna Janiak, Anna Kajkowska, Jacek Marczyński, Zbigniew Okreglak, Aleksandra Parszewska, Jerzy Piwowarski, Mirosław Podloch, Ryszard Starosta, Jarosław Trocki, and Julieanne Fiorrella Cieciewicz-Elias.

## An Afternoon with "Pan Tadeusz"

On Sunday afternoon, August 20, the Polish Drama Club, composed of actors/parishioners of Our Lady Queen of Poland, dressed in costumes of the era, presented a dramatic reading of the great epic poem about Poland entitled "Pan Tadeusz" authored by Adam Mickiewicz. The setting, in the beautiful garden of Drs. Edwarda Buda-Okreglak and Richard Okreglak, and perfect afternoon weather, along with a delicious potluck luncheon, added to the enjoyment of the outdoors audience.

## St. Rose of Lima

### St. Rose Youth Hershey Park Visit

St. Rose Youth took a break to have some fun in the sun during a trip to Hershey Park on August 8.



St. Rose Youth stop for a bite to eat, during their journey to Hershey Park.



### TLC in Cincinnati

Eight of the St. Rose TLC members attended the Youth Music Ministry Institute, spending four days in a living/learning community on the campus of Xavier University, with 50+ teens from around the nation. They prayed together, made beautiful music and honed their musical leadership skills to better serve the community of St. Rose at Sunday worship.

## ENCOUNTER

Con't from page 30

Those same participants ended their week with a visit to Capitol Hill to discuss their suggestion regarding Comprehensive Immigration Reform, with Representative Jamie Raskin (MD-8th District) and other Congressional office staff.

During meetings with lawmakers, Encounter participants frequently interact with congressional aides, most just a few years older than themselves. Meeting with young staffers profoundly impresses on the teens the notion that young people can make the world a better place.

Encounter participants come from

the Archdioceses of Washington and Baltimore, as well as several other states. Typical youth volunteer assignments allow Encounter volunteers to work alongside other teens outside of their home parishes. In addition to serving others, Encounter also offers formation, leadership training, music, drama and liturgical ministries. Additionally, Encounter uses social justice activities to create experiences of faith, to enhance Catholic social teaching, and to effect real change and conversion in daily life.

Encounter's goal is to form relationships with local organizations and individuals by serving "with" them but not "at them. Encounter experiences often turn teens into advocates

for social justice. Encounter volunteer opportunities include homeless shelters, soup kitchens, children's day camps, senior and special care settings. Teens have the chance to advocate for some organizations via meeting with elected officials. During the summer service camp, Encounter participants are housed at the University of Maryland, College Park. Encounter uses the UMCP facilities thanks to cooperation with the Catholic Student Center, the Catholic chaplaincy for UMD.

Encounter the Gospel of Life, Inc. (EGL, Encounter) began as a small local work camp with about 120 participants and has grown to host 300 participants each year.

OPT

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# So much going on at SFIS, even during the summer!

This year Saint Francis International School offered its eighth straight year of summer programming. Summer @ Saint Francis included a four week long Summer Academy that offered classes in preparation for Kindergarten, review work on reading and math, as well as exciting enrichment classes in STEM and theater arts. While Saint Francis Summer Academy was educating nearly 80 students, Camp

volunteers along with staff from the three organizations.

Throughout the summer Saint Francis was able to make sure hungry children were fed. At the SFIS campus next to Saint Camillus Church, every child 18 or under who participated in the Summer @ Saint Francis programs received free breakfast and lunch every day. Additionally, SFIS provided free lunches four days per week to needy children at the Catholic Community of Langley Park. Many days over 250 meals were served! This outreach to meet kids needs was made possible through ongoing participation in the Federal Summer Nutrition Program with the Maryland State Department of Education.

Summer was so busy that it has meant that the few weeks of getting ready for the new school year are quite hectic. The faculty and staff at SFIS came together for their first meeting on August 21 and took time to pray St. Francis of Assisi's famous Canticle of Brother Sun and Sister Moon during the eclipse. As the faculty has been working hard getting their rooms and lessons ready to welcome parents and students to orientation on August 29, technology experts have been upgrading the school's wi-fi and setting up new Chromebooks that will be assigned on a one-to-one basis to all students in grades 5 through 8 this year. Both the wi-fi upgrade and the Chromebook initiative are only pos-



Washington Auxiliary Bishop Dorsonville listens to children tell him about how to show love and kindness during Peace Camp at SFIS.



Students teach each other about chemistry at the Saint Francis Summer Academy science symposium.

Fire Patuxent shared the SFIS building and offered a traditional day camp for homeless children from Prince George's County that also included a week of sleep-away camp at Loyola on the Potomac Retreat Center. The final big event of the summer was a week-long Peace Camp offered in partnership with Saint Camillus Church and the Little Friends for Peace that brought together over 100 kids with almost 100 teen and adult

and Sister Moon during the eclipse. As the faculty has been working hard getting their rooms and lessons ready to welcome parents and students to orientation on August 29, technology experts have been upgrading the school's wi-fi and setting up new Chromebooks that will be assigned on a one-to-one basis to all students in grades 5 through 8 this year. Both the wi-fi upgrade and the Chromebook initiative are only pos-



SFIS staff work the year round providing meals as part of the federal nutrition programs to ensure SFIS students and kids in the community are well fed.



SFIS prepares to provide students with 140 new Chromebooks to use on a completely new enterprise-level wi-fi system thanks to government support.



Saint Francis faculty and staff marvel at the miracles of nature during the solar eclipse.

sible through funding partnerships with the state and federal governments.

Saint Francis International School formally starts the new year on September 5 and is thrilled to add many excited new faculty and staff to the existing community of

talented educators and to welcome a larger community of students and their families. SFIS is quite full for 2017-2018, but there are still limited spaces still available in Pre-K as well some other grades.

OPT

## CHANGING LIVES

Con't from page 31

people at Little Friends for Peace and formed relationships with the elderly at the Forestville Nursing Home they allowed God to work through their hearts and hands to bring God's healing love and grace to everyone that they met and served during the week. In addition, the week of July 24- 28, 15 Middle School students were instruments of the Corporal Works of Mercy as they worked tirelessly to provide food for the hungry.

We could not have done it without the help and support of Grace Hegarty from Catholic Charities and Jessica Walsh, Director of Greg Gannon Food Drive, as they instructed us on how to implement it. Our amazing adult volunteers drove around neighborhoods near Mother Seton Parish and helped the teens distribute flyers to over 900 homes asking for donations for Germantown Help. Then on Friday as the

teens enthusiastically ran from house to house collecting bags of food from people's homes in the pouring down rain. Then they spent the afternoon reaping the fruits of their labor as they sorted over 2,000 non-perishable items and stocked the empty shelves at Germantown Help!

Cindy Majane, Executive Director of Germantown Help, was overjoyed as she eagerly helped the teens and thanked them for their hard work. Throughout the week the teens stayed very busy as they provided meals for the Dorothy Day and Stepping Stones Homeless Shelters and worked tirelessly at South Central Community Action and Operation Community Care food pantries in the Gettysburg, Penna. area unloading deliveries and stocking shelves. Throughout the week the hearts of the teens were changed as they experienced the challenge of emptying ourselves in order to fill others. God bestowed his blessings on all of us as they continuously opened their hearts and minds each day to help those in need.



OPT Middle School volunteers at Germantown Help



Middle School kids collecting bags of food for Germantown Help





Our Lady of Fatima statue was processed through the church and SJN Parish Center as Father Joe led the parish in the praying of the Rosary. Photo by Harald Schneider

## Remembering the Fatima Consecration

Our March Parish Retreat was in preparation for the Centennial Celebration of Fatima. On Saturday, May 13, 2017 we celebrated Mass, followed by a Rosary procession, where we prayed the consecration of St. John Paul II – the same prayer Holy Father offered during his first pilgrimage visit to Fatima on May 13, 1982 (after his assassination attempt).

“It was a beautiful time in the

parish,” said Father Joe Rogers. “We had Rosary prayer stations set up around the Parish Center and the Knights of Columbus Color Corps led our movement during the procession. We were celebrating and remembering a Hundred-Year-Event, a very historic event, and the spiritual path of the parish has been marked by it and will, I hope, be illumined by it as we turn to the new pastoral year.”



For over 800 years, Eucharistic processions have been a tradition in the Catholic Church on this Feast Day and a part of parish life at SJN since its founding. Photo from Parish archives

## Why is the Feast of Corpus Christi So Important?

The Feast of Corpus Christi fell on Father's Day this year, also a Sunday. It's a tradition to have a Eucharistic Procession on this feast, and as a first, our parish procession was conducted in the main church and parish center after the Saturday (June 18) evening Vigil Mass.

“We gathered there to thank the

Lord for the Eucharist, the Body and Blood of Christ, which is the source and summit of our salvation, our faith and parish life,” said Father Joe Rogers.

A very special feature of this year's celebration came after our Eucharistic procession. Father Joe offered a prayer of consecration for all parish households, families and the entire parish to the protection of the power of the Blood of Christ. “There is so much suffering in families, so many difficulties, so many strained relationships-- we want and need to trust in the power of the Lord and His authority to bring healing, order, peace, humility, reconciliation and love to each one of us and our families,” reminds Fr. Joe. “This all comes to us through the blood of Christ.”

OPT

## The Parish Picnic Family Encounter

Every ministry in the parish works very hard year-round to ensure that, regardless of financial ability, each of our parish family members can afford to attend our Parish Picnic. “The main thing is to encounter one another as a parish,” said SJN Pastor, Father Joe Rogers. “One of the mysteries of parish life is that attendees at each weekend Mass tend to become a ‘community’ unto itself. If you go to the 8am Sunday Mass, you’re not aware of those attending Masses at other times. If you attend the Saturday 5pm Mass, you might not know anyone who goes to Masses on Sunday. Likewise, if you’re part of the Eucharistic Adoration ministry, you may not know anyone in the Knights of



How can anyone resist a friendly game of water-balloon tossing? Look closely and you'll even see our Pastor and his Parochial Vicar.



Young and older turn out to enjoy a summer afternoon of food, fun and family.

Columbus, or Pro Life Ministry or St. Vincent de Paul.”

The Parish Picnic is where we bring all of these smaller communities within our parish together. “It’s important that at least once a year we encounter the rest of the parish,” reminds Fr. Joe. “The annual picnic is that time!” There were over a thousand Picnic tickets distributed this year, where 950 meals were served. EDITOR NOTE: That’s a pretty successful parish encounter by any measure.

OPT

## SJN TASTE – the Best Yet!

If asked “what was your favorite meal at home when you were growing up?” we all might have a special dish to talk about. Well, imagine that you asked the question of 28 SJN parishioners, and they all decided to recreate those memorable culinary pleasers to share with their parish.

Wouldn’t you want to be at that dinner?

*Continued on page 39*



Twenty-eight different food offerings from around the globe graced the serving tables of the Parish Center, every recipe delight came from the heritage of SJN parishioners. Photos by Jerry Kelly



Event coordinator Cheryl Harskowitz covers last-minute activities with her volunteer team at the front door of the SJN Taste.



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# ChristLife Series Becomes Main Adult Faith Formation Program

By Melissa Egan

Soon after Fr. John Dillon arrived in 2013 at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Derwood, MD, he lunched with two old friends at Mother of God Community who encouraged him to look at an adult evangelization program reaching parishioners in that Gaithersburg community. Knowing that his new parish needed a program to help parishioners encounter Christ, Fr. John watched a video testimony from Baltimore Archbishop William Lori, extolling the graces the ChristLife Series has brought to many parishes in that archdiocese. He prayed on it – and decided to take a leap of faith.

The ChristLife Series (*Discovering Christ*, *Following Christ*, and *Sharing Christ*) is a three-part evangelization process that brings Catholics together in small groups at the parish level, reintroduces them to Christ and teaches them how to live and share a Christ-centered life. The series consists of three seven-week courses, during which participants attend seven themed sessions and a retreat midway through the course.

St. Francis of Assisi Parish first provided the foundational course



St. Francis of Assisi Pastor Fr. John Dillon (center) and participants in the *Discovering Christ* course gather to share their experiences from the evangelization program in May 2016.

– *Discovering Christ* – in January 2015, partnering with Mother of God Community. Over the past two years, St. Francis has taken ownership of its ChristLife Series Ministry, with a 21-member service team in place and 114 people who have been involved with the program, said Medy DeAussen, coordinator of the ministry at St. Francis.

“The work of the Holy Spirit is what pushes you to go,” DeAussen said. “It’s not a typical training program. It’s the work of the Holy Spirit. You’re allowing the Holy

Spirit to work on you.”

Originally created in 1995 by Catholic lay leader Dave Nodar, the ChristLife Series provides a context in which parishes can help form missionary disciples within their church communities. According to the ChristLife Series web site, an estimated 80,000 people have participated in the ChristLife Evangelization Process in 800 parishes in 37 U.S. states and nine countries since 2009.

The courses are intended to build on one another, and coordinators

encourage participants to take all three at their own pace. *Discovering Christ* focuses on encountering Christ and helping participants build a relationship with Him. *Following Christ* teaches participants how to become a Catholic disciple. *Sharing Christ* focuses on how participants can learn to share their relationship with Christ with others.

Each of the courses follows a similar format: a meal to promote fellowship; prayer and worship; a DVD teaching of the session’s theme; and a small group discussion, where participants discuss the lessons of the teachings and the implications in their lives.

DeAussen said it takes participants a few sessions to feel comfortable sharing in the small group setting. “By the third session, people begin to share. After session four, they begin to linger,” DeAussen said. “That’s the work of the Holy Spirit.”

One important facet of the program is to have graduates of previous courses serve as leaders in upcoming offerings. They may start as assistant small group facilitators, transitioning to facilitators after they’ve gained experience. After any of the three courses is complet-

ed, participants are invited to take part in a monthly meeting called a Family Assembly, during which participants from the ChristLife Series and the parish’s Couples for Christ ministry gather for dinner, praise and worship, communal prayer and teaching.

With St. Francis having offered every course at least one time to parishioners, Fr. John said he has noticed a demonstrable change in the faith lives of participants. Many participants have shared that they’ve found meaning and purpose in life. Others said they have experienced the love of God in a very deep and life-changing way and feel comfortable sharing that experience in front of large groups.

“I have seen enough changes in people since we began to offer the courses in the ChristLife series to know that something wonderful and authentic was happening in the lives of participants,” he said.

St. Francis of Assisi Parish is offering a new *Discovering Christ* session from September 28-November 16 at the Goshen House, Mother of God Community in Gaithersburg. For more information, contact DeAussen at SFADCHRIST@comcast.net.

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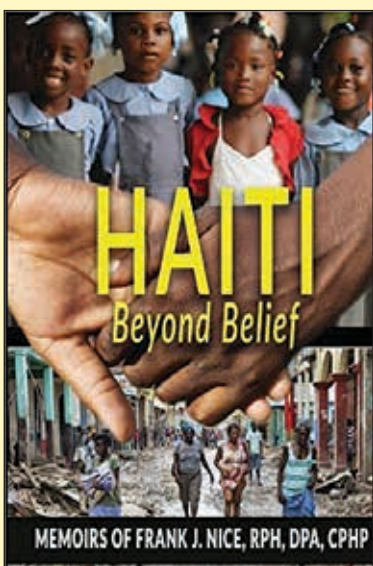
## Origins of Haiti Medical Mission Documented in Parishioner Book

By Melissa Egan

When St. Francis of Assisi parishioner Frank J. Nice embarked on his first trip to Haiti on a general church mission trip in 1996, the pharmacist brought along two duffel bags of medication samples, prepared to supplement the medicine supply in the clinic affiliated with the church his parish supported. What he found was very different than what he expected: A caved-in roof. Mold growing everywhere. Leaking water. And a pharmacy with four bottles of medicine in it.

“I said, ‘We can’t leave it like this,’” Nice said in a recent interview. Twenty-one years later, with the help of many other like-minded people, Nice has made good on that word.

The seed of determination planted during that initial trip has blossomed into operational medical clinics in Leon, serving mostly parishioners from the Conversion of St. Paul’s Parish. St. Francis of Assisi Parish has supported St. Paul’s Parish through the Parish Twinning Program since 1987, offering help through health care, education and economic development. Over the 21 years since Nice established the Haiti Medical Mission, volunteer medical teams now travel to Haiti for five week-long missions each year, providing primary medical interventions to about 4,500 patients annually.



The stories, experiences and observations Nice has gathered in his 22 visits to Haiti are now compiled in his self-published book, *Haiti Beyond Belief*, which documents the many challenges and unexpected joys of providing medical care to residents of the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. According to UNICEF, Haiti’s population numbers 10.7 million people, with 69 children under the age of five dying per 1,000 births each year. For the vast majority of patients, the medical missions are their only access to healthcare.

Nice’s book documents his experiences in a conversational style, introducing readers to the

Haitian clergy and clinic staff instrumental in establishing and maintaining the clinics; the medical mission team members, including St. Francis parishioner Pat LaBuda; and the partnering organizations, such as the U.S. Public Health Services’ Disaster Management Assistance Teams, the Nurse Practitioner Program at Johns Hopkins University and the School of Pharmacy at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, without which the medical missions wouldn’t happen. He gives readers a Technicolor perspective of his experiences, sharing the travails of traveling across Haiti, gastrointestinal mishaps and observations he has made during two decades of on-the-ground patient care.

*Haiti Beyond Belief* sells for \$10.04, a price that commemorates the date Hurricane Matthew struck the island on October 4, 2016, badly damaging many of the clinic facilities. It can be purchased through Nice’s web site: [www.nicebreastfeeding.com](http://www.nicebreastfeeding.com) and through Amazon at: [www.amazon.com/dp/0998502413/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1501004726&sr=8-1&keywords=Haiti+Beyond+Belief](http://www.amazon.com/dp/0998502413/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1501004726&sr=8-1&keywords=Haiti+Beyond+Belief)

All proceeds from the sales of *Haiti Beyond Belief* will be donated to the Haiti Medical Mission.

For more information about the Haiti Medical Mission, visit [www.sfadw.org](http://www.sfadw.org) under ‘Haiti-Our Sister Parish.’

OPT

## New Parochial Vicar Relishes Bringing Young People Back to Flock

By Melissa Egan

Before completing his studies earlier this year at the Pontifical North American College in Rome, Fr. Jack Berard had amassed some very practical experience for his future vocation as a priest – discussing his Catholic faith as a missionary for FOCUS at the University of Pittsburgh, which exposed him to college students’ struggles, doubt and hostility toward Catholicism.

“The reality is I see myself in the people who are stuck or struggling in their faith,” said Fr. Jack, the new parochial vicar at St. Francis of Assisi Church. “I wasn’t always on track to become a priest and, because of that, I know how important it is to give personal attention to help draw people back into faith in the Church and Christ.”

A former resident of Glenn Dale, MD, Fr. Jack is the fifth of 10 children and graduated eighth grade from the former St. Hugh of Grenoble School, now the St. Joseph’s Regional Catholic School. He graduated from Eleanor Roosevelt High School in 2004, Temple University with a degree in political science in 2008 and from the Pontifical North American College, where he earned his bachelor’s degree in sacred theology (S.T.B) from the Angelicum and his license in sacred theology (S.T.L.) from the Gregorian, specializing in Fundamental Theology.

Fr. Jack arrived at St. Francis of Assisi Parish on July 12, adapting easily to the routine of cel-



Fr. Jack Berard, new parochial vicar at St. Francis of Assisi Church

brating Mass, hearing Confessions and preaching the Gospel for the Derwood, MD-based church with 1,500 registered families. Fr. John Dillon, the pastor at St. Francis, recently asked Fr. Jack to take over leadership of the parish’s Youth and Young Adult ministries. His approach, said Fr. Jack, is to root young people in the love of Christ

Continued on page 39

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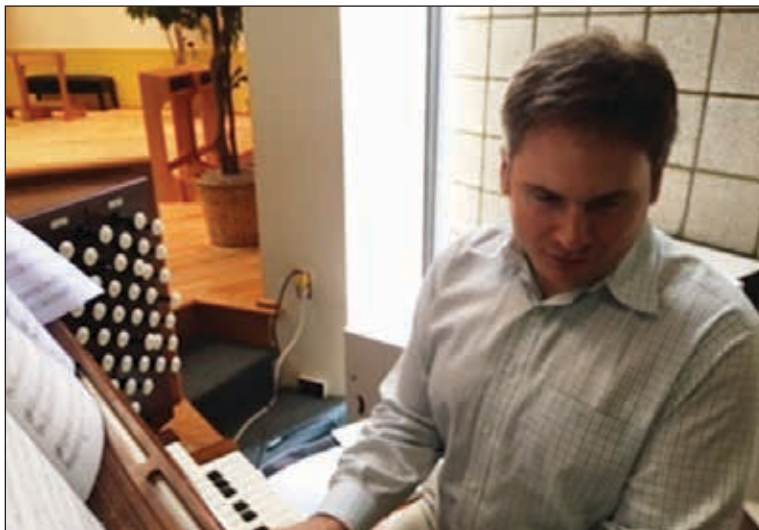


# Resurrection Organist Heightens Congregation's Worship

By Susan Ahearn

**W**illiam Wisnom is the principal organist at the Church of the Resurrection in Burtonsville. He plays for about five Masses a week at Resurrection and for the Catholic community at Riderwood, a nearby facility for older adults in Silver Spring. He is also the rehearsal accompanist for the adult, youth and women's choir as well as a new French choir formed this summer.

Bill, a Baltimore resident, came to Resurrection in 2009 because his friend Richard Fitzgerald, the previous organist, told him he was leaving and that Resurrection was looking for an organist. He states, "...at the time, it was just a job, but in the course of the past eight years, the church has really become my community, and so it really is much



Master Organist and Musician William Wisnom

more than a job. And it's important to me that what I do inspires people

to pray and it's definitely the people that have kept me here."

Bill is a native of the farming community of Fawn Grove, Pennsylvania. He started studying piano at the age of 11 and continued his studies as a teenager. He was headed to the Eastman School of Music on a full scholarship when he attended a college concert that changed his life. "My piano teacher's nephew was a student at Westminster Choir College, an organ student, and she invited me to go to his senior recital. I went, and I was just hooked on the organ. I was 17 at the time, and I decided I wanted to switch to organ."

After a year of intensive private study in Baltimore, Bill mastered the organ. He became an organ major in college and ultimately switched programs and graduated from the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore with a master's degree.

Bill practices four hours a day, five days a week, at churches in Baltimore or at Resurrection. He made his debut as a solo performer in 2012. "I played at the Washington National Cathedral, The Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, St. Thomas in New York, Trinity Church in Boston, and Grace Cathedral in San Francisco. And that came about after I was named 'A Star of the Future' by the American Guild of Organists," explained the musician.

Bill enjoys his career as an organist and says he's glad he made the switch from piano to organ when he was a teenager saying with enthusiasm, "Oh, absolutely. I couldn't imagine doing anything else."

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## Father John Barry Guides Church of the Resurrection

**T**here is a new face at Church of the Resurrection in Burtonsville, Maryland. Reverend John Barry was appointed Parish Administrator in July. He took the time to answer a few questions for the Parish Times.

*Can you tell us about yourself Fr. Barry?*

I come to Resurrection as a pastoral leader with four other parishes in the Archdiocese. I also served as parochial vicar in two Montgomery County parishes, St. Mary's in Rockville and at St. John the Baptist in Colesville. I was in residence at Our Lady of Lourdes, Bethesda and at St. Andrew's in Silver Spring. As a seminarian, I helped out at St. Paul's in Damascus and at St. Bartholomew's in Bethesda. I was ordained for the Washington Diocese in 1988 by Archbishop Hickey.

*What was your previous assignment for the Diocese of Washington?*

I was the pastor at St. Edward's in Bowie for the past ten years and also taught at my alma mater, St. Pius X School in Bowie.

*What are your initial impressions of the Church of the Resurrection and its parishioners?*

My impression is that it's a good community that matches up fairly well to the kind of person and priest I am. I have some familiarity with people in this area having served



Father Barry feeling welcomed

'next door' at St. John the Baptist's parish and school from 1999-2002. Some people recognize me, even be it the 2017 version of me! The Parish has been warm and welcoming. The clergy and staff have been open and inviting which has helped since I had been very content as a hometown pastor this past decade in Bowie.

*What do you hope to accomplish as Parish Administrator here?*

The first year in a parish is to build rapport and relationships with people. I hope to help further spread the Gospel in the region.

*What do you like to do in your spare time?*

I am a University of Maryland, College Park grad so I take in some Terps basketball (and sometimes baseball). I like major league baseball and it's best to watch in person at Camden Yards or Nationals Park. I like easy going bike rides or walks that go a good distance. I like easy going tennis. I enjoy movies, theatre, and an occasional visit to a good steak restaurant and/or an occasional rich red wine.

Church of the Resurrection welcomes Fr. Barry to the Parish!

OPT

## Tireless Youth Doing Good and Being Advocates for the Voiceless

**R**esurrection's young people lived the Gospel message this summer by turning off computers and leaving swimming pools to assist local organizations that help others in our area. For one week each, twenty-five middle school students and twenty-three high school students touched the lives of hundreds of individuals taking snacks to the local police station, assisting at Shepherd's Table, volunteering at A Wider Circle, and visiting residents of Riderwood Retirement Community.

Religious Education Director Helene Stever and the students relied on help from those in the Parish that made the Camp weeks successful. They included Knights of Columbus Council # 9808 for their



High School Youth spend a week living Gospel message, "Do not tire of doing good."



Middle school campers fashion rosaries to give away.



Resurrection Parish youth attending Middle School Summer Service Work Camp join Fr. Barry as they prepare to go out and be "Advocates for the voiceless."

OPT

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donations, the Most Reverend Roy Campbell, Fr. John Barry, Msgr. Frank Kazista, and Fr. William Brailsford for blessings and visits, and drivers Pam Burgess, Lourdes Chavez, Tracy Kiras, Hansen Padmore, Cornelius Rozario, Kathy Serra, and Julia Shawhan. A special thank you to Dick and Phyllis Mulligan who sponsored the Helping Hands Scholarship and to the people of the Parish for their prayers and support of this year's Work Camp.



## Shrine of St. Jude



## Congratulations St. Jude Softball Champions!

Congratulations to the St. Jude 12U girls' softball team, who captured the CYO tournament with a win over Our Lady of Lourdes. Coached by Tricia Young and assistant coaches Wayne Tull, Shawn Koehler, and Kim Santoro, the team capped their season with strong hitting and a tenacious defense to secure the win. Team members pictured are Sequoia Santoro, Abigail Hoy, Alyssa Tull, Brigid Gibbons, Isabella Flores, Amira Villanueva, Nicole Koehler, Tina Young, and Katie Sheetz.

## SJN TASTE

Con't from page 36

Something we perceive in the Gospels is how important it was for Jesus to share a meal with his friends and family. So it was when over 160 SJNers said "YES" to the invitation in June and not one was disappointed.

For the third year running, great food and drink, from the folks who sit next to us at weekend Masses, was from family cookbooks and were used to recreate a wonderful get-together for our parish. Called the "SJN Taste", consisting of 28 different items of tasty food and drink from 14 countries were assembled for this year's event.

"We served 165 meals this year... that's a 15% increase over last year," reports Cheryl Harskowitz, event founder and coordinator of the international feast.

Guests were treated to a rare combination of international specialties from Italy, Ireland, Africa, Central and South America, Lebanon, the USA, Switzerland, Asia and Spain.

Our success wouldn't have been possible without the generosity and involvement of those providing the various foods and drinks, as well as those volunteers who worked the kitchen, set up, decorated, and cleaned up. What a great team!"

Let's all save the date for June 2018's Taste!

OPT



St. Martin's School celebrated at the Collegiate All-Star Baseball game in Bethesda in June, part of the Big Train Baseball Showcase. Kindergartener Ella Little, shown above, threw out the first pitch. St. Martin's choir students sang the National Anthem. Photo courtesy of St. Martin's School

## FESTIVAL

Con't from page 33

celebration in the Williamsburg Room with food and entertainment. Two parish youth groups, under the direction of parishioner Cecilia Castillo, performed folkloric dances

from El Salvador. Ms. Castillo volunteers each year to teach folkloric dances to the youth for this parish celebration. This year the feast day, August 6, fell on a Sunday which made it extra special because it was also the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord and the gospel about the transfiguration was read.

OPT

## VICAR

Con't from page 37

and let Him to most of the work.

"No ministry really takes place unless the encounter with Christ has first taken place," he said. "From there, I hope to grow with our youth and young adults in the faith

and apply His teachings to their lives. The unique challenge with this generation is that it is seen to be advantageous to reject the faith – they are taught to live their own ways. Combine that with the noisiness of the culture that makes it all the more difficult to hear the voice of God."

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Children and staff of St. Mary's celebrate Heroes of the Bible at VBS.

## Vacation Bible School

The children of St. Mary's Parish, along with neighboring children, enjoyed a faith and fun filled week. Heroes of the Bible greeted the children each day. The children fought with David to take down Goliath, marched around the Wall of Jericho, until it tumbled, and learned how our greatest hero, Jesus, overcame the temptations of the devil. Children were introduced to saints who fought for their faith and how they can plot their own path towards being their best.

We were fortunate to have an abundance of middle and high school volunteers supporting both the staff and children. Father Kevin always provides a wonderful luncheon at the conclusion of the week for participants and their families. Brenda Murtha once again coordinated and organized an exciting experience for all involved.

OPT

## Music Ministry Alive! 2017

by Diane Yendrey and  
musicministryalive.com

St. Mary's Music Ministry members were among representatives from 22 states and 3 countries attending this year's "Music Ministry Alive," an annual five-day summer institute held at St. Catherine University in St. Paul, Minnesota. These



Music Ministry Alive! 2017 Festival Sing celebrates 19 years of fostering growth of young pastoral musicians, one saint at a time.



2017 Festival Sing! July 29 at St. Catherine University, St. Paul, Minnesota, where students learn we must cease violence, act justly, embrace our neighbor, and work for peace.

young people, with their gifts and desire to serve as music and liturgical leaders, were mentored by a network of professionals under the leadership of internationally known composer, author, teacher and liturgical musician David Haas and Associate Director Lori True, composer, cantor, and Campus Director

of Liturgy and Music at St. Catherine University.

Music Ministry Alive! was founded in 1999, and is ably served by a variety of leading clinicians, musicians, and clergy who bring out the very best in the students. Not only students but also their adult parish leaders are invited: music directors, liturgy coordinators, youth ministers, pastors, catechists, teachers and volunteers, who have

come to learn how to be effective mentors, to share their love of liturgical music and the power of their faith!

This year we studied and practiced the art of accompaniment – not just the kind at the piano or guitar! Pope Francis calls it Holy Conversation: a new level of relationship with one another. Through this lens, we built and nurtured Christian community, improved music skills, listened to God's voice in prayer, and learned how to be disciples to work for justice and peace in the world. Students returned to their parishes with a profound sense of what it means to be centered in Christ, and also made good friends along the way!

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## Annual St. Mary's Church fair and picnic a success "despite the rain"



Jousting has been a featured event at St. Mary's fair in Barnesville for 142 years. Here a rider at the fair on July 29 approaches at full speed and spears the suspended harness ring.

Even in the rain, good food and fun drew hundreds of people to St. Mary's Church in Barnesville for their 142nd annual chicken dinner on July 29.

Father Kevin O'Reilly, pastor of St. Mary's, said, "Despite the rain people came out. The dining room was steady all day, and well over 250 cakes were sold. Horses raced and kids played games. Many said the chicken was the best ever!"

St. Mary's sold 1,000 grilled chicken dinners that came with sides like potatoes, green beans, rolls,



Grilled to perfection!

and applesauce. The picnic also had a cake wheel, candy store, white elephant sale, craft table, bookstore, country store, live music, children's games, a jousting tournament, a table of free holy items, and Mass at 4 p.m. and 5 p.m.

Patricia Aja, a diner visiting from Kenya, said the best part of the picnic was eating Father Kevin's red velvet cake. "It tasted like a little bit of heaven," she said.



How sweet it is!

Continued on page 26

### Jousting, the Official State Sport of Maryland

When the second Lord Baltimore, Cecil Calvert, founded the original colony of Maryland on the shores of St. Mary's County in 1634, Jousting had been performed for many years and Jousting Tournaments soon became a favorite pastime of the early settlers. This sport has survived wars and flourished in times of peace and tranquility in the State.

Each knight gallops his horse down a dirt track beneath three arches, when he is called in turn to charge. Suspended from each arch is a metal harness ring wrapped with white cord. The track is 80 yards long. The first arch is 20 yards from a starting point and each succeeding arch is 30 yards distance from one another on a straight course. As the knight charges through the arches in a time limit of 9

Continued on page 26

## Youth Trip a Color-Coordinated Success

by Chris Miller

Four of St. Mary's finest youth and young adults – Taylor Byrd, Perrin Chalk, Kevin Jones, Megan Roldan – accompanied by two adults, Christine Chalk and Chris Miller, set out to put some finishing touches on the school that was rebuilt at St. Joseph's Parish in Carcasse, Haiti. After Hurricane Matthew, the worst hurricane seen in Carcasse last fall, much help was needed to rebuild. St. Mary's Barnesville has helped in many ways! Rebuilding the school that lost its



The twinned parish youth team proudly pose in front of their work – the school looks really great!



Second floor painting party: youth of St. Mary's-Barnesville, Md. and St. Joseph's-Carcasse, Haiti keep the brushes and rollers moving.

roof and second story was one such effort.

Our youth team chose as its project the painting of the school after construction was finished. Working side by side with the youth at St. Joseph's, the teams employed (15) rollers and brushes brought to the site. Twinned since 2008, St. Mary's Barnesville and St. Joseph's Carcasse youth made short work of painting the entire school, as well as refurbishing the library: cleaning books and desks, removing debris, and mak-

Continued on page 26